

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Heb 4:12

Alleluia, alleluia!

The word of God is living and active;  
it probes the thoughts and motives of our  
heart.

Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

Lk 18:1-8

A reading from the holy Gospel according  
to Luke.

*God will see those who cry to him vindicated.*

Jesus told his disciples a parable about the need  
to pray continually and never lose heart. 'There  
was a judge in a certain town' he said 'who had  
neither fear of God nor respect for man. In the  
same town there was a widow who kept on  
coming to him and saying, "I want justice from  
you against my enemy!" For a long time he  
refused, but at last he said to himself, "Maybe  
I have neither fear of God nor respect for man,  
but since she keeps pestering me I must give  
this widow her just rights, or she will persist in  
coming and worry me to death."'

And the Lord said, 'You notice what the  
unjust judge has to say? Now will not God see  
justice done to his chosen who cry to him day  
and night even when he delays to help them? I  
promise you, he will see justice done to them,  
and done speedily. But when the Son of Man  
comes, will he find any faith on earth?'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

## A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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PUBLICATIONS, PO Box 906, Strathfield NSW 2135.  
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No 2112. Website: www.stpauls.com.au

# Breaking Open the Word

## HOPEFUL EXPECTATION

'What is the good of praying if wars and evil  
things continue to exist? Prayer seems to have  
no effect.' A similar concern existed in Luke's  
day: why pray if it seems ineffectual? Today's  
Gospel speaks to the heart of this. It takes  
the form of a parable, encouraging constant  
prayer. The parable concerns an unjust judge  
ignoring a troubling and annoying widow  
who seeks justice against an *adversary*—even  
though one translation inaccurately describes  
her antagonist as an 'enemy'. The widow  
needs help, and the judge refuses her request.  
That is, until she continues to badger him;  
finally, he relinquishes.

Luke's Jesus uses the story as a classical way  
of describing God: if the judge finally relents  
through persistent pleading how much more  
quickly will God respond to those who cry  
out for help. Prayer opens the one praying to  
God's presence, allowing God to act within the  
one praying for what is needed. This deeply  
religious perspective affects the pray-er in  
daily life. This in turn shapes wider social  
contact, which effects relationships and,  
eventually, global change. Local personal  
prayer has, though imperceptibly, universal  
influence.

The last sentence of the Gospel speaks into  
this global perspective: 'When the Son of  
Man comes will he find faith on earth?' In  
other words, in the eschaton, at the definitive  
coming of Christ at the end of time, will  
people have given up conviction that prayer is  
effective and that God responds to the cry of  
the needy? Today's Gospel encourages us to  
pray, constantly and with hopeful expectation.

Fr Michael Trainor

# THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

19 OCTOBER 2025

## FIRST READING

Ex 17:8-13

A reading from the book of Exodus

*As long as Moses kept his arms raised, Israel had  
the advantage.*

The Amalekites came and attacked Israel at  
Rephidim. Moses said to Joshua, 'Pick out men  
for yourself, and tomorrow morning march out  
to engage Amalek. I, meanwhile, will stand  
on the hilltop, the staff of God in my hand.'  
Joshua did as Moses told him and marched  
out to engage Amalek, while Moses and Aaron  
and Hur went up to the top of the hill. As  
long as Moses kept his arms raised, Israel had  
the advantage; when he let his arms fall, the  
advantage went to Amalek. But Moses' arms  
grew heavy, so they took a stone and put it one  
on one side, one on the other; and his arms  
remained firm till sunset. With the edge of the  
sword Joshua cut down Amalek and his people.

■ The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 120. R. cf. v. 2

**R. Our help is from the Lord, who made  
heaven and earth.**

1. I lift up my eyes to the mountains: / from  
where shall come my help? / My help shall  
come from the Lord / who made heaven and  
earth. **R.**

2. May he never allow you to stumble! / Let  
him sleep not, your guard. / No, he sleeps not  
nor slumbers, / Israel's guard. **R.**

3. The Lord is your guard and your shade; /  
at your right side he stands. / By day the sun  
shall not smite you / nor the moon in the  
night. **R.**

4. The Lord will guard you from evil, / he  
will guard your soul. / The Lord will guard  
your going and coming / both now and for  
ever. **R.**



## SECOND READING

2 Tim 3:14-4:2

A reading from the second letter of St Paul  
to Timothy

*This is how the people of God become equipped and  
ready for every good work.*

You must keep to what you have been taught  
and know to be true; remember who your  
teachers were, and how, ever since you were  
a child, you have known the holy scriptures –  
from these you can learn the wisdom that leads  
to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All  
scripture is inspired by God and can profitably  
be used for teaching, for refuting error, for  
guiding people's lives and teaching them to be  
holy. This is how the man who is dedicated to  
God becomes fully equipped and ready for any  
good work.

Before God and before Christ Jesus who is  
to be judge of the living and the dead, I put  
this duty to you, in the name of his Appearing  
and of his kingdom: proclaim the message and,  
welcome or unwelcome, insist on it. Refute  
falsehood, correct error, call to obedience – but  
do all with patience and with the intention of  
teaching.

■ The word of the Lord.

*Welcome to*  
**St Nicholas' Catholic Parish,**  
*Tamworth*  
*for the*  
**Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**+ Mission Sunday +**  
*19<sup>th</sup> October 2025*

**Fr Christopher Onuekwusi – Parish Priest**  
**Fr Clarence Canafe – Assistant Priest**  
[stnicholasparish@armidale.catholic.org.au](mailto: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:** To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.

**COMMUNION:** Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

**‘PRAY CONTINUALLY.’** The saving power of God flows into our world through human agents. In today's First Reading, the Israelites are saved from destruction by the power of God mediated through Moses, their leader. In the Gospel Jesus assures us that God will see justice done on earth provided we pray for it night and day, and keep knocking on the doors of the unjust. Let us pray and work constantly for justice, never losing heart.

**Psalter Week 1**

**Monday 20/10 St Nicholas' Mass 7am**  
Rom 4:20-25: Lk 1: 69-75: Lk 12:13-21:

**Tuesday 21/10 St Mary's Mass 9am**  
Rom 5:12, 15, 17-21: Ps 39:7-10, 17: Lk 12:35-38:

**Wednesday 22/10 St Nicholas' Mass 7am**  
Rom 6:12-18: Ps 123: Lk 12:39-48:

**Thursday 23/10 St Mary's Mass 9am**  
Rom 6:19-23: Ps 1:1-4, 6: Lk 12:49-53:

**Friday 24/10 St Nicholas' Mass 7am**  
Rom 7:18-25: Ps 118:66, 68, 76-77, 93-94: Lk 12:54-59:

**Saturday 25/10 St Nicholas' Mass 9am**  
Rom 8:1-11: Ps 23:1-6: Lk 13:1-9:  
**Vigil Mass 6pm**

**Sunday 26/10 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:** 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**

**18 Oct Sat MERCY Night Mission 7pm – 9.30pm St Nicholas'**  
**19 Oct Sun + Mission Sunday + World Mission Appeal – All Masses**

**19 Oct Sun Birthday Blessing – All Masses**  
**19 Oct Sun Tamworth Youth Mission Retreat Day – students in Year 5 – Year 8**

**19 Oct Sun Morning Tea after the 9.30am Mass St Nicholas'**  
hosted by the St Vincent de Paul Society groups

**21 Oct Tue Miniature Cathedral Pilgrimage Visit**  
from 17 October to 02 November, St Nicholas' Church

**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'**

**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

**29 Oct Wed Silent Adoration 10.30-11.30am St Nicholas'**

**31 Oct Fri Eucharistic Adoration 6-7pm St Nicholas'**  
Followed by a light supper in the Parish Meeting Room

**01 Nov Sat ALL SAINTS DAY**

**01 Nov Sat Anointing of the Sick during the 9am Mass St Nicholas'**

**01 Nov Sat Silent Adoration 4-5.30pm St Nicholas'**

**02 Nov Sun ALL SOULS DAY**

**04 Nov Tue 'Petitions' Rosary 12.15pm St Nicholas'**

**05 Nov Wed Silent Adoration 10.30-11.30am St Nicholas'**

**07 Nov Fri Eucharistic Adoration 6-7pm St Nicholas'**

**11 Nov Tue St Nicholas Seniors 10.30am for morning tea,**  
West Diggers, Kable Avenue

**12 Nov Wed Silent Adoration 10.30-11.30am St Nicholas'**

**14 Nov Fri Eucharistic Adoration 6-7pm St Nicholas'**

**16 Nov Sun Birthday Blessing – All Masses**  
**16 Nov Sun Morning Tea after the 9.30am Mass St Nicholas'**  
hosted by the St Vincent de Paul Society groups

**18 Nov Tue St Nicholas Women Connecting – meet at Tamworth City**  
Bowling Club at 5.30pm for 6pm dinner

**19 Nov Wed Silent Adoration 10.30-11.30am St Nicholas'**

**★ Coming Up ★**

**Appreciation Dinner for**  
**All Volunteers & Staff:**

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November – 6pm for**  
**6.30pm. Venue yet to be finalised.**

**RSVP: 31 October 2025**



**Parish Christmas Party:**  
**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December - 11am start**  
**McCarthy Catholic College Hall**

**Miniature Cathedral Pilgrimage**

The Miniature Cathedral will be visiting St Nicholas' Parish from Friday 17 October through to Sunday 02 November 2025. Students from McCarthy Catholic College will visit St Nicholas' Church on 21 October between 10-11am. Students from St Nicholas Primary School will visit 29/30/31 October between 9:30am-11am on those days. Parishioners are welcome to call in anytime, to mark this Jubilee Year of Hope.



**October is the month of the Holy Rosary.** The month serves as a special time for the faithful to pray the Rosary, meditating on the life of Jesus through the mysteries, and seeking Mary's intercession for the Church and the world.

**WEEKLY ROSTER – 18/19 October 2025**

**St Nicholas' Saturday 6pm** Followed by Mercy Night Mission

C: Cate Allen G/R1: Sister of Nazareth G/R2: Eil Smyth

Ex Min: Kerry Ackhurst Music: Noel Greacen

Collection: David Raffaele/Bill Campbell/Morgan Hawthorne

**St Mary's Sunday 7.30am**

C: Katrina Krogh G/R1: John Murphy

G/R2: Brian Thompson

Ex Min: Cheryl Higgins Music: Grant Quinn

Altar Servers: Will Nguyen

Collection: Carl Cavallaro/Bill Higgins

**St Nicholas' Sunday 9.30am** Youth Retreat Day

C: Nicholas Nweke G/R1: Alison Hamilton

G/R2: Charli Manning

Ex Min: Laura Hughes/Jennifer Hatfield

Altar Servers: Amanda and Abigail Nweke

Music: St Nicholas Choir

Collection: Maria Gruer/Josie Cox/Phil Elliott

**St Nicholas' Sunday 5.30pm**

C: Claire Doherty G/R1: Paul Hagley G/R2: Alison Hagley

Ex Min: Henry Buckman Music: Henry Buckman

Altar Servers: Ethan Nijo/Kyra Akers-Gibbons

Collection: Volunteers

Counting Team: Brian Thompson/Bill Higgins

Altar Linen: Kerrie Bryant

Sacristy Cleaning: St Nicholas Women Connecting

Candelabrum: Ted & Bev Heazlett 19/10/25-25/10/25

**PLANNED GIVING: SUPPORTING OUR PRIESTS & PARISH**

**1<sup>ST</sup> Collection (supports the clergy)**

BSB: 082 105 A/C No: 001 023 584

A/C Name: St Nicholas Presbytery

**2<sup>nd</sup> 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: 12<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

1<sup>st</sup> Collection \$ 1714.33

Planned Giving \$ 1988.00

Loose \$ 236.30

\$ 2224.30

On behalf of 'Mary MacKillop Today', the Sisters of St Joseph have extended a big thank you to the St Nicholas Parish for our generous support in supplying and assisting with used stamps. They have had another wonderful year, raising approximately \$37,900 – a great effort! From 2001 till now, the total raised is now well over \$560,000. If you wish to donate stamps, they can be left in the boxes at both St Nicholas' and St Mary's. If cutting from an envelope, please ensure you leave a margin around the stamp. Thank you for your continued generosity to this worthwhile cause!



**WEEKLY ROSTER – 25/26 October 2025**

**St Nicholas' Saturday 6pm**

C: Giovanna McDougall G/R1: Paul McDougall

G/R2: Pauline Skewes

Ex Min: Eil Smyth Music: Noel Greacen

Collection: David Raffaele/Bill Campbell/Morgan Hawthorne

**St Mary's Sunday 7.30am**

C: Joan Newley G/R1: Matt Pawsey G/R2 Katrina Krogh

Ex Min: Deb Pawsey Music: Grant Quinn

Altar Servers: Will Nguyen

Collection: Carl Cavallaro/Bill Higgins

**St Nicholas' Sunday 9.30am**

C: Maria Lincoln G/R1: Cate Belson G/R2 Lynne Prisk

Ex Min: Fiona Downey/Volunteer

Altar Servers: Charles/Jason Igbenije

Music: St Nicholas Choir

Collection: Maria Gruer/Josie Cox/Phil Elliott

**St Nicholas' Sunday 5.30pm** **YOUTH MASS**

C: Youth G/R1: Youth G/R2 Youth

Ex Min: Volunteer Music: Henry Buckman

Altar Servers: Evangelyn Nijo/Emmett Buckman

Collection: Volunteers

Counting Team: Garry Bryant/Andrew McGuirk

Altar Linen: Cecilia Dries

Sacristy Cleaning: Beth & John Ryan/Bruce Stewart

Candelabrum: Brian Thompson 26/10/25-01/11/25

**SPECIAL INTENTIONS:** Please pray for **Christopher Giles**, recently deceased. May he rest in God's peace.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Margaret Hudson** and **Shirley Colomb**. May God grant them eternal rest and 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.

Jesus has said: *"No one lights a lamp and puts it under a basket, but upon the lampstand, so as to give light to all in the house."* It seems to me that this lamp represents love which must enlighten and give joy not only to those who are dearest to us but to **everyone** without distinction.  
~ Therese of Lisieux



*Guard me as the apple of your eye:  
In the shadow of your wings protect me.*