

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

*The leprosy left him and he was cured.*

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: 'If you want to' he said 'you can cure me.' Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. 'Of course I want to!' he said. 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.' The man went away, but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.



#### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

14 FEBRUARY 2021

## COMPASSION FINDS A WAY

One of the painful learnings we have had from COVID 19 is just how difficult it is to deal with contagious diseases. In Ancient Israel they had learned that quarantining people suffering from skin diseases was necessary until they could be declared by priests ready to safely return to the community. For lepers and those who loved them, it was a brutally painful experience of fear, isolation, and rejection.

In the Gospel today a leper has heard about Jesus and in his desperation risks his life, and the health of others, by entering the city. Falling to his knees he pleads with Jesus to be healed. In his boundless compassion for the man, Jesus reaches out and touches him. In doing this Jesus takes the extraordinary step of making himself an outsider. Healed by Jesus, the man can now be declared fit to return safely to the community. His life has been returned to him and while Jesus has commanded him to be silent, he simply cannot hold it in – the good news of Jesus cannot be contained. At the end of the episode, an outsider has been brought back home and now Jesus has become an outsider himself, and that's where everyone can find him.

Not seeking our own good, but the good of others by not causing them scandal or harm was a lesson Paul was trying to teach the community of Christians in Corinth. Jesus' compassion leads him to reach out to all those in need. Paul hopes that his Christians will live their lives in the same way.

Christopher Monaghan CP

## FIRST READING

Lev 13: 1-2, 44-46

A reading from the book of Leviticus

*As long as he is unclean, he must live alone, outside the camp.*

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man's skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected. The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests who are his sons.

'The man is leprosy: he is unclean. The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, "Unclean, unclean." As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart; he must live outside the camp.'

■ The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 31: 1-2, 5, 11. R. v. 5

**R.** I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

1. Happy the man whose offence is forgiven, / whose sin is remitted. / O happy the man to whom the Lord / imputes no guilt, / in whose spirit is no guile. **R.**

2. But now I have acknowledged my sins; / my guilt I did not hide. / I said: 'I will confess / my offence to the Lord.' / And you, Lord, have forgiven / the guilt of my sin. **R.**

3. Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord, / exult, you just! / O come, ring out your joy, / all you upright of heart. **R.**



## SECOND READING

1 Cor 10: 31-11: 1

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

*Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.*

Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God. Never do anything offensive to anyone — to Jews or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own advantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so that they may be saved.

Take me for your model, as I take Christ.

■ The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lk 7: 16

Alleluia, alleluia! / A great prophet has appeared among us; / God has visited his people. / Alleluia!

14 Feb 2021  
Year B Wk 6

# WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

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



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

Presbytery 67658211  
[westtamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au](mailto: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

WEEKDAY MASSES Mon: \*\*No Mass Tues: \*No Mass  
Wed: Ash Wednesday 12 noon and 5.30 pm  
Thurs: 9am Fri: 9 am Sat: 9am

CONFESSIONS  
Sat: 4.30-5.15pm  
\*Or by appointment

### Entrance Antiphon:

*Be my protector O God, a mighty stronghold to save me.  
For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.*

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

**Recently Deceased:** Giuseppi Pomponio, Bishop Luc Matthys, Leonie Baker.

**Anniversaries:** Dalis O'Brien (12/2), Julia Blanch (12/2), Bill Blanch (12/2)..

**Deceased:** Joy Makepeace, Emily Herden, Fay Bradbery, Hugh O'Brien, John Buckley, Janice Press, Thomas Brown.

**Sick:** Erin Hansen, Bill Press, 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 MEMOIRS RIP

*A friend of mine received a call from his doctor. "Your blood test results are in... I'm sorry to tell you that you have contracted leprosy," says the doctor.*

*"What? How?" my friend exclaims.*

*"Can't be sure, but we need to discuss treatment options. There is a cure, but it is extremely expensive."*

*"What choice do I have, doc?" my friend laments. "How much will it cost?"*

*"Probably just an arm and a leg".*



### COMING EVENTS

17 Feb Ash Wednesday

20 Mar Men's Gathering at St Nicholas Parish

Today God has been so good to me. (18734)



### 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



**LENTEN PROGRAM:** Ash Wednesday occurs this week, 17 February.

Could those who wish to partake in a Lenten Program under social distancing guidelines please advise the parish by phone or email, or record your name on the table at the back of the church

### Prepare for Lent 2021

*Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting and abstinence from eating meat.*

**MISSIONARY RELIGIOUS ORDERS SPECIAL COLLECTION:** This will be taken up at each mass this weekend. The collection supports the Missionary Orders which have priests in ministry in our Diocese. This will be taken from the loose funds received in the second collection.

**SR KATHRYN SWEENEY RSJ ARRIVES:** It is with great excitement that we announce the arrival of Sr Kathryn to St Patricks. Sr Kathryn's Congregation, the Srs of St Joseph have called her to a new ministry in our parish. Sister has had a dual ministry as Parish Pastoral Associate and Aboriginal Catholic Ministry for many years. We are very grateful to receive her presence and her talents in our Parish and look forward to welcoming her at the end of this month. Sr Kathryn is assured of our prayers as she continues her journey following in the steps of St Mary of the Cross.

**PALMS AUSTRALIA:** The call is to all trades and professionals to assist building the ability of the people and the capacity of organisations in PALMS low-income communities. To properly prepare for a 2022 placement you do need to [enquire now](https://palms.org.au). Visit [palms.org.au](https://palms.org.au), call Palms on 02 9560 5333 or email [palms@palms.org.au](mailto:palms@palms.org.au)

**COVID-19 VACCINE INFORMATION:** Please see on the Notice Board a note from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith on the morality of Anti Covid-19 vaccines.

**2021 ROSTERS:** Thank you to those who have indicated they can return to 'normal duties'. We would love to re-engage our previous volunteers and welcome new ones. There are plenty of spaces for counters, readers, and cleaners. Please contact the office if you can help. Thank you.

### WEEK 2 ROSTER: 14/2/21

Vigil: R C Greer P Bamford  
 9am Sun: R R Paull M Donaldson  
 5.30pm Sun: R M and J Murray  
 Counting Team C Lavell; A Bowden  
 Sat Cleaning 20/2 J Hutt and J Moran  
 27/2 M Vella and R Pace  
 Altar Linen E Smyth

### WEEK 1 ROSTER: 21/2/21

Vigil: R D Gowing G Styman  
 9am Sun: R S Nichols S Brown  
 5.30pm Sun: R M and J Murray  
 Counting Team P Sheils A Bowden  
 Sat Cleaning 27/2 M Vella and R Pace  
 6/3 B & B Lane  
 Altar Linen: H Reid

1st Collection: PRESBYTERY BSB 082105 ACC 001023642  
 2nd Collection: CHURCH BSB 082105 ACC 001041198