

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 5:3

Alleluia, alleluia! Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs! Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lk 12:13-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

To whom will all this wealth of yours go?

A man in the crowd said to Jesus, 'Master, tell my brother to give me a share of our inheritance.' 'My friend,' he replied 'who appointed me your judge, or the arbitrator of your claims?' Then he said to them, 'Watch, and be on your guard against avarice of any kind, for a man's life is not made secure by what he owns, even when he has more than he needs.'

Then he told them a parable: 'There was once a rich man who, having had a good harvest from his land, thought to himself, "What am I to do? I have not enough room to store my crops." Then he said, "This is what I will do: I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones, and store all my grain and my goods in them, and I will say to my soul: My soul, you have plenty of good things laid by for many years to come; take things easy, eat, drink, have a good time." But God said to him, "Fool! This very night the demand will be made for your soul; and this hoard of yours, whose will it be then?" So it is when a man stores up treasure for himself in place of making himself rich in the sight of God.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Breaking Open the Word

WHAT IS TRULY IMPORTANT

Unfortunately, arguments do sometimes happen within families on the death of a family member. These often revolve around property, ownership and how the Will is divided. Family disputes are not unknown. The same occurred in Luke's day.

Today's Gospel begins with the dispute between two brothers over an inheritance claim. One of them wants Jesus to arbitrate. But Jesus moves the issue to the deeper level of encounter. He names it as greed. The wisdom that emerges is that human security is never guaranteed by property ownership or possessions. This is a familiar theme in Luke's Gospel. It is an issue among those whom Luke addresses. Reading behind the lines of today's Gospel, the evangelist responds to concerns about wealth, greed, inheritance disputes and inner tensions.

The second part of the Gospel explores these issues further: A farmer decides to build bigger barns to store his harvest. But what he has forgotten is that he is not the one responsible for the bumper harvest. It is the earth. In his avariciousness he has lost his ecological connectedness. Greed blurs his spiritual vision and sensitivity to God's earth. The farmer seeks rather a life of ease and comfort. The evangelist reminds the Gospel's audience to keep things in perspective. The disciple's real focus is on one's soul and relationship with God. Today's Gospel is a sobering reminder of what is truly important.

Fr Michael Trainor

THE SAVING WORD

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

3 AUGUST 2025

FIRST READING

Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23

A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes

What do people gain by all their work?

Vanity of vanities, the Preacher says. Vanity of vanities. All is vanity!

For so it is that a man who has laboured wisely, skilfully and successfully must leave what is his own to someone who has not toiled for it at all. This, too, is vanity and great injustice; for what does he gain for all the toil and strain that he has undergone under the sun? What of all his laborious days, his cares of office, his restless nights? This, too, is vanity.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESP PSALM

Ps 89:3-6, 12-14, 17. R. v. 1

R. In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

1. You turn men back into dust / and say: 'Go back, sons of men.' / To your eyes a thousand years / are like yesterday, come and gone, / no more than a watch in the night. **R.**
2. You sweep men away like a dream, / like grass which springs up in the morning. / In the morning it springs up and flowers: / by evening it withers and fades. **R.**
3. Make us know the shortness of our life / that we may gain wisdom of heart. / Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever? / Show pity to your servants. **R.**
4. In the morning, fill us with your love; / we shall exult and rejoice all our days. / Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: / give success to the work of our hands. **R.**

SECOND READING

Col 3:1-5,9-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

Seek the things that are above, where Christ is.

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that



are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

That is why you must kill everything in you that belongs only to earthly life: fornication, impurity, guilty passion, evil desires and especially greed, which is the same thing as worshipping a false god; and never tell each other lies. You have stripped off your old behaviour with your old self, and you have put on a new self which will progress towards true knowledge the more it is renewed in the image of its creator; and in that image there is no room for distinction between Greek and Jew, between the circumcised or the uncircumcised, or between barbarian and Scythian, slave and free man. There is only Christ: he is everything and he is in everything.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

*Welcome to
St Nicholas' Catholic Parish,
Tamworth
for the
18th Sunday in Ordinary Time*

3rd August 2025

Fr Christopher Onuekwusi – Parish Priest
Fr Saji Kappikuzhi – Assistant Priest
stnicholasparish@armidale.catholic.org.au ☎ (02) 6766 2228

Parish Secretaries: Finance: Stephanie Hetherington - Mon/Tue 9-5pm
Admin: Anne Jones Wed 9-1pm/Fri 9-5pm Pauline Skewes Thurs 9-1pm
Office hours: Monday – Friday 9am – 5pm

Catholic schools in our parish

McCarthy Catholic College Principal: Mr Michael Whitton
☎ (02) 6761 0800 Students currently enrolled: 945
St Nicholas Primary School Principal: Mr Peter Flynn
☎ (02) 6766 1500 Students currently enrolled: 590

ENTRANCE: O God, come to my assistance; O Lord, make haste to help me! You are my rescuer, my help; O Lord, do not delay.

COMMUNION: You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven, endowed with all delights and sweetness in every taste.

‘BECOME RICH IN THE SIGHT OF GOD.’ Today we reflect on the call we all have to love God by sharing what we have with others. The rich man in today’s Gospel chose foolishly to hoard his possessions. If we are prepared to risk putting what we have at the service of others, we may find ourselves poor in material terms but rich in the eyes of God. A treasure awaits us in heaven, along with many blessings in this life.

Psalter Week 2 *Vocations Awareness Week*
Monday 04/08 **St Nicholas’ Mass 7am**
St John Vianney, priest
Num 11:4-15: Ps 80:12-17: Mt 14:13-21:

Tuesday 05/08 **St Mary’s Mass 9am**
Num 12:1-13: Ps 50:3-7, 12-13: Mt 14:22-36:

Wednesday 06/08 **St Nicholas’ Mass 7am**
The Transfiguration of the Lord
Dan 7:9-10, 13-14: or 2 Pet 1:16-19: Ps 96:1-2, 5-6, 9: Lk 9:28-36:

Thursday 07/08 **St Mary’s Mass 9am**
Num 20:1-13: Ps 94:1-2, 6-9: Mt 16:13-23:

Friday 08/08 **St Nicholas’ Mass**
Solemnity of St Mary of the Cross, virgin
1 Kg 17:8-16: Ps 62:1-8: Col 3:12-17: Mt 6:25-34

Saturday 09/08 **St Nicholas’ Mass 9am**
Deut 6:4-13: Ps 17:2-4, 47, 51: Mt 17:14-20:
Vigil Mass 6pm

Sunday 10/08 **St Mary’s 7.30am Mass**
St Nicholas’ 9.30am & 5.30pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday 4pm – 5.30pm

BAPTISMS are held **Saturdays at 11am & Sundays at 12 noon**. Please telephone or email the Parish Office on 67662228 for more information.

Parish toilet is located in the Outdoor Function Area. Please ensure children are accompanied by an adult when leaving the Church during Mass to go to the toilet or for any other reason.

Home Visits: Any ‘Housebound’ Parishioner who would like a visit by a Priest once a month, is requested to call the Parish office on 67662228. Parishioners are also encouraged to call the Parish Office, if there is any housebound Parishioner who should be visited by a Priest.

PRAYERFUL REFLECTION on the readings is always included on the Bulletin, after the Communion Antiphon. You are encouraged to reflect on this every week.

PARISH EVENTS – for the month ahead

03 Aug Sun + Good Shepherd Appeal + Envelopes, All Masses
03 Aug Sun FAMILY MASS 9.30am **St Nicholas’**
followed by Morning Tea hosted by Yr 6, Confirmation
Candidates and Kinder students and their parents
05 Aug Tue ‘Petitions’ Rosary 12.15pm **St Nicholas’**
08 Aug Fri Eucharistic Adoration 6-7pm **St Nicholas’**
08 Aug Fri YOUTH GROUP 7-8.45pm, **Outdoor Function Area**
12 Aug Tue **St Nicholas Seniors** 10.30am for morning tea,
West Diggers, Kable Avenue
15 Aug Fri HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION
The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Masses 7.00am 9.30am St Nicholas Church
17 Aug Sun Birthday Blessing All Masses
17 Aug Sun Morning tea hosted by the Frassati Prayer Group
after the 9.30am Mass at St Nicholas’
19 Aug Tue **St Nicholas Women Connecting** – meet at 5.30pm for
dinner at the Tamworth City Bowling Club
22 Aug Fri Eucharistic Adoration 6-7pm **St Nicholas’**
22 Aug Fri YOUTH GROUP 7-8.45pm, **Outdoor Function Area**
23 Aug Sat CONFIRMATION MASS 6pm **St Nicholas’**
24 Aug Sat CONFIRMATION MASS 9.30am **St Nicholas’**
26 Aug Tue **St Nicholas Seniors** 11.30am for lunch,
West Diggers, Kable Avenue
27 Aug Wed The Catholic Ladies – Lunch in the Russell Room at the
Tamworth Services Club – 12.30pm, for 1pm
29 Aug Fri Eucharistic Adoration 6-7pm **St Nicholas’**
followed by a light supper in the Meeting Room
30 Aug Sat Men’s Breakfast, Outdoor Function Area – 7am
31 Aug Sun FAMILY MASS followed by Morning Tea in the Outdoor
Function Area, hosted by Yr 1 & Yr 5 students & parents
31 Aug Sun **St NICHOLAS PARISH PICNIC & Farewell to Fr Saji**
Tamworth Miniature Railway, Botanical Gardens, 12noon
02 Sep Tue ‘Petitions’ Rosary 12.15pm **St Nicholas’**



Parish Bulletin Deadline –
All materials to be in by **midday**
Wednesday - the Bulletin is printed
on Thursday morning.

Ladies rings: we now have two rings which have been found in St Nicholas’ church – the first one after the weekend of 7th/8th June, and the second one after the weekend of 19th/20th July. If you think you may be the owner of either of these rings, please call into the Parish Office when convenient. Thank you

PLANNED GIVING: SUPPORTING OUR PRIESTS & PARISH

1ST Collection (supports the clergy)
BSB: 082 105 A/C No: 001 023 584
A/C Name: St Nicholas Presbytery
2nd Collection (Planned Giving for Parish maintenance)
BSB: 082 105 A/C No: 001 003 255
A/C Name: St Nicholas Parish
Ref: Planned Giving Number/or your name. Thank you for your support.

COLLECTIONS: 27th July 2025

1 st Collection	\$ 1,767.75
Planned Giving	\$ 2,003.00
Loose	\$ 548.35
	\$ 2,551.35

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC WEEKLY

Copies are available at the back of the Church every week. Sponsored by St Vincent de Paul’s St Nicholas Conference. \$2.00 per copy & money deposited in the collection box. Please collect a copy & stay connected with all the news of our Church in Australia.

WEEKLY ROSTER – 02/03 August 2025

St Nicholas’ Saturday 6pm
C: Belinda Tyrrell G/R1: Giovanna McDougall
G/R2: Leonie Hansen
Ex Min: Kerrie Ackhurst Music: Noel Greacen
Collection: David Raffaele/Bill Campbell/Morgan Hawthorne
St Mary’s Sunday 7.30am
C: Cheryl Higgins G/R1: John Wallace G/R2: Julie McGuirk
Ex Min: Grant Quinn Music: Grant Quinn
Altar Servers: Will Nguyen
Collection: Carl Cavallaro/Bill Higgins

St Nicholas’ Sunday 9.30am FAMILY MASS
C: Peter Flynn G/R1: Renee Dunst G/R2: Maria Lincoln
Ex Min: Peter Prisk/ Alison Hamilton
Altar Servers: Charlie Dunst/Amanda Nweke/Sophie Dowsett
Music: St Nicholas Choir
Collection: Maria Gruer/Josie Cox/Phil Elliott

St Nicholas’ Sunday 5.30pm
C: Paul Hagley G/R1: Carol Wheaton G/R2: Judy Campbell
Ex Min: Alison Hagley Music: Veronica Frost
Altar Servers: Evangelyn Nijo/Kyra Akers-Gibbons
Collection: Volunteers

Counting Team: Brian & Maria Lincoln
Altar Linen: Denise Fitzgerald
Sacristy Cleaning: Lynne & Peter Prisk
Candelabrum: Cecilia & Terry Dries 03/08/25-09/08/25

Prayer for Ukraine

God of peace and justice,
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.
We pray for peace
and the laying down of weapons.
We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,
that your Spirit of comfort
would draw near to them.
We pray for those with power over war or peace,
for wisdom, discernment
and compassion to guide their decisions.
Above all, we pray for all your precious children,
at-risk and in fear,
that you would hold and protect them.
We pray in the name of Jesus,
the Prince of Peace.
Amen.

ANNIVERSARIES - August

Stephen Ambrose, Francis Anderson, John Anderson, Patricia Archer, Gwendoline Baker, Martin Baylis, Peter Belt, Kathleen Berthaly, Ray Blissett, Sheila Booby, Wilhelmena (Jean) Bower, Gregory Bray, Karen Cannon, Monica Carolan, Mary Carroll, Emma Clift, Lawrence Collier, Katherine Collins, Dorothy Coulton, Shirley Crawford, Clarence Davies, Marolyn Dawson, Irene Diebold, Ellen Drew, Gloria Dutton, Ruth Fisher, Eileen Fitzgerald, Nelson Fogarty, Phyllis Ford, Bruce Freeman, Peggy Gaffney, Michael Gatty, Rita Gett, Michael Glass, Margaret Grieve, Bernice Gris, Angela Gruer, Zoe Hammond, Les Hartshorn, Loyola Hawthorne, Daphne Hayes, Kevin Henderson, Edward Hogno, Lorna Horton, Margaret Hunt, Margaret Hutchinson, Una Inman, Alex Jarratt, Betty Johnson, Milton Kemp, Brian Kenny, Pamela Kenny, Joseph (Bill) Keys, Peter King, Mervyn Legge, Dorothy Linsell, Phyllis Linstedt, Giacomina Loi, Hazel McCarthy, James McDonnell, Joan McHugh, Daphne McLennan, Anne McMahon, Clement McMahon, Laura McMahon, Jennifer Mackie, Albert Malone, Agnes Michell, Elizabeth Michell, Henry Mifsud, John Moloney, Monica Muller, Ada Norton, Moira O’Brien, George Patterson, Raymond Paull, Robert Penno, Joyce Pollock, Pietro Ricconan, Antoinette Rigon, Clyde McMaster Roberts, Vera Saunders, Pauline Sipple, Eileen Smith, Norman Smith, Wayne Smith, Arthur Stengert, Olga Tongue, Barry Tracy, John Twomey, Kevin Walden, Louisa Wall, Janet Walters, Susan Wardle, Theodore Whitten, David Worthington.

May they rest in peace

WEEKLY ROSTER – 09/10 August 2025

St Nicholas’ Saturday 6pm
C: Paul McDougall G/R1: Cate Allen
G/R2: Sister of Nazareth
Ex Min: Leonie Hansen Music: Noel Greacen
Collection: David Raffaele/Bill Campbell/Morgan Hawthorne
St Mary’s Sunday 7.30am
C: John Murphy G/R1: Cheryl Higgins G/R2: Joan Newley
Ex Min: Kevin McMahon Music: Grant Quinn
Altar Servers: Will Nguyen
Collection: Carl Cavallaro/Bill Higgins

St Nicholas’ Sunday 9.30am
C: Alison Hamilton G/R1: Charli Manning
G/R2: Gina Mahony
Children’s Liturgy: Steph/Felicita
Ex Min: Laura Hughes/Jennifer Hatfield
Altar Servers: Isaac Hetherington/Ryan Pham
Music: St Nicholas Choir
Collection: Maria Gruer/Josie Cox/Phil Elliott

St Nicholas’ Sunday 5.30pm
C: Alison Hagley G/R1: Cecilia Dries G/R2: Terry Dries
Ex Min: Paul Hagley Music: Henry Buckman
Altar Servers: Halle Buckman/Ethan Buckman
Collection: Volunteers

Counting Team: Pauline Skewes/Andrew Tighe
Altar Linen: Kerrie Bryant
Sacristy Cleaning: St Nicholas Women Connecting
Candelabrum: Brian Lincoln 10/08/25-16/08/25

BAPTISMS: Please pray for **Elliot O’Reilly** and **Braxton Hodges**, who are receiving the Sacrament of Baptism this weekend. May God bless them abundantly.

SPECIAL INTENTIONS: Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Nola O’ Halloran** and **Robyn English**, both recently deceased, and **Mary Camden** (1st Anniversary 31st July), **Loyola Hawthorne** (4th Anniversary, 3rd August) and **Johnson Mannayan** (3rd Anniversary, 12th August). May they rest in peace eternal.

PERPETUAL INTENTIONS: Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Alec & Betty Fyffe** and **Cyril & Grace Cahill**, who will be long remembered in our parish.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK AT THIS TIME

Dan Daly, Brindley Cavallaro (Sydney), Rev. Fr Tony Castelli, Kath Donoghue, Colin Bryant, Darren Graham, Suzanne Perfrement, Kay Tucker, Ken Michell, Julie Michell, Judy Murphy, Rev. Jim Furze, Steve Tierney, Cassandra Harkins, Richard Noad, Pat & Tony Favell, Kay Mason, Doreen Eunson, Maureen White (Orange), Cormac Downes (Uralla), Michael Bryant, Sullivan Hum (Singleton), Carmel Bennett (Gladstone), Connie Maher.

National Vocations Awareness Week is an annual week-long celebration dedicated to promoting vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life and to renewing our prayers and support for those who are discerning these states of life within the Church. During this week, we are invited to reflect upon how God is calling us to live out our vocations and how we may continue to foster vocations in our communities.

