GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 11: 28

Alleluia, alleluia! / Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened, / and I will give you rest, says the Lord. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 5: 1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit;
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Happy the gentle:
they shall have the earth for their heritage;
Happy those who mourn:
they shall be comforted;
Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:
they shall be satisfied;
Happy the merciful:
they shall have mercy shown them;
Happy the pure in heart:
they shall see God;
Happy the peacemakers:
they shall be called sons of God;
Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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BLESSED ARE YOU

Today's Feast of All Saints beautifully recognises our communion with all who have died and gone before us in faith. As we gather around the Eucharist, and as the Presider gives thanks to God over the bread and wine, we remember those whose lives continue to touch and shape us. They remain part of the Communion of Saints, a rich and enduring tradition in Catholic theology.

The Gospel presents Jesus' familiar teaching on the Beatitudes, highlighting the source of their holiness—and ours. The Beatitudes recognise people who struggle with the realities of life and, rather than relying solely on themselves, look beyond their circumstances trusting God's action. The Beatitudes address those who are poor in spirit, whose lives are not controlled by what they possess; the gentle, who choose compassion rather than aggression; those who mourn and grieve the sadness and tragedy of life; those who hunger and thirst for justice amid injustice; those who are 'pure of heart', living with authenticity and integrity; those who seek to build communion and peace; and those who endure persecution because of their faith and discipleship. Matthew's account adds a final, ninth Beatitude, reflecting the experience of Jesus' followers in Matthew's day who were themselves facing persecution.

One final distinction is important. Some translations begin each Beatitude with 'happy', but the more faithful translation is 'blessed'. Happiness is something we seek and experience, but it can come and go. Blessedness is different. It is God's gift and action within us, whether we are feeling happy or not, orienting our lives towards holiness. And that is lasting.

Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING

Apoc 7: 2-4, 9-14

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse.

I saw an immense crowd, beyond hope of counting, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language.

I, John, saw another angel rising where the sun rises, carrying the seal of the living God; he called in a powerful voice to the four angels whose duty was to devastate land and sea, 'Wait before you do any damage on land or at sea or to the trees, until we have put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.' Then I heard how many were sealed: a hundred and forty-four thousand, out of all the tribes of Israel.

After that I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. They shouted aloud, 'Victory to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels who were standing in a circle round the throne, surrounding the elders and the four animals, prostrated themselves before the throne, and touched the ground with their foreheads, worshipping God with these words: 'Amen. Praise and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and strength to our God for ever and ever. Amen.'

One of the elders then spoke, and asked me, 'Do you know who these people are, dressed in white robes, and where they have come from?' I answered him, 'You can tell me, my Lord.' Then he said, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb.'

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 23: 1-6. R. cf. v. 6

R. Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

1. The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm. **R.**



2. Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things. **R.**

3. He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Jn 3: 1-3

A reading from the first letter of John

We shall see God as he really is.

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us,
by letting us be called God's children;
and that is what we are.
Because the world refused to acknowledge him,
therefore it does not acknowledge us.
My dear people, we are already the children of God
but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed;
all we know is, that when it is revealed
we shall be like him
because we shall see him as he really is.
Surely everyone who entertains this hope
must purify himself, must try to be as pure as Christ.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

Welcome to St Nicholas' Catholic Parish, Tamworth for

All Saints Day

Year A

1st November 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: Administration: Anne Jones Wed + Fri 9-5pm/Thu 1-5pm and Pauline Skewes Thurs 9-1pm
Finance: Stephanie Hetherington - Mon/Tue 9-5pm
Parish Office hours: Monday – Friday 9am - 5pm

Catholic schools in our parish

McCarthy Catholic College ☎ (02) 6761 0800	Principal: Mr Michael Whitton Students currently enrolled: 1,006
St Nicholas Primary School ☎ (02) 6766 1500	Principal: Mr Peter Flynn Students currently enrolled: 576

ENTRANCE: Let us all rejoice in the Lord, as we celebrate the feast day in honour of all the Saints, at whose festival the Angels rejoice and praise the Son of God.

COMMUNION: Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

'A COUNTLESS MULTITUDE.' On this feast of All Saints, we remember the countless multitude of men, women and children, including many we have known, who are now in heaven. We continue to be inspired by the qualities they revealed in their lives: humility, a concern for justice, gentleness, purity of heart, mercy and courage. We take comfort in knowing that from their home in heaven they intercede for us still.

Psalter Week 3

Monday 02/11 **St Nicholas' 7am**
ALL SOULS' DAY
Is 25:6-9: Ps: 26:1, 4, 7-9, 13-14. R v 1: Rom: 5:5-11: Mt 11:25-30

Tuesday 03/11 **St Mary's 9am**
Phil 2:5-11: Ps 21:26-32: Lk 14:15-24:

Wednesday 04/11 **St Nicholas' 7am**
St Charles Borromeo, bishop
Phil 2:12-18: Ps 26:1, 4, 13-14: Lk 14:25-33:

Thursday 05/11 **St Mary's 9am**
Phil 3:3-8: Ps 104:2-7: Lk 15:1-10:

Friday 06/11 **St Nicholas' 7am**
Phil 3:17- 4:1: Ps 121:1-5: Lk 16:1-8:

Saturday 07/11 **St Nicholas' Mass 9am** - Anointing of the sick
Phil 4:10-19: Ps 111:1-2, 5-6, 8, 9: Lk 16:9-15:
Vigil Mass 6pm

Sunday 08/11 **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.

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

31 Oct/Sat 01 Nov/Sun	ST VINCENT DE PAUL ANNUAL APPEAL – speaker at all Masses. Buckets for cash donations after each Mass.		
01 Nov Sun	ALL SAINTS DAY		
01 Nov Sun	FAMILY MASS - 9.30am followed by morning tea hosted by St. Nicholas School in the Outdoor Function Area		
	CENTACARE NENW FOOD DRIVE 01 Nov – 29 Nov		
02 Nov Mon	ALL SOULS DAY		
03 Nov Tue	'Petitions' Rosary	12.15pm	St Nicholas'
04 Nov Wed	Silent Adoration	10.30-11.30am	St Nicholas'
06 Nov Fri	Eucharistic Adoration	6-7pm	St Nicholas'
06 Nov Fri	Youth Group – Outdoor Function Area	7-8.45pm	
07 Nov Sat	Anointing of the sick during the 9am Mass		St Nicholas'
07 Nov Sat	Silent Adoration	4-5.30pm	St Nicholas'
10 Nov Tue	St Nicholas Seniors, morning tea 10.30am, West Diggers		
11 Nov Wed	Silent Adoration	10.30-11.30am	St Nicholas'
13 Nov Fri	Eucharistic Adoration	6-7pm	St Nicholas'
15 Nov Sun	Birthday Blessing Morning tea after the 9.30am Mass hosted by the Catechists' and Children's Liturgy teams		All Masses
18 Nov Wed	Silent Adoration	10.30-11.30am	St Nicholas'
19 Nov Thu	St Nicholas Women Connecting *Christmas Party Dinner*, meeting at 5.30pm, Tamworth Hotel		
20 Nov Fri	Eucharistic Adoration	6-7pm	St Nicholas'
20 Nov Fri	Youth Group – Outdoor Function Area	7-8.45pm	
22 Nov Sun	WORLD YOUTH DAY		
22 Nov Sun	FAMILY MASS 9:30am followed by morning tea hosted by McCarthy Catholic College in the Outdoor Function Area		
24 Nov Tue	St Nicholas Seniors, lunch 11.30am West Diggers, Kable		
25 Nov	St Nicholas Novena commences		
25 Nov Wed	Silent Adoration	10.30-11.30am	St Nicholas'
25 Nov Wed	The Catholic Ladies – *Christmas lunch* – meet at 1pm in the Russell Room at the Services Club		
25 Nov Wed	St Nicholas' Appreciation Dinner, 6pm North Tamworth Bowling Club, Bligh Street – please RSVP to Parish Office by Friday 20th November		
27 Nov Fri	Eucharistic Adoration	6-7pm	St Nicholas'
29 Nov Sun	1st Sunday of ADVENT		
29 Nov Sun	FAMILY MASS - 9.30am followed by morning tea hosted by St. Nicholas School in the Outdoor Function Area		
01 Dec Tue	'Petitions' Rosary	12.15pm	St Nicholas'

PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY - Sunday 6th December from 12MD - School Hall, McCarthy Catholic College

On **Saturday 14 November 2026** a Mass of Thanksgiving will be offered for the Sisters of Saint Joseph, who at the end of this year will no longer have a presence in formal ministry in the Diocese. Mass will be celebrated in St Patrick's Church West Tamworth at 11am followed by a light lunch. For catering purpose please RSVP to Kim McKenzie via email: Kim.McKenzie@sosj.org.au or phone: 02 8741 2311 by Tuesday 3 November 2026.

Living the Dream – Celebrating 160 years 1866-2026

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.

WEEKLY ROSTER – 31 Oct/01 November 2026

St Nicholas' Saturday 6pm
C: Kerry Ackhurst W/R1: Pauline Skewes W/R2: Cate Allen
Ex Min: Paul McDougall Music: Noel Greacen
Collection: David Raffaele/Bill Campbell/Morgan Hawthorne

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

St Nicholas' Sunday 9.30am FAMILY MASS
C: W/R1: W/R2: St Nicholas School
Altar Servers: Abigail/Amanda/Chinedum Nweke
Ex Min: Jennifer Hatfield/Laura Hughes Music: St Nicholas Choir
Collection: Maria Gruer/Josie Cox/Phil Elliott

St Nicholas' Sunday 5.30pm
C: Cecilia Dries W/R1: Carol Wheaton W/R2: Connor Gibson
Ex Min: Judy Campbell Music: Henry Buckman
Altar Servers: Ethan/Evangelyn Nijo
Collection: Volunteers

Counting Team: Brian & Maria Lincoln
Altar Linen: Rosemary Kinsela
Sacristy Cleaning: Beth & John Ryan/Bruce Stewart
Candelabrum: *every 2nd week*

Please pray for all Year 12 students sitting for HSC exams

Centacare Food Drive commences this weekend, until the end of November – anything non-perishable, with a long shelf life!

WEEKLY ROSTER – 07/08 November 2026

St Nicholas' Saturday 6pm
C: Paul McDougall W/R1: Eil Smyth W/R2: Karen King
Ex Min: Kerry Ackhurst Music: Noel Greacen
Collection: David Raffaele/Bill Campbell/Morgan Hawthorne

St Mary's Sunday 7.30am
C: Judy Scott W/R1: Alex Knight W/R2: Grace Knight
Ex Min: Kevin McMahon Music: Anne Jones
Altar Server: Will Nguyen
Collection: Carl Cavallaro/Bill Higgins

St Nicholas' Sunday 9.30am
C: Maria Lincoln W/R1: Lynne Prisk W/R2: Cate Belson
Children's Liturgy: Steph/Felicita
Altar Servers: Charles/Jason/Daniel Igbenije
Ex Min: Jennifer Hatfield/Laura Hughes Music: St Nicholas Choir
Collection: Maria Gruer/Josie Cox/Phil Elliott

St Nicholas' Sunday 5.30pm
C: Claire Doherty W/R1: Judy Campbell W/R2: Terry Dries
Ex Min: Cecilia Dries Music: Henry Buckman
Altar Servers: Kyra/Nyssa Akers-Gibbons
Collection: Volunteers

Counting Team: Paul & Giovanna McDougall
Altar Linen: Vivienne Mundy
Sacristy Cleaning: Elspeth Muldoon/Kerrie Bryant
Candelabrum: John Wallace

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.

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:	25th October 2026
1st Collection	$ 1,863.85
Planned Giving	**$ 1,843.00**
Loose	**$ 512.20**
	$ 2,355.20

The Piety Stall is now in operation before/after Masses

ANNIVERSARIES – November

Bernard Alexander, Shane Alexander, Dorothy Austin, Laurence Barber, Peter Booth, Joan Bull, Errol Bourne, Carol Brodbeck, Margaret Buckley, Mavis Burke, Pauline Burns, Jeanette Butler, Marjorie Cameron, Kerry Cannon, Patricia Carlon, Benjamin Chapman, Mary Cutmore, Agnes Denton, Robyn Dietrich, Ronald Dunn, Leslie Edwards, Sharon Erich, Edna Faint, Mons. Clarence Fisher, Gloria Gleeson, Jason Goodwin, Brian Green, Madeleine Hayes, Donald Hines, Glen Hughes, Nancie Hull, Margaret Hunt, Barbara Jenner, Susan Johnson, Ronald Kearney, Neil Kelly, Joan Knight, Betty Legge, Patricia Leehy, Amy McIlveen, Patricia Maher, Zillah Moloney, Geoff Mooy, John (Max) Moroney, Peter Murphy, Michael Nealon, Alina Northey, Thelma O'Brien, Taiwo Ogunsote, Julia Pennell, Marlene Peters, Myrtle Power, Joan Pullman, Vivienne Pullman, Nellie Randall, William Reichel, Lina Rindo, Janice Robinson, Gladys Rogers, John Ryan, Claude Saunders, Ralph Schulze, Beverley Seymour, Ivy Simcoe, Francis Single, Roy Sipple, Dorothy Stace, Harold Sullivan, Gwendoline Thurston, Patricia Wake, Mary Wall, Robert Wall, Harold Walsh, Darryl Ward, Arthur White, Barry Wilson, Michael Wilson, Gordon Worldon, Lucy Zayat. *May they rest in peace*

NOVEMBER MASS OFFERINGS
The month of November is a dedicated time to pray for the faithful departed. Envelopes are available at the Church entrances, and in the pews, if you would like to offer a Mass for a loved one during the month of November.

BAPTISMS: Charlie Chester, Sophie Corrigan, Patrick Corrigan, Emilia Lane. May God bless them richly.

SPECIAL INTENTIONS: We pray for the repose of the souls of **Father Barry Leech** recently deceased; for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: **Judy Chatwood** (27/10), **Rocco Cavallaro** (4/11), **Gordon Worldon** (11/11) and **Michael Worldon** (18/11). We pray too for the repose of the souls of **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), Di Brown, 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, Helen Haines, Maureen Harrison, Sherree Haylock, Ken Honess, Nadia Hurn (Newcastle), Sullivan Hurn (Singleton), Helen Moss, Jan & Richard Noad, Penny Pavlakis (Sydney), Richard Panchasarp (USA), Kim Riley (Orange), Nathanial Roache (QLD), Adam Urquhart, Maureen White (Orange), Elizabeth Williams, Enid Wright.

"Hold your eyes on God and leave the doing to Him. That is all the doing you have to worry about."
~ St. Jane Frances de Chantal

