

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

■ The word of the Lord.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful

and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Alleluia!

### GOSPEL

Jn 20:19-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

*As the Father sent me, so I send you: Receive the Holy Spirit.*

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me,  
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,  
they are forgiven;

for those whose sins you retain,  
they are retained.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

MATTHEW

PENTECOST SUNDAY / A

28 MAY 2023

## FOSTERING COMMUNITY

The great feast of Pentecost is traditionally understood as a celebration of the birth of the Church. The outpouring of the Spirit empowered the first disciples to engage in their ministry of preaching the word of Jesus and continue the work of building a community of faith. The presence of devout Jews from throughout the known world is a signal to Luke's Christians that the message that has been entrusted to them is to be shared with the wider world.

Paul was at the forefront of preaching the word and establishing new communities throughout the Eastern Mediterranean world. He knew that the gifts of the Spirit had been abundantly poured upon the community of Corinth but there were some in the community who started to look down on those who had received gifts different from their own. Imagine his consternation when the gifts which were meant to build up the unity of the community had become a sign of its division! Paul's response is to use the image of the parts of the body as a means of overcoming division, competition, arrogance, and envy.

John knew that the gift of the Spirit is one that both builds up the community and commissions it for mission. It is a gift that encourages and strengthens us for the road ahead. Two elements necessary to foster community are stressed in today's Gospel: firstly, that of building up the community through forgiveness and secondly, protecting it by retaining sins when necessary, and indicating to members of the community when their behaviour is destructive of the community.

Christopher Monaghan CP

## FIRST READING

Acts 2:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak different languages.*

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

■ The word of the Lord.

## RESP PSALM

Ps 103:1, 24, 29-31, 34. R. v. 30

**R.** Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth. (or Alleluia!)

1. Bless the Lord, my soul! / Lord God, how great you are! / How many are your works,  
O Lord! / The earth is full of your riches. **R.**



2. You take back your spirit, they die, /  
returning to the dust from which they came. /  
You send forth your spirit, they are created; /  
and you renew the face of the earth. **R.**

3. May the glory of the Lord last for ever! /  
May the Lord rejoice in his works! / May my  
thoughts be pleasing to him. / I find my joy in  
the Lord. **R.**

## SECOND READING

1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13

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

*In the one Spirit we were all baptised, making one body.*

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

28 May 23  
Pentecost Yr A

## WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

**Website:** <https://stpatrikswesttamworthparish.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  
**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 Visitation of Mary  
Thurs: 9am Fri: 9am

### CONFESSIONS

Sat: 4.30-5.15pm  
\*Or by appointment

**ENTRANCE ANTI-PHON:** The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the spirit of God dwelling within us, Alleluia.

**COMMUNION ANTI-PHON:** On the last day of the festival, Jesus stood and cried out: if anyone is thirsty, let him come to me, and drink, alleluia

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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Sr Patricia Bartley rsm, Sister Carole Gibbins, Sr Judith Carney rsm, Greg Hiscox, Terry Doherty, Marjie Balfe, Sophie Littlejohns, Father Efren Musngi MS, Marian Murphy, Ann Daly, Charlie Burns.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Peg MacRae (4/5), Hugh O'Brien (18/5), Ted Parsons (20/5), Sandy Murray (22/5), John Varga (1/6), Pat Smyth (7/6).

**DECEASED:** Carmel MacPherson, Peter Richards, John O'Brien, Gary McSweeney, Sr Clare Keating RSJ

**SICK:** Baby Walker MacAlpine, Sandra Sheedy, 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, Graeme Bussell, Alison and baby Huxley Gallagher, Fr Bernie Flood.

### VEENA'S VERSIONS -



**CHURCH COLLECTIONS:** BSB 082105  
**1st. Collection - West Tamworth Presbytery**  
Acc No: 001023642 (Diocesan collection)  
**2nd Collection - West Tamworth Catholic**  
Acc No: 001041198 (St Patricks Church)

\*\*Direct Debit or EFT donations are preferred for planned giving; however envelopes are still available, please enquire.

# PENTECOST

### COMING EVENTS:

\*4 June Change Sunday Evening Masses at 5pm  
13 June 1st Communion Parent Information Night  
29 Aug, 17 Nov- Mission & Evangelisation Events  
25 June Parish First Holy communion 9am Mass

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



*"God wants us to take fresh courage." (1877)*

**SUNDAY MASS TIME:** A timely reminder that Next Sunday afternoon the Mass time will change to 5pm. \*\*Please make note of this if you regularly attend this service.

**FORMATION OPPORTUNITY—CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD:** The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) is a Christian formation process for children aged 3-12 years to help them nurture their personal relationship with God. It is a worldwide ministry that we hope to start in our Diocese. The first Level of formation will be run at the Holy Family Parish Centre, Armidale, June 29th – 2nd July and 6-8th October (9am-5pm daily). All Parishioners welcome to attend. For further details please contact Janine Turner 0416 767 866 or Monica Nulley-Davis 0450 419 688.

**STATEMENT REGARDING ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER VOICE FROM AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS:** This statement is available via the bulletin email, is on the notice board in the church, and is available in hard copy by request. As per the Bishops' request in this statement, everyone is encouraged to read and discuss the Uluru Statement from the Heart, which they endorsed in 2021 and the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia endorsed in 2022.

**PLANNED GIVING:** If you are not part of our planned giving program you may still give regularly by direct debit or funds transfer to our Church account via the bank details opposite. \*Please consider contributing, if you are able, as this is how our Church is financially maintained.

### PENTECOST:

*Come, Holy Spirit: you are harmony; make us builders of unity. You always give yourself; grant us the courage to go out of ourselves, to love and help each other, in order to become one family. Amen. Pope Francis*

### 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 1 ROSTER: 28/5/23

**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  
**Fri Cleaning** 2/6 S Brown V Griffiths  
**Altar Linen:** J Hutt

### WEEK 2 ROSTER: 4/6/23

**Vigil:** R Sr Kathryn N Pullman  
**9am Sun:** R S Brown R Paull  
**5.30pm Sun:** R M Murray D Bearman  
**Counting Team** S Brown, A Bowden  
**Fri Cleaning** 9/6 K O'Brien M Brown  
**Altar Linen:** E Jackson

We acknowledge the First Nations people who have walked upon and care for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of First Nations people to this land and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

