

Only the man who believes
that Jesus is the Son of God:
Jesus Christ who came by water and blood,
not with water only,
but with water and blood;
with the Spirit as another witness –
since the Spirit is the truth –
so that there are three witnesses,
the Spirit, the water and the blood,
and all three of them agree.

We accept the testimony of human witnesses,
but God's testimony is much greater,
and this is God's testimony,
given as evidence for his Son.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Jn 1:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

John saw Jesus approaching him, and said:
This is the Lamb of God who takes away
the sins of the world. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mk 1:7-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according
to Mark.

You are my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.
In the course of his preaching John the Baptist
said, 'Someone is following me, someone who
is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to
kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals.
I have baptised you with water, but he will
baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

It was at this time that Jesus came from
Nazareth in Galilee and was baptised in the
Jordan by John. No sooner had he come up out
of the water than he saw the heavens torn apart
and the Spirit, like a dove, descending on him.
And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my
Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Reflections on the Gospel



THE SAVING WORD

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD / B

10 JANUARY 2021

SHARING GOD'S GIFT

One of the great recurring themes of the
scriptures is that of God's irrepressible and
untiring desire to bring us into the fullness
of life. The reading from Isaiah is filled with
images of the life God wants to share with
us: water, grain, wine and milk without cost,
a life-giving and nourishing word that never
returns without achieving its purpose. This
life is offered freely – all we need do is seek
the Lord to share in this banquet.

For Christians, baptism is a sign of the new life
that we have been graciously given through
the death and resurrection of Jesus. One of
the problems facing John's community was
that of how to deal with false teachings which
were dividing and weakening the community
and the baptismal promises they had made.
John seeks to remind them of the life they
share through their baptism and the call to
bear witness to it by their love for God and for
their sisters and brothers.

In the birth of Jesus God's life-giving and
nourishing word becomes one with us. His
baptism marks a moment of grace for him
and us. The heavens are opened and God's
empowering Spirit comes upon him as he
begins his ministry. God bears testimony to
the life that he is pleased to offer us in the
Beloved Son. At Jesus' baptism the voice from
heaven proclaims how a time of new life and
growth is beginning. For those with eyes to
see the rich harvest is already beginning, and
the banquet prepared.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Isa 55:1-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*Come to the waters; listen to my words and you
shall have life.*

Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty;
though you have no money, come!
Buy corn without money, and eat,
and, at no cost, wine and milk.

Why spend money on what is not bread,
your wages on what fails to satisfy?
Listen, listen to me, and you will have good
things to eat and rich food to enjoy.

Pay attention, come to me;
listen, and your soul will live.

With you I will make an everlasting covenant
out of the favours promised to David.
See, I have made of you a witness to the peoples,
a leader and a master of the nations.

See, you will summon a nation you never knew,
those unknown will come hurrying to you,
for the sake of the Lord your God,
of the Holy One of Israel who will glorify you.
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.

Yes, as the rain and the snow come down from
the heavens and do not return without watering
the earth, making it yield and giving growth to
provide seed for the sower and bread for the
eating, so the word that goes from my mouth
does not return to me empty, without carrying
out my will and succeeding in what it was sent
to do.

■ The word of the Lord.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Isa 12:2-6. R. v. 6

R. You will draw water joyfully from the
springs of salvation.

1. Truly, God is my salvation, / I trust, I shall
not fear. / For the Lord is my strength, my song, /
he became my saviour. / With joy you will draw
water / from the wells of salvation. **R.**

2. Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his
name! / Make his mighty deeds known to the
peoples! / Declare the greatness of his name. **R.**

3. Sing a psalm to the Lord / for he has done
glorious deeds, / make them known to all the
earth! / People of Zion, sing and shout for
joy / for great in your midst is the Holy One
of Israel. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Jn 5:1-9

A reading from the first letter of St John
The Spirit, the water and the blood give witness.

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ
has been begotten by God;
and whoever loves the Father that begot him
loves the child whom he begets.
We can be sure that we love God's children
if we love God himself and do

what he has commanded us;
this is what loving God is –
keeping his commandments;
and his commandments are not difficult,
because anyone who has been begotten by God
has already overcome the world;
this is the victory over the world – our faith.
Who can overcome the world?

10 Jan 2021
Year B Christmas

WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

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



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Di Bolitho

St Joseph's School
Principal Mrs Katie Hanes 67654079

Sacristan Elaine Smyth

WEEKEND MASSES Vigil: Sat: 5.30pm Sun: 9am and 5.30 pm

CONFESSIONS
Sat: 4.30-5.15pm
*Or by appointment

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

Entrance Antiphon:

After the Lord was baptised, the heavens were opened, And the Spirit descended up him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

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

Recently Deceased: John Buckley, Janice Press, Sr Helen Cooke, Thomas Brown.

Anniversaries: Pat Smyth, Pauline Gatt (2/1), Mary Sampson (2/1), John O'Brien (3/1), Gloria Lillipcrap (18/1), Ivan Lillipcrap (18/1), Rod Kelly (20/1), Lawrence Vella(23/1).

Deceased: Stuart Betts (Syd.), Doanh Tran (Vietnam), Sr Eleanor Dawson (rsj), Max MacDonald, Joan Ryan (Sydney), May and Tom Kennedy, Dudley Ryan, Jack Sampson, Hugh O'Brien, Dalis O'Brien, John O'Brien, Beth Galvin, June Foley.

Sick: Mimmie Bennett, Norm Moran, Bob Worthington, Kim Myers, Rachel MacPherson, Judy Cummins, Shirley Hobbs, Jenny Crawford, Sr Pat Bartley, Brindley Cavallaro, Elaine White, Deacon Peter Harrison, Maureen Harrison, Linda Bourke, Peggy Bussell, Margaret Doyle, Christopher Struck, Graeme Bussell, Jack & Marge Attard.



CRACKERS TAILS RIP

Saint Peter is at the gates of Heaven. He's been standing all morning and needed a lunch break. He sees Jesus walking by and stops him. "Jesus, thank goodness you're here. I have a favor to ask. Can you watch the gate while I have lunch?" Jesus, ecstatic at the chance to help, says, "Of course, what do you want me to do?" "It's simple, as people come up you must check their names to see if they are in this book I have. If they are, then welcome them in, if not, turn them away." And with that Saint Peter leaves for lunch. Jesus waits for some time and eventually an elderly man walks up to him. Jesus greets him energetically and asks his name. The old man looks dismayed. "I was hit on the head when I died ... I don't remember it." Well sir," says Jesus, "tell me about yourself. Perhaps I can help you figure it out?" Oh boy," the old man thought out loud, "all I can remember is that I was a carpenter and my son was beloved by millions of people. Now Jesus begins to choke up at this. "Dad...Dad?" The old man looks hard at Jesus and says: "Pinocchio"?

COMING EVENTS

10 Jan Feast of the Baptism of the Lord 26 Jan Australia Day

God is all goodness and love. (1880)



SOCIAL DISTANCING - **PLEASE**

- ** REGISTER TO ENTER USING EITHER QR CODE AT ENTRANCE - OR PAPER REGISTER AT ENTRY TO CHURCH
- ** SANITISE HANDS ENTERING AND LEAVING
- ** STICKER MARK YOUR SEATING AND **KEEP YOUR DISTANCE



THANK YOU: We thank Father Maunsell for visiting our Parish and celebrating Masses during the last week. We hope had a pleasant stay.

REMOVAL OF DISPENSATION FROM SUNDAY MASS: Please see the Bishop's letter on the notice board. Given the updating of Covid-19 restrictions everyone now has opportunity to attend Sunday Mass. Bishop Michael Kennedy has lifted his dispensation effective 18th-19th Dec, 2020.

CHRISTMAS DUES: Thank you for your generosity with Christmas Dues. During these challenging times the level of generosity was wonderful.

NEW YEAR ROSTERS: As 2020 is all but behind us we would love to see more of our previous volunteers and new ones come back to assist with what can be done during Masses particularly readers and cleaners after Masses. If you can assist please call the office or let Father know.

ORIENTATION TO NEW PARISH CENTRE: A planned orientation to the new Parish Centre will be held on a Sunday towards the end of January. This is an opportunity for you to see the new facilities which will allow us to provide for large and small Parish functions. This is an exciting time and Fr Anthony looks forward to you all embracing a bright future for the Parish.



CONGRATULATIONS: *May God's blessings be on Deacon Peter Harrison and Mrs Maureen Harrison on the very special occasion of their Diamond 60th wedding anniversary (7 January). We wish them health and happiness at this special time, and our prayers that God will keep them in His care.*



WEEK 1 ROSTER: 10/1/21

Vigil: R D Gowing G Styman

9am Sun: R S Nichols S Brown

Sat Cleaning: 9/1/21 B & B Lane

Altar Linen: H Reid

WEEK 2 ROSTER: 17/1/21

Vigil: R C Greer P Bamford

9am Sun: R R Paull M Donaldson

Sat Cleaning: 16/1/21 K O'Brien and J Cunningham

Altar Linen: J Hutt

5.30pm Sun: R M and J Murray

16/1/21 K O'Brien and J Cunningham

5.30pm Sun: R M and J Murray

23/1/21 J Hutt and J Moran

First Collection WEST TAMWORTH PRESBYTERY

Second Collection WEST TAMWORTH CHURCH

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