

made to him and he had been told: it is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead; and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Mt 24:42,44

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful and ready:

you know not when the Son of Man is coming.

Alleluia!

**GOSPEL**

Lk 12:32-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

*See that you are prepared.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

‘See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.’

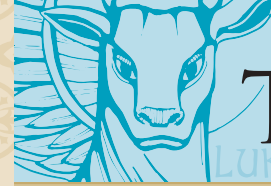
■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

*Longer form Lk 12:32-48*

**A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL**

Reproduction of this bulletin in any form prohibited. Published with ecclesiastical approval by ST PAULS PUBLICATIONS, PO Box 906, Strathfield NSW 2135. Tel 02 9394 3400 Fax 02 9394 3444. Scripture readings from the Jerusalem Bible, published and © 1966, by Darton, Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co. Inc. are used by permission of the publishers. Psalm text from *The Psalms, A New Translation*, © 1963, The Grail (England), HarperCollins. New translation of the Order of Mass from *The Roman Missal* © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Artwork by Sr Dorothy Woodward rsj. Layout, commentaries and illustrations © St Pauls Publications, 2022. No 1943. Website: [www.stpauls.com.au](http://www.stpauls.com.au)

# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

7 AUGUST 2022

## A TWO-EDGED SWORD

The word of the Lord is said to be a two-edged sword (Hebrews 4:12) and so it is with the readings for today – encouragement and warning stand side by side. Both the passage from the book of Wisdom and that from Hebrews, invite us to see our journey of faith in a positive light. The examples of Abraham and Sarah, as well as the people of the Exodus, show us that others too have had to trust in God’s promises when the way forward has not been clear. The most vivid instance of this is when Abraham was called to sacrifice his only son Isaac. One can only try to imagine his distress when called to sacrifice the very one by whom God’s promises were to be accomplished. Despite revulsion and fear he still took the leap of faith, and his faith was rewarded.

The two-edged sword of God’s word continues as Jesus reminds his disciples that while there is no need to fear we must live in a manner appropriate for people of faith. The leap of faith may not call us to sacrifice our children but it will challenge us to show that our hearts are in the right place by being prepared for the Lord’s return. The example of the faithful servants who are ready for their master’s return, even after a long delay, is powerfully contrasted with those who lost sight of the trust that they had been given.

**Christopher Monaghan CP**

## FIRST READING

Wis 18:6-9

**A reading from the book of Wisdom**

*Just as you struck our enemies, you made us glorious by calling us to you.*

That night had been foretold to our ancestors, so that, once they saw what kind of oaths they had put their trust in they would joyfully take courage. This was the expectation of your people, the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of their enemies; for by the same act with which you took vengeance on our foes you made us glorious by calling us to you. The devout children of worthy men offered sacrifice in secret and this divine pact they struck with one accord: that the saints would share the same blessings and dangers alike; and forthwith they had begun to chant the hymns of the fathers.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

## RESP PSALM

Ps 32:1, 12, 18-20, 22. R. v. 12

**R. Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.**

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; / for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. / They are happy, whose God is the Lord, / the people he has chosen as his own. **R.**
2. The Lord looks on those who revere him, / on those who hope in his love, / to rescue their souls from death, / to keep them alive in famine. **R.**
3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord. / The Lord is our help and our shield. / May your love be upon us, O Lord, / as we place all our hope in you. **R.**

## SECOND READING

Heb 11:1-2, 8-19

**A reading from the letter to the Hebrews**

*We will look for the city designed and built by God.*

Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen. It was for faith that our ancestors were commended.

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance



given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. By faith he arrived, as a foreigner, in the Promised Land, and lived there as if in a strange country, with Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. They lived there in tents while he looked forward to a city founded, designed and built by God.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

All these died in faith, before receiving any of the things that had been promised, but they saw them in the far distance and welcomed them, recognising that they were only strangers and nomads on earth. People who use such terms about themselves make it quite plain that they are in search of their real homeland. They can hardly have meant the country they came from, since they had the opportunity to go back to it; but in fact they were longing for a better homeland, their heavenly homeland. That is why God is not ashamed to be called their God, since he has founded the city for them.

It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been



**St ANDREW & St AGNES  
TWINNED CATHOLIC PARISHES**

**Parish Priest: Fr John M. Knight KCHS**  
Father Bijoy Joseph



6 Prince Edward Street, Malabar  
Ph: 9311 2062  
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



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



**19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

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

**Please pray for the Faithful Departed:**

**Recently deceased:** Kevin Roberts, Alan Martin, Elvira Tubadeza Aquino, Roger Minshull, Peter Byrne, Susan Ball, Alan Martin, and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, the sick and dying, the poor and the homeless (that they continue to walk in the light of God's love, mercy & compassion), the people of Ukraine and Russia, and all who have died from the Covid-19 Virus

**Deceased:** Agnes Brisbane.

**Anniversary:** Mary Knight, Sam Capizzi, Ivan Friček, P.J. Chacko, Stephen Kennedy, Vincent and Lilian Hinks.

**The Sick:** Dagney Payet, Tina Maria, Eva Pethes, Angelo Portelli, Anton Snashel, Ellie Carter, Mary Lau, Lilly Weekes, Brian and Colleen Maguire, Max Fenech, Marc Bakusic, Fran Evans, Ernie Ross Metilda and Jacintha Mary. Pray for the sick, the dying, the poor and homeless in our parishes and those suffering from Covid.



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

Saturday, - 13 August, 5.30pm St Agnes'  
Sunday - 14 August, 9.00am St Andrew's MSC Priest

Please scan the QR code to watch on Youtube.



SCAN ME

**FUNERAL— For the late Kevin Roberts, Tuesday, 9 August, 11.30am - St Andrew's.**

*A Message from our Pastor*



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

A great day of celebrations for the Church of Sydney, with five men, who on Saturday, 6 August were ordained to the Priesthood. Among those five, was Father Bijoy Joseph who has been with us as a Deacon for several weeks. Congratulations to them all and Father Bijoy! Father Bijoy will continue in our parishes until 22 September, and will then return to Rome to complete his studies. I am sure you will make him welcome as he ministers in our Parishes of St Andrew and St Agnes as a Priest.

This Monday is the 8 August, **Solemnity of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop**. There will be two Masses at our parishes, St Agnes at 7am and St Andrew's at 9.00am. Please come and celebrate our other Patron Saint of Australia.



Sadly, Kevin Roberts of St Andrew's has passed away, his funeral is this Tuesday, 11.30am - St Andrew's Church, Malabar. Also, at St Agnes', Rita Rombo has passed away, her funeral is this Thursday, 10.30am at St Agnes'.

This weekend and next weekend at all Masses our Year 3 will be committing themselves and their families to the 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion Program. Please keep them in your prayers. Also Year 3 will have their Grade Mass at our 5pm Saturday Mass this weekend.

This weekend Father John O'Connor MSC will be celebrating, at the St Agnes 10am mass, as I will be presiding at the Annual Air Force Cadets Church Service.

**God Bless you all**

**Father John**



**CWF AUGUST PARISH APPEAL—THIS WEEKEND.** The CWF support, social, charitable and pastoral works that the Church in Sydney attends to, throughout the year. **CWF Donations are 100% Tax Deductible.**

**Can you undertake an Overseas Mission?** Our sister churches in Africa, Asia and the Pacific are requesting Australian Catholics to join them to build the skills of those in their community who have had less opportunity than ourselves. Please consider these [Mission opportunities abroad](#). The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference provide support. [Palms Australia](#), who have prepared Australian Catholics for global mission since 1961, will ensure accommodation and a living allowance is provided to you during your time away. [Enquire online](#) or **Ph: 0422 742 567** to find out about a placement to engage your skills. You can also [Register](#) for a Webinar on **Monday August 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 pm** to talk directly with a Palms' partner community in Timor Leste and two Australians recently posted to work with them. **Invite your friends. The stories will inspire.**

**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.

**FUNERAL— For the late Rita Rombo, Thursday, 11 August, 10:30am— St Agnes'.**