

GOSPEL

Mk 6: 1-6

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

A prophet is despised only in his own country.

Jesus went to his home town and his disciples accompanied him. With the coming of the sabbath he began teaching in the synagogue and most of them were astonished when they heard him. They said, 'Where did the man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been granted him, and these miracles that are worked through him? This is the carpenter, surely, the son of Mary, the brother of James and Joset and Jude and Simon? His sisters, too, are they not here with us?' And they would not accept him. And Jesus said to them, 'A prophet is only despised in his own country among his own relations and in his own house'; and he could work no miracle there, though he cured a few sick people by laying his hands on them. He was amazed at their lack of faith.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.



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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

04 JULY 2021

GOD WORKS THROUGH OUR WEAKNESS

It has been said that we are now living in a post-Christian society, where the Christian values that have undergirded our social fabric are being increasingly challenged. While the impact of our multicultural and multifaith society have their part to play, it is perhaps more helpful to consider that preaching the word of God has always been a task fraught with the danger of facing misunderstanding and rejection. When Ezekiel was sent to preach the word to the people of Israel he did not suffer from the illusion that success was certain. In fact, God commissioned him knowing that the task ahead was difficult. His task was to preach the word whatever the response.

Like Ezekiel before him, Jesus faced rejection from his neighbours and his relatives. Even Jesus had to work within the room he was given and his healing ministry was limited by the disbelief he encountered. Mark points out that not even God's Son worked miracles where there was no faith to request or receive them.

Like Jesus and Ezekiel, Paul had to come to terms with rejection from those close to him. In this case the very community which he had founded was divided and there were some who rejected him and resented the ways that he exercised his spiritual leadership and authority. As a means of trying to heal the rift Paul admits, unlike his opponents, that his weakness and frailty are real and yet God has chosen to work through them.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Ezek 2: 2-5

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel.

The people are rebellious; they shall know there will be a prophet in their midst.

The spirit came into me and made me stand up, and I heard the Lord speaking to me. He said, 'Son of man, I am sending you to the Israelites, to the rebels who have turned against me. Till now they and their ancestors have been in revolt against me. The sons are defiant and obstinate; I am sending you to them, to say, "The Lord says this." Whether they listen or not, this set of rebels shall know there is a prophet among them.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 122. R. v. 2

R. Our eyes are fixed on the Lord, pleading for his mercy.

1. To you have I lifted up my eyes, / you who dwell in the heavens: / my eyes, like the eyes of slaves / on the hand of their lords. **R.**
2. Like the eyes of a servant / on the hand of her mistress, / so our eyes are on the Lord our God / till he show us mercy. **R.**
3. Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy. / We are filled with contempt. / Indeed all too full is our soul / with the scorn of the rich, / with the proud man's disdain. **R.**

SECOND READING

2 Cor 12: 7-10

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

I will glory in my infirmities so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.

In view of the extraordinary nature of these revelations, to stop me from getting too proud I was given a thorn in the flesh, an angel of Satan to beat me and stop me from getting too proud! About this thing, I have pleaded with the Lord



three times for it to leave me, but he has said, 'My grace is enough for you: my power is at its best in weakness.' So I shall be very happy to make my weaknesses my special boast so that the power of Christ may stay over me, and that is why I am quite content with my weaknesses, and with insults, hardships, persecutions, and the agonies I go through for Christ's sake. For it is when I am weak that I am strong.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Lk 4: 18

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me:
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.
Alleluia!

Catholic Parishes of St. Andrew's Malabar & St. Agnes' Matraville

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Parish Secretary: Julie Lippmann

Secretarial Support: Julie Wright

WEEKEND MASSES

Malabar

Vigil Sat. 5pm Sunday 9am

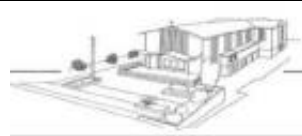
Weekday Masses: 9.10am Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat

RECONCILIATION:

Sat 4.30 - 4.45pm

Also available by appointment.

School: 9311 1203



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Office hours: Tues & Wed 9.30am - 4.30pm

Parish Secretary: Yvonne Larssen

WEEKEND MASSES

Matraville

Vigil Sat. 5.30pm Sunday 10am

Weekday Masses: 7 am Tues, Wed, Fri

9.10am Thurs

RECONCILIATION:

Sat. 5pm - 5.15pm

Also available by appointment

School: 9311 1995

14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER SUNDAY

Go Make Disciples,

The Mission Plan for the Archdiocese of Sydney



Please pray for the Faithful Departed:

Recently deceased: Fr Tony Simari, Georgette Khederlian, and Mary Reynolds

Anniversary: Xavier Micallef, Jenny Moy, Lydia and Joe Bujeya, and

Robert and Yolande Aquilina

Please try to download the Service NSW app so that your phone can scan the **QR Code**

St Agnes' and St Andrew's are registered as COVID Safe. Those who are unwell or at high risk are asked not attend. Please observe signs on the pews. Please keep the physical distance of 1.5 metres (2 arms lengths) at all times.

A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney: Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

From my desk

Dear parishioners in this time of lockdown, I do hope you all are well and keeping safe. I know that it can be very trying, especially in time of school holidays and rain. It is great to see the sun, and to be able to get out for some exercise, as I am trying to do so. I am sure that videos or the Disney Channel are well used. You are all in my prayers and as I celebrate Mass each day by myself or with a server.

During lockdown our audio visual system in St Andrew's Church is being update with screen monitors, bringing us in line with the 21st Century. We are grateful for **Joseph Medcalf Funerals**, who have generously provided funds to enable this project to comment, hopefully before the end of lockdown. Once again, I would like to thank them for their ongoing support.

Some very sad news that our former/former Parish Priest of St Agnes', Matraville, Father Tony Simari, passed away early Thursday morning, 1 July 2021. Father Tony was 82yrs old, (57 years a priest) and had been in very poor health for some time. Fr Tony was the parish priest of St Agnes's from 1990 until his retirement in late 2009.

Fr Tony served the Archdiocese and our parish faithfully in his life of ministry of serving God's people. May he Rest in Peace. Well done good and faithful servant, now receive the fullness of the Kingdom of God, together with and the Angels and Saints.

We do not know when, or where Father Tony's funeral Mass will take place. Please keep him and his family in your prayers.

Keep safe and well everyone.

God bless,

Fr John

Following restrictions announced by NSW Premier Gladys Berejiklian as Covid infections in Sydney continued to increase, all churches in the metropolitan area will now remain closed until midnight on 9 July – The messages will be checked periodically throughout the week. Stay safe.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES for St. Andrew's

Please pick up your new set of envelopes at the back of the church.

A few have a **different** number so please check your name and address.

You are encouraged to stay in or join the Planned Giving Program even if you will not be claiming a tax deduction.

Where will Fr John be?? – Covid Restrictions Permitting

This Week Saturday 3 July – No Masses, Sunday 4 July – No Masses

Next Week: Saturday, 10 July – 5.30pm Matraville, Sunday 11 July – 9am Malabar