

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 24:37-44

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Stay awake, you must be ready.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT / A

27 NOVEMBER 2022

WALK IN THE LIGHT

There are some phrases from the scriptures which have the power to stir the imagination thousands of years after they were written. The image of hammering swords into ploughshares, spears into sickles, and soldiers becoming farmers speaks so powerfully to our deep longing for peace. Isaiah's vision was that a time would come when all people would be united in worship of the living God; when war would be replaced by understanding and all people would walk in the light of the Lord.

Paul understood Isaiah's vision was soon to become reality on the Lord's return. His concern was to make sure that the Christians of Rome were prepared for that moment. Some of them had fallen into a misplaced sense of complacency. Paul disagrees. Now was the time to get one's house in order, to put aside the ways that blur and obscure our vision, so as to come into the light of Jesus.

In a similar way, fifty years after the resurrection of the Lord it was all too easy for Matthew's community to lose hope that the Lord would return soon and bring Isaiah's and Paul's vision to reality. As this Advent season begins, the challenge is placed squarely before us – if the Son of Man were to return now would we be ready and waiting? What are we doing to bring Isaiah's vision of peace to reality? What areas of our life still need to be brought into the light of Christ?

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Isa 2:1-5

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the kingdom of God.

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In the days to come
the mountain of the Temple of the Lord
shall tower above the mountains
and be lifted higher than the hills.

All the nations will stream to it,
peoples without number will come to it; and
they will say:

'Come, let us go up to the mountain of
the Lord,
to the Temple of the God of Jacob
that he may teach us his ways
so that we may walk in his paths;
since the Law will go out from Zion,
and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.'

He will wield authority over the nations
and adjudicate between many peoples;
these will hammer their swords into
ploughshares,

their spears into sickles.

Nation will not lift sword against nation,
there will be no more training for war.

O House of Jacob, come,
let us walk in the light of the Lord.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9. R. cf. v. 1

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

1. I rejoiced when I heard them say: / Let us
go to God's house. / And now our feet are
standing / within your gates, O Jerusalem. **R.**



2. It is there that the tribes go up, / the tribes
of the Lord. / For Israel's law it is, / there
to praise the Lord's name. / There were set
the thrones of judgement / of the house of
David. **R.**

3. For the peace of Jerusalem pray: / Peace
be to your homes! / May peace reign in your
walls, / in your palaces, peace! **R.**

4. For love of my brethren and friends / I say:
'Peace upon you!' / For love of the house of
the Lord / I will ask for your good. **R.**

SECOND READING

Rom 13:11-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The time has come, our salvation is near.

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

■ The word of the Lord.



**ST ANDREW & ST AGNES
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Sunday 9 am
RECONCILIATION:
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Vigil Saturday 5:30 pm
Sunday 10 am
RECONCILIATION:
Sat. 5pm - 5.15pm
Also available by appointment
Principal: Rose André
School: 9311 2995



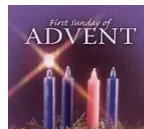
Our Parishes acknowledge and honour the Bidjigal and Gadagal People of the Eora Nation as traditional custodians of this land, that we stand on.



November is the month for prayers for the dead

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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



Pray for the repose of the Souls in our November Masses

Please pray for the Faithful Departed:

Recently Deceased: Fr Peter Maher, and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, the people of Ukraine and Russia, and all who have died from the Covid-19 Virus.

Anniversary: Cec Knight, Mary Hemelda Kandur, Candice Baseer, Valerie Micallef Frances Lawes, Allison Lawes, Joe Brady, Dr Ralph Baccash, Josephine Evans, Carmen Farrugia, and Amanda Wells,

The Sick: Heracleo & Mamerta Dela Torre, Sylvester and Jacintha Mory, Santa Viselli, Horrie Mifsud, Billy Stitt, Roy Burton, Maria Reilly, Maria, Ellie Carter and Ernie Ross. Pray for the sick, the dying, the poor and homeless in our parishes, all the souls in Purgatory, and those suffering from Covid.



Please see Parish websites for further notices.

Where will Fr. John be celebrating Masses next weekend?

Saturday - 3 December—5.30pm St Agnes'
Sunday - 4 December 9.00am St Andrew's (Livestreamed)



Our thoughts and prayers for the Late Elise Mondons's family, as we remember her at our 5pm mass at St Andrew's.

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



This weekend we celebrate the beginning of the Church's year, Happy New Year to you all! During this New Year we will read predominantly from the Gospel of Matthew and the Weekday Cycle will be No 1. The Season of Advent begins our Church's New Year. Advent acts in two ways, with the remembering that we are Advent people awaiting the Coming of Christ in his Second and Final time to lead us to the judging of all. Secondly, we recall the birth of the messiah Jesus Christ was born a human being at Bethlehem two thousand years ago. The Advent theme is to stay awake! Prepare for the Coming of Christ. There is an Advent Companion 2022 provided by the Archdiocese, please collect one as it may help you in your prayer and meditation during Advent.

We welcome Bishop Danny Meagher to our 10am Mass at St Agnes' War Memorial Church, Matraville. St Agnes' for young Danny Meagher was the place that Danny and his family worshipped, and he would receive his First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion as the family owned the Matraville Hotel. Only for one-year young Danny attended Matraville Public and then St Agnes' Primary School. Bishop Danny was only ordained a Bishop 8 December 2021, so we welcome him back and congratulate him. Please come down to the Parish/School Hall for a Cuppa following the mass. Hopefully, you may have brought along a plate of food to share.

Many thanks for the generous giving to the Annual Catholic Mission Appeal. Also, the other great news is that Jaxon Italiano broke the world record for the most-pull ups in 24 hours. Jaxon completed 8008 and was able raise \$659.90 from our parishes for Dementia Australia. Well Done Jaxon.

This Wednesday is the Feast Day of St Andrew, the Titular Feast Day of Malabar Parish. There will be a Parish Mass at 9am to celebrate our Feast Day. Please come along to celebrate, the children of our School will also be with us to celebrate this great annual Feast Day.



God Bless

Fr John

Catechist morning tea to Farewell to Rose Bonifacio and to meet the new Faith Education Officer Rita Piras. Friday, 2 December, 10 am, St Andrew's Church.

Christmas at St Mary's Cathedral, 8 December 2022. You are all invited to this Festive evening at St Mary's. If interested in attending, 4pm-10.30. Please see poster in church and on websites.

Thank you for supporting this year's Catholic Mission Parish Appeal. Very grateful that you could speak on behalf of CM at both Malabar & Matraville over the two weekends. On behalf of Catholic Mission, could you please thank all the parishioners who contributed to the appeal. Their generosity has provided support to families from disadvantaged backgrounds through programs like the Deberety Goat Rearing Centre in Ethiopia. This Centre will provide nutritious milk for families in most need, to help reverse and prevent health problems like malnutrition. **Total amount raised: Malabar – \$1697.85, Matraville - \$1997.**

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 safeguarding.enquiries@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.