

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,  
and my Father will love them and we will  
come to them.

Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

Jn 14:23-29

A reading from the holy Gospel according  
to John.

*The Holy Spirit will teach you everything and  
remind you of all I have said to you.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

‘If anyone loves me he will keep my word,  
and my Father will love him,  
and we shall come to him  
and make our home with him.  
Those who do not love me do not keep my  
words. And my word is not my own;  
it is the word of the one who sent me.  
I have said these things to you  
while still with you;  
but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit,  
whom the Father will send in my name,  
will teach you everything  
and remind you of all I have said to you.  
Peace I bequeath to you,  
my own peace I give you,  
a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift  
to you.

Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.  
You heard me say:

I am going away, and shall return.

If you loved me you would have been glad  
to know that I am going to the Father,  
for the Father is greater than I.

I have told you this now before it happens,  
so that when it does happen you may believe.’

## ■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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# Breaking Open the Word



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / C

22 MAY 2022

## CHRIST OUR LIGHT

‘If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and  
the Father will love him.’ Put like that it sounds  
so simple and yet in the life of the early Church  
one of the burning issues was what it meant to  
keep Jesus’ word. For Jewish Christians being  
faithful to Jesus entailed keeping the Law of  
Moses and requiring Gentile Christians to do  
the same. The Acts of the Apostles describes  
how Jewish Christians who came from Judea  
to Antioch were firmly convinced that keeping  
the law was the principal way that a person  
could love Jesus.

The response of the apostles and elders in  
Jerusalem, after heated debate and lengthy  
consideration, was to propose a compromise  
that was hoped would enable both Jewish and  
Gentile Christians to live in peace with one  
another and to partake in table companionship.

The life of the early Church was by no  
means without conflict, misunderstanding,  
or difficulties. Like us, they had to work hard  
to see the signs of the times and to discern  
what it was that the Lord was asking of them.  
In the midst of all this Jesus’ promise of the  
Spirit and of his peace is no small comfort.  
Jesus is with us, there is no reason to let our  
hearts be troubled or afraid. John’s vision of  
the heavenly Jerusalem is meant to give us  
heart knowing that the goal of our journey is  
in sight. With Christ as our light there is no  
need to fear.

Christopher Monaghan CP

## FIRST READING

Acts 15:1-2,22-29

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and ourselves  
not to burden you beyond what is essential.*

Some men came down from Judaea and taught  
the brothers, ‘Unless you have yourselves  
circumcised in the tradition of Moses you cannot  
be saved.’ This led to disagreement, and after  
Paul and Barnabas had had a long argument  
with these men it was arranged that Paul and  
Barnabas and others of the church should go up  
to Jerusalem and discuss the problem with the  
apostles and elders.

Then the apostles and elders decided to choose  
delegates to send to Antioch with Paul and  
Barnabas; the whole church concurred with  
this. They chose Judas known as Barsabbas and  
Silas, both leading men in the brotherhood,  
and gave them this letter to take with them:

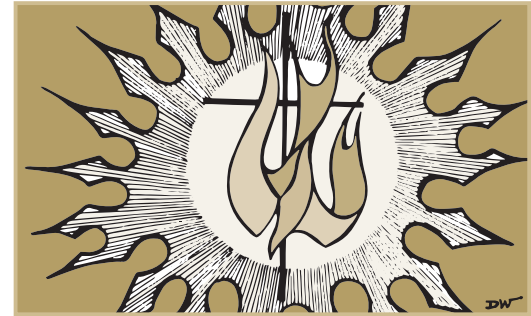
‘The apostles and elders, your brothers, send  
greetings to the brothers of pagan birth in  
Antioch, Syria and Cilicia. We hear that  
some of our members have disturbed you  
with their demands and have unsettled your  
minds. They acted without any authority from  
us, and so we have decided unanimously to  
elect delegates and to send them to you with  
Barnabas and Paul, men we highly respect who  
have dedicated their lives to the name of our  
Lord Jesus Christ. Accordingly we are sending  
you Judas and Silas, who will confirm by word  
of mouth what we have written in this letter.  
It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by  
ourselves not to saddle you with any burden  
beyond these essentials: you are to abstain  
from food sacrificed to idols, from blood,  
from the meat of strangled animals and from  
fornication. Avoid these, and you will do what  
is right. Farewell.’

## ■ The word of the Lord.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** Ps 66:2-3,5-6,8. R. v. 4

**R. O God, let all the nations praise you!**  
(or Alleluia!)

1. O God, be gracious and bless us / and let  
your face shed its light upon us. / So will your  
ways be known upon earth / and all nations  
learn your saving help. **R.**



2. Let the nations be glad and exult / for you  
rule the world with justice. / With fairness you  
rule the peoples, / you guide the nations on  
earth. **R.**

3. Let the peoples praise you, O God; / let all  
the peoples praise you. / May God still give us  
his blessing / till the ends of the earth revere  
him. **R.**

## SECOND READING

Apoc 21:10-14, 22-23

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

*He showed me the holy city coming down out of heaven.*

In the spirit, the angel took me to the top of  
an enormous high mountain and showed me  
Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down from  
God out of heaven. It had all the radiant glory  
of God and glittered like some precious jewel of  
crystal-clear diamond. The walls of it were of a  
great height, and had twelve gates; at each of  
the twelve gates there was an angel, and over  
the gates were written the names of the twelve  
tribes of Israel; on the east there were three  
gates, on the north three gates, on the south  
three gates, and on the west three gates. The  
city walls stood on twelve foundation stones,  
each one of which bore the name of one of the  
twelve apostles of the Lamb.

I saw that there was no temple in the city since  
the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb were  
themselves the temple, and the city did not  
need the sun or the moon for light, since it was  
lit by the radiant glory of God and the Lamb  
was a lighted torch for it.

## ■ The word of the Lord.



**St ANDREW & St AGNES**  
**TWINNED CATHOLIC PARISHES**  
**Parish Priest: Fr John M. Knight KCHS**



6 Prince Edward Street, Malabar  
 Ph: 9311 2062  
[standrewmal@gmail.com](mailto:standrewmal@gmail.com)  
[www.standrewsmalabar.org.au](http://www.standrewsmalabar.org.au)  
**Office hours:** Tues & Wed 8.30 am - 4.30 pm  
 & Fri 8.30 am - 2.30 pm  
**Secretarial Staff**  
 Julie Lippmann and Julie Wright  
 Masses Tues, Wed, Fri: 9 am  
 Vigil Saturday 5 pm  
 Sunday 9 am  
**RECONCILIATION:**  
 Sat 4.30 - 4.45pm  
 Also available by appointment  
 Principal: Mr Phil Tax  
 School: 9311 1203

War Memorial Church  
 509 Bunnerong Road, Matraville  
**Office located at 6 Prince Edward St, Malabar**  
**Office hours:** See Opposite Box  
 Ph: 9311 2062  
[stagnesmatra@bigpond.com](mailto:stagnesmatra@bigpond.com)  
[www.stagnesmatraville.org.au](http://www.stagnesmatraville.org.au)  
 Syro-Malabar Rite: 1st Sunday; 5pm  
 Masses Tues, Wed, Fri: 7 am Thurs: 9 am  
 Vigil Saturday 5:30 pm  
 Sunday 10 am  
**RECONCILIATION:**  
 Sat. 5pm - 5.15pm  
 Also available by appointment  
 Principal: Rose André  
 School: 9311 2995



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

## 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



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



### Please pray for the Faithful Departed:

**Recently deceased :** Jela (Jean) Bakusic, Heather Elizabeth Matchet, and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, the sick and dying, the poor and the homeless, the people of Ukraine and Russia, and all who have died from the Covid-19 Virus.

**Deceased:** Agnes Brisbane.

**Anniversary:** Adriano Maradini, James Leo Denman, Rosemary O'Reilly, nd Brent Baker,

**The Sick:** Ellie Carter, Mary Lau, Lilly Weekes, Brian and Colleen Maguire, Max Fenech, Marc Bakusic, Metilda and Jacintha Mary, Fran Evans and Ernie Ross. Pray for the sick, the dying

### Where will Fr John be celebrating Masses next weekend?

Fr John is away on Retreat, Thank you to the MSC's and Fr Paul for helping out  
 5pm Mass - Livestreamed



SCAN ME

Please scan the QR code to watch on Youtube.



Greetings to all parishioners & visitors of St Andrew & St Agnes Twinned Catholic Parishes, Malabar—Matraville.

Many thanks for your prayers and concern towards me while I tested positive to Covid and endured 7 days of isolation. I was very lucky that my Covid was very minimal and have recovered well.

This weekend as mentioned last weekend, I am attending my Cousin wedding North of Sydney. I am grateful for our MSC priests from Kensington Monastery who will supply our Masses this weekend. Malabar Saturday 5pm Vigil: Fr Peter Guy MSC, Matraville Saturday 5.30pm Vigil: Fr Pat Austin MSC. Sunday 9am Malabar Mass: Fr Pat Austin and 10am Malabar: Fr Paul (thanks Fr Paul)

This Thursday 26 May Maria Reilly of St Agnes' , Matraville will celebrate her 104<sup>th</sup> Birthday (yes 104<sup>th</sup> Birthday). Happy Birthday Maria and hope I there are many more!



This Tuesday, 24 May is the Solemnity of our first Patron Saint of Australia, Our Lady Help of Christians. There will be two Masses on Tuesday, 7am at St Agnes and 9am St Andrew's, you may wish to come and celebrate Mass, on one of our Patronal Saint's Day.



Please keep in your prayers the people of Ukraine who are still suffering under the Russian War against them.

Our Confirmation Class 2022 have now completed their commitment phase in preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please keep them and their families in your prayers with their preparation and their Retreat Day on Wednesday, 1 June. This retreat day is compulsory for all candidates from State and Catholic Schools.

My Covid experience was not planned but my Annual Retreat had been planned, so next weekend I will be on Retreat, so please keep me in your prayers on retreat, as I do keep you in my prayers each day.

Healing gifts to Roy Burton from St Agnes' who sliced the top of his finger in an accident this week. (Ouch!)

God bless and keep you all,

**Fr John**

**Confirmation Classes** for those not attending St Andrew's or St Agnes' will resume on Wed, 25 May, 4pm at St Andrew's Parish Meeting Rooms

**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 Archdio-