

you may be too.

You know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said:

'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.

No one can come to the Father except through me.

If you know me, you know my Father too.

From this moment you know him and have seen him.'

Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me?

'To have seen me is to have seen the Father, so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"?' Do you not believe

that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?

The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself:

it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work.

You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me;

believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason.

'I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself, he will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



Unauthorised reproduction of this bulletin prohibited. Published with ecclesiastical approval by ST PAULS PUBLICATIONS, PO Box 906, Strathfield NSW 2135. Tel 02 9394 3400 Email: sales@stpauls.com.au Scripture readings taken from The Jerusalem Bible, © 1966 Hodder & Stoughton Ltd. All rights reserved. Psalm text from The Psalms, A New Translation, © 1963, The Grail (England), HarperCollins. New translation of the Order of Mass from The Roman Missal © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Artwork by Sr Dorothy Woodward rsj. Layout, commentaries and illustrations © St Pauls Publications, 2026. No 2141. Website: www.stpauls.com.au

Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / A

3 MAY 2026

TRUST IN GOD

We all worry from time to time. Worry is one of the great social concerns that surround us. We worry about so much: our families and loved ones, our health, what is going on in the world, finances...and the list is endless. It is into this situation that Jesus speaks to us today. 'Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God and trust in me.' These words get to the heart of our lives. Jesus invites us to trust in him and his God, despite all that surrounds us. While such an invitation flies in the face of much that distracts us, the Gospel invites us into a space, 'a place', where we can rest with God. Jesus assures John's audience, and us, that he has already prepared this place. It awaits us—and we don't have to wait until death to enjoy it—we can allow ourselves to draw close to Jesus and be with him now.

This is the sense behind Jesus' reassurance to Thomas who questions Jesus about where he is going and how to be where he is. The response is clear: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.' These words are clearly important for us to enjoy and relish as our celebration of Easter continues. Jesus offers us companionship ('the Way'), leads us into ultimate communion with God ('the Truth') and brings us into a sense of complete wholeness ('the Life').

The final part of today's Gospel reaffirms Jesus' communion with his Father and that our communion and trust in Jesus leads us into ultimate communion with God. Everything in this Gospel invites us to trust Jesus' words and let go, perhaps just a little, of our worries.

Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING

Acts 6:1-7

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They elected seven men filled with the Spirit and wisdom.

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 32:1-2, 4-5, 18-19. R. v. 22

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you. (*or Alleluia!*)

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; / for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. / Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp, / with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. **R.**

2. For the word of the Lord is faithful / and all his works to be trusted. / The Lord loves justice and right / and fills the earth with his love. **R.**

3. The Lord looks on those who revere him, / on those who hope in his love, / to rescue their souls from death, / to keep them alive in famine. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Pet 2:4-9

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 14:6

Alleluia, alleluia! / I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; / no one comes to the Father, except through me. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 14:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

I am the way, the truth, and the life.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'Do not let your hearts be troubled.

Trust in God still, and trust in me.

There are many rooms in my Father's house; if there were not, I should have told you.

I am now going to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place,

I shall return to take you with me;

so that where I am

Welcome to St Nicholas' Catholic Parish, Tamworth
for The Fifth Sunday
of Easter
Year A

3rd May 2026

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
Administration: 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: 1,006
St Nicholas Primary School Principal: Mr Peter Flynn
☎ (02) 6766 1500 Students currently enrolled: 576

ENTRANCE: O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

COMMUNION: I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

‘I AM THE WAY.’ In every age there are people who claim to know the way to a full and happy life. Often their ideas flourish for a while and then fade. But there is one way to the fullness of life that has stood the test of time – and that way is Jesus. If we follow Jesus, the Way, we will come to the fullness of life and truth and communicate this life to others.

Psalter Week 1

Monday 04/05 St Nicholas' Mass 7am
Acts 14:5-18: Ps 113B:1-4, 15-16: Jn 14:21-26:
Tuesday 05/05 St Mary's Mass 9am
Acts 14:19-28: Ps 144:10-13, 21: Jn 14:27-31:
Wednesday 06/05 St Nicholas' Mass 7am
Acts 15:1-6: Ps 121:1-5: Jn 15:1-8:
Thursday 07/05 St Mary's Mass 9am
Acts 15:7-21: Ps 95:1-3, 10: Jn 15:9-11:
Friday 08/05 St Nicholas' Mass 7am
Acts 15:22-31: Ps 56:8-12: Jn 15:12-17:
Saturday 09/05 St Nicholas' Mass 9am
Acts 16:1-10: Ps 99:1-3, 5: Jn 15:18-21:
Vigil Mass 6pm
Sunday 10/10 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. Candidate for Baptism Forms can also be completed and submitted on our parish website.

Please note: Any inclusions for the Parish newsletter must be received by the parish office no later than 3pm Wednesdays.

Our faith community acknowledges and pays respect to the traditional custodians of the land on which we worship, The People of the Plains, The Kamilaroi people. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present and emerging. May we, too, be good stewards of this land on which we live.

A warm welcome to all new parishioners! To help you feel at home in our parish, we encourage you to introduce yourself to Father after Mass, or you might also consider exploring opportunities to get involved in parish life through various ministries and activities. If so, please see our Parish Notice Board or contact the Parish Office.

Parish toilet is 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.

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

Diary Dates

03 May Sun	FAMILY MASS with morning tea hosted by the First Eucharist Candidates & Yr 2 students	9.30am	St Nicholas'
05 May Tue	'Petitions' Rosary –	12.15pm	St Nicholas'
06 May Wed	Silent Adoration	10.30-11.30am	St Nicholas'
08 May Fri	Eucharistic Adoration	6-7pm	St Nicholas'
08 May Fri	YOUTH GROUP	7-8.45pm	St Nicholas'
10 May Sun	Mother's Day		
12 May Tue	St Nicholas Seniors, morning tea	10.30am	West Diggers
13 May Wed	Silent Adoration	10.30-11.30am	St Nicholas'
15 May Fri	Eucharistic Adoration	6-7pm	St Nicholas'
17 May Sun	Birthday Blessing		All Masses
	Morning tea after the 9.30am Mass hosted by Legion of Mary & Rosary groups		
19 May Tue	St Nicholas Women Connecting – meet for dinner	5.30pm	Tamworth City Bowling Club
20 May Wed	Silent Adoration	10.30-11.30am	St Nicholas'
22 May Fri	Eucharistic Adoration	6-7pm	St Nicholas'
22 May Fri	YOUTH GROUP	7-8.45pm	St Nicholas'
24 May Sun	McCarthy Catholic College FAMILY MASS 9.30am, St Nicholas', followed by morning tea		
26 May Tue	St Nicholas Seniors, lunch	11.30am	West Diggers
27 May Wed	Silent Adoration	10.30-11.30am	St Nicholas'
27 May Wed	The Catholic Ladies – lunch – meet at 1pm in the Russell Room at the Services Club		
29 May Fri	Eucharistic Adoration	6-7pm	St Nicholas'
30 May Sat	Men's Breakfast	7am	St Nicholas'
31 May Sun	FAMILY MASS with morning tea hosted by St Nicholas school students	9.30am	St Nicholas'
02 Jun Tue	'Petitions' Rosary –	12.15pm	St Nicholas'
03 Jun Wed	Silent Adoration	10.30-11.30am	St Nicholas'

Save the Date

St Nicholas' Parish Mission & St Carlo Acutis Exhibition –
after Eucharistic Adoration on Friday evening 19 June 2026 –
7pm – Midnight in the
St Nicholas' Outdoor Function Area.

**Are you able to help as a volunteer at Nazareth Care?
If you are interested in volunteering in Pastoral Care or any
other area, please contact Sr Trang directly on 0400 147 342 or
by email at: srsuperior.tamworth@nazarethcare.com
Thank you!**

*Would you like to help a young person in the parish to attend the Ignite Catholic Youth Conference in Sydney in July? Cost is \$320 per person. This is a 4-day conference where young people can learn about their faith from priests, nuns and Catholic speakers from all over Australia and the world. You can support youth in your parish to attend by donating any amount you choose to this parish account with reference 'Ignite':
(St Nicholas' Parish Holding Account)
BSB: 082105 Account Number: 001063036*

WEEKLY ROSTER – 02/03 May 2026

St Nicholas' Saturday 6pm
C: Paul McDougall W/R1: Leonie Hansen W/R2: Cate Allen
Altar Server: Evolet Pottathuparambil
Ex Min: Eil Smyth Music: Noel Greacen
Collection: David Raffaele/Bill Campbell/Morgan Hawthorne

St Mary's Sunday 7.30am
C: Matt Pawsey W/R1: Joan Newley W/R2: Sue O'Halloran
Ex Min: Deb Pawsey Music: Anne Jones
Altar Server: Will Nguyen
Collection: Carl Cavallaro/Bill Higgins

St Nicholas' Sunday 9.30am FAMILY MASS
Commentator/W/R1/W/R2: St Nicholas Primary School
Altar Servers: Charles, Jason & Daniel Igbenije
Ex Min: Laura Hughes/Jennifer Hatfield
Music: St Nicholas Choir
Collection: Maria Gruer/Josie Cox/Phil Elliott

St Nicholas' Sunday 5.30pm
C: Alison Hagley W/R1: Judy Campbell W/R2: Paul Hagley
Ex Min: Tania Roberts Music: Henry Buckman
Altar Servers: Kyra & Nyssa Akers-Gibbons
Collection: Volunteers

Counting Team: Ted Heazlett/Bruce Stewart
Altar Linen: Kate Stewart
Sacristy Cleaning: Beth & John Ryan/Bruce Stewart
Candelabrum: every 2nd week

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: 26th April 2026
1st Collection \$ 1,653.50
Planned Giving \$ 2,073.00
Loose \$ 416.20
\$ 2,489.20

ANNIVERSARIES – May

Vincent Ajani, Narelle Ambrose, Sidney (Phil) Anderson, Dorothy (Rita) Arnold, Valentine Banovich, Lawson Bettington, Margaret Booth, Michael Brooks Ronald Brooks, Leila Bryant, Dulcie Budsworth, Brian Burke, Anthony Campbell, Laurence Cannon, Alice Clout, Joan Condon, John Coyle, Marie Cross, Maxwell Dewberry, Alan Donnelly, Ian Dorrstein, Keith Doube, Giuseppe Ferraro, Leopolda Figar, Raymond Fitzsummons, Robin Gardiner, Marie Gonsalves, Shane Gregg, Robert Hall, Edward Hawkins, Rosealein Henderson, Patrick Hoban, Edna Homewood, Suzanne Horan, Cyril Johnson, Josephine Knight, Norman Konz, Marlene Langenbaker, Michael Larkin, Sophie Littlejohns, Fr Peter Liu, Deirdre Lord, Maria McCully, Ross McHugh, Norma McKenna, William McLean, Barry Maher, Raymond Mahony, Steven Mamea, Jeanette Manconi, Michael Manvell, William Mason, Glen Merchant, Gloria Mitchell, Carmel (Mary) Muller, Marie Nihill, Denis O'Callaghan, Nelva O'Shea, John Patterson, Mary Patterson, Natalia (Annette) Pindel, Eunice Presland, Alma Robinson, Bruce Robinson, Betty Shanahan, Robert Southwell, Keith Taylor, Pauli Thorpe, Salvatore Tizzone, Marie Tolmie, Joan Townsend, Eleanor Venning, Michael Vittorio, Patrick Wall, Glenda Whaley, Mary Woods.

May they rest in peace

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 – 09/10 May 2026

St Nicholas' Saturday 6pm
C: Leonie Hansen W/R1: Kerry Ackhurst
W/R2: Giovanna McDougall
Altar Server: Evolet Pottathuparambil
Ex Min: Cate Allen Music: Noel Greacen
Collection: David Raffaele/Bill Campbell/Morgan Hawthorne

St Mary's Sunday 7.30am
C: Bernadette Virgin W/R1: Judy Scott W/R2: Cheryl Higgins
Ex Min: Jessica Galvin Music: Anne Jones
Altar Server: Will Nguyen
Collection: Carl Cavallaro/Bill Higgins

St Nicholas' Sunday 9.30am
C: Maria Gruer W/R1: Denise Green W/R2: Esther Nweke
Children's Liturgy: Steph/Felicita
Altar Servers: Dominic Vinod, Ndinash Zvarevashe, Oscar Lintott
Ex Min: Fiona Downey/Brian Lincoln
Music: St Nicholas Choir
Collection: Maria Gruer/Josie Cox/Phil Elliott

St Nicholas' Sunday 5.30pm
C: Merrilyn Gaffney W/R1: Henry Buckman
W/R2: Carol Wheaton
Ex Min: Paul Hagley Music: Henry Buckman
Altar Servers: Zoey Davis, Maddison McDougall
Collection: Volunteers

Counting Team: Bill Higgins/Pauline Skewes
Altar Linen: Kerry Bryant
Sacristy Cleaning: Marie Rice/Gemma & Michael Moy
Candelabrum: Anne Jones

BAPTISMS: We pray for **Jack O'Halloran** who is being baptised this weekend. May God's love be with him throughout his life.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Dorothy Allan. May she rest in the peace of Christ.

SPECIAL INTENTIONS: Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Sr Arcadius Guthrie** and **William Kennedy**. May God grant them eternal rest.

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

Maddy Anderson (Sydney), Carmel Bennett (Gladstone), Colin Bryant, Michael Bryant, Rev Fr Tony Castelli, Brindley Cavallaro (Sydney), Elizabeth Coroneos (Toowoomba), Dan Daly, Bill Dennis, Kath Donoghue, Cormac Downes (Uralla), Nicholas Doyle (Sydney), Richard Doyle (Sydney), Doreen Eunson, Pat & Tony Favell, Sonia Fawdry (Alstonville), Joan Goodridge, Darren Graham, Sherree Haylock, Nadia Hum (Newcastle), Sullivan Hum (Singleton), Kay Mason, Julie Michell, Jan & Richard Noad, Penny Pavlakis (Sydney), Richard Panchasarp (USA), Kim Riley (Orange), Adam Urquhart, Maureen White (Orange), Elizabeth Williams, Enid Wright.

“Easter proclaims that nothing is impossible with God and that His love can overcome all obstacles.”

~ St Francis of Assisi



I AM THE WAY
THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE
NO ONE COMES TO THE FATHER EXCEPT THROUGH ME