

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Cor 8:9

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor,
to make you rich out of his poverty.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lk 16:10-13

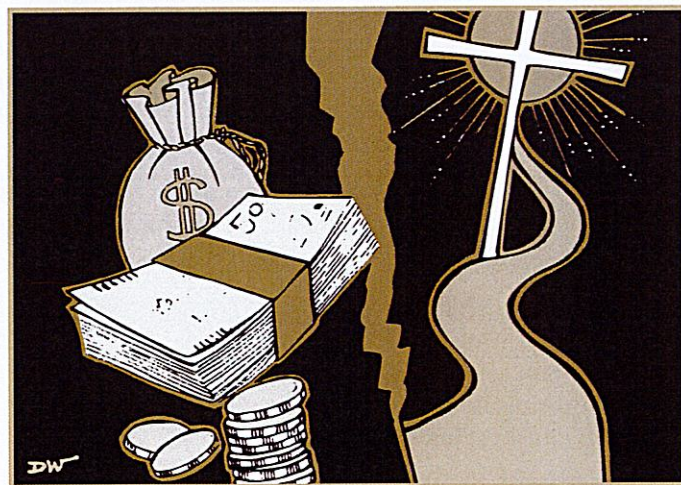
A reading from the holy Gospel according
to Luke.

You cannot be slaves both of God and of money.

Jesus said to his disciples, 'The man who can be trusted in little things can be trusted in great; the man who is dishonest in little things can be dishonest in great. If then you cannot be trusted with money, that tainted thing, who will trust you with genuine riches? And if you cannot be trusted with what is not yours, who will give you what is your very own? 'No servant can be the slave of two masters: he will either hate the first and love the second, or treat the first with respect and the second with scorn. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

Longer form Lk 16:1-13



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Breaking Open the Word

RELEASE OF DEBT

Today's Gospel returns us to a favourite repetitive Lukan theme. It is about the disciples' attitudes to wealth and possessions. The teaching takes the form of a story from Jesus. The main character is a rich landowner – a character with which some in Luke's Gospel community could well identify with given that they, too, were property owners.

There's a problem which the owner identifies. He presumes that his manager has been 'wasteful with his [the owner's] property'. We are not sure what 'wasteful' means in this case and we can superimpose our expectations from our Western ideas on to what might be going on. But there could be another agenda at play from Luke's world. Wealth came about through other people becoming poorer. The evangelist wants the wealthy to reconsider their responsibility to poorer Gospel members. The manager could be acting to redistribute wealth in a way that the property owner considers 'wasteful.' The manager's 'redistribution program' might also be operating later when he considers what he will do after he has been fired from his position because of the greed of his landowner.

The release of debt that the manager brings about from those in debt (a key petition in the 'Lord's Prayer') is a release from greater poverty. The wisdom that emerges from the story and is explicated in the final lines of the Gospel is about the use of wealth. It is, for the faith community, the building up of friendship and, for the disciple, to be free. This is being released from being possessed by possessions. Today's Gospel is a timely reminder for us in a world of wealth, bitcoins and foreign exchange.

Fr Michael Trainor

THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

21 SEPTEMBER 2025

FIRST READING

Amos 8:4-7

A reading from the prophet Amos

The Lord spoke against those who buy the poor for money.

Listen to this, you who trample on the needy
and try to suppress the poor people of the
country,

you who say, 'When will New Moon be over
so that we can sell our corn,
and sabbath, so that we can market our
wheat?

Then by lowering the bushel, raising the
shekel,

by swindling and tampering with the scales,
we can buy up the poor for money,
and the needy for a pair of sandals,
and get a price even for the sweeping of the
wheat.'

The Lord swears it by the pride of Jacob,
'Never will I forget a single thing you have
done.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

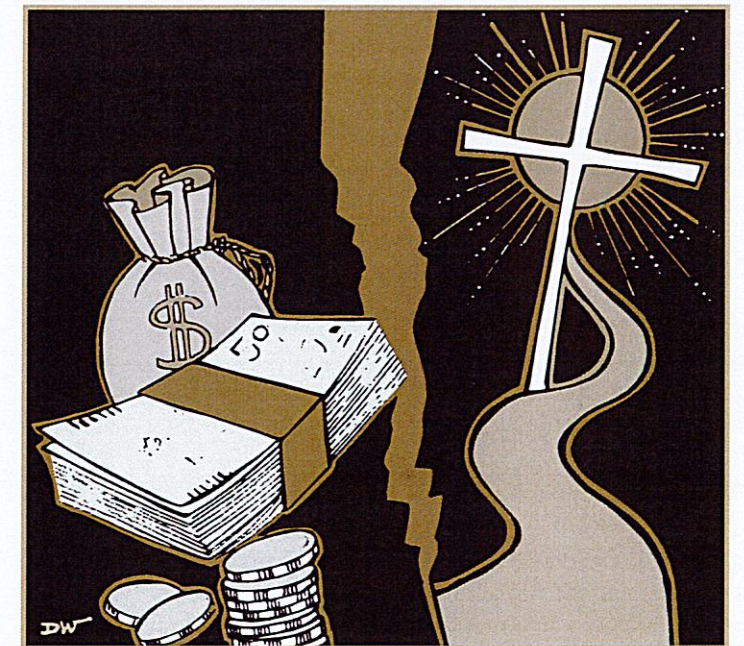
Ps 112:1-2, 4-8. R. cf. vv. 1, 7

R. Praise the Lord, who lifts up the poor.
(or Alleluia!)

1. Praise, O servants of the Lord, / praise
the name of the Lord! / May the name
of the Lord be blessed / both now and for
evermore! **R.**

2. High above all nations is the Lord, /
above the heavens his glory. / Who is like
the Lord, our God, / who has risen on high
to his throne / yet stoops from the heights to
look down, / to look down upon heaven and
earth? **R.**

3. From the dust he lifts up the lowly, / from
the dungheap he raises the poor / to set him in
the company of princes, / yes, with the princes
of his people. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Tim 2:1-8

A reading from the first letter of St Paul
to Timothy

*Let prayers be offered to God for everyone; he wants
all people to be saved.*

My advice is that, first of all, there should
be prayers offered for everyone – petitions,
intercessions and thanksgiving – and especially
for kings and others in authority, so that we
may be able to live religious and reverent lives
in peace and quiet. To do this is right, and will
please God our saviour: he wants everyone to
be saved and reach full knowledge of the truth.
For there is only one God, and there is only one
mediator between God and humankind, himself
a man, Christ Jesus, who sacrificed himself as a
ransom for them all. He is the evidence of this,
sent at the appointed time, and I have been
named a herald and apostle of it and – I am
telling the truth and no lie – a teacher of the
faith and the truth to the pagans.

In every place, then, I want the men to lift
their hands up reverently in prayer, with no
anger or argument.

■ The word of the Lord.

*Welcome to
St Nicholas' Catholic Parish,
Tamworth
for the
Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

21st September 2025

Fr Christopher Onuekwusi – Parish Priest

Fr Clarence Canafe – Assistant Priest

stnicholasparish@armidale.catholic.org.au ☎ (02) 6766 2228

Parish Website: <https://www.stnicholasparish.org.au/>

Parish Secretaries: Finance: Stephanie Hetherington - Mon/Tue 9-5pm

Admin: Anne Jones Wed/Fri 9-5pm Pauline Skewes Thurs 9-1pm

Parish 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: I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

COMMUNION: You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

‘SLAVES OF GOD OR MONEY?’ The Christian community must contribute to the welfare of the broader human society. We have a duty to pray for civil leaders and to act justly in our places of work. We must do what we can to ensure that the institutions of our society are devoted to the well-being of all citizens. If we ourselves are devoted to God and not to money, we will bring great riches to our society.

Psalter Week 1

Monday 22/09 St Nicholas' Mass 7am

Ezra 1:1-6: Ps 125: Lk 8:16-18:

Tuesday 23/09 St Mary's Mass 9am

St Pius of Pietrelcina, priest

Ezra 6:7-8, 12, 14-20: Ps 121:1-5: Lk 8:19-21:

Wednesday 24/09 St Nicholas' Mass 7am

Ezra 9:5-9: Tobit 13:2, 4, 6-8: Lk 9:1-6:

Thursday 25/09 St Mary's Mass 9am

Haggai 1:1-8: Ps 149:1-6, 9: Lk 9:7-9:

Friday 26/09 St Nicholas' Mass 7am

Haggai 1:15-2:9: Ps 42:1-4: Lk 9:18-22:

Saturday 27/09 St Nicholas' Mass 9am

St Vincent de Paul, priest

Zech 2:5-9, 14-15: Jer 31:10-13 Lk 9:43-45:

Vigil Mass 6pm

Sunday 28/09 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**. If you wish to book a Baptism, please email or telephone the Parish Office on 67662228 for more information. Forms can also be submitted on our parish website.

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.

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

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.

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

PARISH EVENTS – for the month ahead

21 Sep	Sun	Birthday Blessing – All Masses	
21 Sep	Sun	Morning Tea after the 9.30am Mass hosted by the Men's Breakfast Group	St Nicholas'
23 Sep	Tue	St Nicholas Seniors West Diggers, Kable Avenue	11.30am for lunch,
24 Sep	Wed	Silent Adoration	10.30-11.30am St Nicholas'
24 Sep	Wed	The Catholic Ladies – Lunch in the Russell Room at the Tamworth Services Club – 12.30pm, for 1pm	
26 Sep	Fri	End of School Term 3	
26 Sep	Fri	Eucharistic Adoration - followed by a light supper	6-7pm St Nicholas'
27 Sep	Sat	Men's Breakfast Outdoor Function Area	7am St Nicholas'
28 Sep	Sun	Migrant and Refugee Sunday Mass 9.30am, St Nicholas' Church	
Followed by sharing of food & friendship in the Outdoor Function Area All welcome to attend, and meet our parishioners from other cultures.			
03 Oct	Fri	Eucharistic Adoration	6-7pm St Nicholas'
04 Oct	Sat	Anointing of the Sick during the 9am Mass	St Nicholas'
04 Oct	Sat	Silent Adoration	4-5.30pm St Nicholas'
07 Oct	Tue	'Petitions' Rosary	12.15pm St Nicholas'
08 Oct	Wed	Silent Adoration	10.30-11.30am St Nicholas'
10 Oct	Fri	Eucharistic Adoration	6-7pm St Nicholas'
13 Oct	Mon	Mon Start of School Term 4	
14 Oct	Tue	St Nicholas Seniors West Diggers, Kable Avenue	10.30am for morning tea,
15 Oct	Wed	Silent Adoration	10.30-11.30am St Nicholas'
17 Oct	Fri	Eucharistic Adoration	6-7pm St Nicholas'
19 Oct	Sun	Birthday Blessing – All Masses	
19 Oct	Sun	Morning Tea after the 9.30am Mass hosted by the St Vincent de Paul Society groups	St Nicholas'
21 Oct	Tue	St Nicholas Women Connecting – meet at Tamworth City Bowling Club at 5.30pm for 6pm dinner	



Parish Garage Sale:

Saturday 25th October

10am – 12noon

**In the Presbytery carpark –
★ make an offer! ★**

Appreciation Dinner for All Volunteers & Staff:

**Wednesday 26th November – 6pm for 6.30pm
North Tamworth Bowling Club, corner Bligh
and Piper Streets, North Tamworth.**

RSVP: 31 October 2025.

Parish Christmas Party:

**Sunday 7th December – 11am start
McCarthy Catholic College Hall**



**‘You cannot be the slave both of
God and of money.’**

WEEKLY ROSTER – 20/21 September 2025

St Nicholas' Saturday 6pm

C: Eil Smyth G/R1: Kerry Ackhurst G/R2: Halley Buckman

Ex Min: Cate Allen Music: Noel Greacen

Collection: David Raffaele/Bill Campbell/Morgan Hawthorne

St Mary's Sunday 7.30am

C: Sue O'Halloran G/R1: Bernadette Virgen

G/R2: Lorraine Bryant

Ex Min: Grant Quinn Music: Grant Quinn

Altar Servers: Will Nguyen

Collection: Carl Cavallaro/Bill Higgins

St Nicholas' Sunday 9.30am

C: Gemma Moy

G/R1: Alison Hamilton G/R2: Ben Lamey

Children's Liturgy: Steph/Danae

Ex Min: Maria Lincoln/Volunteer

Altar Servers: Sophie Dowsett/Dominic Vinod

Music: St Nicholas Choir

Collection: Maria Gruer/Josie Cox/Phil Elliott

St Nicholas' Sunday 5.30pm

C: Henry Buckman G/R1: Judy Campbell

G/R2: Carol Wheaton

Ex Min: John Clery Music: Henry Buckman

Altar Servers: Ethan Nijo/Hallie Buckman

Collection: Volunteers

Counting Team: Brian & Maria Lincoln

Altar Linen: Vivienne Mundy

Sacristy Cleaning: Beth & John Ryan/Bruce Stewart

Candelabrum: Bruce Stewart 21/09/25-27/09/25

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: 14th September 2025

1st Collection \$ 1,692.25

Planned Giving \$ 222.70

Loose \$ 1,808.00

\$ 2,030.70



Volunteer Call-out

**The Parish is in need of Extra-Ordinary Ministers
of Holy Communion at all Masses, as soon as
possible. If you would like to be involved in this
Ministry, please contact Fr Chris or the Parish
Office – it will be necessary to do a short session
with Fr Chris before your commencement.**

Thank you!

St Brigid's Deanery Jubilee Day

St Brigid's Parish in Quirindi is holding the **Miniature Cathedral Pilgrimage** on Wednesday, 15 October 2025, commencing with Holy Rosary at 10am, Holy Hour & Adoration at 11am and Holy Mass at 12 noon.

At 1.15pm, a light luncheon will be held in the Parish Hall. If you wish to attend the luncheon, please RSVP to quirindiparish@armidale.catholic.org.au before 08 October.

WEEKLY ROSTER – 27/28 September 2025

St Nicholas' Saturday 6pm

C: Pauline Skewes G/R1: Leonie Hansen G/R2: Cate Allen

Ex Min: Eil Smyth Music: Noel Greacen

Collection: David Raffaele/Bill Campbell/Morgan Hawthorne

St Mary's Sunday 7.30am

C: Bruce Stewart G/R1: Grant Quinn

G/R2: Sue O'Halloran

Ex Min: Kevin McMahon Music: Grant Quinn

Altar Servers: Will Nguyen

Collection: Carl Cavallaro/Bill Higgins

St Nicholas' Sunday 9.30am Migrant & Refugee Sunday

C: Nick Nweke Welcome to Country: Len Walters

Introduction: Marie Rice/Pauline Skewes

G/R1: Lucy Roberts (Tagalog) G/R2: Sr Tran (Vietnamese)

P of F: 1. Sr Fili (Samoan) 2. Giovanna McDougall (Italian)

3. Linda Thomas (Malayalam) 4. Halley Buckman (English)

5. Jo Manalastas (Tagalog) 6. Joo Li Kim (Korean)

Ex Min: Anne Bowden/Maria Lincoln

Altar Servers: Harry Dowsett/Isaac Hetherington

Music: St Nicholas Choir

Collection: Maria Gruer/Josie Cox/Phil Elliott

St Nicholas' Sunday 5.30pm

C: Carol Wheaton G/R1: Terry Dries G/R2: Cecilia Dries

Ex Min: Tania Roberts Music: Veronica Frost

Altar Servers: Callum/Emmett Buckman

Collection: Volunteers

Counting Team: Pauline Skewes/Andrew Tighe

Altar Linen: Cecilia Dries

Sacristy Cleaning: Elspeth Muldoon/Kerrie Bryant

Candelabrum: Cecilia & Terry Dries 28/09/25-04/10/25

BAPTISMS: Please pray for **Archer and Evelyn Allen** who are receiving the Sacrament of Baptism this weekend. May God shower his love and blessings on them.

CONGRATULATIONS: We congratulate and welcome **Connor Wise**, who is receiving the Sacraments of Baptism, First Eucharist and Confirmation this weekend. May the Lord's blessings be poured upon him.

RECENTLY DECEASED: We pray for the blessed repose of the souls of **Allan Russell** and **Marion Evans**. May God grant them eternal rest and peace.

SPECIAL INTENTIONS: We pray for the repose of the souls of **Mounir Mouawad** and **Bakhos, Rosa & Joe Sleiman**, and for **Eva Mary Morley & Arthur Morley** and **Catherine Bruyn**, whose Anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in God's peace.

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, Richard Noad, Pat & Tony Favell, Kay Mason, Doreen Eunson, Maureen White (Orange), Cormac Downes (Uralla), Michael Bryant, Sullivan Hurn (Singleton), Carmel Bennett (Gladstone), Deborah Murphy (Forbes), Bill Dennis, Maddy Anderson (Sydney), Sherree Haylock.

“Whatever troubles may be before you, accept them cheerfully, remembering whom you are trying to follow. Do not be afraid.”

~ St Mary MacKillop