

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Be merciful as your Father is merciful.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

20 FEBRUARY 2022

A HEAVENLY IMAGE

Both today's first reading and Gospel passage deal with what is the appropriate response to those who seek to harm us. Saul set out to destroy David and now as he sleeps his life is in David's hands. Will David return violence for violence, death for persecution? Everyone can cite the wounds they have received, the wrongs they have endured as a justification for retaliation and vengeance. The problem with giving violence in response to violence is that the vicious cycle never finishes – one violent act leads to another. Like David, Jesus knew that it is only by being able to forgive that this cycle can be stopped. At the heart of the Gospel is the call to a love that counters hurt, misunderstanding, oppression, and persecution with forgiveness and generosity.

As Paul continues to unfold his arguments for the bodily resurrection of Christians, he compares two Adams. The first Adam is found in the book of Genesis and the second is the risen Lord Jesus. For Paul, it is eminently reasonable that since we have borne the image of the first Adam by having a body, we will also bear the image of the second Adam by sharing in the bodily resurrection. The Corinthians knew that they had been baptised into the death and resurrection of Jesus, but Paul knew that they had not fully entered into the life of the resurrection. This would only come about when they had received their glorified bodies at the end of time.

FIRST READING

1 Sam 26: 2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

The Lord has put you in my power, but I will not raise my hand against you.

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph.

So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him.

Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice.' David answered Abishai, 'Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt?' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them.

David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 102: 1-4, 8, 10, 12-13. R. v. 8

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, / all my being, bless his holy name. / My soul, give thanks to the Lord / and never forget all his blessings. **R.**
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, / who heals every one of your ills, / who redeems your life from the grave, / who crowns you with love and compassion. **R.**



3. The Lord is compassion and love, / slow to anger and rich in mercy. / He does not treat us according to our sins / nor repay us according to our faults. **R.**

4. As far as the east is from the west / so far does he remove our sins. / As a father has compassion on his sons, / the Lord has pity on those who fear him. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Cor 15: 45-49

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

Just as we have carried the earthly image, we must carry the heavenly image.

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 13: 34

Alleluia, alleluia!

**I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you.
Alleluia!**

Sts. Andrew & Agnes
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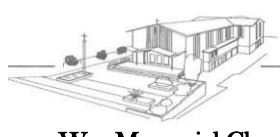
Sunday 9 am

RECONCILIATION:

Available by appointment.

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Vigil Saturday 5:30 pm

Sunday 10 am

RECONCILIATION:

Available by appointment.

Principal: Rose André

School: 9311 1995



Our Parishes acknowledge and honour the Bidjigal and Gadagal People of the Eora Nation as traditional custodians of this land. that we stand on.

THE 7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Pere Receveur Sunday

Go Make Disciples,
The Mission Plan for the Archdiocese of Sydney

Please pray for the Faithful Departed:

Recently deceased: Maree Fenech (Fr Pauls sister), Paul McDonald (Mr Mc, former Deputy Principal of St Andrew's) David Hamilton, Katy Kramar, Rosalia Apolonio, Celestine Burns, Mary Deans, Pat Parker, Carmen Grima, Jason Leung, and all who have died from the Covid-19 Virus.

Deceased: Agnes Brisbane.

Anniversary: Barbara O'Brien, Patrick & Kathleen McAleer, Johnny Raper, Patricia Ryan, Humbat Grech, John London, Salvina Aquilina, Maria Bultigiy, Alf Martin, Fr Chris Watt, Christopher Jones, Alan Jones, Neil Cussen, Carmel Donovan, Alex Lawes, Patrick Sargent, Helena De Aravajo, Merita Alves, and Carlota De Aravajo,

The Sick: Metilda and Jacintha Mary, Fran Evans, Fr Paul, Ernie Ross. Pray for the sick, the dying, poor and homeless in our parishes. and those suffering from Covid.

Where will Fr John be celebrating Masses next weekend?

Saturday, 26, February 5.30pm – St Agnes'
 Sunday, 27 February, 9am at St Andrew's - Livestreaming



SCAN ME

Please scan the QR Code to watch on YouTube

From my desk

Greeting's parishioners, friends, and visitors of St Andrew's & St Agnes' Twinned Catholic Parishes, Malabar-Matraville.

Last Thursday, I had a liturgy meeting of our twinned Catholic parishes, as I intend to combine our parishes as much as possible. In that meeting, we discussed how we can further enhance our liturgies at our Twinned Catholic Parishes of St Andrew & St Agnes'. If you are a singer, or a musician, we would love to hear from you! Especially, as we are now able to sing freely at our Masses, so please don't be shy, join up and share your gifts with us! Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on Wednesday 2 March. In thinking about Palm Sunday, 10 April, does anyone have a donkey or can let me know where we can get one? Please let me know.

Father Anthony Simari who was Parish Priest of St Agnes' until 2009 passed away on 1 July 2021. Fr Anthony was very gracious in bequeathing his Chalice, Patern and Vestments. May He Rest in Peace. On the 1st Anniversary of Father Anthony's passing (1 July 2022) we intend to invite the Simari family to a Mass of remembrance of his life at St Agnes'. Today at 11am, 20 February, at La Perouse we will celebrate the annual Mass to commemorate Fr Receveur's OFM Conv passing in 1788. This was reported as the first official burial of a Catholic/Priest.

Flyers now available that were to be distributed at Christmas to respond towards the Synod on Sodality ("**For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission**"), which the Pope has announced will take place in October 2023. On this flyer, it gives you the opportunity to share your experience of walking together: a decisive theme for the life and mission of the Church. Have your say!

God Bless and keep you all well and safe,

Fr John

THANK YOU

On this our Pere Receveur Sunday we express sincere thanks to
Randwick City Council for providing the marquee, sound system and transportation of chairs and equipment, to the Seaside Lions for the sausage sizzle and to Friends of La Perouse Museum for the refreshments

COVID SAFETY: Please ensure you sign in, and sit 1.5m from those not from the same household, do not touch statues, and take bulletins with you instead of returning bulletins to the receptacle.

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. 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

Funeral for the Late Mary Deans, Wednesday, 23 February – 10:30am St Andrew's
Funeral for the Late Carmen Grima, Thursday, 24 February – 10:30am St Andrew's
Funeral Fr Pauls' sister (Maree Fenech R.I.P) sincere condolences – Friday, 25th February, 11:am, Kiama Catholic Church.