

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

*Be merciful as your Father is merciful.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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



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# Breaking Open the Word

## A HEAVENLY IMAGE

Both today's first reading and Gospel passage deal with what is the appropriate response to those who seek to harm us. Saul set out to destroy David and now as he sleeps his life is in David's hands. Will David return violence for violence, death for persecution? Everyone can cite the wounds they have received, the wrongs they have endured as a justification for retaliation and vengeance. The problem with giving violence in response to violence is that the vicious cycle never finishes – one violent act leads to another. Like David, Jesus knew that it is only by being able to forgive that this cycle can be stopped. At the heart of the Gospel is the call to a love that counters hurt, misunderstanding, oppression, and persecution with forgiveness and generosity.

As Paul continues to unfold his arguments for the bodily resurrection of Christians, he compares two Adams. The first Adam is found in the book of Genesis and the second is the risen Lord Jesus. For Paul, it is eminently reasonable that since we have borne the image of the first Adam by having a body, we will also bear the image of the second Adam by sharing in the bodily resurrection. The Corinthians knew that they had been baptised into the death and resurrection of Jesus, but Paul knew that they had not fully entered into the life of the resurrection. This would only come about when they had received their glorified bodies at the end of time.

Christopher Monaghan CP



# THE SAVING WORD

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

20 FEBRUARY 2022

**FIRST READING** 1 Sam 26: 2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23  
A reading from the first book of Samuel.

*The Lord has put you in my power, but I will not raise my hand against you.*

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph.

So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him.

Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice.' David answered Abishai, 'Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt?' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them.

David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

■ The word of the Lord.

**RESP PSALM** Ps 102: 1-4, 8, 10, 12-13. R. v. 8  
**R.** The Lord is kind and merciful.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, / all my being, bless his holy name. / My soul, give thanks to the Lord / and never forget all his blessings. **R.**

2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, / who heals every one of your ills, / who redeems your life from the grave, / who crowns you with love and compassion. **R.**



3. The Lord is compassion and love, / slow to anger and rich in mercy. / He does not treat us according to our sins / nor repay us according to our faults. **R.**

4. As far as the east is from the west / so far does he remove our sins. / As a father has compassion on his sons, / the Lord has pity on those who fear him. **R.**

**SECOND READING** 1 Cor 15: 45-49  
A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

*Just as we have carried the earthly image, we must carry the heavenly image.*

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

■ The word of the Lord.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Jn 13: 34  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
I give you a new commandment:  
love one another as I have loved you.  
Alleluia!

20 Feb 2022  
Wk 7 Yr C

## WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

Website: <https://stpatrickswesttamworthparish.org>



**Parish Priest** Fr Anthony Koppman  
**Pastoral Associate:** Sr Kathryn Sweeney RSJ.  
**Administration** Di Bolitho / Anne Bowden  
**Sacristan** Elaine Smyth  
**School Principals** Greg O'Toole and Maree Holland

**Presbytery** 67658211  
[westtamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au](mailto:westtamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au)  
Office Hrs: Wed-Thur 9.30 am -11.30 am  
**Parish Associate** 0411703608  
**St Josephs School** 67654079

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

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** O Lord, I trust in your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** I will recount all your wonders, I will rejoice in you and be glad, And sing psalms to your name, O Most High.

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

**Recently Deceased:** Maria Mood, Shirley Hobbs, Irene Stanmore, Peter Buckley.

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

**Deceased:** Frank Mood, Neville Smyth (WA), Shirley Tiberi, Mary Maher, Gwen Tufrey, Laurence Vella, John Paul Vella.

**Sick:** Paul D'Elbeoux, Barbara Brennan, Peter Richards, Colin MacPherson, Kevin Bonner, Lisa Foster, Kate Harrison, Deacon Peter Harrison, Maureen Harrison, Margaret Marshall, Graeme Bussell, Fr Bernie Flood.



**ST PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION:** The Family Hotel has been booked for lunch Wednesday 17 March. Names to be recorded on the list at the back of the church if you are intending to join us. We hope you will come along and enjoy this special day with us.

### DIOCESAN'S MEN'S GATHERING:

Please see the information displayed at the back of the church. A day for laymen by laymen. Could you possibly be the contact person for this event for St Patrick's? Please get in touch with the office by phone or email if you can; We would be very grateful.



### COMING EVENTS:

- 2 Mar Lent begins
- 6 Mar Parish Special Morning Tea after 9am mass
- 19 Mar Diocesan Men's Gathering

- 5 Mar Reflection Day
- 17 Mar St Patrick's Day

**CHURCH COLLECTIONS:** BSB 082105 1st Coll: Presbytery Acc 001023642  
(contactless option) 2nd Coll: St Patricks Church Acc 001041198

*Have a pure heart and be faithful. (1871)*



### NSW STATE COVID RULES:

- \*\*PLEASE NOTE CHANGES FROM FRIDAY 18 FEBRUARY\*\*
- \*\* FACE MASKS ARE STILL MANDATORY \*\*THIS WEEK\*\*
- \*\* FROM NEXT WEEK (25/2) MASKS ARE RECOMMENDED WHILST INSIDE.
- \*\* SANITISE HANDS ON ENTERING. \*\* NO CHECK IN REQUIRED



**LENT 2022:** Lenten groups are being formed. Please register at the back of the church. Lent is just over 1 week away with Ash Wednesday this year falling on 2 March. The Frassati Society for young Adult Catholics aged 16 to 39yrs will be running a Lenten group. If you are interested in joining or for more info please contact Tammy on 0459784171.

**EASTER ROSTERS:** Please advise the office if you are aware that you will be away this Easter so we may formulate the Easter Services Roster bearing in mind this weekend will also be the Country Music Festival In Tamworth. (Easter Sunday 17 April 2022)

**5 MARCH REFLECTION DAY:** Hosted by Sr Maureen McDermott RSJ with the theme *If You Knew the Gift of God*. An introductory meeting on Fri. 4 March at 5pm to introduce the program with refreshments. Sat 5 March will commence at 9.30 am till 4 pm. Bring own lunch. Register at the back of the church or online at [St Patrick's website](http://St Patrick's website).

**PARISH MORNING TEA:** A very special morning tea will be on **Sun. 6 March** after the 9 am mass. We hope as many parishioners as possible will attend. Please bring a plate if you can.

**CALL FOR CATECHISTS:** This is a hugely rewarding calling if you think you might be able to bring knowledge of God and His love to our little ones. Lessons are approximately 30 times per year for a half hour on Thursdays. Do you think you may be called to do this? If you have the slightest interest, please speak with Fr Anthony or Anne Bowden on 0419 42 5555.

**SYNOD OF BISHOPS:** People around the world have been participating in an international conversation about the Catholic Church. You are invited to join the discussion, helping shape a major global meeting in 2023. You have one more week to make a submission to your local consultation for the international Synod on Synodality, calling the People of God to walk together in our mission as Christians. Find out more at: <https://catholic.org.au/synodalchurch>

**PALMS AUSTRALIA MISSION OPPORTUNITIES:** Palms Australia has 60 years experience preparing and assisting Australians to learn and pass on their skills in another culture. Is one of [our assignments](#) your opportunity to Reach Beyond? **Find Out More:** [Enquire Here](#) or **Phone:** 0422 742 567 Join our [online forum](#) at 5.30pm AEDT on 17 March, attend our and engage with a panel of Palms most experienced Program Participants.

### WEEK 1 ROSTER: 20/2/22/22

- Vigil:** R Sr Kathryn G Styman
- 9am Sun:** R S Nichols G Clout
- 5.30pm Sun:** R M and J Murray
- Counting Team** 6/9 R Paull; A Bowden
- Sat Cleaning** 26/2 S Brown, V Griffiths
- Altar Linen:** B Flood

### WEEK 2 ROSTER: 27/2/22

- Vigil:** R D Gowing D Bolitho
- 9am Sun:** R S Brown O Monet
- 5.30pm Sun:** R M and J Murray
- Counting Team** 13/9 G&M Thrift; A Bowden
- Sat Cleaning** 5/3/ K O'Brien, J Cunningham
- Altar Linen** E Smyth

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and care for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

