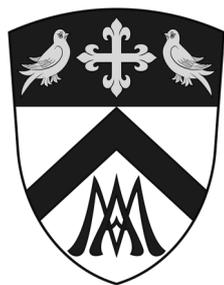


# ST EDWARD'S CATHOLIC PARISH

## [Mary Help of Christians Church]



72 Hillvue Road (PO Box 5002) South Tamworth NSW 2340  
Parish Office Ph: 6765 9543 | Hall Booking Ph: 6765 7259

Email: [southtamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au](mailto:southtamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au)

Website: <https://stedwardsparish.org.au/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stedwardsouthtamworth>

Free Parish App **myFaith** (available in Apple Store or Google Play)



Rev. Fr Paul Aguilar, PP | Mrs. Liz Hearne, *parish secretary* | Rev. Paul Manvell, *deacon*

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

29 AUGUST 2021

### First Reading | Deuteronomy 4:1-2,6-8

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'

The word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

### Responsorial Psalm | Psalm 14(15):2-5

*The just will live in the presence of the Lord.*

Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?  
He who walks without fault;  
he who acts with justice  
and speaks the truth from his heart;  
he who does not slander with his tongue.

He who does no wrong to his brother,  
who casts no slur on his neighbour,  
who holds the godless in disdain,  
but honours those who fear the Lord.

He who keeps his pledge, come what may;  
who takes no interest on a loan  
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.  
Such a man will stand firm for ever.

### Second Reading | James 1:17-18,21-22,27

A reading from the Letter of St James.

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a

change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created.

Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves.

Pure, unspoilt religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

The word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

### Gospel Acclamation | James 1:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Father gave us birth by his message of truth,  
that we might be as the first fruit of his creation.  
Alleluia!

### Gospel | Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:

This people honours me only with lip-service,  
while their hearts are far from me.

The worship they offer me is worthless,  
the doctrines they teach are only human regulations.

You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.' He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that

*turn to page 2*

from page 1

come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'

The Gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

## Our History, Our Story 1971-1981

St Vincent de Paul celebrated 100 years of service in Australia in 1981. A centre was opened on the Werris Creek Road as a Store and Drop in Centre. Blessed by Bishop Kennedy, it has since been a boon to local people.

St Edward's Parish was 20 years old in October 1981. Decision was made to have an open-air Mass on the new church site to mark the occasion. While we were praying for rain, down it came and the Mass was moved to the Robert Street Church. It went well and crowds came to celebrate and to thank God for the rain. A special cake in the shape of the Robert Street Church was a great attraction; everyone had a taste!

*(Faith of Our Fathers, Living Still...  
Recounted and written by Kitty Thomas)  
(The Church Upon the Hill – Kitty Thomas)*

## Spring Ember Day | 03 September 2021

Ember days mark the beginning of each of the four seasons. In Australia, the church observes the Fridays of Autumn and Spring (March & September) as a special day of prayer & penance, focusing on the environment, the season of God's providence.

## QR CHECK-IN CARD NOW AVAILABLE

Do you know someone who struggles to use the QR Code check-in with a smartphone? Service NSW is offering a personalised "check-in card" to anyone who needs one.

The card operates in the same way as a Dine & Discover NSW voucher but is used to check in when entering a shop or business.

**Note:** This check-in method is only available at businesses that have a QR compatible device. It is not mandatory for businesses to accept COVID-19 check-in cards.

You can register for a "check-in card" for yourself or an elderly relative by calling 13 77 88 or going to the Service NSW website:

<https://apply.service.nsw.gov.au/covid-checkin-card/>



The parish can apply for you.  
Please let us know if you need help.

## THE WORD IN OTHER WORDS

### First Reading | Commentary

What was special about the Law laid down for Israel? Many of the laws are known also from law-codes of neighbouring peoples, written on stone or clay tablets and recently discovered; some are more primitive, some more sophisticated. Running through them all, however, are two threads. Firstly, if you want to be the People of God, this is the way you must live, to be like him and keep company with him and be his very own. So the Law was a testimony of love, and obedience to it is an expression of grateful love: 'be holy as I am holy'. A second thread is respect for human dignity, and especially that of the poor and needy. In other law-codes nobles have more honour and privilege than commoners, free men and women than slaves. In Israel all have equal respect, and every faithful Israelite must remember that God's protecting hand hovers over those who are in any misfortune: created in the image of God, you must treat the widow, the orphan and the immigrant as I treated you when you were strangers in Egypt. All this was enshrined in the written Law, interpreted by the oral traditions of the elders.

### Second Reading | Commentary

The Letter of James is the longest of the seven so-called 'catholic' epistles, written not to any particular person or community but to the Church universal, throughout the world (which is what 'catholic' means). The real author is unknown, but it purports to come from James, the first leader of the Jerusalem community after Peter's departure. As we know from Paul's letter to the Galatians, James continued to value the Jewish way of life and observance of the Law, even while following Jesus. The letter accordingly contains many practical lessons about fulfilling the Law of Christ, stressing especially – as at the end of this reading – the need to care for the poor and the weak. It is full of striking, pithy images, like that of looking in the mirror and then going off and forgetting what one saw (verses omitted in the middle of this reading). The author applies this to care of the poor: it is no good glancing at the Law and then claiming to be religious while neglecting those in need. Religion consists not in 'piety' but in putting one's beliefs into action.

### Gospel Reading | Commentary

Legal observance has its dangers, for it is sometimes easy to obey the law exactly while forgetting its purpose. It is no good driving doggedly just below the speed-limit while endangering life and limb. The more exact the laws, the greater the temptation to manipulate them to evade their purpose. The Pharisees were as aware of this danger of distortion as is the modern stickler for exact observance. But the Pharisees have a bad press in the gospels because, at the time the gospels were written, hostility between Christians and Pharisaic Judaism was at its height. During Jesus' own lifetime their opposition was not so obvious. For instance, they had no share in the Passion and Crucifixion of Jesus. In any case, Jesus' own final saying here, while it may apply to the Jewish ritual Law, has much wider application than the observance of Jewish rules for clean food. It is more akin to the saying in Matthew, 'A sound tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor a rotten tree bear good fruit. By their fruits you shall know them'. A person's true qualities are seen by that person's actions; their true intentions and character, what comes from the heart becomes visible in their words and actions.

**S**f 'absence makes the heart grow fonder', it may be that, rather than becoming accustomed to doing Church from home, our hunger for the Eucharist will intensify and make us value all the more gathering for it when at last we can. In the meantime, we've been given a time of retreat to meditate upon what Holy Communion means to us all and we've been given new opportunities and new pastoral strategies. - Archbishop Anthony Fisher, DD

### *In your charity, please pray for*

#### Our sick

Shelly Howlett	Barry Winning
Sally Shrago	Fr John Willis
Harryson Rits	Chris Fardy
Petrina (Fardy) Keys	Angela Allan
Ricky Lee Peachy	Jay Peachy
Addison Peachy	Narelle Albans
Julien Ryan	Laurence Hearne
Romeo Polinar	John Green

#### Our Deceased

+ Helen Gatlec	+ Nola Addinall
+ Patricia Whale	+ Marilou Molon
+ Henry Mifsud, anniversary 25/08	
+ Kevin Ferguson, anniversary 28/08	

#### Roman Martyrology

30/08 St Rose of St Mary, virgin  
31/08 St Raymond Nonnatus, cardinal & confessor  
01/09 St Giles, abbot & confessor  
02/09 St Stephen, King of Hungary  
03/09 St Gregory the Great, pope & doctor  
04/09 St Marcellus, martyr

*Omnnes sancti Mártyres, oráte pro nobis*

### COVID-19: A Prayer of Solidarity

For all who have contracted coronavirus,  
we pray for care and healing.  
For those who are particularly vulnerable,  
we pray for safety and protection.  
For all who experience fear or anxiety,  
we pray for peace of mind and spirit.  
For affected families who are facing difficult decisions  
between food on the table or public safety,  
we pray for policies that recognize their plight.  
For those who do not have adequate health insurance,  
we pray that no family will face financial burdens alone.  
For those who are afraid to access care due to immigration  
status,  
we pray for recognition of the God-given dignity of all.  
For our brothers and sisters around the world,  
we pray for shared solidarity.  
For public officials and decisionmakers,  
we pray for wisdom and guidance.  
Father, during this time may your Church be a sign of hope,  
comfort and love to all. Grant peace. Grant comfort. Grant  
healing. Be with us, Lord. Amen.

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### PASTORAL CARE

Under the NSW Health "Other Reasonable Excuses for Leaving Home," priest or religious minister or member of a religious order are able to leave residence in order to provide pastoral care. This means that Deacon Paul and Fr Paul can undertake home visits to provide one or all of the following: Deacon Paul (holy communion), Fr Paul (holy communion, anointing of the sick and hear confession). Please let us know how can we help.

### TV / ONLINE MASS

#### HOW TO PREPARE FOR TV/ONLINE MASS

1. Prepare yourselves well.
2. Do not watch it with a cup of coffee or tea in hand. Mobile phone in silent or flight mode.
3. Before the Mass, read the Mass readings to prepare yourselves to hear them better once they are proclaimed in the Eucharist.
4. Have a few moments too to think what you are to thank the Lord for and what to offer to him during this Mass.
5. Remember that you are praying this Eucharist with many other fellow Catholics not only in our parish but all over the world.
6. Stay in reverent gesture throughout the Mass, standing and sitting up properly when possible.
7. Do not watch the Mass. Join it with your prayers, responses and singing. Join in it with your family.
8. At the time of communion, make the Act of Spiritual Communion. At the end of the TV or online Mass, take some moment of silence.

#### TV / ONLINE MASS SCHEDULE

**TV Mass** - Channel 10, every Sunday 06.00am

#### Online:

**Armidale Cathedral Parish** | Sunday 10am  
Youtube link: <https://youtu.be/KhdUizYnAcU>

Zoom backup link:

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84837997535?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84837997535?pwd=YVM5Tis5RSs3bnFWdVI2RTFvYlZuUT09)  
[pwd=YVM5Tis5RSs3bnFWdVI2RTFvYlZuUT09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84837997535?pwd=YVM5Tis5RSs3bnFWdVI2RTFvYlZuUT09)

**St Mary's Cathedral (Sydney)** | Sunday 10.30am  
<https://www.stmaryscathedral.org.au/>

**St Patrick's Cathedral (Melbourne)** | Sunday 11am  
<https://melbournecatholic.org/connect/mass-online>

#### Hornsby Cathedral Parish (Broken Bay)

Daily Mass 7.00am, Sunday Mass 9.30am.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNenwlf7i14XB9TsVBrLvQ/videos>

#### Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

### Public Worship & Church Bulletin

#### Our Church is Closed

Due to the snap lockdown, our church building is CLOSED. Public worship and visiting is suspended until further notice. A shrine was erected in the church foyer for people who wish to make a short visit. For updates, visit our parish website: <https://stedwardsparish.org.au/>

#### Daily Mass (Missa sine populo)

Daily Mass is celebrated in private.

Monday through Saturday

12.00noon

Sunday

09.00am

#### Church Notices/Bulletin

Church bulletin is sent out via email, if you want to be in our mailing list please notify us by phone or email:

[southtamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au](mailto:southtamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au)

Also available on the parish website:

<https://stedwardsparish.org.au/> Hard copies are available in front of the church: Sat. 12pm-5pm, Sun. 8am-5pm.

# A PRAYER SERVICE FOR YOUR HOME

*Keeping the Lord's day holy even in isolation.*

## 1. Set up a Sacred Space

*Gather a few religious items from around your house to make a small prayer space. Consider including:*

- A Bible
- A candle
- Holy Water
- A Crucifix, Cross, or picture of Jesus
- A rosary or images of Mary and the saints.
- Paper & pencils for writing prayer intentions
- If you have children, have them draw pictures of Jesus, or a saint and include their drawing.

## 2. Begin with the Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## 3. Read and Reflect on the Sunday's Scripture Readings (page 1 & 2)

Begin each reading: A reading from...

End each reading:

*The Word of the Lord,*

*R: Thanks be to God.*

End the Gospel reading:

*The Gospel of the Lord,*

*R: Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.*

Watch a Gospel reflection Sunday Reflection:

<https://stedwardsparish.org.au/homily/>

or use these questions to reflect on one of the readings

For Adults:

- a. What words, images, or ideas stood out for you in the reading?
- b. How do those words, images, or ideas relate to your life right now?
- c. What is God saying to you? What is He asking you to do?

For Children:

- a. What's happening in this Bible story? What are the people thinking or feeling in this story?
- b. How do you see God working in this Bible story?
- c. What did you learn from this Bible story?

## Prayer Moves Us to Action

As we draw closer to the Lord in prayer, He helps us to see the needs of our brothers and sisters. Who do you see in need? • Write a thank you note to workers in hospitals, nursing homes, grocery stores, etc. Thank them for working hard to insure health and safety for all of us. • Send snail mail! Make cards for elderly neighbours or the homebound to brighten someone's day. • Contribute towards the social justice initiatives of the parish.

## 4. Share Prayer Intentions

*Consider reading aloud these prayer intentions;*

*then go around and invite everyone present to share a prayer intention.*

Leader: Lord, we turn to you with all our hopes and fears, our joys and our sorrows. Hear our prayers, fill our hearts with hope, and grant us your peace.

Leader: For all people of faith, that we may find closeness to God and His Church, even in times of isolation. We pray to the Lord. *R: Lord hear our prayer.*

Leader: For local and world leaders, may God guide them in making decisions for the common good. We pray to the Lord. *R: Lord hear our prayer.*

Leader: For the sick, the vulnerable, the fearful, and the lonely, may God bring them healing, comfort, and peace. We pray to the Lord. *R: Lord hear our prayer.*

Leader: For what else shall we pray? (Allow each person to share a prayer intention, responding after each prayer with:) We pray to the Lord. *R: Lord hear our prayer.*

## 4. Pray the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

## 5. An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

## 6. Closing Prayer

*Close with the following prayer of thanksgiving - even in difficult times, we can foster a heart of gratitude!*

Lord, we thank you for this time of prayer and for our community of faith who, even in this time of isolation, are drawn together in our continued worship of You. We entrust all our prayers, work, joys, and sufferings to You, Lord Jesus, and ask you to fill our hearts with hope and love.

*For what do we give thanks?*

*After everyone has a chance to share, end with:*

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good

All: His mercy endures forever.

Leader: May the Lord bless us, protect us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.