

Alleluia, alleluia! / I call you friends, says the Lord, / because I have made known to you / everything I have learnt from my Father. / Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

He leased his vineyard to other farmers.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son" he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance." So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures:

It was the stone rejected by the builders that became the keystone.

This was the Lord's doing and it is wonderful to see?

'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word

A RICH ALLEGORY

Jesus continues from last Sunday to question the attitudes of religious leaders of his day and, by inference, those who assume religious leadership and authority in Matthew's day.

Jesus' teaching looks like a parable, but it is an allegory, where each element of the story represents historical events or figures. Its focus is another landowner (God) who plants a vineyard (the image of Israel), cares for it and leases it to tenants. At vintage time his servants (the prophets) go to collect the produce. But the tenants maltreat all those sent to collect the produce, even to the point of finally killing the son of the viticulturalist (Jesus), the last emissary sent.

The parable is an allegory of salvation history, the story of Israel, the action of God to cultivate Israel's goodness with the eventual rejection of God's final emissary, Jesus. The allegory is not anti-Jewish. Matthew writes for a Jewish audience. The evangelist reflects on the mystery of Israel's history and the failure of the Jewish leaders' intent to do away with God's final prophet and emissary, Jesus.

To repeat, Jesus' death was the action of the religious leaders of his day and not the deed of the Jewish people. What happened to Jesus finds its parallel in the way the prophets of the Old Testament were treated. The key point of the story comes at the end: the Kingdom of God will be 'given to a people who will produce its fruits.' That people is us.

Fr Michael Trainor



THE SAVING WORD

FIRST READING

Isa 5:1-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The vineyard of the Lord God of hosts is the House of Israel.

Let me sing to my friend
the song of his love for his vineyard.
My friend had a vineyard
on a fertile hillside.

He dug the soil, cleared it of stones,
and planted choice vines in it.
In the middle he built a tower,
he dug a press there too.

He expected it to yield grapes,
but sour grapes were all that it gave.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and men of Judah,

I ask you to judge
between my vineyard and me.

What could I have done for my vineyard
that I have not done?

I expected it to yield grapes.

Why did it yield sour grapes instead?

Very well, I will tell you

what I am going to do to my vineyard:

I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on,
and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on.

I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug;
overgrown by the briar and the thorn.

I will command the clouds

to rain no rain on it.

Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts
is the House of Israel,
and the men of Judah

that chosen plant.

He expected justice, but found bloodshed,
integrity, but only a cry of distress.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 79:9, 12-16, 19-20. R. Isa 5:7

R. The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

1. You brought a vine out of Egypt; / to plant it you drove out the nations. / It stretched out its branches to the sea, / to the Great River it stretched out its shoots. **R.**



2. Then why have you broken down its walls? / It is plucked by all who pass by. / It is ravaged by the boar of the forest, / devoured by the beasts of the field. **R.**

3. God of hosts, turn again, we implore, / look down from heaven and see. / Visit this vine and protect it, / the vine your right hand has planted. **R.**

4. And we shall never forsake you again: / give us life that we may call upon your name. / God of hosts, bring us back; / let your face shine on us and we shall be saved. **R.**

SECOND READING

Phil 4:6-9

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Do these things and the God of peace will be with you.

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

■ The word of the Lord.

04 Oct 2026
27th Sunday Yr 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: 9am Tues: 9am
Wed: 12pm (Our Lady of the Rosary)
Thurs: 9am Fri: 12pm

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Within your will, Oh Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the lord of all.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.



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

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Fr Bernard Frize, Nev Michell.

ANNIVERSARIES: Warren Doherty (6/10), Bill Teo (29/10).

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: John Bamford, 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.

COMING EVENTS:

4 Oct: DAYLIGHT SAVING STARTS **

7 Oct: Mass for the sick

11 Oct: Parish Morning Tea

- After 9am Mass, all welcome!

16 Oct: Rosary Procession Nazareth Care 7.30pm.

18 Oct: Mission Sunday



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.



TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

WELCOME TO ALL THOSE JOINING US AT ST PATRICKS.

PARISH SAFETY: Please always have your safety and the safety of others in mind in our Church. Particularly our youngest and our elderly as they are more vulnerable to accidental injury. 'Watch and supervise' our children and 'watch out' for our eldest to keep them all safe.

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 contact the office.

ROSARY PROCESSION: Everyone is invited to a Eucharistic Rosary Procession on Fri 16th Oct commencing at 7.30pm in the chapel at Nazareth Care. Please bring a plate to share for supper. Catholic goods available to purchase from the Frassati Society (cash and bank transfer only).

EUCHARIST28 UPDATE: Eternal Life in the Eucharist: The International Eucharistic Congress ('Eucharist28') is coming to Sydney in 2028! Go to eucharist28.org

DONATION ENVELOPES: Some envelopes are available at the back of the Church should you wish to utilise them for your donations to St Patricks (Church Account).

CENTACARE CHRISTMAS HAMPER'S: Centacare NENW is collecting non-perishable food items to create Christmas hampers for local families who are experiencing hardship and whom Centacare NENW staff encounter through their work each week. These hampers will provide much-needed grocery support and help bring some extra joy to families at Christmas. Centacare NENW have asked if parishioners from our parish would like to help with this initiative. Suggested Hamper Items: Canned foods, pasta, rice & noodles, breakfast cereals & school snacks, Long-life milk, Vegemite, jam, tea & coffee, toiletries & personal care items, cleaning products & toilet paper. We will have a basket at the back of the Church each weekend from 1 November to 29 November to collect donations. Centacare NENW staff will collect the donations, make up the hampers and distribute them during Advent.



H  Pe
— Heart of Peace —

 centa
care

The social services
agency of the Catholic
Diocese of Armidale

COLLECTIONS: BSB: 082-105 (For electronic bank transfer) [Pious Goods pay to Church Acc]

West Tamworth Presbytery: (To Armidale Diocese - **1st Coll'n**) BSB: 082 105 Acct. 001023642

West Tamworth Catholic Church: (To St Patricks - **2nd Coll'n**) BSB: 082 105 Acct. 0010411

ROSTER: 04/10/2026

Vigil:	R: M.Holland, D Bolitho	Gifts:	Volunteers
9am Sun:	R: G. Clout, S Brown	Gifts:	A & S Vueti
5.00pm Sun:	R: T. Mitchell	Gifts:	
Counting Team:	G & M Thrift	Altar Linen:	E Smyth
Fri Cleaning	M. Vella, I. Ullman		

ROSTER: 11/10/2026 ** PARISH MORNING TEA***

Vigil:	R: C Ledwos, D Bolitho	Gifts:	K. O'Brien, M. Asbury
9am Sun:	R: M Holley, R. Paull	Gifts:	B. Schipp, C. Grima
5.00pm Sun:	R: Volunteer please	Gifts:	-
Counting Team:	P. Shiels, S. Brown	Altar Linen:	H. Reid
Fri Cleaning	No cleaning this week	Morning Tea	K. O'Brien