

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

30 AUGUST 2026

GENUINE DISCIPLESHIP

Today's Gospel follows on immediately from last Sunday's Gospel and the question posed to Jesus' disciples in Matthew's day, and to us, about his identity. Jesus then outlines what awaits him in Jerusalem—his suffering, death and resurrection. These words seem either incomprehensible to his disciples, represented by Peter, or are rejected.

Whatever the reason for Peter's reaction, following God's anointed one on a path of suffering, death and resurrection is unfathomable. The disciples imagine a triumphant, powerful figure who will overcome Roman opposition. Success and status are their vision for the future of discipleship!

Today's Gospel is a sobering reminder that suffering is not excluded from discipleship. Life's tragedies and concerns are not the opposite of following Jesus; they can be authentic expressions of it. Disciples are not called to seek suffering nor to become victims. Rather, suffering can be integrated into genuine discipleship. These are important insights especially for some who think that they must 'prove' their loyalty to Jesus by seeking out further pain or suffering. We know that suffering is part of life; we need not look for it further. We are surrounded by a world of suffering.

Today we acknowledge the sufferings of those who gather with us in our Assembly, especially those borne silently or through violence, including domestic violence.

Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING

Jer 20:7-9

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced;

you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.

I am a daily laughing-stock, everybody's butt.

Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!'

The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long.

I used to say, 'I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more.'

Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart,

imprisoned in my bones.

The effort to restrain it wearied me,

I could not bear it.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 62:2-6, 8-9. R. v. 2

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long; / for you my soul is thirsting. / My body pines for you / like a dry, weary land without water. **R.**

2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary / to see your strength and your glory. / For your love is better than life, / my lips will speak your praise. **R.**

3. So I will bless you all my life, / in your name I will lift up my hands. / My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, / my mouth shall praise you with joy. **R.**



4. For you have been my help; / in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. / My soul clings to you; / your right hand holds me fast. **R.**

SECOND READING

Rom 12:1-2

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice.

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Eph 1:17, 18

Alleluia, alleluia! / May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ / enlighten the eyes of our heart, / that we might see how great is the hope / to which we are called. / Alleluia!

30 August 2026

22nd 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 Kaytie Walther, 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: No Mass Tues: No Mass Wed: No Mass
Thurs: 9am (St Gregory the Great) Fri: 12pm

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.
O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.

MAY GOD HAVE MERCY ON ALL THOSE ASKED TO BE REMEMBERED IN PRAYER:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Nev Michell, .

ANNIVERSARIES: Jack Sampson (09/8), Dudley Ryan (21/8), Les Chillingworth (27/8), Greg Gallagher (30/8). Deacon Peter Harrison (21/9)

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, Fr Bernie Frize and retired Diocesan Clergy.

The Reward Is

COMING EVENTS:

4 Sep: Adoration 11am, Mass at 12pm

12 Sep: Mass for our Lady, Saturday 10am

13 Sep: First Eucharist Celebration at 9am Sunday Mass.

13 Sep: Parish Morning Tea After 9am Mass (K.O'Brien)

COLLECTIONS: BSB: 082 105 (For electronic bank transfer donations)

West Tamworth Catholic Church: (Church-2nd Collection) **BSB: 082 105 Acct. 001041198**

West Tamworth Presbytery: (Diocese-1st Collection) **BSB: 082 105 Acct. 001023642**

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



TWENTY - SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

WELCOME TO ALL THOSE JOINING US AT ST PATRICKS.

THANKYOU FOR VISITING FR EUGENE: Last week we were incredibly lucky to have Fr Vic's

Superior Fr Eugene Andaya, Ms visit us for a few days. We thank you, Fr for your faithful leadership and service, and wish you God's blessings and safe travels as you return to the Philippines.

MONTHLY SATURDAY MASS FOR OUR LADY: Fr Vic will now be celebrating Mass at St Patricks on the 2nd Saturday of each month at 10am. The Next Saturday morning mass will be held 12 Sep 26.

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM: Our Parish is especially grateful for the continuing generosity of those giving to the financial well-being of St Patrick's Parish. Contributions can be made by requesting Giving Envelopes (supplied), by Direct Debit (via ADIG), or yourself by Direct Deposit (EFT) (online transfer). Office Staff are happy to assist you with forms or details. Donations can be anonymous, if you wish. *From the weekend collections at Mass, the **1st Collection** funds go to the **Presbytery Account** which provides for Fr Vic's groceries/food only, with the balance going to the Diocese for the support of Diocesan Clergy. The **2nd Collection** funds go to our **Church Acc.** (St Pats) to fund the running of the parish, including Church and presbytery building/grounds maintenance, all supplies and amenities and wages. **All donations are greatly appreciated.**

READERS NEEDED: Due to many circumstances some of our wonderful volunteers are no longer able to continue their ministry in reading, gifts, etc. leaving our rosters looking for fresh names. If you feel you would like to join these roles 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.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES: If you find yourself need some assistance in our community the following services are available locally.

Tamworth's Medicare Urgent Care Clinic at northwest Health, 279B Marius St, offers bulk billed treatment and care for non-life-threatening injuries or illnesses.

Tamworth Community Health Service: Provides a wide range of low-cost or publicly funded health services, including: Community nursing, Physiotherapy, podiatry and allied health, Child and family health services, Mental health support. Ph. (02) 6767 8100 Dean/Johnston St.

Centacare New England North West: Mental health and wellbeing support, Housing and financial stress assistance, Community Support. Ph 6762 9200 201 Marius St.

SINGING AT MASS: "*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 in our celebrations.

CATHOLIC WEEKLY: The night Sydney's streets belonged to St Joseph; Telehealth not needed for VAD access: Quinlan; The archbishop who refused to manage decline; What do newly weds need? We're asking them ; Archbishop Fisher calls for balance between protest and worship

ROSTER: 30/08/26

Vigil:

R: C Ledwos, D Bolitho

Gifts: **Volunteer**

9am Sun:

R: M Holley, R. Paull

Gifts: Michelle and Sally

5.00pm Sun:

R: S. Brown,
A. Bowden, S. Brown

Altar Linen: M. Vella

Counting Team :

Fri Cleaning:

No cleaning this week

ROSTER: 06/09/26

Vigil:

R: M. Holland, **Volunteer**

Gifts: K. O'Brien, M. Asbury

9am Sun:

R: M Donaldson, S. Brown

Gifts: A & S Vueti

5.00pm Sun:

R: G O'Toole,

Altar Linen: E. Smyth

Counting Team :

Fri Cleaning:

G & M Thrift

S. Karam & M. Lysaught