

eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

■ The word of the Lord.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 4: 4

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! / No one lives on bread alone, / but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. / Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

### GOSPEL

Mk 1: 12-15

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

*He was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked after him.*

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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# Breaking Open the Word

## JOURNEYING WITH THE LORD

It is said that it's better to travel hopefully than to arrive. One element of the truth that underlies this saying is that it is the nature of life that we are continually on the move, that there is always another stage of the journey to be undertaken. As we begin this season of Lent the readings are filled with images of journeys, promises and hope. Noah's journey which began with trusting in the Lord's word and building an ark now comes to its conclusion. Having safely come to dry land another journey begins with a new word and promise of God's blessing and faithfulness towards all creation.

If it is true that we are called to walk towards the light it is also true that we are enabled to do so because God has already taken the first step towards us. Lent is a time when we rightly focus on the task of our on-going conversion but, lest we get discouraged, today's second reading and Gospel are timely reminders that we are not undertaking this journey alone. There is work to be done and Peter calls us to remember the responsibility that goes with our baptism. At the same time we are encouraged by the fact that Jesus has already gone where we hope to go and that not even the Dominations and Powers can really impede us. The testing that Jesus undergoes in the desert at the hands of Satan and his victory is a sign and promise that we too will overcome.

Christopher Monaghan CP



1ST SUNDAY OF LENT / B

# THE SAVING WORD

21 FEBRUARY 2021

## FIRST READING

Gen 9: 8-15

A reading from the book of Genesis

*I will recall the covenant between myself and you ... the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.*

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

■ The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 24: 4-9. R. cf. v. 10

**R.** Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

1. Lord, make me know your ways. / Lord, teach me your paths. / Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: / for you are God my saviour. **R.**



2. Remember your mercy, Lord, / and the love you have shown from of old. / In your love remember me, / because of your goodness, O Lord. **R.**

3. The Lord is good and upright. / He shows the path to those who stray, / he guides the humble in the right path; / he teaches his way to the poor. **R.**

## SECOND READING

1 Pet 3: 18-22

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

*The water of the flood is a type of the baptism which saves you now.*

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of



21 Feb 2021  
Year B Lent 1

# WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

**Website:** <https://stpatrickswestamworthparish.org/>



**Parish Priest** Fr Anthony Koppman  
**Deacon** Deacon Peter Harrison

Presbytery 67658211

[westamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au](mailto:westamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au)

**Administration:** Di Bolitho / Anne Bowden  
**Sacristan** Elaine Smyth

**St Joseph's School**  
**Principal Mrs Katie Hanes 67654079**

**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: \*No Mass  
Tues: \*No Mass  
Thurs: \*No Mass  
Sat: 9am

### Entrance Antiphon:

*When he calls on me, I will answer him,  
I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.*

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

**Recently Deceased:** Fay Sims, Giuseppe Pomponio, Bishop Luc Matthys, Leonie Baker.

**Anniversaries:** Dalis O'Brien (12/2), Julia Blanch (12/2), Bill Blanch (12/2), Mavis Parsons (25/2).

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

**Sick:** Barbara Brennen, Monica Austin, 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



Two married unicorns are lying in bed. The husband unicorn, without looking up from his newspaper says, "big storm coming". The wife unicorn then replies "Good thing we didn't go on that cruise with your wacky bloke from work, Noah!".

\*\*\*\*\*

"Do you know what kind of lights Noah used on the Ark?" "Flood lights, of course!"



### COMING EVENTS

28 Feb Parish Morning Tea  
17 Mar St Patrick's Day - Lunch  
20 Mar Men's Gathering at St Nicholas Parish

**ST PATRICK'S DAY:** A light lunch (please bring a plate to share), will be held on **Wednesday 17 March** following 12 noon mass. In keeping with St Patrick's Day please wear or bring something green. We are sure it will be a great day!

*Near the Sacred Heart we are strong and without fear.*  
(1870)



### 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

**PROJECT COMPASSION:** Project Compassion boxes and envelopes will be available this weekend for your collection. There several methods of donation available this year. See Notices.

**LENTEN PROGRAM:** There are still places in the Wednesday 11 am Lenten Program under social distancing guidelines. If you wish to attend please advise the parish by phone or email, or record your name on the table at the back of the church.

**LENTEN MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS:** *A Time for Renewing Faith, Hope and Love*, is available at the [website](#) or from the office if you would like to access it.

**SR KATHRYN SWEENEY RSJ ARRIVES:** It is with great excitement that we announce the arrival of Sr Kathryn to St Patricks. The Sisters 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.

**MORNING TEA IN THE PARISH CENTRE:** Following the wonderful success of our first event in the new Parish Centre, we plan to hold a second such event after 9 am Mass on **28 February**. Everyone is very welcome and we ask that you bring a plate if you can. Hope to see you there!

**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 returned 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.

## A SEASON OF PRAYER: 40 DAYS IN THE DESERT

### 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: P Sheils A Bowden  
 Sat Cleaning: 27/2 M Vella and R Pace  
 6/3 B & B Lane  
 Altar Linen: H Reid

### WEEK 2 ROSTER: 28/2/21

Vigil: R C Greer P Bamford  
 9am Sun: R A Sartori M Donaldson  
 5.30pm Sun: R M and J Murray  
 Counting: J and O Whale; A Bowden  
 Sat Cleaning: 6/3 B & B Lane  
 Altar Linen: J Hutt

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