

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Apoc 1:8

Alleluia, alleluia! / Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: / to God who is, who was, and who is to come. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 3:16-18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

God sent his Son to save the world through him.

Jesus said to Nicodemus,

‘God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost

but may have eternal life.

For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world,

but so that through him the world might be saved.

No one who believes in him will be condemned;

but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already,

because he has refused to believe in the name of God’s only Son.’

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

**A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL**

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Breaking Open the Word



MATTHEW

THE SAVING WORD

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY / A

31 MAY 2026

WE ARE GOD’S BELOVED

In a world of unrest and at a time when many of us could be struggling with uncertainty and loneliness, the readings for this Feast offer us a soulful soothing balm. Each of the readings celebrate God (first reading), the Holy Spirit (second reading) and Jesus (our Gospel); our focus is on the Gospel. The passage’s context is about Nicodemus, a Jewish leader, coming to Jesus ‘by night’, seeking to understand Jesus’ relationship with God. Jesus speaks of the importance of being born ‘from above’.

In typical Johannine misunderstanding—Nicodemus doesn’t understand how we can be born ‘again’ (a confusion with Jesus’ word ‘above’ and a play on the Greek)—John invites the audience (and us) to come to the heart of God’s agenda: God is in absolute love with the world; his Son, Jesus, becomes the fruit of that love through whom believers, even the searching Nicodemus, will be found and have life eternal. This is a powerful witness and clear statement of God’s intention for our world. We, too, need to hear this when there seem to be many contrary and conflicting voices.

John’s Gospel is important for us to know that no matter what, we are God’s beloved; God does not judge or condemn us. This flies in the face of those who think, wrongly, that God is ‘out to get us’ and awaits to chalk up our misdeeds. This is so contradictory to the God revealed to us in Jesus. We, like Nicodemus, find ourselves at times stumbling around ‘by night’ as we seek to come into the light. This is God’s gift to us on this feast as we celebrate God’s beloved intent for us and our world.

Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING

Ex 34:4-6, 8-9

A reading from the book of Exodus

The Lord God, ruler of all, merciful and loving.

With the two tablets of stone in his hands, Moses went up the mountain of Sinai in the early morning as the Lord had commanded him. And the Lord descended in the form of a cloud, and Moses stood with him there.

He called on the name of the Lord. The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, ‘Lord, Lord, a God of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in kindness and faithfulness.’ And Moses bowed down to the ground at once and worshipped. ‘If I have indeed won your favour, Lord,’ he said ‘let my Lord come with us, I beg. True, they are a headstrong people, but forgive us our faults and our sins, and adopt us as your heritage.’

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Dan 3:52-56. R. v. 52

1. You are blest, Lord God of our fathers.

R. Glory and praise for ever!

Blest your glorious holy name.

R. Glory and praise for ever!

2. You are blest in the temple of your glory.

R. Glory and praise for ever!

You are blest on the throne of your kingdom.

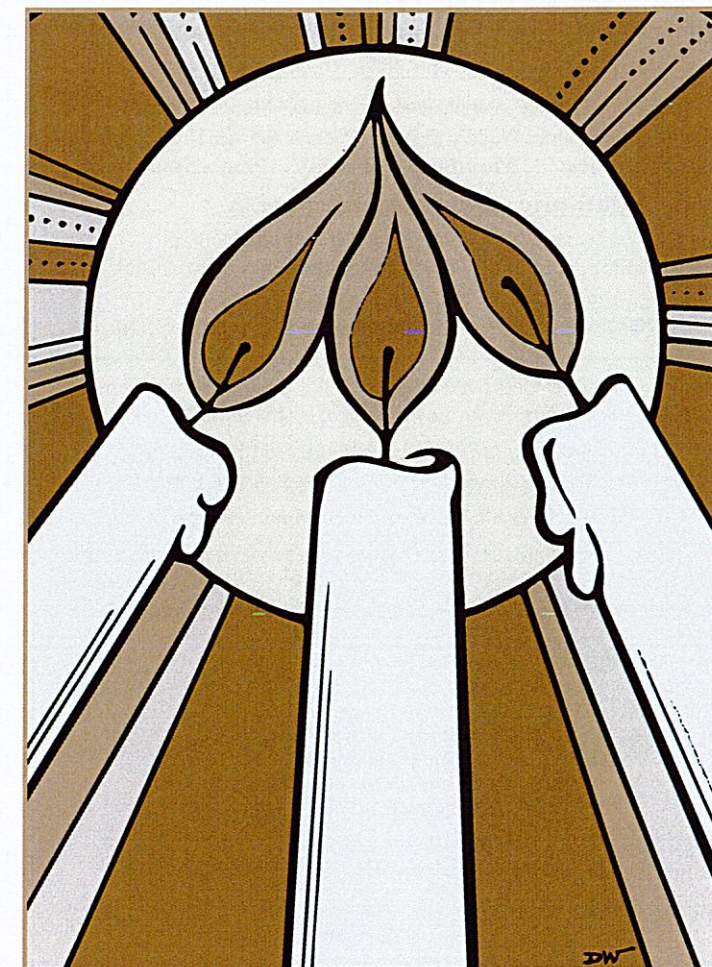
R. Glory and praise for ever!

3. You are blest who gaze into the depths.

R. Glory and praise for ever!

You are blest in the firmament of heaven.

R. Glory and praise for ever!

**SECOND READING**

2 Cor 13:11-13

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

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Brothers, we wish you happiness; try to grow perfect; help one another. Be united; live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you.

Greet one another with the holy kiss. All the saints send you greetings.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

■ The word of the Lord.

Welcome to St Nicholas' Catholic Parish, Tamworth for The Most Holy Trinity Year A

31st 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: Blest be God the Father, and the Only Begotten Son of God, and also the Holy Spirit, for he has shown us his merciful love.

COMMUNION: Since you are children of God, God has sent into your hearts the Spirit of his Son, the Spirit who cries out: Abba, Father.

'A GOD OF TENDERNESS.' God did not wreak vengeance on the Israelites in the wilderness when they began to worship a golden calf. Rather, God came among them in tenderness and compassion, forgave their sin and restored the covenant. This God became incarnate in Jesus and dwells among us in the Spirit. As we marvel at the unconditional love of God we exclaim: Glory and praise forever!

Psalter Week 1

Monday 01/06 St Nicholas' Mass 7am
St Justin, martyr and St Hanibal Maria Di Francia, founder of the Rogationists of the heart of Jesus
2 Pet 1:2-7: Ps 90:1-2, 14-16: Mk 12:1-12:

Tuesday 02/06 St Mary's Mass 9am
2 Pet 3:11-15, 17-18: Ps 89:2-4, 10, 14, 16: Mk 12:13-17:

Wednesday 03/06 St Nicholas' Mass 7am
Sts Charles Lwanga & companions, martyrs
2 Tim 1:1-3, 6-12: Ps 122:1-2: Mk 12:18-27:

Thursday 04/06 St Mary's Mass 9am
2 Tim 2:8-15: Ps 24:4-5, 8-10, 14: Mk 12:28-34:

Friday 05/06 St Nicholas' Mass 7am
St Boniface, bishop, martyr
2 Tim 3:10-17: Ps 118:157, 160-161, 165-166, 168: Mk 12:35-37:

Saturday 06/06 St Nicholas' Mass 9am
2 Tim 4:1-8: Ps 70:8-9, 14-17, 22: Mk 12:38-44:
Vigil Mass 6pm

Sunday 07/06 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

31 May Sun **FAMILY MASS 9.30am St Nicholas' with morning tea hosted by St Nicholas School students**

02 Jun Tue **NO 'Petitions' Rosary – Funeral at St Nicholas' – 1pm**

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 in the Outdoor Function area, hosted by the Parish Pastoral Council after the 9.30am Mass.**

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**

26 Jun Fri Eucharistic Adoration 6-7pm St Nicholas'

27 Jun Sat **Men's Breakfast 7am St Nicholas'**

28 Jun Sun **FAMILY MASS 9.30am St Nicholas' with morning tea hosted by St Nicholas School students**

28 Jun Sun **Special Collection – Peter's Pence – All Masses**

30 Jun Tue 9am Morning Mass at St Nicholas' (not St Mary's)



Parish Picnic: Sunday 30 August commencing at 11am Tamworth Miniature Railway Sausage sizzle and tea & coffee available!

With hearts filled with faith and gratitude, **St Thomas Indian Orthodox Church Tamworth** warmly invite St Nicholas' parishioners for a special screening of **"The Passion of the Christ"** on the **15th of June at 6:30 pm at Forum 6 Cinema**. Your presence and support will truly make this meaningful and a great success. We look forward to sharing this evening with all of you. Please click the link below for tickets.

<https://www.movietkts.com.au/Forum-6-Cinemas-Tamworth/PASSIONCHR/2026-06-15/6:30pm/Cinema-03/promo>



PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

Fr Chris is looking for volunteers to run our soon-to-be-operating Piety Stall which will be located at the back of St Nicholas' Church. He is planning to have the stall open after each of the Sunday Masses at St Nicholas'.

If you would be interested in looking after the stall for a short period after the Mass you attend, please let Fr Chris know - he is hoping to have 2-3 volunteers available at each Mass. Thank you!

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: Sue O'Halloran 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
Offertory/Prayers of the Faithful: St Nicholas School Students
Altar Servers: Abigail/Amanda/Chinedum Nweke
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

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: 24th May 2026
1st Collection \$ 1,843.40
Planned Giving \$ 1,733.00
Loose \$ 492.45
Total \$ 2,225.45

CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE 2026

Parent/Carer Information Session in St Nicholas' Church:
Wed 29 July 5.30pm or Sat 1 August 2pm
Confirmation Masses: Sat 19 Sep 6pm or Sun 20 Sep 9.30am

ANNIVERSARIES – June

Anthony Allwell, Aileen Apps, Adela Barry, Peter Belson, Arthur Booth, Maude Brown, Robert Burgess, Marie Carmichael, Shirley Chandler, Isobel Clifton, Margaret Cook, Ray Coyle, Mark Cummins, Matthew Cutmore, Jennifer Dines, Colin Fisher, Peter Frazer, Gwendoline Gleeson, Neomi Goodwin, Alexander Gore, Edward Grace, Gregory Grace, Roma Gray, Don Green, Carolina Gruer, Hamanda Hamecillo, Sidney Heyman, Gregory Thomas Hoban, Peter Hoffman, Kathleen Howard, Larry Jackson, Sunny Johnson, Rita Kachel, Josephine Knight, Allan Langdon, Veronica Lord, Mildred McCarthy, Melanie McGrath, Judith McGregor, Alan McHugh, Leo McHugh, Denise McMahon, Una Maher, Juliana Mangan, Jose Mangappally, Joshua Marshall, Carmel Metcalf, Barbara Moore, Carl Muller, Norma Murphy, Jeffrey Nash, Joseph O'Halloran, Nola O'Halloran, Edna Orth, Barry Patterson, Thomas Pullman, Dulcie Pyne, John Quinn, Zeta Quinn, Erin Rasmussen, John Roll, Lorna Ryan, Cecily Schalk, Eileen Shearman, Anna Snepvangers, Sarah Sommerlad, Stanley Thompson, Warren Urquhart, Malcolm Vickers, Michael Wall, Mary Wallace, Harold Ward.

May they rest in peace

PARISH ROSTERS: The Parish rosters for July-December 2026 are in the process of being drawn up. If anyone's circumstance has changed, or they wish to be rostered on at a different Mass, or have not been on a roster, but would very much like to be, please send an email to the Parish Office as soon as possible. Also, we need Commentators/Readers at both the 6pm and 5.30pm Masses. Please consider being on a roster in our parish, or volunteering in any way you can – there are so many areas where your help would be very much appreciated. Please consider sharing your time and your talent to serve our parish, as faithful stewards of God's grace, serving Him above all else. Thank you!

WEEKLY ROSTER – 06/07 June 2026 Corpus Christi

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

St Mary's Sunday 7.30am
C: Sue O'Halloran W/R1: John Wallace W/R2: Julie McGuirk
Ex Min: Karen King Music: Anne Jones Altar Server: Will Nguyen
Collection: Carl Cavallaro/Bill Higgins

St Nicholas' Sunday 9.30am
C: Michael Moy W/R1: Alison Hamilton W/R2: Helen Rowsell
Children's Liturgy: Steph/Marielle
Altar Servers: Jason/Charles/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: Terry Dries W/R1: Carol Wheaton W/R2: Cecilia Dries
Ex Min: Claire Doherty Music: Henry Buckman
Altar Servers: Zoey Davis/Maddison McDougall
Collection: Volunteers

Counting Team: Ted Heazlett/Bruce Stewart
Altar Linen: Kate Stewart
Sacristy Cleaning: Marie Rice/Gemma & Michael Moy
Candelabrum: Brian Lincoln

BAPTISMS: We pray for **Rosalie Robinson** and **Riggs Lambley** who are being baptised this weekend. May God's love be with them throughout their lives.

RECENTLY DECEASED: **Shirley Flanagan, Julie Michell, Patricia "Pat" Jones.** May they rest in the peace of Christ.

SPECIAL INTENTIONS: Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Noel Skewes** (1st Anniversary 28th May), **Vince Cavallaro** (Anniversary 1st June), **Sr Arcadius Guthrie, Tony Wright** (Canberra), **Bev Heazlett**, recently deceased. May God grant them eternal rest. Prayers are also asked, for **Simon Redolfi**, for Private Intentions.

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, Jan & Richard Noad, Penny Pavlakis (Sydney), Richard Panchasarp (USA), Kim Riley (Orange), Adam Urquhart, Maureen White (Orange), Elizabeth Williams, Enid Wright.

"A great mystery, a mystery of love, an ineffable mystery, before which words must give way to the silence of wonder and worship. A divine mystery that challenges and involves us, because a share in the Trinitarian life was given to us through grace, through the redemptive Incarnation of the Word and the gift of the Holy Spirit."
~ St. Pope John Paul II

