

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will
come to them.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 14:15-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
John.

*I shall ask the Father and he will give you another
Advocate.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If you love me you will keep my
commandments.

I shall ask the Father,
and he will give you another Advocate

to be with you for ever,

that Spirit of truth

whom the world can never receive

since it neither sees nor knows him;

but you know him,

because he is with you, he is in you.

I will not leave you orphans;

I will come back to you.

In a short time the world will no longer
see me;

but you will see me,

because I live and you will live.

On that day

you will understand that I am in my Father
and you in me and I in you.

Anybody who receives my commandments
and keeps them

will be one who loves me

and anybody who loves me will be loved by
my Father,

and I shall love him and show myself to him.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



Reproduction of this bulletin in any form prohibited. Published
with ecclesiastical approval by ST PAULS PUBLICATIONS,
PO Box 906, Strathfield NSW 2135. Tel 02 9394 3400 Fax 02 9394
3444. Scripture readings from the Jerusalem Bible, published and
© 1966, by Darton, Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co. Inc.
are used by permission of the publishers. Psalm text from The Psalms,
A New Translation, © 1963, The Grail (England), HarperCollins.
New translation of the Order of Mass from The Roman Missal
© 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy
Corporation. All rights reserved. Artwork by Sr Dorothy Woodward rsj.
Layout, commentaries and illustrations: © St Pauls Publications, 2023.
No 1983. Website: www.stpauls.com.au

Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / A

14 MAY 2023

I WILL NOT LEAVE YOU ORPHANS

One of the most touching phrases in John's Gospel is Jesus' promise before his death that he would not leave his disciples orphans. The quality of his presence among them would change after the resurrection. In the future the Spirit would be the one instructing, strengthening, and protecting disciples. Jesus promises that whoever receives his commandments will be loved by the Father. This promise is fulfilled when the Samaritans become believers through Philip's ministry of preaching and healing. Samaritans were considered heretical Jews, but their positive reception of the word prompted the Jerusalem community to think again and to send Peter and John to welcome them into the larger community. The gift of the Spirit through the laying on of hands is the sign of God's blessing and of their full incorporation into the growing Christian family.

The first letter of Peter was written in a time of great trial and opposition. How were Christians going to respond to false charges against them? How were they able to give a credible account of their Christian faith? These early Christians were urged to remain steadfast and true to their values and belief. Like them, we are encouraged to find our source of strength in the example of Jesus who suffered and died for us even though he was innocent. It is not an easy path we are asked to tread but we are encouraged to see that our best defence is the quality of our lives and the depth of our hope.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*They laid hands on them, and they received the
Holy Spirit.*

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 65:1-7, 16, 20. R. cf. v. 2

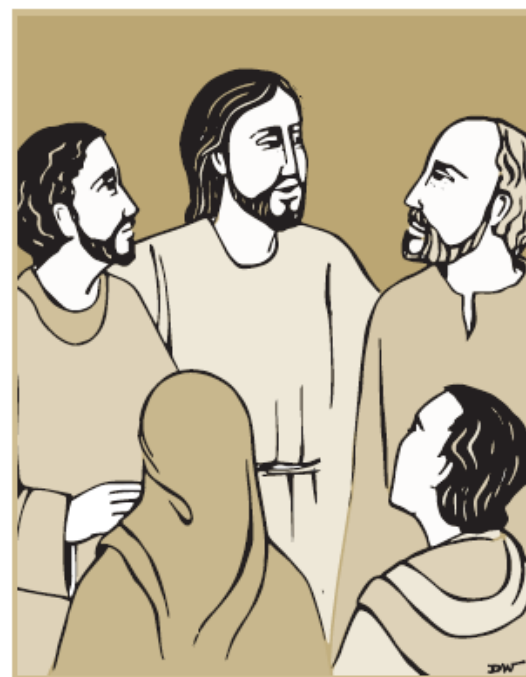
R. Let all the earth cry out to God with joy. (or Alleluia!)

1. Cry out with joy to God all the earth, /
O sing to the glory of his name. / O render
him glorious praise. / Say to God: 'How
tremendous your deeds!' **R.**

2. 'Before you all the earth shall bow; / shall
sing to you, sing to your name!' / Come and
see the works of God, / tremendous his deeds
among men. **R.**

3. He turned the sea into dry land, / they
passed through the river dry-shod. / Let our
joy then be in him; / he rules for ever by his
might. **R.**

4. Come and hear, all who fear God. / I will
tell what he did for my soul: / Blessed be God
who did not reject my prayer / nor withhold
his love for me. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Pet 3:15-18

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

*In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was
raised to life.*

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and
always have your answer ready for people who
ask you the reason for the hope that you all
have. But give it with courtesy and respect
and with a clear conscience, so that those who
slander you when you are living a good life in
Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations
that they bring. And if it is the will of God that
you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing
right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he
was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty,
to lead us to God. In the body he was put to
death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

■ The word of the Lord.

14 May 23
Easter Wk 6 Yr A

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.
Administration Di Bolitho, Anne Bowden
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 Wed: 12pm Thurs: 9am Fri: 9am

CONFESSIONS

Sat: 4.30-5.15pm

*Or by appointment

ENTRANCE ANTI-PHON: Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed His people, Alleluia.

COMMUNION ANTI-PHON: If you love me keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and He will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, Alleluia.

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Marjie Balfe, Sophie Littlejohns, Father Efren Musngi MS, Marian Murphy, Ann Daly, Charlie Burns, Carmel MacPherson, Peter Richards.

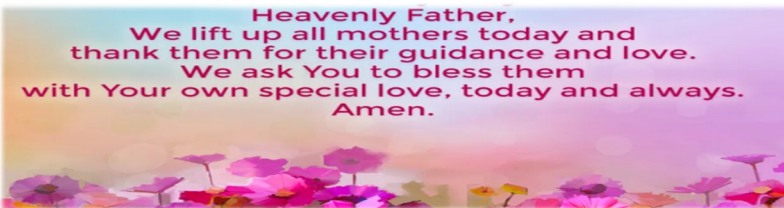
FR EFREN MUSNGI'S PASSING: Many parishioners will recall Fr Efren serving here at St Patrick's during 2003/2004 period. We have been advised of his sad passing on 30th April in the Philippines. Keep the La Salette Fathers and Fr Efren in your prayers.

ANNIVERSARIES: Peg MacRae (4/5), Hugh O'Brien (18/5), Sandy Murray (22/5).

DECEASED: John O'Brien, Gary McSweeney, Sr Clare Keating RSJ, Margaret Cummins, Janet Corcoran, Anna Fordham, Pam Perkins, Des Saunders.

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

VEENA'S WISH FOR MOTHERS:



CHURCH COLLECTIONS: BSB 082105

1st. Collection - West Tamworth Presbytery Acc 001023642 (Diocesan collection)

2nd Collection - West Tamworth Catholic Church. Acc 001041198 (St Pats Church Collection)

**Direct Debit or EFT donations are preferred for planned giving however envelopes are still available.

COMING EVENTS:

14 May Mothers' Day and Parish Morning Tea ****4 June** Sunday Evening Mass Time changes to 5 pm

26 May, 29 Aug, 17 Nov Mission & Evangelisation Events

COVID GUIDE: * FACE MASKS ARE STRONGLY RECOMMENDED; *ANTISEPTIC WIPES/SANITISER AVAILABLE.

"I hope that everything will turn out well for you and that you will in future, as in the past, do great things for God and God's poor ones."



MOTHERS DAY: Happy Mothers Day to all our valued Mothers. ♥

A little boy came up to his mother in the kitchen one evening while she was fixing supper, and handed her a piece of paper that he had been writing on. After his Mom dried her hands on an apron, she read it, and this is what it said: For cutting the grass: \$5.00 For cleaning up my room this week: \$1.00 For going to the store for you: \$.50 Baby-sitting my kid brother while you went shopping: \$.25 Taking out the garbage: \$1.00 For getting a good report card: \$5.00 For cleaning up and raking the yard: \$2.00 Total owed: \$14.75*Well, his mother looked at him standing there, and the boy could see the memories flashing through her mind. She picked up the pen, turned over the paper he'd written on, and this is what she wrote: *or the nine months I carried you while you were growing inside me: No Charge For all the nights that I've sat up with you doctored and prayed for you: No Charge; For all the trying times, and all the tears that you've caused through the years: No Charge; For all the nights that were filled with dread, and for the worries I knew were ahead: No Charge; For the toys, food, clothes, and even wiping your nose: No Charge; Son, when you add it up, the cost of my love is: No Charge. When the boy finished reading what his mother had written, there were big tears in his eyes, and he looked straight at his mother and said, "Mom, I sure do love you." And then he took the pen and in great big letters he wrote: "PAID IN FULL".

*A Parish Morning Tea will be held this weekend, Mothers' Day, 14 May after 9 am mass. Please bring a plate if you can and help us celebrate our Mothers. **"No Charge"!!**

SUNDAY MASS TIME: A reminder that Sunday afternoon mass time will be changed to **5pm** from **4 June 2023.**

CHOIR: Our parish will host the Filipino Choir this and every second Sunday at the 9am Mass with our own beautiful choir to celebrate the balance of all other weekend Masses with a Choir component.

PRAYER FOR OUR NEW BISHOP

God our Father, in Jesus, your Son,

You have given to your Church the perfect model of priest, prophet and king, and so You have blessed us through His sacrifice, taught us through His Word, and guided us through His rule.

We ask You, Father, to guide and enlighten those who will be tasked with helping to choose the next bishop of our diocese.

May the person they choose be one of deep and true prayer, a person of a compassionate heart and firm resolve, and a person of joy and peace, who desires above all to do Your will.

We entrust our prayers to our Patroness, Mary,

Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and ask this through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen



WEEK 5 ROSTER: 14/5/23

Vigil: R C Ledwos, Sr Kathryn
9am Sun: R J Ryan, G Clout
5.30pm Sun: R J Murray J Moloney
Counting Team P Sheils, A Bowden
Fri Cleaning 19/5 J Hutt J Moran
Altar Linen: E Smyth

WEEK 6 ROSTER: 21/5/23

Vigil: R D Gowing, G Styman
9am Sun: R S Brown, A Sartori
5.30pm Sun: R M Murray D Bearman
Counting Team G & M Thrift, A Bowden
Fri Cleaning 26/5 M Vella A Jones
Altar Linen: H Reid

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.

