

GOSPEL

Mt 18:15-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

If your brother or sister listens to you, you will have won that person back.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.



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Breaking Open the Word

SEEK RECONCILIATION

Last Sunday reminded us that following Jesus is not free from struggle. Challenges, even misunderstandings, will be part of the disciple's vocation. This Sunday, the evangelist moves deeper to highlight further concerns that beset the community of disciples—internal struggles, tensions, even rejection.

The evangelist draws on the wisdom of Jesus to address these realities and suggests a three-step process towards reconciliation. It begins with personal dialogue. The one wronged seeks to invite the wrongdoer to reconciliation. If this fails, witnesses to what has happened verify the authenticity of the issues and encourage resolution. If this fails then the whole faith community, the *ekklesia*, witness to the wrong that has created the division, inviting the wrong doer to a change of heart and reconciliation.

Even if this third step fails then Matthew advises to treat the wrong doer 'like a pagan or tax collector.' In other words, as Jesus welcomed strangers and invited a tax collector to become one of his disciples, the door must always be left open. The final words of the Gospel contain Jesus' assurance that he is always present to even a small discipleship gathering, of even two or three, no matter what they are dealing with.

Today's Gospel is as relevant for our day as it was in the time of Matthew. No faith community is tension free. Disagreements arise and, sometimes, are not easily resolved by faith leaders. Rather than gossiping or character assassination, personal approaches that invite conflict resolution and community building are essential. In everything, Jesus is present.

Fr Michael Trainor



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

6 SEPTEMBER 2026

FIRST READING

Ezek 33:7-9

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

If you have not warned the wicked man, then I will hold you responsible for his death.

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 94:1-2, 6-9. R. v. 8

R. O that today you would listen to his voice!
Harden not your hearts.

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; / hail the rock who saves us. / Let us come before him, giving thanks, / with songs let us hail the Lord. **R.**

2. Come in; let us bow and bend low; / let us kneel before the God who made us / for he is our God and we / the people who belong to his pasture, / the flock that is led by his hand. **R.**

3. O that today you would listen to his voice! / 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, / as on that day at Massah in the desert / when your fathers put me to the test; / when they tried me, though they saw my work.' **R.**



SECOND READING

Rom 13:8-10

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Love is the fulfilment of the Law.

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Cor 5:19

Alleluia, alleluia! / God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; / and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. / Alleluia!

Welcome to St Nicholas'
Catholic Parish, Tamworth
for The Twenty-Third Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Year A

6th September 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: You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

COMMUNION: Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

‘I SHALL BE THERE WITH THEM!’ Every Christian community experiences difficulties in one form or another. Misunderstandings occur, divisions arise. Today’s Gospel reminds us that Christ is present in our communities even when they are broken, when only two or three meet in his name. Healing occurs when we seek to embody in our communities the qualities of Christ, especially forgiveness and mutual love.

Psalter Week 3

Monday 07/09 St Nicholas’ Mass 7am
1 Cor 5:1-8: Ps 5:5-7, 12: Lk 6:6-11:

Tuesday 08/09 St Mary’s Mass 9am
The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Micah 5:1-4: or Rom: 8:28-30 Ps 12:6-7: Mt 1:1-16, 18-23:

Wednesday 09/09 St Nicholas’ Mass 7am
1 Cor 7:25-31: Ps 44:11-12, 14-17: Lk 6:20-26:

Thursday 10/09 St Mary’s Mass 9am
1 Cor 8:1-7, 11-13: Ps 138:1-3, 13-14, 23-24: Lk 6:27-38:

Friday 11/09 St Nicholas’ Mass 7am
1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-27: Ps 83:3-6, 12: Lk 6:39-42:

Saturday 12/09 St Nicholas’ Mass 9am
1 Cor 10:14-22: Ps 115:12-13, 17-18: Lk 6:43-49:

Vigil Mass 6pm
Sunday 13/09 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.

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.

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. We honour their deep spiritual connection to this land. May the Holy Spirit guide us as we walk together towards reconciliation, caring for creation and each other.

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.

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

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

06 Sep	Sun	Father's Day	
08 Sep	Tue	St Nicholas Seniors, Morning tea 10.30am, West Diggers	
09 Sep	Wed	Silent Adoration 10.30-11.30am	St Nicholas'
11 Sep	Fri	Eucharistic Adoration 6-7pm	St Nicholas'
11 Sep	Fri	YOUTH GROUP – 7-8.45pm – Outdoor Function Area	
13 Sep	Sun	ST VINCENT DE PAUL MASS 9.30am	St Nicholas'
16 Sep	Wed	Silent Adoration 10.30-11.30am	St Nicholas'
17 Sep	Thu	St Nicholas Women Connecting – meet for dinner – 5.30pm – Tamworth City Bowling Club. All Welcome.	
18 Sep	Fri	Eucharistic Adoration 6-7pm	St Nicholas'
19 Sep	Sat	CONFIRMATION MASS 6pm	St Nicholas'
20 Sep	Sun	CONFIRMATION MASS 9.30am	St Nicholas'
22 Sep	Tue	St Nicholas Seniors, lunch 11.30am	West Diggers
23 Sep	Wed	Silent Adoration 10.30-11.30am	St Nicholas'
23 Sep	Wed	The Catholic Ladies – lunch – meet at 1pm in the Russell Room at the Services Club	
25 Sep	Fri	End of School Term 3	
25 Sep	Fri	Eucharistic Adoration 6-7pm	St Nicholas'
26 Sep	Sat	Men's Breakfast – 7am - Outdoor Function Area	
27 Sep	Sun	Migrant & Refugee Sunday Mass 9.30am	St Nicholas'
		- followed by a festive 'brunch' in the Outdoor Function Area	
30 Sep	Wed	Silent Adoration 10.30-11.30am	St Nicholas'
02 Oct	Fri	Eucharistic Adoration 6-7pm	St Nicholas'
03 Oct	Sat	Anointing of the sick during 9am Mass	St Nicholas'
03 Oct	Sat	Silent Adoration 4-5.30pm	St Nicholas'
05 Oct	Mon	PUBLIC HOLIDAY	
06 Oct	Tue	'Petitions' Rosary 12.15pm	St Nicholas'



We pray for the children in our parish preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. May the Holy Spirit guide and bless each child during this time of preparation. We pray that they may always feel God's love and guidance as they take this important step in their faith journey.

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 (cash only) & money deposited in the collection box, to the left of the bookcase at the back of St Nicholas' Church, and in the slot on the wooden stand at St Mary's Church. All proceeds go to the St Vincent de Paul Society. Please collect a copy and stay connected with all the news of our Church in Australia.

Our Parish is committed to the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards and has a zero-tolerance approach to abuse. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. If you have any concerns or feedback, please contact the Parish Priest/Safeguarding Contact Person and our Diocesan Safeguarding and Professional Standards Office on (02) 6771 8700 or at safeguarding@armidale.catholic.org.au.

WEEKLY ROSTER – 05/06 September 2026

St Nicholas' Saturday 6pm

C: Leonie Hansen W/R1: Belinda Tyrrell W/R2: Eil Smyth
Ex Min: Cate Allen Music: Noel Greacen
Collection: David Raffaele/Bill Campbell/Morgan Hawthorne

St Mary's Sunday 7.30am

C: Katrina Krogh W/R1: Sue O'Halloran W/R2: John Murphy
Ex Min: Lorraine Bryant Music: Anne Jones
Altar Server: Will Nguyen
Collection: Carl Cavallaro/Bill Higgins

St Nicholas' Sunday 9.30am

C: Brian Lincoln W/R1: Gina Mahony W/R2: Denise Green
Children's Liturgy: Linda/Janine
Altar Servers: Dominic Vinod/Oscar Lintott/Ndinashe Zvarevashe
Ex Min: Peter Prisk/Fiona Downey
Music: St Nicholas Choir
Collection: Maria Gruer/Josie Cox/Phil Elliott

St Nicholas' Sunday 5.30pm

C: Judy Campbell W/R1: Carol Wheaton W/R2: Connor Gibson
Ex Min: Cecilia Dries Music: Henry Buckman
Altar Servers: Evangelyn/Ethan Nijo
Collection: Volunteers

Counting Team: Cecilia Dries/Anne Jones
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: 001 055 701
A/c Name: St Nicholas' Church Parish

Reference: Planned Giving Number and/or your surname
Thank you for your support.

COLLECTIONS: 30th August 2026

1 st Collection	\$ 2,143.80
Planned Giving	\$ 1,913.00
Loose	\$ 331.65
	\$ 2,244.65

Parking – Tamworth Square

The entry is ticketless (number plate scanning recognition, at point of entry and exit).

Please be advised of the following Car Parking 'Rules':
Everyone is entitled to **3 hours FREE** parking per day.
In essence, you can come and go as many times as you like, within a 24-hour period, so long as you do not exceed the 3 (free) hours. If you go over that 3-hour limit, you will be charged at the *current* parking rate, that being 3-4 hours = \$5, and 4-5 hours = \$10. If you do exceed the 3 hours, you will need to pay at the ticketing machine - (near My GP on the ground floor), before returning to your car OR pay at the carpark exit.
Some have had issues with the arm not *raising* at the White Street exit, so it could be worthwhile to exit from either of the two exits onto Fitzroy Street, or the bottom exit that takes you down the laneway and brings you out onto Peel Street nearly opposite Ray Walsh House.
What if the boom gate does not open upon exit? Each boom gate has an intercom station should any issues arise.

WEEKLY ROSTER – 12/13 September 2026

St Nicholas' Saturday 6pm

C: Paul McDougall W/R1: Eil Smyth
W/R2: Giovanna McDougall
Ex Min: Kerry Ackhurst Music: Noel Greacen
Collection: David Raffaele/Bill Campbell/Morgan Hawthorne

St Mary's Sunday 7.30am

C: Julie McGuirk W/R1: Grace Knight W/R2: Alex Knight
Ex Min: John Wallace Music: Anne Jones
Altar Server: Will Nguyen
Collection: Carl Cavallaro/Bill Higgins

St Nicholas' Sunday 9.30am St Vincent de Paul Mass

C: Patrick Mahony W/R1: W/R2: St Vincent de Paul Members
Children's Liturgy: Steph/Marielle
Altar Servers: Isaac Hetherington/Lucas Attard
Ex Min: Maria Lincoln/Alison Hamilton
Music: St Nicholas Choir
Collection: Maria Gruer/Josie Cox/Phil Elliott

St Nicholas' Sunday 5.30pm

C: Henry Buckman W/R1: Connor Gibson W/R2: Renee Dunst
Ex Min: Claire Doherty Music: Henry Buckman
Altar Servers: Kyra/Nyssa Akers-Gibbons
Collection: Volunteers

Counting Team: Brian & Maria Lincoln
Altar Linen: Kerrie Bryant
Sacristy Cleaning: Elspeth Muldoon/Kerrie Bryant
Candelabrum: Brian Lincoln

RECENTLY DECEASED: Peter Maher, Colin Bryant, Roberto Bruno.

SPECIAL INTENTIONS: Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Dan Daly, Monir Mouawad and Bakhos, Rosa and Joe Sleiman**. May they rest in eternal 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

Maddy Anderson (Sydney), Carmel Bennett (Gladstone), Michael Bryant, Rev Fr Tony Castelli, Brindley Cavallaro (Sydney), Elizabeth Coroneos (Toowoomba), 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, Maureen Harrison, Sherree Haylock, Ken Honess, 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.

“The past does not belong to me; the future is not mine; with all my soul I try to make use of the present moment.”
~ St. Faustina

