

Alleluia, alleluia! / He bore our sickness, / and endured our suffering. Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

He cured many who suffered from diseases of one kind or another.

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was.

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

07 FEBRUARY 2021

CONCERN FOR OTHERS

In the midst of his suffering Job takes stock of his life and judges that it can be best described as drudgery and futile. His words are a powerful reminder to us that ours is not the first or last generation to search for meaning in the midst of the complexity of the human situation. It is into the darkness, pain and questioning of ours that Jesus enters with a message of hope. His mission and message is one of healing, freedom and new beginnings.

Paul writes to the Corinthians about the mission that he has received from the Lord, that of preaching the gospel message. He is dealing with a situation where some of the people are exercising their freedom in Christ by eating meat which had previously been sacrificed to idols. While Paul agreed with them that idols did not exist, and that the meat was only meat, their mistake was in not being concerned about their 'weaker' brethren who were scandalised by their behaviour. Rather than arguing who is right and who is wrong, Paul argues that not causing suffering to the other person is a higher value. Using his own practice as an example he talks about how he has tried to become all things to all people so that he might not be an obstacle to the gospel message being preached. Since he exercises his freedom by concern for the other, he hopes that the 'stronger' members of the community will do the same.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Job 7: 1-4, 6-7

A reading from the book of Job

I am filled with sorrow all day long.

Job began to speak:

Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service,
his time no better than hired drudgery?
Like the slave, sighing for the shade,
or the workman with no thought but his wages,
months of delusion I have assigned to me,
nothing for my own but nights of grief.
Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?'
Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!'
Restlessly I fret till twilight falls.
Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days
have passed,
and vanished, leaving no hope behind.
Remember that my life is but a breath,
and that my eyes will never again see joy.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 146: 1-6. R. v. 3

R. Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted. *or Alleluia!*

1. Praise the Lord for he is good; / sing to our God for he is loving; / to him our praise is due. **R.**
2. The Lord builds up Jerusalem / and brings back Israel's exiles, / he heals the broken-hearted, / he binds up all their wounds. / He fixes the number of the stars; / he calls each one by its name. **R.**
3. Our Lord is great and almighty; / his wisdom can never be measured. / The Lord raises the lowly; / he humbles the wicked to the dust. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Cor 9: 16-19, 22-23

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

Punishment will come to me if I do not preach the Gospel.

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me.

So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessing.

■ The word of the Lord.

7 Feb 2021
Year B Wk 4

WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

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



Parish Priest Fr Anthony Koppman
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westtamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au

Administration: Anne Bowden
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: 9 am St Scholastica
Tues: **No Mass
Thurs: 9am
Sat: 9am

Entrance Antiphon:

*Oh come let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us,
For He is the Lord, our God.*

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

Recently Deceased: Bishop Luc Matthys, Leonie Baker, Joy Makepeace, Emily Herden, Fay Bradbery,

Anniversaries: 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: Hugh O'Brien, John Buckley, Janice Press, Sr Helen Cooke, Pat Smyth, 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 Healing Service is being conducted during the Parish Mission. The Priest says with authority: "Stand up!" The man slowly stands. Priest: "Now walk my child, walk!!!" The man slowly started walking and the crowd was shocked. The priest then gave the microphone to the man. "Now what can you say about this miracle of God to cure you!!??" In some surprise himself the man replies: "I still can't see!"

Heal me, LORD, and I will be healed;
save me and I will be saved, for you are the one I praise.
(Jeremiah 17:14, NIV)

COMING EVENTS

7 Feb Sunday of the Word of God
17 Feb Ash Wednesday

11 Feb World Day of Prayer for the Sick
20 Mar Men's Gathering at St Nicholas Parish

The prayer of a humble heart is a powerful weapon. (1873.)



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



ORIENTATION TO NEW PARISH CENTRE: A wonderful welcome to the new Parish Centre was given last Sunday. All who attended were pleased to see the developments and enjoyed a great morning tea amongst friends. Thank you to all those who contributed to this successful event in any way.

SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD: Following the decision taken at the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference plenary meeting last November, Sunday of the Word of God will be served in Australia on the first Sunday in February each year, starting 7 February. More information shortly.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE SICK: On 11/2/21, we will celebrate the annual World Day of Prayer for the Sick. Pope Saint John Paul II initiated this special day in 1992 and Popes Benedict and Francis have continued the tradition. The day has a dual focus on those who are sick and on those who care for them. The theme for the 29th World Day of the Sick 2021 is: "You have but one teacher and you are all brothers" (Mt 23,8) A trust-based relationship to guide the care for the sick.

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.

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED: Job Vacancies - Are you looking for flexible ongoing part time work? Will you share the stories of suffering Christians? *Aid to the Church in Need* is recruiting for a number of **Diocesan Outreach Assistants** who will deliver monthly presentations in parishes across Australia. For more details visit www.aidtochurch.org/work



LENTEN PROGRAM: Ash Wednesday is now only 10 days away. Could those who wish to partake in a Lenten Program under social distancing guidelines please advise the parish by phone or email.

Prepare for Lent 2021

WEEK 1 ROSTER: 7/2/21		WEEK 2 ROSTER: 14/2/21	
Vigil:	R D Gowing G Styman	Vigil:	R C Greer P Bamford
9am Sun:	R S Brown G Clout	9am Sun:	R R Paull M Donaldson
5.30pm Sun:	R M and J Murray	5.30pm Sun:	R M and J Murray
Counting Team:	P Sheils; A Bowden	Counting Team:	C Lavell; A Bowden
Sat Cleaning:	6/2 B & B Lane 13/2 K O'Brien and J Cunningham	Sat Cleaning:	13/2 K O'Brien and J Cunningham 20/2 J Hutt and J Moran
Altar Linen:	J Hutt	Altar Linen:	E Smyth

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