

it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 20:19-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

As the Father sent me, so I send you: Receive the Holy Spirit.

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you'.

'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven;

for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

PENTECOST SUNDAY / A

24 MAY 2026

PEACE BE WITH YOU

In today's story from John, set on Easter day, Jesus' disciples are frightened. The doors of the room where they gather are locked. They are frightened of the religious authorities. Perhaps they think that what happened to their hero, Jesus, might also happen to them. Into the midst of their fear and locked room, the Risen Jesus comes. His first words are of peace, 'Peace be with you'. This is more than a statement to be calm and not frightened. It is Jesus' gift of wholeness, of *shalom* (Hebrew). It is his prayerful gift for them to come to a deep spirit of internal communion and calmness trusting in his presence.

It is this fearful group of disciples that Jesus commissions to be on mission—a theme familiar from Matthew's Gospel last week: The future of the Jesus movement is not entrusted to a comfortable, secure and fully integrated group of leaders. It is to a group of ordinary, struggling people that the mission is given. But they are not alone in this. Jesus' breath is the externalisation of his presence and being. This is given to the disciples who imbue his spirit, calming them, and giving them the confidence to reveal God's communion with all, despite their foibles or spiritual struggles.

This is the spirit that forgives 'sin'—that experience or marker of disruption, dis-ease and fear. Jesus' breath, received by the Eleven is about to permeate the cosmos through the commissioned ministry and reaffirmed in John's Pentecost story.

Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING

Acts 2:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak different languages.

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 103:1, 24, 29-31, 34. R. v. 30

R. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth. (or Alleluia!)

1. Bless the Lord, my soul! / Lord God, how great you are! / How many are your works,
O Lord! / The earth is full of your riches. **R.**



2. You take back your spirit, they die, /
returning to the dust from which they came. /
You send forth your spirit, they are created; /
and you renew the face of the earth. **R.**

3. May the glory of the Lord last for ever! /
May the Lord rejoice in his works! / May my
thoughts be pleasing to him. / I find my joy in
the Lord. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

In the one Spirit we were all baptised, making one body.

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so

Welcome to St Nicholas' Catholic Parish, Tamworth for Pentecost Sunday Year A

24th 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: The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world and that which contains all things understands what is said, alleluia.

COMMUNION: They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.

'I AM SENDING YOU.' The disciples of Jesus were transformed when they received the Holy Spirit. They burst open the doors of the upper room, which they had locked in fear, and boldly proclaimed the Good News. May the Holy Spirit fill our hearts this Pentecost giving us the courage to break down the walls we have built around ourselves. May the Spirit free us to proclaim the peace, joy and forgiveness of God to everyone.

Monday 25/05 St Nicholas' Mass 7am
Our Lady, Help of Christians, patroness of Australia
 Sirach 4:11-18: Ps 112:1-8:
 1 Cor: 1:18-25: Jn 19:25-27:

Tuesday 26/05 St Mary's Mass 9am
St Philip Neri, priest
 1 Pet 1:10-16: Ps 97:1-4: Mk 10:28-31:

Wednesday 27/05 St Nicholas' Mass 7am
 1 Pet 1:18-25: Ps 147:12-15, 19-20: Mk 10:32-45:

Thursday 28/05 St Mary's Mass 9am
 1 Pet 2:2-5, 9-12: Ps 99:2-5: Mk 10:46-52:

Friday 29/05 St Nicholas' Mass 7am
 1 Pet 4:7-13: Ps 95:10-13: Mk 11:11-26:

Saturday 30/05 St Nicholas' Mass 9am
 Jude 17, 20-25: Ps 62:2-6: Mk 11:27-33:
Vigil Mass 6pm

Sunday 31/05 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

24 May Sun	McCarthy Catholic College FAMILY MASS 9.30am, St Nicholas', followed by morning tea
25 May Mon	Our Lady, Help of Christians Feast Day
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 9.30am St Nicholas' with morning tea hosted by St Nicholas School students
02 Jun Tue	'Petitions' Rosary – 12.15pm St Nicholas'
03 Jun Wed	Silent Adoration 10.30-11.30am St Nicholas'
05 Jun Fri	Eucharistic Adoration 6-7pm St Nicholas'
05 Jun Fri	YOUTH GROUP 7-8.45pm St Nicholas'
06 Jun Sat	Anointing of the Sick during the 9am Mass St Nicholas'
06 Jun Sat	Silent Adoration 4.00-5.30pm St Nicholas'
08 Jun Mon	PUBLIC HOLIDAY – King's Birthday – morning Mass 9am
09 Jun Tue	St Nicholas Seniors, morning tea 10.30am West Diggers
10 Jun Wed	Silent Adoration 10.30-11.30am St Nicholas'
12 Jun Fri	Eucharistic Adoration 6-7pm St Nicholas'
13 Jun Sat	First Eucharist Mass 6pm St Nicholas'
14 Jun Sun	First Eucharist Mass 9.30am St Nicholas'
16 Jun Tue	St Nicholas Women Connecting meet for dinner at the Tamworth City Bowling Club, 5.30pm.
17 Jun Wed	Silent Adoration 10.30-11.30am St Nicholas'
19 Jun Fri	Eucharistic Adoration 6-7pm St Nicholas'
21 Jun Sun	Birthday Blessings All Masses Morning Tea hosted by the Parish Pastoral Council after the 9.30am Mass, in the Outdoor Function area
23 Jun Tue	St Nicholas Seniors, lunch 11.30am West Diggers
24 Jun Wed	Silent Adoration 10.30-11.30am St Nicholas'
24 Jun Wed	The Catholic Ladies – lunch – meet at 1pm in the Russell Room at the Services Club

ITINERARY FOR SAINT CARLO ACUTIS RELIC VISIT

Sunday 28 June
 8.30am-7pm: St Carlo Acutis Exhibition – St Nicholas Outdoor Function Area – then being transferred to McCarthy Catholic College.
 2.30pm: St Carlo Acutis Relics arrive at St Nicholas' Church.
 3pm-5.30pm: Welcome & Talk followed by veneration & confessions.
 5.30pm – 10pm: Mass, followed by a Talk, then veneration & confession.

Monday 29 June
 7am: Mass, then relics transported to McCarthy until 3.30pm.
 4pm: Meditated Rosary, with sayings of St Carlo Acutis.
 4.30-7pm: Veneration & confessions, then Talk until 7.30pm.
 7.30-9.30pm: veneration & confessions.
 7.30pm-9pm: Film in Parish Meeting Room: Roadmap to Reality

Tuesday 30 June – St Carlo Acutis Relic Visit
 9am – 10.30am: Mass, followed by veneration & confessions.
Tuesday 30 June (continued)
 10.30am-3pm: Visit from St Nicholas Primary School students.
 3pm-6pm: Veneration, followed by meditated Rosary.
 6.30pm-9pm: Talk, followed by veneration and confession.
 7.30pm-8.30pm: Documentary on Carlo Acutis in the Parish Meeting Room.

Wednesday 01 July - The relics travel to St Patrick's Church.



May Month of Mary, Our Blessed Mother

WEEKLY ROSTER – 23/24 May 2026 PENTECOST SUNDAY

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

St Mary's Sunday 7.30am
 C: Joan Newley W/R1: Bernadette Virgen W/R2: John Wallace
 Ex Min: Jessica Galvin Music: Anne Jones
 Altar Server: Will Nguyen
 Collection: Carl Cavallaro/Bill Higgins

St Nicholas' Sunday 9.30am
 C: W/R1: W/R2: McCarthy Catholic College
 Children's Liturgy: Linda/Janine
 Altar Servers: Harry Dowsett/Sophie Dowsett
 Ex Min: Anne Bowden/Peter Prisk Music: St Nicholas Choir
 Collection: Maria Gruer/Josie Cox/Phil Elliott

St Nicholas' Sunday 5.30pm
 C: Carol Wheaton W/R1: Claire Doherty W/R2: Judy Campbell
 Ex Min: Tania Roberts Music: Henry Buckman
 Altar Servers: Evangelyn/Ethan Nijo
 Collection: Volunteers

Counting Team: Cecilia Dries/Anne Jones
 Altar Linen: Vivienne Mundy
 Sacristy Cleaning: Beth & John Ryan/Bruce Stewart
 Candelabrum: Bruce Stewart

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: 17th May 2026
 1st Collection \$ 1,766.45
 Planned Giving \$ 1,721.00
 Loose \$ 305.10
 \$ 2,026.10

Men's Breakfast – Saturday 30th at 7am!
St Nicholas Outdoor Function Area

The perfect opportunity for the men of the parish to get to know one another better, and to help strengthen both their faith and their connection to the parish.
 Donation bucket on entry.
 An event not to be missed!

Clipboards at the back of the church!



St Vincent de Paul Society Tamworth – Conferences Fundraiser Sausage Sizzle
Where & When: Bunnings, Saturday 30th May – 9am – 4pm.
Proceeds: to be shared between the Care & Support Conferences in Tamworth & Quirindi, and Rosalie House Tamworth.
Please come and support these valuable community services.
Congratulations to Ada Nealon, who was voted 'Senior Volunteer of the Year' at the recent NSW Awards Ceremony in Sydney.

A note of thanks to everyone from Veronica Frost, for their prayers during her recent hospitalisation. She is home now and is recovering well. We wish her all the best as she recuperates from her fall.

WEEKLY ROSTER – 30/31 May 2026 The Most Holy Trinity

St Nicholas' Saturday 6pm
 C: Belinda Tyrrell W/R1: Paul McDougall W/R2: Pauline Skewes
 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: Julie McGuirk W/R1: Matt Pawsey W/R2: Bruce Stewart
 Ex Min: Deb Pawsey Music: Anne Jones Altar Server: Will Nguyen
 Collection: Carl Cavallaro/Bill Higgins

St Nicholas' Sunday 9.30am FAMILY MASS
 C: Marie Rice W/R1: Anne Bowden W/R2: Dean Rowsell
 Altar Servers: Abigail/Amanda/Chinedum
 Ex Min: Alison Hamilton/Michael Moy Music: St Nicholas Choir
 Collection: Maria Gruer/Josie Cox/Phil Elliott

St Nicholas' Sunday 5.30pm YOUTH MASS
 C: W/R1: W/R2: Youth Ex Min: Volunteer Music: Henry Buckman
 Altar Servers: Kyra/Nyssa Collection: Volunteers

Counting Team: Brian & Maria Lincoln
 Altar Linen: Cecilia Dries
 Sacristy Cleaning: Ellie Muldoon/Kerrie Bryant
 Candelabrum: every 2nd week

BAPTISMS: We pray for Navy Miller, Lily Snape and Archie Snape who are being baptised this weekend. May God's love be with them throughout their lives.

CONGRATULATIONS: We warmly welcome Prima Cobelo and Paul White, who are receiving the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Eucharist this weekend. We wish them abundant blessings.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Dr John Clery, Catherine (Kay) Joyce, Shirley Flanagan and Julie Michell. May they rest in the peace of Christ.

SPECIAL INTENTIONS: Please pray for the repose of the souls of Mick Larkin (Snr) (19th Anniversary), the deceased loved ones of our parishioners from Timor Leste and Sr Arcadius Guthrie, recently deceased. 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), Veronica Frost, Joan Goodridge, Darren Graham, Sherree Haylock, Nadia Hurn (Newcastle), Sullivan Hurn (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.

CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE 2026

Parent/Carer Information Session in St Nicholas' Church:
Wed 29 July 5.30pm or Sat 1 August 2pm
Reconciliation: Thurs 17 September 5.30-6.30pm
Retreat at St Nicholas' School: Fri 18 September 9.30am – 2.30pm
Confirmation Masses: Sat 19 Sep 6pm or Sun 20 Sep 9.30am

"O Holy Spirit, descend plentifully into my heart. Enlighten the dark corners of this neglected dwelling and scatter there Thy cheerful beams."

~ St. Augustine

