

by curing the sick. Jesus climbed the hillside, and sat down there with his disciples. It was shortly before the Jewish feast of Passover.

Looking up, Jesus saw the crowds approaching and said to Philip, 'Where can we buy some bread for these people to eat?' He only said this to test Philip; he himself knew exactly what he was going to do. Philip answered, 'Two hundred denarii would only buy enough to give them a small piece each.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said, 'There is a small boy here with five barley loaves and two fish; but what is that between so many?' Jesus said to them, 'Make the people sit down.' There was plenty of grass there, and as many as five thousand men sat down. Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and gave them out to all who were sitting ready; he then did the same with the fish, giving out as much as was wanted. When they had eaten enough he said to the disciples, 'Pick up the pieces left over, so that nothing gets wasted.' So they picked them up, and filled twelve hampers with scraps left over from the meal of five barley loaves. The people, seeing this sign that he had given, said, 'This really is the prophet who is to come into the world.' Jesus, who could see they were about to come and take him by force and make him king, escaped back to the hills by himself.

#### ■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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# Breaking Open the Word

## READING THE SIGNS

One of the major themes of the first half of John's gospel is whether people have the capacity to understand the meaning of the signs that Jesus worked. Time and again, a sign is worked but only partially comprehended. In the coming weeks the true meaning of the feeding of the multitude will be our focus.

The ministry of Jesus was having enormous success. His healing of the sick had attracted such a crowd that 200 denarii (over half a year's wages for a labourer) would only be sufficient to give them a small piece of bread each. Like Elisha before him, Jesus will work with what is at hand so that the people will not go hungry. In both cases what is at hand is minimal, but the resulting surplus is a powerful sign of what can happen when the Lord is given room to work with what we have to offer. When Jesus is at work there is always more than is needed, just as the fullness of his identity and mission cannot be exhausted by the crowd's perception that he is a prophet and king.

Paul knew that the abundance of the life that we have received in baptism is meant to be shared. If we have understood the gift we have been given then we will understand that we too are called to be a sign for the world. Our unity and charity towards one another are a sign of the life we share in Jesus, the living bread and source of our lives.

Christopher Monaghan CP



# THE SAVING WORD

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

25 JULY 2021

## FIRST READING

2 Kings 4: 42-44

A reading from the second book of the Kings.

*They will eat and have some left over.*

A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing Elisha, the man of God, bread from the first-fruits, twenty barley loaves and fresh grain in the ear. 'Give it to the people to eat,' Elisha said. But his servant replied, 'How can I serve this to a hundred men?' 'Give it to the people to eat' he insisted 'for the Lord says this, "They will eat and have some left over." ' He served them; they ate and had some over, as the Lord had said.'

### ■ The word of the Lord.

## RESP PSALM

Ps 144: 10-11, 15-18. R. v. 16

**R.** The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs.

1. All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord, / and your friends shall repeat their blessing, / They shall speak of the glory of your reign / and declare your might, O God. **R.**
2. The eyes of all creatures look to you / and you give them their food in due time. / You open wide your hand, / grant the desires of all who live. **R.**
3. The Lord is just in all his ways / and loving in all his deeds. / He is close to all who call him, / who call on him from their hearts. **R.**

## SECOND READING

Eph 4: 1-6

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians.

*There is one body, one Lord, one faith, one baptism.*

I, the prisoner in the Lord, implore you to lead a life worthy of your vocation. Bear with one another charitably, in complete selflessness, gentleness and patience. Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together. There is one Body, one



Spirit, just as you were all called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who is Father of all, through all and within all.

### ■ The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lk 7: 16

Alleluia, alleluia!

A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people. Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

Jn 6: 1-15

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

*He distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted.*

Jesus went off to the other side of the Sea of Galilee – or of Tiberias – and a large crowd followed him, impressed by the signs he gave

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

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Secretarial Support: Julie Wright

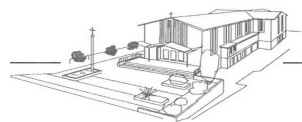
**SUNDAY MASS**

9am Livestreamed Mass

**RECONCILIATION:**

Available by appointment.

School: 9311 1203



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Office located at 6 Prince Edward St Malabar

Office hours: Tues & Wed 9.30am - 4.30pm

Parish Secretary:

**SUNDAY MASS**

9am Livestreamed Mass

**RECONCILIATION:**

Available by appointment

School: 9311 1995

## 17<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*Go Make Disciples,*

*The Mission Plan for the Archdiocese of Sydney*

**Please pray for the Faithful Departed:**

**Recently deceased:** Jeanette Bujeya, Eileen Stubley, Anthony Bataille, Marika Radić, Fr Anthony Simari (Pervious Parish Priest of St Agnes;'), and all who have died from the Covid-19 Virus.

**Anniversary:** Faye Davis, Brian Hetherington, Alex Pekin and Anthony Moore

**The Sick:** Julia Mankarios



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 [afeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:afeguardingenquiries@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

Greetings to one and all as we endure another week of Covid lockdown, it is not easy, but this Delta variant is very virulent, and we need to stay home as much as possible.

Some good news, as of this Sunday, we will livestream the 9am Malabar Mass each week, as we have upgraded our audio-visual system at St Andrew's due to great financial assistance from Joseph Medcalf Funerals. In accessing our livestream Masses, go to our St Agnes' or St Andrew's website and go to online Masses, and click on the link. It will also give you the ability to subscribe to the YouTube Chanel, to subscribe to the Mass at no fee. Please pass this information on to other parishioners. I am excited to be able to offer this facility each week.

In concern with giving, I am very humbled by the generosity shown by parishioners during this lockdown. People have asked how they can still contribute to our parish? If you wish to contribute, go to our St Andrew's or St Agnes' website where we have placed our 1st & 2nd collection details if you wish to contribute to direct giving this way. This would be much appreciated.

In October the First Session of the 5th Plenary Council of Australia will commence. Please keep the preparations of delegates and the Council in your prayers.

Plenary Council Prayer Campaign: People across the country are invited to participate in the "Fan the Flame" prayer campaign leading up to the first assembly of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia. The assembly starts on October 3. Campaign materials include resources for personal and communal prayer, reflections, musical suggestions and multimedia content. Find the resources at: [www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fantheffame/](http://www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fantheffame/)



Keep well, safe and vaccinated.

God bless you all,

Fr John

**Livestreaming link:**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqgkjUxFKhCcT9Ttwtfv4pA/live>

### 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??

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> July 9am Livestreamed Mass