GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 15: 4, 5

Alleluia, alleluia! / Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; / my branches bear much fruit. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 25: 14-15, 19-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Because you have been faithful over a few things; enter into the joy of the Lord.

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out.

Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." '

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

Longer form, Mt 25: 14-30.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word

THE PRAISEWORTHY SERVANT

Today's Gospel focuses on a parable in which an absentee landlord entrusts five, two and one talent to each of three servants respectively. He returns later to receive the fruits of his servants' labours with their respective talents.

Because the story is quite long, we have a choice of the shorter or longer version. The shorter Gospel selection ends with the focus on the servant with the five talents who returns five more back to the master. With this truncated version, the Gospel is about success: use your talents and you will be rewarded!

The longer version of the Gospel offers a very different teaching. A talent in the ancient world was a monetary value equivalent to a year's wage. The parable is not about *personal talent* or giftedness but about the use of wealth. In the longer version, the first two servants come forward having made a profit with their wealth and are praised by the Master. The last servant to come forward returns the one talent. In a world in which there was only so much of the economic 'pie' to go around, people become wealthy at the expense of others becoming poor. In a subversive way, the last servant is most praiseworthy.

And the Master in this parable is not an image of God, rewarding those who do what is right! What Matthew depicts for us is the reality of life that continues to confront disciples: injustice still pervades relationships in a world where the wealthy get wealthier and the poor become more impoverished.

Fr Michael Trainor

THE SAVING WORD

MATTHEW

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A — 15 NOVEMBER 2026

FIRST READING

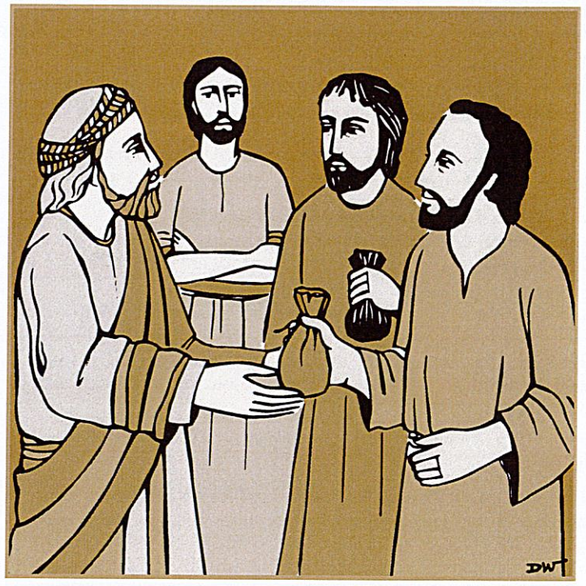
Prov 31: 10-13, 19-20, 30-31

A reading from the book of Proverbs.

Give her a share in what she has worked for.

A perfect wife – who can find her?
She is far beyond the price of pearls.
Her husband's heart has confidence in her,
from her he will derive no little profit.
Advantage and not hurt she brings him
all the days of her life.
She is always busy with wool and with flax,
she does her work with eager hands.
She sets her hands to the distaff,
her fingers grasp the spindle.
She holds out her hand to the poor,
she opens her arms to the needy.
Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty;
the woman who is wise is the one to praise.
Give her a share in what her hands have
worked for,
and let her works tell her praises at the city
gates.

■ **The word of the Lord.**



RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 127: 1-5. R. v. 1

R. Happy are those who fear the Lord.

1. O blessed are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be happy and prosper. **R.**

2. Your wife like a fruitful vine
in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive,
around your table. **R.**

3. Indeed thus shall be blessed
the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion
in a happy Jerusalem
all the days of your life. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Thess 5: 1-6

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians.

The day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night.

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about 'times and seasons', since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it.

But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

Welcome to St Nicholas' Catholic Parish, Tamworth for

The Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

15th 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: The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

COMMUNION: To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

'WELL DONE, GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT!' We all have our unique gifts and talents. When we use them well, we enrich our community. We bring joy to ourselves and to others. Let us encourage each other to develop our gifts. Then, together, we will hear our Master say: 'Well done, good and faithful servants. Come and join in my happiness forever.'

Psalter Week 1

Monday 16/11 **St Nicholas' 7am**
Rev 1:1-4, 2:1-5: Ps: 1:1-4, 6: Lk 18:35-43:

Tuesday 17/11 **St Mary's 9am**
St Elizabeth of Hungary, religious
Rev 3:1-6, 14-22: Ps: 14:2-5: Lk 19:1-10:

Wednesday 18/11 **St Nicholas' 7am**
Rev 4:1-11: Ps: 150: Lk 19:11-28:

Thursday 19/11 **St Mary's 9am**
Rev 5:1-10: Ps: 149:1-6, 9: Lk 19:41-44:

Friday 20/11 **St Nicholas' 7am**
Rev 10:8-11: Ps: 118:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131: Lk 19:45-48:

Saturday 21/11 **St Nicholas' Mass 9am**
The Presentation of Blessed Virgin Mary
Rev 11:4-12: Ps: 143:1-2, 9-10: Lk 20:27-40:
Vigil Mass 6pm

Sunday 22/11 **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.

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. 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.

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

CENTACARE NENW FOOD DRIVE 01 Nov – 29 Nov

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, Marius Street		
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	MCC FAMILY MASS 9:30am followed by morning tea hosted by McCarthy Catholic College in the Outdoor Function Area		
24 Nov	Tue	St Nicholas Seniors, 11.30am West Diggers, Kable Ave		
24 Nov	Tue	**Nicholas' Appreciation Dinner, 6pm** North Tamworth Bowling Club, Bligh Street – please RSVP to Parish Office by Friday 20th November +NB NOTE DATE CHANGE+		
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		
27 Nov	Fri	Eucharistic Adoration	6-7pm	St Nicholas'
28 Nov		**St Nicholas Novena commences**		
28 Nov	Sat	◁ Men's Breakfast-7am-Outdoor Function Area ▷		
29 Nov	Sun	First Sunday of ADVENT		
01 Dec	Tue	'Petitions' Rosary	12.15pm	St Nicholas'
02 Dec	Wed	Silent Adoration	10.30-11.30am	St Nicholas'
04 Dec	Fri	Eucharistic Adoration	6-7pm	St Nicholas'
04 Dec	Fri	Youth Group – Outdoor Function Area		7-8.45pm
05 Dec	Sat	Anointing of the sick during 9am Mass		
05 Dec	Sat	Silent Adoration	4-5.30pm	St Nicholas'
06 Dec		**St Nicholas Feast Day**		
06 Dec	Sun	FAMILY MASS - 9.30am - NO morning tea after Mass		
06 Dec	Sun	PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY – from 12MD McCarthy Catholic College Hall		
09 Dec	Wed	Silent Adoration	10.30-11.30am	St Nicholas'
11 Dec	Fri	Eucharistic Adoration	6-7pm	St Nicholas'
12 Dec	Sat	Deacon Allem Ordination-Armidale-11am		
13 Dec	Sun	Father Allem's First Mass – 9.30am - followed by brunch in the St Nicholas Outdoor Function Area. All welcome.		



Appreciation Dinner for all Volunteers & Staff **Please note: * Change of Date ***
Tuesday 24th November – 6pm for 6.30pm
Venue: North Tamworth Bowling Club
Bligh Street, North Tamworth
RSVP: 20 November 2026



Parish Christmas Party:

Sunday 6th December – from 12 midday
McCarthy Catholic College Hall
Please bring a plate to share

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.



WEEKLY ROSTER – 14/15 November 2026

St Nicholas' Saturday 6pm
C: Leonie Hansen W/R1: Belinda Tyrrell W/R2: Paul McDougall
Ex Min: Cate Allen Music: Noel Greacen
Collection: David Raffaele/Bill Campbell/Morgan Hawthorne

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

St Nicholas' Sunday 9.30am
C: Maria Gruer W/R1: Helen Rowsell W/R2: Anne Bowden
Children's Liturgy: Linda/Alison
Altar Servers: Dominic Vinod/Oscar Lintott/Ndinashe Zvarevashe
Ex Min: Maria Lincoln/Alison Hamilton Music: St Nicholas Choir
Collection: Maria Gruer/Josie Cox/Phil Elliott

St Nicholas' Sunday 5.30pm
C: Paul Hagley W/R1: Henry Buckman W/R2: Halley Buckman
Ex Min: Alison Hagley Music: Henry Buckman
Altar Servers: Zoe Davis/Maddison McDougall Collection: Volunteers

Counting Team: Bill Higgins/Pauline Skewes
Altar Linen: Cecilia Dries
Sacristy Cleaning: Marie Rice/Gemma & Michael Moy
Candelabrum: *every 2nd week*

WEEKLY ROSTER – 21/22 November 2026

St Nicholas' Saturday 6pm
C: Eil Smyth W/R1: Sr of Nazareth W/R2: Karen King
Ex Min: Leonie Hansen Music: Noel Greacen
Collection: David Raffaele/Bill Campbell/Morgan Hawthorne

St Mary's Sunday 7.30am
C: John Murphy W/R1Sue O'Halloran
W/R2: Bernadette Virgen
Ex Min: Lorraine Bryant Music: Anne Jones
Altar Server: Will Nguyen
Collection: Carl Cavallaro/Bill Higgins

St Nicholas' Sunday 9.30am MCC FAMILY MASS
C: W/R1: W/R2: McCarthy Catholic College
Altar Servers: Isaac Hetherington/Lucas Attard
Ex Min: Anne Bowden/Brian Lincoln Music: St Nicholas Choir
Collection: Maria Gruer/Josie Cox/Phil Elliott

St Nicholas' Sunday 5.30pm
C: Henry Buckman W/R1: Miller Lloyd W/R2: Halley Buckman
Ex Min: Claire Doherty Music: Henry Buckman
Altar Servers: Zoe Davis/Maddison McDougall Collection: Volunteers

Counting Team: Gary Bryant/Andrew McGuirk
Altar Linen: Maria Lincoln
Sacristy Cleaning: St Nicholas Women Connecting
Candelabrum: Bruce Stewart

Kindly write your name and number plate on the clipboard at the back of the church, if you wish to have your vehicle registered at Tamworth Square, to be exempt from parking fees, if you should go over the 3 hours free limit. Thank you!

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

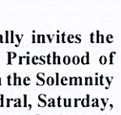
Reference: Planned Giving Number and/or your surname
Thank you for your support.

COLLECTIONS: 8th November 2026

1st Collection	$ 1,902.75
Planned Giving	$ 2,613.00
Loose	$ 431.60
	$ 3,044.60

Centacare Food Drive during the month of November – anything non-perishable, with a long shelf life!

Items needed include canned foods, pasta, rice, noodles, breakfast cereals, school snacks, long-life milk, vegemite, jam, tea, coffee, toiletries, toilet paper, personal care items, cleaning products. Thank you!





Ordination and First Mass
of Rev. Deacon Allem James Dalisay Alba

The Catholic Diocese of Armidale cordially invites the faithful to the Ordination to the Sacred Priesthood of Rev. Deacon Allem James Dalisay Alba on the Solemnity of the Dedication of the Armidale Cathedral, Saturday, 12 December 2026, at 11:00 am at Saints Mary and Joseph Cathedral, Armidale.

His First Holy Mass will be celebrated on Gaudete Sunday, 13 December 2026, at 9:30 am, at St Nicholas' Parish Church, East Tamworth.

A bus service will also be available from St Nicholas Primary School, Carthage Street, East Tamworth to the Ordination in Armidale.
For bus registration and details, please contact the parish office.

Please RSVP before 23 November 2026 by scanning the QR codes on the official invitation - available at the back of the church, for both the Ordination Mass and First Holy Mass.

BAPTISM: Dusty Bramley. May God bless him richly.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Carl Humphries, Helen Coyle.

SPECIAL INTENTIONS: We pray for the repose of the soul of **Father Bernie Flood,** and those whose anniversaries occur at this time. 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), Callan McDougall (UK), 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.



For it is in *giving* that we *receive*."
~ St. Francis of Assisi