

and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Jn 14:23
Alleluia, alleluia! / All who love me will keep my words, / and my Father will love them and we will come to them. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mt 22:34-40
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Reflections on the Gospel



THE SAVING WORD

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

25 OCTOBER 2020

THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT

When faced with the question in today's Gospel concerning which of the commandments of the law is the greatest, Jesus has no hesitation in uniting two commandments already found in the scriptures of Israel.

The command to love God with all one's heart and soul and mind comes from Deuteronomy (6:4-5). It is a command that every Israelite is summoned to recite each morning on rising (the 'Schema' prayer). So the Christian tradition has inherited from Israel the truth that God is worthy of love, worship and dedication of life simply for God's sake alone. Love is the supreme factor in the relationship that God desires to have with us.

The second command, 'to love one's neighbour as oneself', occurs in Leviticus 19:18. It is 'like' the first because it flows from the nature of Israel's God, who has identified so intimately with the situation of human beings. To love God with all one's heart and soul and mind is to love those whom God loves: one's fellow human beings, especially the vulnerable and the poor.

Down the ages there have been many interpretations as to what loving one's neighbour as oneself might mean. Primarily it would seem to mean putting oneself—at least imaginatively—in the neighbour's shoes and asking how I would like to be treated in their situation. Better still, perhaps, it means taking pains to find out from the neighbour what exactly their desire might be. All effective works of charity and justice begin from a similar base: from *com-passion* ('feeling with') in the deepest sense of that term.

Brendan Byrne, SJ

FIRST READING

Ex 22:20-26

A reading from the book of Exodus

If you are harsh with the widow or the orphan, my anger will rage against you.

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this, "You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

"If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

"If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity."

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 17:2-4, 47, 51. R. v. 2

R. I love you, Lord, my strength.

1. I love you, Lord, my strength, / my rock, my fortress, my saviour. / My God is the rock where I take refuge; / my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold. / The Lord is worthy of all praise: / when I call I am saved from my foes. **R.**

2. Long life to the Lord, my rock! / Praised be the God who saves me. / He has given great victories to his king / and shown his love for his anointed. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Thess 1:5-10

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

You turned away from idols to serve God and await his Son.

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God

25 Oct 2020
Wk 30 Yr A/2

WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

Website: <https://stpatrickswesttamworthparish.org/>



Parish Priest Fr Anthony Koppman
Deacon Deacon Peter Harrison
Administration: Ms Anne Bowden
Ms Di Bolitho
Sacristan Mrs Elaine Smyth

Presbytery 67658211
Office Hours:
Tues - Fri 9.30 - 11.30 am
westtamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au
St Joseph's School
Principal Mrs Katie Hanes 67654079

WEEKEND MASSES Vigil: Sat: 5.30pm Sun: 9am and 5.30 pm
****72 people only in the church**

CONFESSIONS
Sat: 4.30-5.15pm
*Or by appointment

WEEKDAY MASSES Mon: ****No Mass** Tues: ****No Mass**
Wed: ****12 noon** Sts Simon and Jude Thurs: 9 am
Fri: 9 am Sat: 9 am

Entrance Antiphon : *Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice;
Turn to the Lord and his strength, constantly seeking His face.*

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

Recently Deceased: June Foley, John Ball, Barbara Scott, Anthony Press (Bathurst), Wendy O'Toole, Sr Jan Cetta rsj, Terry Smith, Peter Koch.

Anniversaries: Warren Doherty (6/10), Keith Blanch (8/10), Ed Clarke (12/10), Michael Lillcrap (27/10), Alma Mulherin (29/10), Bill Teo (29/10), Mary McInnes (6/11); Perce McInnes (2/12); Rod Kelly (20/1); Sheila McNamara, France Martin.

Deceased: Marie Trinder, Peter Press, Bob Edgecock, Thomas Brown, William Coulston, Andrew Tickner.

Sick: Bob Worthington, Kim Myers, Rachel MacPherson, Shirley Hobbs, Deacon Peter Harrison, Jenny Buxury, Aria Lee Hawley, Joy Makepeace, John Joe Kielty, Monica Austin, Joe Lew, Trisha Aquino, Paul Steer, Baby Jack Smith, Noel O'Brien, Bill Press, Karen Guillermo, David Owens, Yvonne Tarrant, Terry Lee, Rosa Maria Santos, Margaret Greentree, Janice Rizzi, Richard Crawford, Sr Pat Bartley, Judy Cumins, Brindley Cavallaro, Maureen Harrison, Elaine White, Linda Bourke, Peggy Bussell, Margaret Doyle, Christopher Struck, Graeme Bussell, Jack & Marge Attard.



CRACKERS TAILS

Every day a woman stood on her porch and shouted, "Praise the Lord!" And every day the atheist next door yelled back, "There's no Lord!" One day, she prayed "Lord, I'm hungry. Please send me some groceries." The next morning she found a big bag of food on her stairs. "Praise the Lord," she shouted. "I told you there was no Lord," the neighbour said, "I bought those groceries." "Praise the Lord," said the woman. "He not only sent me groceries, he made the devil pay for them."

COMING EVENTS

25 Oct Blessing of Religious Items
1 Nov All Saints Day 2 Nov All Souls Day



"Be a gift of love and compassion to one another".



BLESSING OF RELIGIOUS ITEMS: This Sunday 25 Oct. after 9am Mass. Enrollment of Brown Scapular and blessing of religious items. All items available for sale after Mass each week.

MISSION SUNDAY: Thank you for your generosity to this appeal. The Arrupe Centre will be able to do some wonderful work with your support. You can still donate via the Catholic Mission's website: <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/our-work/see-our-work-in-action/wmm20-cambodia-appeal>. Text message. Simply text GIVE to 0488 854 436 and follow the prompts. Telephone: 1800 257 296 Envelopes are supplied for your donations if you prefer. Thank you.

ALL SAINTS DAY AND ALL SOULS DAY: 1st and 2nd November are special days for the Catholic Church throughout the world. All Souls Day is a day we traditionally offer special prayers for the faithful departed. November mass offering envelopes will be available in the church to offer special masses during November. Please ensure you write very clearly.

READERS ROSTER: With Masses returning to larger allowable numbers we anticipate reinstating the reading roster. A sheet is provided at the back of the Church to add your name if you are able to recommence reading on a regular basis. A greater need currently exists for Sunday 9 am.

FORWARD NOTICE OF CHANGE TO MASS TIMES: Due to Clergy Retreat there will be NO EVENING MASS (5.30 PM) AT ST. PATRICK'S ON SUNDAY 8 NOVEMBER and no weekday masses from 8 - 14 Nov (including Saturday 9 am). Normal Masses will resume from 5.30pm Sat. 14 Nov.

HELP FOR MARRIAGES UNDER STRESS: The BreakThrough Online Course created by SmartLoving will enable you to identify your conflict triggers, learn strategies to de-escalate an argument and find constructive ways to re-establish connection. Restore hope for your relationship's future. Visit: www.smartloving.org/breakthrough

****COVID-19*****



Whilst the restrictions on numbers has been eased we are still subject to the space we have available at St Patricks. **ONLY 72 PEOPLE ARE ABLE TO ATTEND MASS AT ANY ONE TIME AT ST PATRICKS. PLEASE EMAIL THE PARISH AND LEAVE YOUR NAME, TELEPHONE NUMBER, EMAIL ADDRESS AND PREFERENCE TIME FOR MASS ATTENDANCE (Saturday evening or Sunday). The parish phone is not always attended so please only call if you do not have email. If not registered you may still attend mass, however you MUST leave your name and contact details on the sheet upon entering and can only enter if less than 72 people have registered on the entry sheet already.** **Masks are currently strongly recommended but not mandatory at the time of print.

**SOCIAL DISTANCING - **YOU MUST ** REGISTER TO ENTER
** SANITISE HANDS ENTERING AND LEAVING
** MARK SEATING & KEEP YOUR DISTANCE**

"Let us love one another, because love is of God; everyone who loves is begotten by God. . . . If God so loved us, we also must love one another" (4:7, 11).

Sat Cleaning Roster: 31/10/20 M Vella & R Pace 7/11/20 B & B Lane

First Collection WEST TAMWORTH PRESBYTERY BSB **082105** Acc **001023642**
Second Collection WEST TAMWORTH CHURCH BSB **082105** Acc **001041198**