

and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.



A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word

BE GENEROUS

Greed often dominates our world, interactions between global leaders and, sometimes, our own relationships. Today's Gospel offers a different value system. Generosity is the Gospel standard that should dominate relationships.

This teaching comes in the form of another parable from Jesus. The context would be familiar to Matthew's audience, in a society dominated by injustice, hierarchy and poverty. In this world, unemployment was rife, as it is today. Workers in Jesus' day would go to the village or town square to seek employment. In this setting, the landowner comes to the square to hire labourers for his vineyard with a promised day's wage. The owner repeats the hiring practice at different hours of the day, even into the late afternoon. When it comes time to pay the wages of the labourers, the landowner begins with the last hired and pays them the full day's wage though they have worked less hours. Those hired first complain that they should have been paid more. The landowner's response summarises the main teaching point of the parable: 'Why be envious because I am generous?'

Generosity rather than greed characterises this landowner. It is also a mirror of Jesus' essential teaching. God is generous, not restrictive or calculating. This challenges a world governed by exactness and tit-for-tat thinking. God and God's kingdom are characterised by generosity. God is generous toward us – and invites us to be generous toward others.

Fr Michael Trainor



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

20 SEPTEMBER 2026

FIRST READING

Isa 55:6-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

My thoughts are not your thoughts.

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,
call to him while he is still near.
Let the wicked man abandon his way,
the evil man his thoughts.
Let him turn back to the Lord who will take
pity on him,
to our God who is rich in forgiving;
for my thoughts are not your thoughts,
my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who
speaks.
Yes, the heavens are as high above earth
as my ways are above your ways,
my thoughts above your thoughts.
■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 144:2-3, 8-9, 17-18. R. v. 18

R. The Lord is near to all who call him.

1. I will bless you day after day / and praise
your name for ever. / The Lord is great,
highly to be praised, / his greatness cannot be
measured. **R.**

2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, /
slow to anger, abounding in love. / How good
is the Lord to all, / compassionate to all his
creatures. **R.**

3. The Lord is just in all his ways / and loving
in all his deeds. / He is close to all who call
him, / who call on him from their hearts. **R.**

SECOND READING

Phil 1:20-24, 27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Philippians

For me to live is Christ.

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by
my life or by my death. Life to me, of course,
is Christ, but then death would bring me
something more; but then again, if living in this
body means doing work which is having good
results – I do not know what I should choose.



I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone
and be with Christ, which would be very much
the better, but for me to stay alive in this body
is a more urgent need for your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that
would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Acts 16:14

Alleluia, alleluia! / Open our hearts,
O Lord, / to listen to the words of your
Son. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 20:1-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Matthew.

Why are you jealous because I am generous?

Jesus said to his disciples: "The kingdom of
heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak
to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an
agreement with the workers for one denarius a
day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out
at about the third hour he saw others standing
idle in the market place and said to them, "You
go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair
wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour
and again at about the ninth hour, he went out

20 September 2026
25th Sunday
Year A

WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

Website: <https://stpatrikswesttamworthparish.org>
Email: westtamworthpaish@armidale.catholic.org.au



Parish Priest	Fr Vic Ignacio M.S.	OFFICE HOURS:	
Office Admin	Kaytie Walther, Di Bolitho	Mon & Fri: 9.30 am - 1.30pm	
Sacristan	Elaine Smyth	Presbytery	67658211
School Principals	Greg O'Toole & Maree Holland	St Josephs School	67654079

WEEKEND
MASSSES
WEEKDAY
MASSSES

Sat: 5.30pm
Mon: 9am (St Matthew)
Wed: 12pm (St Pius of Pietrelcina)
Fri: 12pm

Sun: 9am & 5pm
Tues: 9am
Thurs: 9am

CONFESSIONS
*** Sat: 4.30-5.00pm**
*** Before weekly Mass**
*** By appointment**

ENTRANCE ANTI PHON: I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

COMMUNION ANTI PHON: You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

MAY GOD HAVE MERCY ON ALL THOSE ASKED TO BE REMEMBERED IN PRAYER:
RECENTLY DECEASED: Fr Bernard Frize, Nev Michell.
ANNIVERSARIES: Matthew Moloney (9/9) Chris Morris (12/9), Clara Urner (12/9), Hugh O'Brien, Val Chillingworth (14/9), Deacon Peter Harrison (21/9), Barry Lane (25/9).
DECEASED: We pray for our loved ones now in God's care: Fr Michael Mullane, William Smith, Jeanette Whale, Jean Wellwood, Julie Michell, Pat Jones, Paul Karam.
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, Ruby New, Elizabeth Coroneos, Elizabeth William, Michael Jones, Veronica Frost, Mary Gallaher, Beryl Flood, Enid Wright, Doalis Fester, Michelle Asbury, Jacinta Bentley, Maureen Harrison, Joel Porter, Rose Pace and retired Diocesan Clergy.

WELCOME TO OUR FAITH COMMUNITY: Last weekend, we welcomed three children into the Community of St Patricks - Theo, Louie and Hadley. May they and their families always feel the love and peace of God in our Church.

COMING EVENTS:
25 Sep: Adoration 11am, Mass at 12pm



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 infidelitie 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

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A WELCOME TO ALL THOSE JOINING US AT ST PATRCKS.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING: Our Parish is committed to the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards and has a zero-tolerance approach to abuse. This is everyone's responsibility. If you have any concerns or feedback, please contact the Parish Priest/ Safeguarding Contact Person and our Diocesan Safeguarding and Professional Standards Office on (02) 6771 8700 or at safeguarding@armidale.catholic.org.au

PIOUS GOODS: If paying online for Pious Goods please use the *Church Account* details as per the page opposite to pay and *check your details before sending. Thank you.

READERS NEEDED: Help Please -We are in great need of more readers. If you can help by joining this team, please do not hold back and speak to Father or a parish sacristan or staff. Training can be provided if required. We really appreciate your help.

SINGING AT MASS: Yes Please ! “*Sing to the Lord*”, and participate in the praise of Our Lord in this way. To sing in church is to express worship and devotion to God or as one priest has said, *to sing in Mass is to pray twice*. . Let us all praise the Lord in song.

EUCCHARIST28 UPDATE: Eternal Life in the Eucharist: The International Eucharistic Congress (‘Eucharist28’) is coming to Sydney in 2028! To help your parish and community experience this moment of Eucharistic renewal on the journey to Eucharist28. Go to eucharist28.org for information.

SURVEY OF CATHOLIC COUPLES OVER SEPTEMBER: The Australian Catholic Bishops are funding a survey over the month of September into the experience of Catholics in their first 10 years of marriage. The information gathered will inform the development of pastoral responses and resources for this vital stage of married life. Any couple married in the last 10 years, where at least one spouse is Catholic, can contribute their valuable insights via this link <https://thepmrc.org/survey> All answers are anonymous and confidential, and participants can contact the researchers directly with any questions via the survey link. “*Whats married life actually like for you ?? We’d love to hear tour honest relflections*” Survey takes about 10 minutes.

COLLECTIONS: BSB: 082 105 (For electronic bank transfer donations)
West Tamworth Presbytery: (Armidale Diocese - **1st Coll’n**) BSB: 082 105 Acct. 001023642
West Tamworth Catholic Church: (Church - **2nd Coll’n**) BSB: 082 105 Acct. 001041198

WEEK 1 ROSTER: 20/09/26			
Vigil:	R: N Pullman, P Bamford	Gifts:	B & M Watson
9am Sun:	R: A Sartori, R. Paull	Gifts:	G & U McKay
5.00pm Sun:	R: Volunteer	Gifts:	--
Counting Team:	M. Vella & A. Bowden	Altar Linen:	J. Hutt
Fri Cleaning:	V. Griffiths, S. Karam		
WEEK 1 ROSTER: 27/09/26			
Vigil:	R: J. Woodbridge, D. Bolitho	Gifts:	S. Shulze, V Griffiths
9am Sun:	R: S Nichols, A Sartori	Gifts:	Michelle & Sally
5.00pm Sun:	R: Volunteer	Gifts:	
Counting Team:	A. Bowden, S. Brown	Altar Linen:	M. Vella
Fri Cleaning:	No cleaning this week		