

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us.

He enabled those who accepted him

to become the children of God.

Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

Jn 1: 29-34

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

*This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.*

Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said: A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me. I did not know him myself, and yet it was to reveal him to Israel that I came baptising with water.' John also declared, 'I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. I did not know him myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water had said to me, "The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and rest is the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit." Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

# Breaking Open the Word



SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

15 JANUARY 2023

## LIGHT TO ALL PEOPLES

Like Archimedes, there are times we can call out 'eureka' (I have found!) and know that we have come to a moment of understanding and insight about ourselves. In the first reading, the mysterious servant figure found in the book of Isaiah has arrived at such a moment. They have come to see that their ministry is not only to bring the exiled people of Israel back to their land and to their God but to stand as a light and beacon to the nations.

In a similar fashion, John the Baptist comes to understand himself most truly when he sees Jesus and can proclaim him as the Lamb of God. At that moment, he understands that his ministry's purpose is to prepare the way for Jesus. His baptism of repentance is one that prepares the ground for the baptism of the Spirit which Jesus will give.

During the next seven weeks, the second reading will be taken from Paul's first letter to the community he had founded in Corinth. It was a vibrant and volatile community that was just as varied in status, nationality and wealth as the cosmopolitan city itself. The city was a hive of activity situated where trade routes north-south and east-west intersected. As Paul begins the letter, he is mindful of the international character of the city and of the early Christian movement itself and so it is with this insight that he prays with all those throughout the world who call with faith on the name of Jesus.

## FIRST READING

Isa 49: 3, 5-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

*I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.*

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel,

in whom I shall be glorified';

I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord, my God was my strength.

And now the Lord has spoken,

he who formed me in the womb to be his servant,

to bring Jacob back to him,

to gather Israel to him:

'It is not enough for you to be my servant, to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back the survivors of Israel; I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.'

■ The word of the Lord.

## RESP PSALM

Ps 39: 2, 4, 7-10. R. vv. 8, 9

**R.** Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

1. I waited, I waited for the Lord / and he stooped down to me; / he heard my cry. / He put a new song into my mouth, / praise of our God. **R.**

2. You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings, / but an open ear. / You do not ask for holocaust and victim. / Instead, here am I. **R.**

3. In the scroll of the book it stands written / that I should do your will. / My God, I delight in your law / in the depth of my heart. **R.**

4. Your justice I have proclaimed / in the great assembly. / My lips I have not sealed; / you know it, O Lord. **R.**



## SECOND READING

1 Cor 1: 1-3

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

*The grace and peace of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.*

I, Paul, appointed by God to be an apostle, together with brother Sosthenes, send greetings to the church of God in Corinth, to the holy people of Jesus Christ, who are called to take their place among all the saints everywhere who pray to our Lord Jesus Christ; for he is their Lord no less than ours. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

■ The word of the Lord.

## A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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15 Jan 23  
Wk 3 Yr A

# WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

Website: <https://stpatrickswesttamworthparish.org>

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



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

**Office Hrs:** Wed & Thurs 8.30-11.30 am

**Presbytery** 67658211  
**Pastoral Associate** 0411703608  
**St Josephs School** 67654079

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

**WEEKDAY MASSES**  
Mon: No Mass Tues: No Mass  
Wed: 12 pm Thurs: 9am  
Fri: 9am Sat: No Mass



## CONFESSIONS

Sat: 4.30-5.15pm

\*Or by appointment

**ENTRANCE ANTI-PHON:** All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!

**COMMUNION ANTI-PHON:** You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Des Saunders, Val McInnes (Riordan), Margaret Greentree, Lyn Moore, Andrew Brennan, Beryl Wright.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Mary Sampson (2/1), John O'Brien (3/1), Pamela Davy (nee Barry) (6/1), Ivan Lillicrap (18/1), Rod Taylor (20/1).

**DECEASED:** Relatives and friends of Kathie O'Brien, Pamela Davy, Rod Kelly, Gwen Gerathy, Les Wallworth, Margaret Marshall, Valerie Chillingworth, Sr Rita Vella, Barry Schipp.

**SICK:** Terry Dean, Sr Gerard Joseph, Gail Styman, Suzanne Roberts, Shane Davidson, Pauline Wiley, Joan Crowe, Lisa Foster, Shirley Collier, Norma O'Brien, Barbara Brennan, William Bonner, Colin MacPherson, Alison and baby Huxley Gallagher, Peter Richards, Kate Harrison, Maureen Harrison, Deacon Peter Harrison, Graeme Bussell, Fr Bernie Flood.

## VEENA'S VERSIONS:



A local was flustered about not being able to find a parking space in Peel Street. Tamworth "Lord," he prayed, "I can't stand this. If you open a space up for me, I swear I'll give up drinking me whiskey, and I promise to go to church every Sunday." Suddenly, the clouds parted and the sun shone on an empty parking spot. Without hesitation, the local said, "Never mind, I found one."



## COMING EVENTS:

22 Feb Lent begins 4 Mar Reflection Day

**PARISH COLLECTIONS:** The parish is thankful for all your support. The first collection (Presbytery Acc) goes to the Armidale Diocese to support diocesan clergy with the second collection (Church Acc) supporting the running of St Patricks.

BSB 082105 1st. West Tamworth Presbytery (Dioc) Acc 001023642  
2nd. West Tamworth Catholic Ch. (St Pats) Acc 001041198

*'Do you have courage. We must all willingly and with constancy suffer all that God sends for our good.'* (1872)



**COVID GUIDE:** \* FACE MASKS ARE STRONGLY RECOMMENDED  
\* ANTISEPTIC WIPES & SANITISER ARE AVAILABLE.



**COUNTRY MUSIC:** We welcome all our guests who have joined us for the 2023 Country Music Festival. May you have an enjoyable, safe and blessed time here in our city.

**LENT:** While we seem to have only just packed away the Christmas decorations it is only five weeks until Lent is upon us. Keep this in mind if you are wanting to participate in any program even though we realise they could well be by virtual means.

**2023 SAVE THE DATES:** Following the success of the Evangelise 2022 Diocesan hubs Bishop Kennedy invites interested parishioners to attend a series of follow-up zoom hubs and face to face gatherings to be held across the diocese on the following Fridays 24th February, 26th May, 25th August, 17th November. Participants will be provided with input from speakers regarding Evangelisation along with food, sharing of ideas and discussion. Further information regarding venue of hubs, timings etc will be provided closer to the date

**Saturday 4 March 2023:** \*Sr Kathryn has also asked that we all save this date . Something special is coming ... watch this space for details.

**NEW YEAR ROSTERS:** As we begin 2023 we would love to see more volunteers assist with what can be done during Masses, particularly readers, cleaners after Mass and counters. \*If you can assist please call or email the office or let Father know. Thank you.

**FREE ENGLISH LESSONS:** From February 5th, free English Lessons at South Tamworth Parish will resume. It is open to CALD (Culturally And Linguistically Diverse) Communities. If you want to improve your English speaking, writing, and reading, come and join our classes. We are also looking for volunteer parishioners to help with conversational English. Classes will be held at Mary Help of Christians Church Hall 72 Hillvue Road, South Tamworth from 10.00 -11.30am every Sunday beginning February 5th. To enrol, volunteer, or for more information send an email to: mhocenglish@gmail.com



## WEEK 6 ROSTER: 15/1/23

**Vigil:** R D Gowing, P Bamford  
**9am Sun:** R S Brown, A Sartori  
**5.30pm Sun:** R D Bearman/Vol. M Murray  
**Sat Cleaning** 21/1 K O'Brien, J Cunningham  
**Altar Linen:** J Hutt

## WEEK 1 ROSTER: 22/1/23

**Vigil:** R C Ledwos P Bamford  
**9am Sun:** R S Nichols G Clout  
**5.30pm Sun:** R C Lavell M Murray  
**Counting Team** P Sheils; A Bowden  
**Sat Cleaning** 28/1 J Hutt, J Moran  
**Altar Linen:** E Jackson

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.

