

Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY / B

15 AUGUST 2021

She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made to her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

And Mary said:

'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord and my spirit exults in God my saviour; because he has looked upon his lowly handmaid.

Yes, from this day forward all generations will call me blessed, for the Almighty has done great things for me.

Holy is his name, and his mercy reaches from age to age for those who fear him.

He has shown the power of his arm, he has routed the proud of heart.

He has pulled down princes from their thrones and exalted the lowly.

The hungry he has filled with good things, the rich sent empty away.

He has come to the help of Israel his servant, mindful of his mercy

– according to the promise he made to our ancestors –

of his mercy to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

Mary stayed with Elizabeth about three months and then went back home.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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ANTICIPATING OUR RESURRECTION

What do we Catholics mean when we express our conviction that, at the end of her earthly life, Mary was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory? Are we simply heaping praises upon Mary for her 'specialness'? Or is there something deeper at stake?

In fact, like all Marian teachings, the Assumption speaks of the saving love of Christ that envelops our human lives. 'For the Son of God became human, so that we might become God' is a saying of the Church Fathers (cf. *Catechism*, 460). Mary, the 'first disciple' of Jesus Christ, walks with and before us in our own path of Christian discipleship. Her singular participation in her Son's Resurrection is an anticipation of our resurrection. *Who Mary is, we are becoming.* One day we, too, will live forever with God in heavenly glory.

The Assumption is a compelling celebration of Christian hope, an affirmation of the human body, and deep-down encouragement in our earthly struggles.

Teresa Pirola

FIRST READING

Apoc 11: 19; 12: 1-6, 10

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse.

I saw a woman clothed with the sun and with the moon at her feet.

The sanctuary of God in heaven opened, and the ark of the covenant could be seen inside it.

Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman, adorned with the sun, standing on the moon, and with the twelve stars on her head for a crown. She was pregnant, and in labour, crying aloud in the pangs of childbirth. Then a second sign appeared in the sky, a huge red dragon which had seven heads and ten horns, and each of the seven heads crowned with a coronet. Its tail dragged a third of the stars from the sky and dropped them to the earth, and the dragon stopped in front of the woman as she was having the child, so that he could eat it as soon as it was born from its mother. The woman brought a male child into the world, the son who was to rule all the nations with an iron sceptre, and the child was taken straight up to God and to his throne, while the woman escaped into the desert, where God had made a place of safety ready. Then I heard a voice shout from heaven, 'Victory and power and empire for ever have been won by our God, and all authority for his Christ.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 44: 10-12, 16, R. v. 10

R. The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold.

1. The daughters of kings are among your loved ones. / On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir. / Listen, O daughter, give ear to my words: / forget your own people and your father's house. **R.**

2. So will the king desire your beauty: / he is your lord, pay homage to him. / They are escorted amid gladness and joy; / they pass within the palace of the king. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Cor 15: 20-26

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

As members of Christ all people will be raised, Christ first and after him all who belong to him.

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 die in Adam, so all 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, for everything is to be put under his feet.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Mary is taken up to heaven, and the angels of God shout for joy.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lk 1: 39-56

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

The Almighty has done great things for me; he has lifted up the lowly.

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah.

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

Parish Priest: Fr John M. Knight KCHS



6 Prince Edward Street, Malabar
Ph: 9311 2062
standrewmal@gmail.com

www.standrewsmalabar.org.au

Office hours: Tues, Wed & Fri 8.30am - 2.30pm

Parish Secretary: Julie Lippmann

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

SUNDAY MASS

9am Livestreamed Mass

RECONCILIATION:

Available by appointment

School: 9311 1995

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Go Make Disciples,

The Mission Plan for the Archdiocese of Sydney



Assumption

Please pray for the Faithful Departed:

Recently deceased: Paul Bateman KC*HS, Elise Mondon, Jane Michaux, Sam Capizzi, Maureen Gardner, and all who have died from the Covid-19 Virus.

Anniversary: Mary Patricia Knight, Brian & Mary James, Lavinia Roberts, Dorothy Moyes,

John McFadyen, Craig Simmons

The Sick: Ken White

Tax Receipts for both parishes, have been emailed out. If you have not received, please contact the office on 93112062

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@sydnecatholic.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.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: If anyone in the parish has a love of high-tech equipment and is interested in learning the running of our new livestreaming equipment, we would appreciate your help. We are hoping to get enough parishioners involved, to make up a roster system for weekend masses. Anyone who is interested, please contact the office by emailing (standrewmal@gmail.com) or calling 9311 2062.

From my desk

Greetings to one and all of our twinned parishes of St Agnes' and St Andrew's. This pandemic, I know is very difficult for so many of you. I do hope you have been able to get vaccinated, as this is the only hope for us, to return to normality, whatever it will be, post Covid-19!

Can I please ask if you are receiving this bulletin online, and know of people who do not have a computer or the ability to see a bulletin, could you please print one off and maybe give it to them, or place in an envelope in their letter box, with a note on the front, Bulletin from St Agnes' or St Andrew's. Please click on the online mass video picture or heading on the home page of our websites to access our Sunday 9am mass online or scan the QR code at the bottom of the bulletin, or place your phone camera icon over the QR Code to access the livestreamed mass. We also have these QR Codes at the entrances of both our churches. These masses can be accessed at any time. I believe it is important that we remain spiritually connected even if it is just through our livestreamed Masses. I do hope to begin, ASAP weekday Masses. I am very happy that both parishes are participating in our ministries at our Masses.

Today we celebrate the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Body and Soul into Heaven at the end of her earthly life. Mary who was chosen by God, to be the mother of God the Son, immaculately conceived without the sin of Adam, a pure womb. She who accepted the invitation of God, to be that vessel in which Emmanuel-God "with us" would be born and so becoming one of us and completing God's plan for us to be saved from sin and death by Jesus' passion, death, and resurrection. At the cross Jesus gave Mary to us as the mother of humanity, the new and perfect Eve and it is only right that she would not be tainted with corruption of the grave, assumed into Heaven body and soul into Heaven. This has been a belief of the Church for centuries, finally doctrine was dogmatically defined by Pope Pius XII on 1 November, 1950 to this fact. So important is this feast, that the Church has deemed it a Holy Day of Obligation each year- we are expected to attend Mass on this day like every Sunday.

Please if we can be of assistance, contact our parish offices

I pray for you all at my daily Masses. Please keep safe and well.

God bless and keep you all.

Fr John

Anyone wishing to financially support the parishes of St Agnes' and St Andrew's can contribute by direct deposit shown below. Your contribution would be greatly appreciated.

First Collection supports St Agnes' Presbytery

Account Name: Matraville Parish Pastoral

BSB: 062 784

Account: 0496 5002

Second Collection supports St Agnes' Parish

Account Name: Matraville Parish Church

BSB: 062 784

Account: 0496 5001

First Collection supports St Andrew's Presbytery

Account Name: Malabar Parish Pastoral

BSB: 062 784

Account: 0428 5002

Second Collection supports St Andrew's Parish

Account Name: Malabar Parish Church

BSB: 062 784

Account: 0428 5001

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/



SCAN ME

Where will Fr John be??
Every Sunday 9.00am mass Live-streamed
Please scan QR code to watch on Youtube