

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

From east and west they will come to take their place in the kingdom of God.

Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem. Someone said to him, 'Sir, will there be only a few saved?' He said to them, 'Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed.'

'Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying, "Lord, open to us" but he will answer, "I do not know where you come from." Then you will find yourself saying, "We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets," but he will reply, "I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked men!"

'Then there will be weeping and grinding of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves turned outside. And men from east and west, from north and south, will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.

'Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

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Breaking Open the Word

WORTH THE STRUGGLE

While the people of Israel were rightly thankful for being chosen by God, they often reflected on their relationship with the nations that surrounded them. The experience of the exile would change them forever since Jews could then be found throughout the ancient world. What was their role among the nations? Would the nations come to worship the living God? One response is represented for us in the last chapter of the book of Isaiah who saw that the role of the survivors of the exile was to be a light to the nations. Their faithful witness would result in conversion and worship in Jerusalem.

When Jesus was asked, 'will there be only a few saved?', his reply adds a new dimension to the equation. The nations will come and take part in the banquet of the Messiah, but some of those who felt they had reserved places will be forced to look on from outside! The determining factor is how people respond to the salvation and life which Jesus offers. Simply being part of the people of Israel is not enough; later Jesus weeps over Jerusalem because 'you did not know the time of your visitation' (Luke 19:44).

Today's passage from the letter to the Hebrews sets out to help Christians who were discouraged by the opposition and suffering they were experiencing. Rather than suffering being a sign of God's rejection, they are encouraged to see it as how they are being prepared to take their places at the messianic banquet.

Christopher Monaghan CP



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

21 AUGUST 2022

FIRST READING

Isa 66:18-21

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

They will gather all of your people from all nations.

The Lord says this: I am coming to gather the nations of every language. They shall come to witness my glory. I will give them a sign and send some of their survivors to the nations: to Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moshech, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan, to the distant islands that have never heard of me or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory to the nations. As an offering to the Lord they will bring all your brothers, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, on dromedaries, from all the nations to my holy mountain in Jerusalem, says the Lord, like Israelites bringing oblations in clean vessels to the Temple of the Lord. And of some of them I will make priests and Levites, says the Lord.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 116. R. Mk 16:15

R. Go out to all the world; and tell the Good News (or Alleluia!)

1. O praise the Lord, all you nations, / acclaim him all you peoples! **R.**
2. Strong is his love for us; / he is faithful for ever. **R.**

SECOND READING

Heb 12:5-7, 11-13

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

The Lord disciplines those he loves.

Have you forgotten that encouraging text in which you are addressed as sons? My son, when the Lord corrects you, do not treat it lightly; but do not get discouraged when he reprimands you. For the Lord trains the ones that he loves and he punishes all those that he acknowledges as his sons. Suffering is part of your training; God is treating you as his sons. Has there ever been any son whose father did not train him?



Of course, any punishment is most painful at the time, and far from pleasant; but later, in those on whom it has been used, it bears fruit in peace and goodness. So hold up your limp arms and steady your trembling knees and smooth out the path you tread; then the injured limb will not be wrenched, it will grow strong again.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 14:6

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord;

no one comes to the Father, except through me.

Alleluia!



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
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
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.

21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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

Please pray for the Faithful Departed:

Recently deceased: Mary Burley, Veronica Feher, Mrs Lily Paul, Kevin Roberts, Elvira Tubadeza Aquino 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: Andelo D'Souza, Esther & Philip Velu, Eugene & Katherine & Mario Torchia, Victor Ballard, Dorothy Moyes, Iris Summons, Elise Mondon, Lavinia Roberts, Maria Huynh Thi Thilong, Jenny Moy, Desmond Ebeyer, and all the deceased members of Ines Poggie & L. Mariotti families.

The Sick: Maria Reilly, Lachlan Strawbridge, Josh Peel-Yates, 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

Where will Fr John be celebrating Masses next weekend?

Saturday, - 28 August, 5.30pm St Agnes'
Sunday - 29 August, 9.00am St Andrew's Livestreamed

Please scan the QR code to watch on Youtube.



SCAN ME

FUNERAL- For the late Mary Burley, Wednesday, 31 August, 10.30am—The Coast Chapel.



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

This week we welcomed back Mr Phil Tax, Principal of our St Andrew's Catholic Primary School, Malabar. Phil has been on long service leave. I wish to thank Mrs Joanne Wong on her acting as Principal while Phil was away—Great work!

On our Matraville School site, Mrs Rose André and her team, who have been working like trojans in preparing for the merger of St Agnes' School and Our Lady of Annunciation, Pagewood, which will commence in January 2023. I know that this merger is not a happy arrangement, as the parishioners of Pagewood will lose their Catholic Primary School as it moves onto the Matraville parish site. The combined Catholic Primary School at Matraville will be called Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, Matraville. Then the Pagewood site will expand the College to a Years 7—12 coeducational College to be called Corpus Christi College, Maroubra also commencing January 2023. Please keep these projects in your prayers and the Staff as they strive to make these educational places of learning reflect the teachings of Christ in the excellency of Catholic teaching and learning in this 21st Century.

Please keep in your prayers those who have enrolled in our 1st Eucharist program. There will special Masses of 1st Eucharist; those at St Andrew's Church, Malabar Sunday 11 September at 10.30am & 12.15pm. While at St Agnes War Memorial Church, Matraville, Sunday 18 September at 11.30am. So good to see so many of our young parishioners involved with our Procession of the Gifts. Many of them are involved in Pope Francis Award.

Wishing God's Blessings to all

Father John

Please collect your receipts of you giving for the last twelve months at the entrances of both Churches.

Please see Parish websites for other notices.



We welcome Jasmine Claire Eva Dable into our Parish Community, who will receive the sacrament of Baptism this weekend, at St Agnes'.

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.