

You will listen and listen again, but not understand,
see and see again, but not perceive.
For the heart of this nation has grown coarse,
their ears are dull of hearing,
and they have shut their eyes,
for fear they should see with their eyes,
hear with their ears,
understand with their heart,
and be converted
and be healed by me.

'But happy are your eyes because they see,
your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly,
many prophets and holy men longed to see
what you see, and never saw it; to hear what
you hear, and never heard it.

'You, therefore, are to hear the parable of
the sower. When anyone hears the word of the
kingdom without understanding, the evil one
comes and carries off what was sown in his
heart: this is the man who received the seed
on the edge of the path. The one who received
it on patches of rock is the man who hears the
word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he
has no root in him, he does not last; let some
trial come, or some persecution on account of
the word, and he falls away at once. The one
who received the seed in thorns is the man who
hears the word, but the worries of this world
and the lure of riches choke the word and so he
produces nothing. And the one who received the
seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word
and understands it; he is the one who yields a
harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now
sixty, now thirty.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

Unauthorised reproduction of this bulletin prohibited.
Published with ecclesiastical approval by ST PAULS
PUBLICATIONS, PO Box 906, Strathfield NSW 2135.
Tel 02 9394 3400 Email: sales@stpauls.com.au Scripture
readings taken from The Jerusalem Bible, © 1966 Hodder &
Stoughton Ltd. All rights reserved. Psalm text from The Psalms,
A New Translation, © 1963, The Grail (England), HarperCollins. New
translation of the Order of Mass from The Roman Missal © 2010,
International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation.
All rights reserved. Artwork by Sr Dorothy Woodward rsj. Layout,
commentaries and illustrations © St Pauls Publications, 2026.
No 2151. Website: www.stpauls.com.au

Breaking Open the Word

ABUNDANT BLESSINGS

For the next several Sundays we will be in the
very heart, the centre, of Matthew's Jewish-
oriented Gospel. Jesus absorbed Jewish wisdom
and sayings and taught them to his followers.
He wanted to teach them about God's 'kin-
dom'. Today's Gospel has Jesus surrounded
by a large crowd. He gets into a boat, sits
down in the posture of a rabbinic teacher and
instructs the crowd on the lakeside.

The parable that he offers is the most
important in the whole Gospel. The principal
agent is a sower scattering seed in typical
fashion of the time. The farmer is oblivious to
where the seed falls but intent that a harvest
comes. The seed falls in places characteristic
of the Galilean countryside: on the edge of
paths and eaten by birds, on rocks, amongst
thorns and in places with little depth of soil.
But the seed also falls in rich soil and produces
an extraordinarily abundant harvest. To a
Galilean farmer, a twelve-fold harvest would
be a wonderful gift. It would offer food for the
coming year and pay off the taxes imposed by
Rome and the Jewish religious authorities for
the support of the Temple. The production
is not twelve-fold, but a *hundred-fold, sixty or
thirty!* This would be like a farmer winning the
mega-lottery!

And this, says Jesus, is what the Kin-
dom is about. Despite apparent signs of
frustration and even death, God's reign will
be spectacularly rich and abundant. Jesus'
parable teaching is an invitation to the
Gospel audience and to us to believe in the
ongoing abundant blessings of God's
presence despite what appears to the
contrary.



Fr Michael Trainor



THE SAVING WORD

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

12 JULY 2026

FIRST READING

Isa 55:10-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The rain makes the earth give growth.

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow
come down from the heavens and do not return
without watering the earth, making it yield and
giving growth to provide seed for the sower
and bread for the eating, so the word that goes
from my mouth does not return to me empty,
without carrying out my will and succeeding in
what it was sent to do.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 64:10-14. R. Lk. 8:8

R. The seed that falls on good ground
will yield a fruitful harvest.

1. You care for the earth, give it water, / you
fill it with riches. / Your river in heaven brims
over / to provide its grain. **R.**
2. And thus you provide for the earth; / you
drench its furrows, / you level it, soften it with
showers, / you bless its growth. **R.**
3. You crown the year with your goodness. /
Abundance flows in your steps, / in the
pastures of the wilderness it flows. **R.**
4. The hills are girded with joy, / the meadows
covered with flocks, / the valleys are decked with
wheat. / They shout for joy, yes, they sing. **R.**

SECOND READING

Rom 8:18-23

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Romans

*All creation is waiting for the revelation of the
children of God.*

I think that what we suffer in this life can never
be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed,
which is waiting for us. The whole creation is
eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was
not for any fault on the part of creation that it
was made unable to attain its purpose, it was
made so by God; but creation still retains the
hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to
decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory
as the children of God. From the beginning till

now the entire creation, as we know, has been
groaning in one great act of giving birth; and
not only creation, but all of us who possess the
first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly
as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! / The seed is the word of
God, Christ is the sower; / all who come to
him will live for ever. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 13:1-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Matthew.

A sower went out to sow.

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but
such crowds gathered round him that he got
into a boat and sat there. The people all stood
on the beach, and he told them many things in
parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow.
As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of
the path, and the birds came and ate them
up. Others fell on patches of rock where they
found little soil and sprang up straight away,
because there was no depth of earth; but as
soon as the sun came up they were scorched
and, not having any roots, they withered away.
Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew
up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil
and produced their crop, some a hundredfold,
some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who
has ears!'

Then the disciples went up to him and asked,
'Why do you talk to them in parables?' 'Because'
he replied 'the mysteries of the kingdom of
heaven are revealed to you, but they are not
revealed to them. For anyone who has will be
given more, and he will have more than enough;
but for anyone who has not, even what he has
will be taken away. The reason I talk to them
in parables is that they look without seeing and
listen without hearing or understanding. So
in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being
fulfilled:

12 July 2026
15th Sunday
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: 12noon (St Bonaventure)
Thurs: 9am Fri: 12noon

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: As for me, in justice I shall behold your face;
I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young;
by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Lyle Dunn, John Kenny, Jeanette Whale.

ANNIVERSARIES: Stan Blanch Jnr & Michael Blanch (24/6), Stan Blanch Snr (29/6), Bob Sutton (29/6), Bridget Teo (29/7).

DECEASED: We pray for our loved ones now in God's care: Jean Wellwood, Julie Michell, Pat Jones, Paul Karam, Barry Lane.

SICK: Sienna Baker, May Press, John Betts, Norma O'Brien, Elaine Murray, Shane Davidson, Lisa Bond, Sr Cecilia Pistacchio, Judy Murphy, Monica Austin, Brian Rodway, Yvonne Tarrant, Barry McNamara, Bill Dennis, Carmel Koppman, Eileen Hudson, Julie Moran, Elizabeth Coroneos, Elizabeth William, Michael Jones, Veronica Frost, Mary Gallaher, Beryl Flood, Enid Wright, Doalis Fester, Ruby New, Michelle Asbury, Jacinta Bentley, Maureen Harrison, Joel Porter, Fr Bernie Frize and retired Diocesan Clergy.

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.**

COMING EVENTS:

12 July: Parish Morning Tea after 9am Mass (S. Brown & R. Paull)

17 July: Adoration 11am, Mass at 12pm

26 July: World Day for Grandparents & the Elderly

28 July: First Eucharist Family Information Session - St Patrick's Church, 5pm

05 Aug: Mass for the Sick, 12noon

16 Aug: Parish Safeguarding Information and Training Session (after Morning Tea)

COLLECTIONS: BSB: 082 105 - For electronic bank transfers (donations)

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

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

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A WELCOME TO ALL THOSE JOINING US AT ST PATRICKS.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL: This weekend St Patrick's will take up a special collection for the St Vincent de Paul Annual Winter Appeal. SVDP Collectors will waiting at the conclusion of Mass. Cash and/or EFTPOS donations gratefully accepted. Please give generously, if you can.

This winter, more & more people are being pushed into homelessness and poverty. As prices rise, one sudden crisis can be all it takes. All funds raised remain local and help our local families.

Vinnies Winter Appeal



Food for hungry families

Your generosity can provide people facing hunger with healthy, nutritious food.



Urgent bill relief

Your kindness can help people keep the lights on, the car running and pay for vital essentials like clothing.



Safe, secure housing

Your gift can help people stay on top of their rent, so they can keep a roof over their heads.

PARISH MORNING TEA: Please join us this Sunday, after 9am Mass, for a cup of tea and a chat. Small plates to share are always appreciated. Organisers are S. Brown & R. Paull.

PIOUS GOODS UPDATE: Brown Scapulars, blessed by Mons. Figueiredo, are now in stock. \$8 each. St Michael medals have now been re-stocked and have also been blessed by Mons Figueiredo.

READERS ON SAT/SUNDAY NIGHTS: If you feel you can help in this ministry, please leave your name and contact details/phone number with the Sacristan on duty or on the Parish phone voicemail. If no reader is rostered and you are at that Mass, please emulate Saint Mary of the Cross and "never see a need without trying to do something about it." Your offer of help will be gratefully accepted.

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM: New Planned Giving Envelopes (Second Collection) are available at the back of the church. Please collect your new set, if you haven't already, and destroy any remaining ones from last financial year. Our Parish is especially grateful for the continuing generosity of those who currently contribute to the Planned Giving Program. If you would like to contribute to the financial wellbeing of our Parish, or wish to know more, please contact the Office. Contributions can be made by either Direct Debit (through the ADIG), Direct Deposit (at your discretion) or printed envelopes. Office Staff will be happy to assist you with forms or details. Donations can be anonymous.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING: We are currently undertaking an audit to ensure the safety of all who use our church. **Please ensure children are supervised by a parent or guardian, at all times**, inside and outside the Church and other Parish buildings including the amenities and grounds. Making our Church a safe place for all is the responsibility of all parishioners. Please notify Fr Vic or the Parish Secretary (S.Brown) if you see, or know of, anything that might compromise that safety. An informal information and training session will be held for Staff and volunteers on **Sunday 16th August**. More info to come. In the meantime information can be sourced from the link below: Thank you.

[Safeguarding - Catholic Diocese of Armidale](#)

ROSTER: 12/07/26

Vigil:

9am Sun:

5.00pm Sun:

Counting Team :
Fri Cleaning

ROSTER: 19/07/26

Vigil:

9am Sun:

5.00pm Sun:

Counting Team :
Fri Cleaning

R: Volunteer, N .Pullman

R: S. Brown , D. Gowing

R: Volunteer

R: Paull, S.Brown

R: S. Brown, S. Karam

R: C Ledwos, D Bolitho

R: M Holley, R. Paull

R: S. Brown,

R: A. Bowden, S. Brown

R: M. Brown, K. O'Brien

Gifts: B & M Watson

Gifts: A & S Vueti

Gifts:

Altar Linen: E. Smyth

Gifts: S. Shulze, V. Griffiths

Gifts: B. Schipp, C. Grima

Gifts:

Altar Linen: H. Reid