

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink.

Jesus said to the Jews:

‘I am the living bread which has come down from heaven.

Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.’

Then the Jews started arguing with one another: ‘How can this man give us his flesh to eat?’ they said. Jesus replied:

‘I tell you most solemnly, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you. Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood

has eternal life, and I shall raise him up on the last day.

For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink.

He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him.

As I, who am sent by the living Father, myself draw life from the Father, so whoever eats me will draw life from me. This is the bread come down from heaven; not like the bread our ancestors ate: they are dead,

but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.’

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST / A

7 JUNE 2026

THE LIVING BREAD

Have you ever sat at the deathbed of someone you love, or looked at media reports of destruction of people’s houses and living quarters in parts of the world dominated by violence, or realised the effects of global warming, or seen the tragedy of life in the faces of the young that flash across our TV screens? In our depths, we desire life; life for those who are dying, for those close to us, for those whose lives are tragically shortened by war, for our natural world, for the young.

This very theme is the focus of today’s Gospel text from John 6. Called the ‘bread of life discourse’, this chapter unpacks John’s theology of the Eucharist. The final section of this long Chapter is about the life that Jesus offers. This life comes from the ‘living bread which has come down from heaven’. This is a rich theological symbol at many levels: it is the life, the ‘bread’, given to the Jews through God’s gift to them in the Torah (the first 5 books of the Bible). There they find how to live in covenantal partnership with God; it is the wisdom that comes from Jesus’ teaching; it is the Eucharistic bread received into the community in the celebration of the Lord’s Supper.

The reality of this symbol is underscored using the word ‘flesh’—another rich symbol emphasising Jesus’ presence in its abundance. To eat this eucharistic bread and drink his blood offers communion with him in his fullness, and the promise of a life that will outlive the grave and any suffering and tragedy that confronts. Communion with him brings us true life.

Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING

Deut 8:2-3, 14-16

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

He gave you food which you and your ancestors did not know.

Moses said to the people: ‘Remember how the Lord your God led you for forty years in the wilderness, to humble you, to test you and to know your inmost heart – whether you would keep his commandments or not. He humbled you, he made you feel hunger, he fed you with manna which neither you nor your fathers had known, to make you understand that man does not live on bread alone but that man lives on everything that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

‘Do not then forget the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery: who guided you through this vast and dreadful wilderness, a land of fiery serpents, scorpions, thirst; who in this waterless place brought you water from the hardest rock; who in this wilderness fed you with manna that your fathers had not known.’

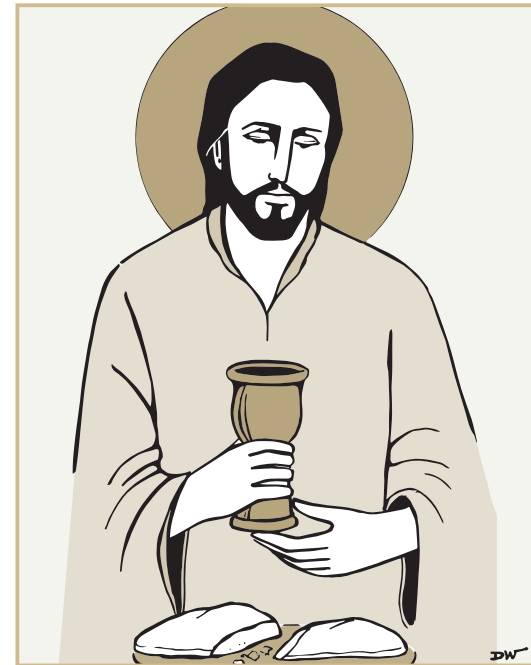
■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 147:12-15, 19-20. R. v. 12

R. Praise the Lord, Jerusalem. (or Alleluia!)

- O praise the Lord, Jerusalem! / Zion, praise your God! / He has strengthened the bars of your gates, / he has blessed the children within you. **R.**
- He established peace on your borders, / he feeds you with finest wheat. / He sends out his word to the earth / and swiftly runs his command. **R.**
- He makes his word known to Jacob, / to Israel his laws and decrees. / He has not dealt thus with other nations; / he has not taught them his decrees. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Cor 10:16-17

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Though we are many, we form a single body because we share this one loaf.

The blessing-cup that we bless is a communion with the blood of Christ, and the bread that we break is a communion with the body of Christ. The fact that there is only one loaf means that, though there are many of us, we form a single body because we all have a share in this one loaf.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 6:51-52

Alleluia, alleluia! / I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; / whoever eats this bread will live for ever. / Alleluia!

07 June 2026

The Most Holy Body and
Blood of Christ - Year A

WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

Website: <https://stpatrickswesttamworthparish.org>

Email: westtamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au



Parish Priest Fr Vic Ignacio M.S.

Office Admin Sheryl Brown, Di Bolitho

Sacristan Elaine Smyth

School Principals Greg O'Toole & Maree Holland

OFFICE HOURS:

Mon & Fri: 9.30 am - 1.30pm

Presbytery 67658211

St Josephs School 67654079

WEEKEND MASSES Sat: 5.30pm Sun: 9am & 5pm

WEEKDAY MASSES Mon: 9am Tues: 9am Wed: 12pm

Thurs: 9am St Barnabas

Fri: 12pm The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

CONFESSIONS

* Sat: 4.30 - 5.00pm

* Before weekly Mass

* By appointment

ENTRANCE ANTI-PHON: He fed them with the finest wheat and satisfied them with honey from the rock.

COMMUNION ANTI-PHON: Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him, says the Lord. Spirit of his Son, the Spirit who cries out: Abba, Father.

May God have mercy on all those asked to be remembered in prayer:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Jean Wellwood, Julie Michell, Pat Jones, Elliot Gill.

ANNIVERSARIES: Rita Sutton (26/5), Paul Karam (06/6), Pat Smyth (07/6), John Haggart (11/6), Noelene Freestone (16/6), Grant D'Elboux (21/6).

DECEASED: We pray for our loved ones now in God's care: Irene Brown, Beverly Heazlett, Shirley Hill, Bob Silver, Maurice Bruccoleri.

SICK: Sienna Baker, May Press, John Betts, Norma O'Brien, Elaine Murray, Shane Davidson, Sr Cecilia Pistacchio, Judy Murphy, Monica Austin, Brian Rodway, Lisa Bond, Yvonne Tarrant, Bill Dennis, Barry McNamara, Jeanette Whale, Carmel Koppman, Eileen Hudson, Julie Moran, Elizabeth Coroneos, Michael Jones, Elizabeth William, Veronica Frost, Mary Gallaher, Beryl Flood, Enid Wright, Dailas Fester and retired Diocesan Clergy.



The Most Holy BODY and BLOOD of Christ (Corpus Christi)

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, commonly known as Corpus Christi, stands as one of the most beautiful and profound celebrations in the Catholic liturgical calendar.

This feast invites Catholics, worldwide, to honour and celebrate the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist - His body, blood, soul, and divinity truly present under the appearances of bread and wine.

COMING EVENTS:

09 June: First Reconciliation Parent Information Session - 5pm, St Patrick's Church.

12 June: Adoration 11am, followed by Mass at 12noon

14 June: Parish Morning Tea after 9am Mass (*Co-ordinators -Sid and Tracey Karam -Thank you!)

30 June: First Reconciliation - St Patrick's Church (further details to be advised)

01 July: St Carlos Acutis Relic Visit - St Patricks Church (See opposite)

COLLECTIONS: BSB: 082 105 - For electronic bank transfer donations

For St. Patrick's Church : Ac. 001041198 West Tamworth Catholic Church (Local)

For Armidale Diocese Clergy : Ac. 001023642 West Tamworth Presbytery (Diocese)

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST - YEAR A WELCOME TO ALL THOSE JOINING US AT ST PATRICKS.

WELCOME BACK FATHER VIC: We welcome home Fr Vic and trust he has had a restful and restorative break over the last few weeks. We again, thank Fr John Curran for providing weekend and week day masses for us during Fr Vic's absence. You may like to catchup with Father with a cuppa at the **Parish Morning Tea on 14th June after 9am Mass.**

THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS: A symbol of God's "boundless and passionate love for mankind". This Solemnity will be celebrated on Friday 12th June at 12noon.

URGENT REQUEST FROM ST VINCENT DE PAUL: St Patrick's Conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society is desperately seeking volunteers to visit the sick and elderly in our Parish. If you are interested in offering your assistance, enquiries can be made by contacting Cheryl Backhouse on 0428 317 819 or Paul Crayn 0407 013 904.

GROTTO WORKING BEE: The altar in front of Our Lady's statue has been cleared and cleaned. Stage 2 is the cleaning and repainting of the statue and surrounds. Thank you to all helpers.

MACKILLOP ROOM: As Fr Vic has now returned, please forward any feedback on this proposal to him as soon as possible so it can be considered in relation to the future of this project.

SAINT CARLO ACUTIS MAJOR RELIC MISSION TO THE DIOCESE: A description of this relic has been printed and placed on the Notice Board at the entrance to the Church. The First Class pilgrim relic is 6cm x 2cm, and preserved in a reliquary 33cm x 17cm, and is carried worldwide by the Diocese of Assisi, as custodian of the relics of Carlo Acutis, and respecting Church guidelines. The Relic is a section of the Saint's pericardium, the membrane that surrounds the heart. The heart is the body's most important organ; it is also the seat of our sentiments and actions. From the heart is born and lives our relationship with the Lord: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart" (Dt 6,5, Mt 22,37). The Relic is scheduled to arrive at West Tamworth on Wednesday 1st July with a Welcome and Holy Mass set for 9am followed by veneration and confession and a viewing of a documentary on Carlo Acutis following along with morning tea. The Relic will then be moving to South Tamworth from approximately 12.30pm for the afternoon.



MEMORARE

Remember, Our Lady of La Salette, true Mother of Sorrows, the tears you shed for me on Calvary. Remember, also, the care you have always taken to keep me faithful to Christ your son. After having done so much for your child, you will not now abandon me. Inspired by this consoling thought, I come to cast myself at your feet, in spite of my infidelities and ingratitude. Do not reject my prayer, O merciful Virgin, but intercede for my conversion, obtain for me the grace to love Jesus above all things, and to console you by a holy life, that I may one day see you in Heaven. Amen

**Our Lady of La Salette, Reconciler of sinners,
Pray without ceasing for us who have recourse to Thee.**

ROSTER: 07/06/26

Vigil:

9am Sun:

5.00pm Sun:

Counting Team :

Fri Cleaning

R: C Ledwos, D Bolitho

R: M. Holley, R. Paull

R: S. Brown,

A. Bowden, S. Brown

M. Vella & I. Ullman

Gifts:

Gifts:

Gifts:

Altar Linen:

B & M Watson

Michelle & Sally

Volunteer

M. Vella

ROSTER: 14/06/26

Vigil:

9am Sun:

5.00pm Sun:

Counting Team :

Fri Cleaning

R: M. Holland, P. Bamford

R: M Donaldson, S. Brown

R: G O'Toole,

G & M Thrift

S. Brown, V. Griffiths

Gifts:

Gifts:

Gifts:

Altar Linen:

S. Shulze, V. Griffiths

A & S Vueti

Volunteer

E. Smyth