

Alleluia, alleluia!

Let your face shine on your servant,
and teach me your laws.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lk 14:25-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

All who do not renounce their possessions cannot be my disciples.

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. 'If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

'And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, 'Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish.' Or again, what king marching to war against another king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand men he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word

GETTING OF WISDOM

The search for wisdom has never been an easy one and each of us grapples with the challenge of making sense of the complex tapestry of life. As the first reading so pointedly observes, 'It is hard enough to work out what is on earth ... who, then, can discover what is in the heavens?' In the centuries that preceded Jesus' birth the people of Israel were fascinated, frightened and challenged by their encounter with the culture and philosophy of the Greek-speaking world. The book of Wisdom is one of the fruits of that encounter and was itself written in Greek. While the Greeks looked to Plato and Aristotle, the author of the book of Wisdom had come to see that true wisdom is a gift from God and is to be found in the traditions of Israel most particularly in the Law of Moses.

Jesus knew all too well that true wisdom has its price. As he journeys towards his death, those who would be disciples are forcefully reminded to carefully consider the cost of discipleship.

Paul was one apostle of the Lord who knew the cost of discipleship. For the sake of the gospel he had gone through many trials (cf. 2 Corinthians 11:22-29) and had suffered and learnt much. Writing from prison he now has to call on all his stores of wisdom to convince Philemon to take back his runaway slave Onesimus. In a world where slavery was an accepted reality, Philemon is challenged to see his former slave as a brother in Christ.

Christopher Monaghan CP



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

4 SEPTEMBER 2022

FIRST READING

Wis 9:13-18

A reading from the book of Wisdom

Who can comprehend the will of the Lord?

'What man can know the intentions of God?
Who can divine the will of the Lord?
The reasonings of mortals are unsure
and our intentions unstable;
for a perishable body presses down the soul,
and this tent of clay weighs down the
teeming mind.
It is hard enough for us to work out what
is on earth,
laborious to know what lies within our reach;
who, then, can discover what is in the
heavens?

As for your intention, who could have learnt
it, had you not granted Wisdom
and sent your holy spirit from above?
Thus have the paths of those on earth been
straightened
and men been taught what pleases you,
and saved, by Wisdom.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 89:3-6, 12-14, 17. R. v. 1

R. In every age, O Lord, you have been
our refuge.

1. You turn men back into dust / and say: 'Go
back, sons of men.' / To your eyes a thousand
years / are like yesterday, come and gone, / no
more than a watch in the night. **R.**

2. You sweep men away like a dream, / like
grass which springs up in the morning. / In
the morning it springs up and flowers: / by
evening it withers and fades. **R.**

3. Make us know the shortness of our life /
that we may gain wisdom of heart. / Lord,
relent! Is your anger for ever? / Show pity to
your servants. **R.**

4. In the morning, fill us with your love; / we
shall exult and rejoice all our days. / Let the
favour of the Lord be upon us: / give success
to the work of our hands. **R.**



SECOND READING

Philem 9-10, 12-17

A reading from the letter of St Paul to
Philemon

*Receive him, not as a slave anymore, but as a very
dear brother.*

This is Paul writing, an old man now and, what is more, still a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for a child of mine, whose father I became while wearing these chains: I mean Onesimus. I am sending him back to you, and with him – I could say – a part of my own self. I should have liked to keep him with me; he could have been a substitute for you, to help me while I am in the chains that the Good News has brought me. However, I did not want to do anything without your consent; it would have been forcing your act of kindness, which should be spontaneous. I know you have been deprived of Onesimus for a time, but it was only so that you could have him back for ever, not as a slave any more, but something much better than a slave, a dear brother; especially dear to me, but how much more to you, as a blood-brother as well as a brother in the Lord. So if all that we have in common means anything to you, welcome him as you would me.

■ The word of the Lord.



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

23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Child Protection Week



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



Please pray for the Faithful Departed:

Recently deceased: Ali Amal, Margaret Borg, Miklos Weiner, 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: Victor Ballad, Arthur Tidswell, Henry James Kennedy, Robert & Yolanda Aquilina, Pat Weir, James & John Donovan, Vincent Hinks Teofila Depczynski, Ivan Curotta, Cathy O'Brien, David Blackmore, Bridget Watson, G. M. Joseph, and Rani Patrick

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 Mary.

Where will Fr John be celebrating Masses next weekend?

Saturday, - 10th September, 5.30—St Agnes' - Fr Bijoy
 Sunday - 11th September 9.00am St Andrew's—Fr Bijoy 10.30am & 12.15pm Fr John
 Please scan the QR code to watch on Youtube.



SCAN ME



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

This weekend we celebrate Father's Day, Happy Father's Day to all fathers and we are also remembering all fathers who have passed on awaiting their eternal reward in heaven.

Fathers play an essential role in the lives of their children as mentors and guides in so many ways. There is much to learn from St Joseph, Jesus' foster father and husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary. St Joseph was that provider of the Holy Family, wise and prudent, faithful, and true. St Joseph is given to us, as the Patron Saint of the Universal Church. St Joseph may all fathers pray to you in their parenting of their children. May fathers ask for your in our world today.

St Joseph pray for us and all fathers.

This Thursday (8 September) is the Feast Day of the birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is also our First Eucharist Retreat Day which will be held at St Andrew's, Malabar. Our Masses for this Thursday will be 9am at St Agnes and 9am at St Andrew's. You may wish to celebrate Mary's feast day by attending one of our Masses.

I know that you have been praying for our first Eucharist candidates and their families and they thank you. Next weekend we begin our First Eucharist Masses at St Andrew's with special Masses at 10.30am (35 Candidates) and 12.15pm (21 candidates) May this, their first reception of our Eucharistic Lord, draw them closer to Lord and Saviour. Congratulations to all!!! The following weekend (18 September) St Agnes' will have their First Eucharist celebrations.

You may wish to buy First Eucharist mementos at our Piety Stores at both our parishes to help our First Eucharist candidates to celebrate this milestone in their faith.

At all masses this weekend, we will hold the annual Father's Day of Appeal For the retired priest of the Archdiocese. Tax Deduction 100%.

Wishing God's Blessings to all.

Father John



CONGRATULATIONS TO ROY AND DIANA BURTON ON THEIR 55TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED ON THE 2/9/2022.



We welcome Cerise Rose & Cruze Elias Abuhadba-Valiente, Goldie Joy & Kai Alexander Johnson, Taya Alea Togia, and Alice Sinyu Weng & Janice Weng 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.