

Alleluia, alleluia! / Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; / my branches bear much fruit. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 25: 14-15, 19-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Because you have been faithful over a few things; enter into the joy of the Lord.

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out.

Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made."

■ The Gospel of the Lord.
Longer form, Mt 25: 14-30.



A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Reflections on the Gospel

RISK TAKING FOR GOD

As we approach the end of the Church's liturgical year, the focus remains upon the second coming of the Lord. Once again, the Gospel provides a parable (the Talents) instructing us how to live in view of that expectation.

The master in the parable is pleased with the enterprising first two servants. Having realised substantial gains on the amounts entrusted to them, they are welcomed 'into the joy of their master'—that is, into the banquet of the Kingdom.

But the third servant, who simply hid his single talent in the ground, displeased his master because he didn't do what was expected, namely, trade with the money so that it would increase. He didn't even put the sum in the bank, where it would have at least accrued some interest. Paralysed by a fearful image that he has of his master (an image of God that the parable does not endorse but actually refutes), he sought security in giving back, in strict justice, the exact sum entrusted to him. This, however, was not what the master wanted. Hence the severe penalty.

The parable challenges believers not to rest content simply with not doing anything wrong so that God will not be able to find anything to punish. Such an attitude mistakes the nature of God and neglects what God really wants, which is an enterprising, even risk-taking, practice of the 'weightier matters of the law': 'justice, mercy and faith' (Matthew 23:23). The gifts God has entrusted to us, like our minds and limbs, need active exercise if they are not to atrophy and wither.

Brendan Byrne, SJ

THE SAVING WORD

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

15 NOVEMBER 2020

FIRST READING

Prov 31: 10-13, 19-20, 30-31

A reading from the book of Proverbs.
Give her a share in what she has worked for.

A perfect wife – who can find her?
She is far beyond the price of pearls.
Her husband's heart has confidence in her,
from her he will derive no little profit.
Advantage and not hurt she brings him
all the days of her life.
She is always busy with wool and with flax,
she does her work with eager hands.
She sets her hands to the distaff,
her fingers grasp the spindle.
She holds out her hand to the poor,
she opens her arms to the needy.
Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty;
the woman who is wise is the one to praise.

Give her a share in what her hands have worked for,
and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 127: 1-5. R. v. 1

R. Happy are those who fear the Lord.

- O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be happy and prosper. R.
- Your wife like a fruitful vine
in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive,
around your table. R.
- Indeed thus shall be blessed
the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion
in a happy Jerusalem
all the days of your life. R.



SECOND READING

1 Thess 5: 1-6

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

The day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night.

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about 'times and seasons', since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it.

But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

■ The word of the Lord.

15 Nov 2020
Wk 33 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

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St Joseph's School
Principal Mrs Katie Hanes 67654079

*"With humility, charity and truth on our part,
all in the end will be well."*



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

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

WEEKDAY MASSES ****No Weekday Masses This Week: Mon - Sat Inclusive****

CONFESSIONS
Sat: 4.30-5.15pm
*Or by appointment

NO WEEK DAY MASSES FROM 16th TO 21st NOVEMBER INCLUSIVE.
NORMAL MASSES RESUME 5.30 PM ON 21 NOVEMBER.

NOVEMBER MASSES: During the month of November, masses for deceased relatives and friends may be requested via November Mass envelopes available in your planned giving boxes or at the back of the Church. Please ensure you write clearly on the envelope if you wish your loved ones to be listed.

READERS ROSTER: Thank you to those who have already registered. Rosters are now available and will be emailed to those who have graciously volunteered. We are in great need of extra readers if you read prior to Covid and are able to restart please contact the office.

CHANGE TO MASS PRAYERS: A small but significant change. The Priest will conclude the Collect with the words "God forever and ever" no longer including the word "one". A fuller explanation provided by the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference is on the Noticeboard.

POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL FRATELLI TUTTI: The Holy Father's new Encyclical Fratelli tutti is available at the following link: http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/it/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20201003_encilica-fratelli-tutti.html

Entrance The Lord said I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction.
Antiphon: You will call on me and I will answer you,
and I will lead back your captives from every place

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

Recently Deceased: Elizabeth (Beth) Galvin, Joan Ryan (Sydney), June Foley, Thomas Brown,

Anniversaries: Mary McInnes (6/11), Gerry Griffiths (17/11), Anthony John Croft (17/11), Ian MacPherson (30/11), Perce McInnes (2/12); Rod Kelly (20/1).

Deceased: John Ball, Anthony Press (Bathurst), Wendy O'Toole, Sr Jan Cetta rsj, Terry Smith, Barbara Scott, Peter Koch, Marie Trinder, William Coulston, Andrew Tickner.

Sick: Bob Worthington, Kim Myers, Rachel MacPherson, Shirley Hobbs, Deacon Peter Harrison, Jenny 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.



COVID PANDEMIC: Whilst the restriction 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.**

CRACKERS TAILS Canine Special Talents
Three boys see a fire engine go by with a dog sitting prominently on the vehicle. They start discussing what his special talent could be to get him this job. The first suggests, 'Crowd control?'. 'He's the mascot', says the second boy. The third boy nods sagely and offers: 'He finds fire hydrants.'

COMING EVENTS

22 Nov: Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe.

29 Nov: First Sunday of Advent



15/11/20 Readers

Vigil: D Gowing G Styman 9am Sun: S Brown G Clout 5.30pm Sun: M and J Murray

Sacristy Cleaning 21/12/20 J Hutt & J Moran

22/11/20 Readers

Vigil: G Styman P Bamford 9am Sun: R Paull M Donaldson 5.30pm Sun M and J Murray

Sacristy Cleaning 28/11/20 M Vella and R Pace

First Collection WEST TAMWORTH PRESBYTERY BSB **082105** Acc **001023642**

Second Collection WEST TAMWORTH CHURCH BSB **082105** Acc **001041198**