before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left. Then the King will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me." Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?" And the King will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me." Next he will say to those on his left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me." Then it will be their turn to ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?" Then he will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me." And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word

THE SAVING WORD

MATTHEW

WELCOME INTO THE KINGDOM

On this last Sunday of our liturgical year, the Church offers us a powerful reflection with this last, end-time parable from Matthew's Gospel. It is a scene of judgement. The Son of Man has come in his glory and sits on the judgement throne as the nations assemble before him. Then comes the separation of humanity, like a shepherd separating sheep from the goats. The Son of Man, now identified as King (and the reason for the appropriateness of this Gospel for today's celebration of Christ's Kingship), addresses the sheep and acknowledges their blessedness.

This connects to the Gospel from All Saints Day. They are blessed because of the way they responded to Jesus who appeared to them as one who was hungry, thirsty, estranged, naked, sick and imprisoned. They are told that, though they failed to see Jesus as such, they responded to those socially disregarded. Their response to them was equivalent to their response to Christ the King identified with the socially marginalised and ignored. The ones on the King's other hand, however, are condemned for failing to respond to the poor and needy.

The parable invites us to pause about our response to those in our lives, those in need, who demand our time and take up our energy. This parable of social recognition offers surprising hope to contemporary faithful followers of Jesus. It especially identifies moments of blessedness and divine communion when we act with love and tenderness to those in our lives.

Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING

Ezek 34:11-12, 15-17

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

You, my flock, I judge between sheep and sheep.

The Lord says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view. As a shepherd keeps all his flock in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest – it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them. As for you, my sheep, the Lord says this: I will judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and he-goats.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 22:1-3, 5-6. R. v. 1

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd; / there is nothing I shall want. / Fresh and green are the pastures / where he gives me repose. **R.**

2. Near restful waters he leads me, / to revive my drooping spirit. / He guides me along the right path; / he is true to his name. **R.**

3. You have prepared a banquet for me / in the sight of my foes. / My head you have anointed with oil; / my cup is overflowing. **R.**

4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me / all the days of my life. / In the Lord's own house shall I dwell / for ever and ever. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Cor 15:20-26, 28

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

He will hand over the kingdom to God the Father, so that God may be all in all.

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death



came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death. And when everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will be subject in his turn to the One who subjected all things to him, so that God may be all in all.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mk 11:9, 10

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David! Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 25:31-46

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

He will take his seat on his throne of glory, and he will separate men one from another.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled

Welcome to St Nicholas' Catholic Parish, Tamworth for

The Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe

Year A

22nd 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: How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour. To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: The Lord sits as King for ever. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

'WELCOME INTO THE KINGDOM PREPARED FOR YOU.' Neither baptism nor the profession of faith in Christ guarantees our entry into Christ's kingdom. What is most important is the way we treat the least of Christ's brothers and sisters. What we do for them we do for Christ. By our care for them, we reveal that our profession of faith at Mass is more than just words.

PRAYERFUL REFLECTION on the readings is always included in this Bulletin, after the Communion Antiphon. You are encouraged to reflect on this every week.

MASS TIMES

St Nicholas' Church

Saturday Vigil: 6pm
Sunday: 9:30am and 5:30pm
Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 7am

St Mary's Church

Sunday: 7:30am
Tuesday and Thursday: 9am

Tues 24 Nov: Sts Andrew Dung-Lac, priest, and companions, martyrs

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.**

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.

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.

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.

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 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.

Diary Dates

CENTACARE NENW FOOD DRIVE 01 Nov – 29 Nov

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-Lunch-West Diggers, Kable Ave		
24 Nov	Tue	**St Nicholas' Appreciation Dinner, 6pm** + NB: change of date + North Tamworth Bowling Club, Bligh Street – please RSVP to Parish Office by Friday 20th November		
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	9am Mass at St Nicholas' Church is cancelled		
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.		
16 Dec	Wed	Silent Adoration	10.30-11.30am	St Nicholas'
17 Dec	Thu	End of School Term 4		
18 Dec	Fri	Eucharistic Adoration	6-7pm	St Nicholas'
20 Nov	Sun	Birthday Blessing Morning tea after the 9.30am Mass hosted by the St Nicholas parish choir		All Masses
23 Dec	Wed	Silent Adoration	10.30-11.30am	St Nicholas'
24 Dec	Thu	Christmas Eve	6pm	St Nicholas'



Parish Christmas Party:

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

Immaculata Mission School 01-07 January 2027

Theme: "Am I not your mother?" – grow in friendship with Jesus under the banner of His Mother Mary.

Where: Presbyterian Ladies College, Armidale

For more info/cost/early bird prices and to register, visit www.immaculata.org.au/ims

Age group: Adults and youth 14 years and older.

Early-bird prices finish 30 November. Registrations close 23 December 2026.

This is an opportunity to start your year afresh with Christ, and an opportunity to grow deeper in your faith.

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!



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/R1: Sue 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

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: 15th November 2026

1st Collection	$ 1,703.10
Planned Giving	**$ 1,683.00**
Loose	**$ 508.60**
	$ 2,191.60

Parish Office CLOSED: Monday 23 November
Apologies for any inconvenience.



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. To book a seat on the bus (free) 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.



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 – 28/29 November 2026

St Nicholas' Saturday 6pm
C: Karen King W/R1: Leonie Hansen W/R2: Pauline Skewes
Ex Min: Cate Allen Music: Noel Greacen
Collection: David Raffaele/Bill Campbell/Morgan Hawthorne

St Mary's Sunday 7.30am
C: Matt Pawsey W/R1: Julie McGuirk W/R2: Tony Ryan
Ex Min: Deb Pawsey Music: Anne Jones
Altar Server: Will Nguyen
Collection: Carl Cavallaro/Bill Higgins

St Nicholas' Sunday 9.30am
NB: Change in roster for readers and altar-servers – St Nicholas School Family Mass now next weekend – 06 December 2026
C: Patrick Mahony W/R1: Nicholas Nweke W/R2: Esther Nweke
Children's Liturgy: Louise/Janine
Altar Servers: Abigail/Amanda/Chinedum Nweke
Ex Min: Laura Hughes/Jennifer Hatfield 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: Ethan & Evangelyn Nijo Collection: Volunteers

Counting Team: Cecilia Dries/Anne Jones
Altar Linen: Kate Stewart
Sacristy Cleaning: Beth & John Ryan/Bruce Stewart
Candelabrum: *every 2nd week*

BAPTISMS: Sofia Whittaker, Jacob Murray, Baylee Booby. May God bless them richly.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Carl Humphries, Helen Coyle.

SPECIAL INTENTION: We pray for the repose of the soul of **Mary Roche** who passed away recently in Sydney. May she rest in peace eternal.

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.

"You know well enough that Our Lord does not look so much at the greatness of our actions, nor even at their difficulty, but at the love with which we do them." ~ *Saint Therese of Lisieux*

