

Jesus said to the Pharisees: ‘There was a rich man who used to dress in purple and fine linen and feast magnificently every day. And at his gate there lay a poor man called Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to fill himself with the scraps that fell from the rich man’s table. Dogs even came and licked his sores. Now the poor man died and was carried away by the angels to the bosom of Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried.

‘In his torment in Hades he looked up and saw Abraham a long way off with Lazarus in his bosom. So he cried out, “Father Abraham, pity me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.” “My son,” Abraham replied “remember that during your life good things came your way, just as bad things came the way of Lazarus. Now he is being comforted here while you are in agony. But that is not all: between us and you a great gulf has been fixed, to stop any crossing from your side to ours.”

‘The rich man replied, “Father, I beg you then to send Lazarus to my father’s house, since I have five brothers, to give them warning so that they do not come to this place of torment too.” “They have Moses and the prophets,” said Abraham “let them listen to them.” “Ah no, father Abraham,” said the rich man “but if someone comes to them from the dead, they will repent.” Then Abraham said to him, “If they will not listen either to Moses or to the prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone should rise from the dead.”’

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word

REVERSAL OF FORTUNE

We live in relative wealth and comfort, although we are aware of many who suffer from impoverishment and homelessness. We know that the wealthy get wealthier as the gap between the rich and poor grows. This is a global issue.

Today’s Gospel reflects on this same issue characterised in a person of great wealth and another who is impoverished, hungry and sore-covered. He is called ‘Lazarus’. The evangelist wants our sympathy to be with him. He is named and even attended to by God’s creature, the dog, who seeks to heal Lazarus’ sores. In contrast, Luke paints a picture of a nameless wealthy householder. He feasts daily, dressed in the garb of imperialism with a table overloaded with food, inaccessible to the famished Lazarus barred by a gate. Both die and the roles become reversed in the afterlife vividly portrayed. Lazarus is comforted by God; the other separated by a huge gulf in the flames of punishment. Even in this scene of the hereafter the man of wealth continues to look down on Lazarus and suggest he even be his servant, bringing water to quench his intolerable thirst.

The promise of comfort for those who suffer and the reversal of fortune for those of wealth echoes throughout the Gospel. This is the future that awaits everyone and is in God’s hands. To those of high status and wealth in the Lukan household, the story would be heard as a sobering reminder of how to live generously, caring for those in need. Today’s Gospel might also nudge us into action.

Fr Michael Trainor

THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

28 SEPTEMBER 2025

FIRST READING

Amos 6:1, 4-7

A reading from the prophet Amos

You who give yourself to licentiousness and revelry will be exiled.

The almighty Lord says this:

Woe to those ensconced so snugly in Zion and those who feel so safe on the mountain of Samaria.

Lying on ivory beds
and sprawling on their divans,
they dine on lambs from the flock,
and stall-fattened veal;
they bawl to the sound of the harp,
they invent new instruments of music like David,
they drink wine by the bowlful,
and use the finest oil for anointing themselves,
but about the ruin of Joseph they do not care at all.

That is why they will be the first to be exiled;
the sprawlers’ revelry is over.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 145:6-10. R. v. 2

R. Praise the Lord, my soul! (or Alleluia!)

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, / who is just to those who are oppressed. / It is he who gives bread to the hungry, / the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **R.**
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, / who raises up those who are bowed down. / It is the Lord who loves the just, / the Lord, who protects the stranger. **R.**
3. He upholds the widow and orphan / but thwarts the path of the wicked. / The Lord will reign for ever, / Zion’s God, from age to age. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Tim 6:11-16

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to Timothy

Obey the commandments until the coming of the Lord.

As a man dedicated to God, you must aim to be saintly and religious, filled with faith and



love, patient and gentle. Fight the good fight of the faith and win for yourself the eternal life to which you were called when you made your profession and spoke up for the truth in front of many witnesses. Now, before God the source of all life and before Jesus Christ, who spoke up as a witness for the truth in front of Pontius Pilate, I put to you the duty of doing all that you have been told, with no faults or failures, until the Appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ,

who at the due time will be revealed by God, the blessed and only Ruler of all, the King of kings and the Lord of lords, who alone is immortal, whose home is in inaccessible light, whom no man has seen and no man is able to see: to him be honour and everlasting power. Amen.

■ The word of the Lord.

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 16:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

During your life good things came your way just as bad things came the way of Lazarus. Now he is being comforted while you are in agony.

*Welcome to
St Nicholas' Catholic Parish,
Tamworth
for the
Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
111th World Migrants and Refugees Day*

28th 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: All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

COMMUNION: Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have given me hope. This is my comfort when I am brought low.

‘FOR WHAT WE HAVE FAILED TO DO.’ The rich man in today’s Gospel is condemned for his inactivity towards the poor man. Lazarus was starving and covered in sores, but the rich man did nothing to help him. In the Penitential Act at Mass we ask forgiveness not only for the bad we have done but for the good we have failed to do.

Psalter Week 2

Monday 29/09 St Nicholas’ Mass 7am
Sts Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, archangels

Dan 7:9-10, 13-14: or Rev 12:7-12: Ps 137:1-5: Jn 1:47-51:

Tuesday 30/09 St Mary’s 9.00 No Mass
(Liturgy of the Word)

St Jerome, priest, doctor
Zech 8:20-23: Ps 86: Lk 9:51-56:

Wednesday 01/10 St Nicholas’ 7am No Mass
(Liturgy of the Word)

St Therese of the Child Jesus, virgin, doctor
Neh 2:1-8: Ps 136:1-6: Lk 9:57-62:

Thursday 02/10 St Mary’s Mass 9am
The Holy Guardian Angels
Ex 23:20-23: Ps 90:1-6, 10-11: Mt 18:1-5, 10:

Friday 03/10 St Nicholas’ Mass 7am
Baruch 1:15-22: Ps 78:1-5, 8-9: Lk 10:13-16:

Saturday 04/10 St Nicholas’ Mass 9am
St Francis of Assisi
Baruch 4:5-12, 27-29: Ps 68:33-37: Lk 10:17-24:
Vigil Mass 6pm

Sunday 05/10 St Mary’s 7.30am Mass
St Nicholas’ 9.30am & 5.30pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday 4pm – 5.30pm

Please note: Fr Chris and Fr Clarence will be attending the Clergy Conference in Armidale on Tuesday 30th and Wednesday 1st October and will be unavailable for usual parish duties.

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.

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 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.

PARISH EVENTS – for the month ahead

28 Sep	Sun	<i>Migrant and Refugee Sunday</i> 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.
01 Oct	Wed	Silent Adoration - No Adoration – Priests at Clergy Conference in Armidale
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’
05 Oct	Sun	Daylight Saving commences – 3am AEDT- clocks forward
06 Oct	Mon	Labour Day ≧ Public Holiday ≦
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	Start of School Term 4
14 Oct	Tue	St Nicholas Seniors 10.30am for morning tea, West Diggers, Kable Avenue
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 St Nicholas’ hosted by the St Vincent de Paul Society groups
21 Oct	Tue	St Nicholas Women Connecting – meet at Tamworth City Bowling Club at 5.30pm for 6pm dinner
22 Oct	Wed	Silent Adoration 10.30-11.30am St Nicholas’
22 Oct	Wed	The Catholic Ladies – Lunch in the Russell Room at the Tamworth Services Club – 12.30pm, for 1pm
24 Oct	Fri	Eucharistic Adoration 6-7pm St Nicholas’ - followed by a light supper
25 Oct	Sat	Men’s Breakfast 7am St Nicholas’ Outdoor Function Area
25 Oct	Sat	Parish Garage Sale - Presbytery carpark – 10am–12noon ★ make an offer! Proceeds to the Parish! ★
28 Oct	Tue	St Nicholas Seniors 11.30am for lunch, West Diggers, Kable Avenue

★ Coming Up ★

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

All parishioners of all ages are invited to a rosary procession by candlelight to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. The event will be coordinated by the Frassati Society and will be held on Fri 17 October at 7.30pm at Nazareth House chapel. Please see the leaflet at the back of the church, or phone Tammy on 0459784171.

Catholic Viewpoint Link - below – Jul-Sep-2025

https://issuu.com/dioceseofarmidale/docs/catholic_viewpoint
- vol 31 issue 3 - jul - sept -

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 Migrants & Refugees 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

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: 21st September 2025

1st Collection \$ 1,447.35

Planned Giving \$ 2,103.00

Loose \$ 189.45

Total \$ 2,292.45



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 9am, Holy Hour & Adoration at 9.30am and Holy Mass at 11am. There is an explanation of the Miniature Cathedral 11.45am.
At 12.15pm, a light luncheon will be held in the Fr Stan Campbell Parish Hall. **If you wish to attend the luncheon, please RSVP to quirindiparish@armidale.catholic.org.au before 08 October.**

WEEKLY ROSTER – 04/05 October 2025

St Nicholas’ Saturday 6pm

C: Belinda Tyrrell G/R1: Kerry Ackhurst
G/R2: Leonie Hansen
Ex Min: Paul McDougall Music: Noel Greacen
Collection: David Raffaele/Bill Campbell/Morgan Hawthorne

St Mary’s Sunday 7.30am

C: Brian Thompson G/R1: Joan Newley
G/R2: Julie McGuirk
Ex Min: Karen King Music: Grant Quinn
Altar Servers: Will Nguyen
Collection: Carl Cavallaro/Bill Higgins

St Nicholas’ Sunday 9.30am

C: Esther Nweke G/R1: Marie Rice G/R2: Maria Lincoln
Ex Min: Volunteer/Volunteer
Altar Servers: Dominic Vinod/Ryan Pham
Music: St Nicholas Choir
Collection: Maria Gruer/Josie Cox/Phil Elliott

St Nicholas’ Sunday 5.30pm

C: Terry Dries G/R1: Claire Doherty G/R2: Merrilyn Gaffney
Ex Min: Carol Wheaton Music: Veronica Frost
Altar Servers: Callum Buckman/Kyra Akers-Gibbons
Collection: Volunteers

Counting Team: Ted Heazlett/Bruce Stewart
Altar Linen: Kate Stewart
Sacristy Cleaning: Marie Rice/Gemma & Michael Moy
Candelabrum: Brian Lincoln 28/09/25-04/10/25

SPECIAL INTENTIONS: We pray for the repose of the souls of **Mounir Mouawad and Bakhos, Rosa & Joe Sleiman, Sister John Ogilvie McInally** (Hammersmith, UK), **Virginia Cavallaro and Barry Lane**, recently deceased. 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, Russell Smith.

"They are ‘messengers of hope’ in a world darkened by war and injustice; migrants and refugees become missionaries of hope in the countries that welcome them, revitalizing communities with their spiritual enthusiasm and vitality."

~ Pope Leo IV

