

Alleluia, alleluia! Many women were there by the cross, watching from a distance, the same women who had followed Jesus and looked after him. Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

Mt 6: 25-34

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

*Do not worry about your life.*

I am telling you not to worry about your life and what you are to eat, nor about your body and how you are to clothe it. Surely life means more than food, and the body more than clothing! Look at the birds in the sky. They do not sow or reap or gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they are? Can any of you, for all his worrying, add one single cubit to his span of life? And why worry about clothing? Think of the flowers growing in the fields; they never have to work or spin; yet I assure you that not even Solomon in all his regalia was robed like one of these. Now if that is how God clothes the grass in the field which is there today and thrown in the furnace tomorrow, will he not much more look after you, you men of little faith? So do not worry; do not say, "What are we to eat? What are we to drink? How are we to be clothed?" It is the pagans who set their hearts on all these things. Your heavenly Father knows you need them all. Set your hearts on his kingdom first, and his righteousness, and all these other things will be given you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

## A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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# Breaking Open the Word



## POVERTY AND TRUST

Two themes, 'poverty' and 'trust' leap out from the readings for St Mary MacKillop's feast day, both befitting Australia's first saint.

Poverty in itself is a lack, a harsh suffering, even a death sentence for those like the widow of Zarephath mentioned in today's first reading, as well as many families that Mary MacKillop served in 19th century Australia. From another perspective, poverty can be embraced as a gospel path, as a way to draw close to the poor and to God who loves the poor.

This path refers not only to the vocations of people like Mary MacKillop, but to an attitude to life itself: the willingness to trust not in material possessions but in the steadfast love of God (Gospel), the decision to let go of personal security in order to reach out to others (second reading).

Mary MacKillop lived life on all these fronts. She knew the bitterness of material impoverishment, she embraced God's love for the poor, and she boldly trusted in God to use her life and gifts in the service of the gospel.

As she assured her family, and the sisters in her congregation, on many occasions, and often in the face of material impoverishment, 'God will take care of us all'.

Teresa Pirola



# THE SAVING WORD

SAINT MARY OF THE CROSS (MACKILLOP), VIRGIN / B

08 AUGUST 2021

## FIRST READING

1 Kings 17: 8-16

A reading from the first book of Kings.

*The jar of meal shall not be spent . . .*

And then the word of the Lord came to Elijah, 'Up and go to Zarephath, a Sidonian town, and stay there. I have ordered a widow there to give you food.' So he went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks. Addressing her he said, 'Please bring a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' She was setting off to bring it when he called after her. 'Please', he said, 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As the Lord your God lives,' she replied, 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel:

Jar of meal shall not be spent,  
jug of oil shall not be emptied,  
before the day when the Lord sends  
rain on the face of the earth.'

The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold through Elijah.

■ The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 63: 1-8. R. v. 8

**R.** My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long; / for you my soul is thirsting. / My body pines for you / like a dry weary land without water. / So I gaze on you in the sanctuary / to see you strength and your glory. **R.**

2. For your love is better than life, / my lips will speak your praise. / So I will bless you

all my life, / in your name I will lift up my hands. / My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, / my mouth shall praise you with joy. **R.**

3. On my bed I remember you, / on you I muse through the night / for you have been my help; / In the shadow of your wings I rejoice. / My soul clings to you; / your right hand holds me fast. **R.**

## SECOND READING

Col 3: 12-17

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians.

*Bear with one another, forgive each other.*

As the chosen of God, the holy people whom he loves,

you are to be clothed in heartfelt compassion, in generosity and humility, gentleness and patience.

Bear with one another;

forgive each other if one of you has a complaint against another.

The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same.

Over all these clothes, put on love, the perfect bond.

And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts,

because it is for this that you were called together in one body.

Always be thankful.

Let the Word of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you.

Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom.

With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and whatever you say or do, let it be in the name of the Lord Jesus, in thanksgiving to God the Father through him.

■ The word of the Lord.

8 August 2021  
Year B Week 19

# WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

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



<b>Parish Priest</b>	Fr Anthony Koppman	<b>Presbytery</b> 67658211
<b>Parish Assistant:</b>	Sr Kathryn Sweeney RSJ.	<a href="mailto:westtamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au">westtamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au</a>
<b>Administration</b>	Di Bolitho / Anne Bowden	Office Hrs: Tues -Wed 9.30 am -11.30 am
<b>Sacristan</b>	Elaine Smyth	<b>Parish Associate</b> 0411703608
<b>School Principal</b>	Mrs Katie Hanes	<b>St Josephs School</b> 67654079

<b>WEEKEND MASSES</b>	<b>Vigil: Sat: 5.30pm</b>	<b>Sun: 9am and 5.30pm</b>	<b>CONFESSIONS</b> <b>Sat: 4.30-5.15pm</b> *Or by appointment
<b>WEEKDAY MASSES</b>	<b>Mon: *No Mass</b>	<b>Tues: *No Mass</b>	
	<b>Wed: 12 pm St Clare</b>	<b>Thur: 9am</b>	
	<b>Fri: 9am</b>	<b>Sat: *No Mass</b>	

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** *Come you blessed of my father, says the Lord; I was sick and you visited me. Amen I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least of my brethren, you did it for me.*

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** *This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another says the Lord.*

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

**Recently Deceased:** Betty Hodgins, Loyola Hawthorne, Coral Markey, Vera Anne Pendergast.

**Anniversaries:** Eric Graham (3/8), John Jackson (8/8), Jack Sampson (9/8), Stan Hobbs (16/8), Andrew Tickner (20/8), Bridget Teo (29/7), Heighton Betts (28/7), Max Kennedy (31/7), Marie Ryan (31/7).

**Deceased:** Sister Ita Harris (rsj), Sister Francis Gabriel (rsj), Mary Sampson, William Coulston, Margaret Burgess, Bruce Pullman, Thomas Brown.

**Sick:** Norma O'Brien, Sophie Littlejohn, Margaret Marshall, Colleen Greer, Fr Bernie Flood, Maria Mood, Kim Myers, Barbara Brennan, Monica Austin, Mimmie Bennett, Bob Worthington, Judy Cummins, Shirley Hobbs, Elaine White, Erin Hansen, Bill Press, Jenny Crawford, Sr Pat Bartley, Linda Bourke, Deacon Peter Harrison, Maureen Harrison, Margaret Doyle, Christopher Struck, Graeme Bussell, Brindley Cavallaro, Jack & Marge Attard.

### PADDY'S CORNER

**A SISTER'S TALE -** Mary Helen MacKillop (1842-1909), was born on 15 January 1842 in Fitzroy, Melbourne, the eldest of eight children. At the age of 24 she dedicated her life to God as a religious sister and took on the name "Mary of the Cross." She died in North Sydney on 8 August 1909 and was canonised as a Saint on 17 October 2010 by Pope Benedict XVI.



*Three nuns die in a car crash and end up before the gates of St Peter. St Peter says to the nuns, "Given you are nuns and have devoted your life to good works you only need to answer a single question each to enter Heaven." He looks to the first nun and asks, "Where did the first woman live?" The first nun quickly replied, "The garden of Eden." St Peter nods approval and looks to the second nun. "What was the name of the first woman?" The second nun pauses for a second and then replies, "Eve." "Well done!" Says St Peter before turning to the third nun and saying, "As the Mother Superior you should be able to answer this; what did Eve say to Adam when she first saw him?" The Mother Superior furrows her brow and says, "Are you serious?" ..... "Correct!" Says St Peter. "You may enter."*



*A certain sense of God's watchful love wonderfully strengthens me.'*

*MMK, 25 March 1873.*



### COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS CHANGED ON 26 JUNE 2021.

**\*PLEASE READ THE NOTICES AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE CHURCH FOLLOW ALL REQUESTS, INCLUDING:**

**\*\*MANDATORY MASK WEARING\*\*      \*\*SOCIAL DISTANCING UNDER THE 4m<sup>2</sup> RULE**  
**\*\*CHECKING IN and OUT                      \*\*SANITISING.**

**FEAST OF SAINT MARY MACKILLOP:** Today we celebrate the feast day of Saint Mary of the Cross Mackillop. Just as Mary stood against injustice and inequality in the care and education of poor people and provided hope-giving alternatives, may we too continue to minister joyfully among the poorest and those at the edges of church and society.

**CLERGY EDUCATION AND RETIRED CLERGY COLLECTION:** This special collection will be held this weekend as National Vocations Awareness week draws to a close. Please consider giving to this important collection for our seminarians and retired clergy. Envelopes are available. Please only touch the envelopes to donate and if a receipt is required you must complete the required section.

**REVIEW OF PRAYERS FOR THE SICK LIST:** Please note that we are reviewing the current list of people who have requested prayers during their illness or a loved one's illness. Many of these requests were received a long time ago. Please confirm to the office, by phone or email, if an entry you have requested is to continue past 4 weeks. We will commence an updated list from 15 Aug 2021.

**THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC MEN'S GATHERING FOR 2021** was launched online on Saturday 31st July. St Patrick's Parish Men's Group will meet on Thursdays at 7 pm in the Parish Centre. The Diocese of Armidale will be holding its own Diocesan Catholic Men's Gathering as an in-person event on Saturday 16th October in Tamworth (Covid rules permitting)

**CHURCH LIGHTING FAILING:** Replacement of the church lights is imminent and a significant cost. We have noted improved savings with updating of lighting in the presbytery and grounds and would like to see the same in the Church. We are most grateful for those who have donated to this already.

### CHURCH COLLECTIONS:

**BSB 082105 1st Coll: Church Acc 001023642      2nd Coll: Acc 001041198**

\*Please make separate payments for each account.

### COMING EVENTS

**12th Aug** St Patrick's Mens Gathering Group  
**16th Oct** Diocesan Catholic Men's Group Gathering

### WEEK 3 ROSTER: 8/8/21

**Vigil:** R P Bamford Sr Kathryn  
**9am Sun:** R G Clout Sr Kathryn  
**5.30pm Sun:** R M Murray Sr Kathryn  
**Counting Team** 9/8 O & J Whale; A Bowden  
**Sat Cleaning:** 14/8 M Vella and R Pace  
**Altar Linen:** H Reid

### WEEK 4 ROSTER: 15/8/21

**Vigil:** R D Gowing G Styman  
**9am Sun:** R R Paull M Donaldson  
**5.30pm Sun:** R M and J Murray  
**Counting Team** 16/8 S Brown A Bowden  
**Sat Cleaning** 21/8 B & B Lane  
**Altar Linen** J Hutt

We acknowledge that we walk upon the traditional lands of First Nations peoples. We pay our respects to them and recognise the continuing gift of their cultures to the life and spirit of Australia.

