

Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

17 JULY 2022

TO DEEPER TRUTHS

Things are not always what they seem and we can all be fooled by first appearances. The life of faith calls us to go beyond appearances to the deeper truths that underlie them. This requires an openness to the unexpected and we may well receive more than we bargained for! Abraham and Sarah did not think that they were welcoming the Lord by entertaining three unknown guests. Their generous hospitality meets a most unexpected reward when the Lord promises them the son they dearly long for.

Similarly, the Lord's reply to Martha is not what she anticipated. In her concern to put on a welcome worthy of her guest, she has been momentarily deafened to the deeper invitation of listening to the life-giving word of Jesus. While she is looking at what she can do for the Lord, the Lord reminds her of what his word can do for her!

When Paul wrote to the Colossians he was in prison and the community of Colossae would have been concerned for him and dispirited by his dreadful situation. With the eyes of faith, Paul invites them to see that his suffering is not a sign of his defeat but, rather, a sharing in the saving suffering of Christ for the sake of the Church. Paul's ministry appears to have come to a dead end, but for those able to see with the eyes of faith, it is a deeper sharing in the rich mystery which had been hidden for generations.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Gen 18:1-10

A reading from the book of Genesis

Lord, do not bypass your servant.

The Lord appeared to Abraham at the Oak of Mamre while he was sitting by the entrance of the tent during the hottest part of the day. He looked up, and there he saw three men standing near him. As soon as he saw them he ran from the entrance of the tent to meet them, and bowed to the ground. 'My Lord,' he said 'I beg you, if I find favour with you, kindly do not pass your servant by. A little water shall be brought; you shall wash your feet and lie down under the tree. Let me fetch a little bread and you shall refresh yourselves before going further. That is why you have come in your servant's direction.' They replied, 'Do as you say.'

Abraham hastened to the tent to find Sarah. 'Hurry,' he said 'knead three bushels of flour and make loaves.' Then running to the cattle Abraham took a fine and tender calf and gave it to the servant, who hurried to prepare it. Then taking cream, milk and the calf he had prepared, he laid all before them, and they ate while he remained standing near them under the tree.

'Where is your wife Sarah?' they asked him. 'She is in the tent', he replied. Then his guest said, 'I shall visit you again next year without fail and your wife will then have a son.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 14:2-5. R. v. 1

R. The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

1. Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain? / He who walks without fault; / he who acts with justice / and speaks the truth from his heart; / he who does not slander with his tongue. **R.**



2. He who does no wrong to his brother, / who casts no slur on his neighbour, / who holds the godless in disdain, / but honours those who fear the Lord. **R.**

3. He who keeps his pledge, come what may, / who takes no interest on a loan / and accepts no bribes against the innocent. / Such a man will stand firm for ever. **R.**

SECOND READING

Col 1:24-28

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

The mystery hidden for centuries has now been revealed to his saints.

It makes me happy to suffer for you, as I am suffering now, and in my body to do what I can to make up all that has still to be undergone by Christ for the sake of his body, the Church. I became the servant of the Church when God made me responsible for delivering God's message to you, the message which was a

mystery hidden for generations and centuries and has now been revealed to his saints. It was God's purpose to reveal it to them and to show all the rich glory of this mystery to pagans. The mystery is Christ among you, your hope of glory: this is the Christ we proclaim, this is the wisdom in which we thoroughly train everyone and instruct everyone, to make them all perfect in Christ.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Lk 8:15

Alleluia, alleluia! Happy are they who have kept the word with a generous heart, and yield a harvest through perseverance. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lk 10:38-42

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Martha took up the duties in the house. Mary chose the better part.

Jesus came to a village, and a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. She had a sister called Mary, who sat down at the Lord's feet and listened to him speaking. Now Martha who was distracted with all the serving said, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister is leaving me to do the serving all by myself? Please tell her to help me.' But the Lord answered: 'Martha, Martha,' he said 'you worry and fret about so many things, and yet few are needed, indeed only one. It is Mary who has chosen the better part; it is not to be taken from her.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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17 July 2022
Week 16 Year C

WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

Website: <https://stpatrikswesttamworthparish.org>
Email: westtamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au



Parish Priest Fr Anthony Koppman

Pastoral Associate: Sr Kathryn Sweeney RSJ.

Office Hrs: Wed-Thur 9.30 -11.30 am

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Presbytery 67658211

Sacristan Elaine Smyth

Pastoral Associate 0411703608

School Principals Greg O'Toole and Maree Holland

St Josephs School 67654079

WEEKEND MASSES Sat: 5.30pm Sun: 9am and 5.30pm

CONFESSIONS

Sat: 4.30-5.15pm

*Or by appointment

WEEKDAY MASSES Mon: No Mass Tues: No Mass

Wed: 12pm Thurs: 9 am

Fri: 9am Mary Magdalene Sat: No Mass

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: See, I have God for my help, the Lord sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to you with willing heart, and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: The Lord, the gracious, the merciful, has made a memorial of his wonders; He gives food to those who fear Him.

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

Recently Deceased: John Fittler, Molly Miller, Judy McGregor, Vincent O'Shea, Shirley Chandler.

Anniversaries: John Varga (1/6), Pat Smyth (7/6), Grant D'Elboux (21/6), Bridget Teo (29/7).

Deceased: Roy Carpenter, Warwick McKeon, Laurence McDonnell.

Sick: Shirley Collier, Norma O'Brien, Alison and baby Huxley Gallagher, Sr Rita Vella, Barbara Brennan, Peter Richards, Colin MacPherson, Kevin Bonner, Lisa Foster, Kate Harrison, Maureen Harrison, Deacon Peter Harrison, Margaret Marshall, Graeme Bussell, Fr Bernie Flood.

VEENA'S VERSIONS:

A vacuum cleaner salesman went to a very remote farmhouse and, before the woman of the house could object, started throwing all manner of dirt on the carpet.

"Madam", he said, "I have such confidence in this machine that if this carpet is not spotless after it's been over it, then I will eat all the dirt that's left."

"Well, you'd better start eating," chuckled the woman... "we haven't got electricity out here".

PLATE COLLECTIONS:

With cash being less and less available, a safe option is to arrange a Direct Debit from your bank account to the Church Account. This can be arranged via ADIG or your personal bank using the account details below. Please advise us of your payment or have it narrated with your name or envelope number. We are so very grateful for all your continued financial support.. Envelope giving goes to the church account to run St Patricks. Thank you.

BSB 082105 1st Coll: West Tamworth Presbytery Acc 001023642
2nd Coll: St Patricks Church Acc 001041198

COMING EVENTS:

24 July World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly (See Catholic Bishops website message)

<https://www.catholic.org.au/grandparents>

7 Aug Good Shepherd Sunday

"God knows what is best for us all" (1898)



NSW STATE COVID RULES: * FACE MASKS ARE NOT COMPULSORY BUT RECOMMENDED
* SANITISE HANDS ON ENTERING. * NO CHECK IN REQUIRED

PLENARY COUNCIL IN PRAYER: Last week the members of the Plenary Council met for the final session to bring a conclusion to the second general assembly, held across six days in Sydney. Members also approved a concluding statement signed by all. Acknowledging that while some moments during the week had been "calm and harmonious", others were "tense and difficult", the statement also said "every moment has been blessed; the entire week has been grace-filled, though never a cheap grace". "The Holy Spirit has been both comforter and disrupter." The statement agreed with Pope Francis' assessment that synodality is "an easy concept to put into words, but not so easy to put into practice". "Embedding these practices of listening and discernment will continue to be essential dimensions of the implementation of this Plenary Council," the statement said.

AN INVITATION TO CELEBRATE: Fr Bernard Flood and Fr Ron Perrett celebrate their 60th Ordination Anniversaries to the priesthood on 24 July 2022. Everyone is invited to join together for this milestone celebration, beginning with a concelebrated Mass at St Michael's Church Dungowan at 10.00 am, followed by morning tea in the church grounds. A two-course meal at Carmen's Restaurant from 12.15 pm (cost \$30) will continue the celebrations for those who wish to attend all, or only the lunch celebration. RSVP Di Brown 0419296627, or Pam Crayn 407013904 by 10 July if you are able to attend. Details on noticeboard.

CAN YOU SING FOR THE SPECIAL CELEBRATION? It would be appreciated if singing could be organised for the ordination anniversary event for Frs Flood and Perrett. If you could assist please ring Joan Newley 0455126646.

COMMUNICATION & RELATIONSHIPS Saturday 23 Jul 2022, 12.30pm-5pm, attend via Zoom or in-person. A fundamental aspect of any relationship - with God or people - is Communication. This event looks at the different aspects of communication—their strengths and weaknesses in daily life. It offers a practical approach to communication and relationships. Led by James Areechira svd. Cost \$60 (BYO lunch). Book 18/7/22 via www.heartoflife.melbourne Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral formation, email office@heartoflife.melbourne or tel (03) 9890 1101.



WEEK 4 ROSTER: 17/7/22

Vigil: R N Pullman Sr Kathryn

9am Sun: R S Brown, M Donaldson

5.30pm Sun: R M Murray Volunteer

Counting Team R Paull; A Bowden

Sat Cleaning 23/7 K O'Brien, J Cunningham

Altar Linen H Reid

WEEK 5 ROSTER: 24/7/22

Vigil: R C Ledwos, D Bolitho

9am Sun: R J Ryan, G Clout

5.30pm Sun: R J Murray, D Bearman

Counting Team O and J Whale, A Bowden

Sat Cleaning 30/7 J Hutt; J Moran

Altar Linen: J Hutt

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.

