

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

*The good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep.*

Jesus said:

'I am the good shepherd:  
the good shepherd is one who lays down his  
life for his sheep.

The hired man, since he is not the shepherd  
and the sheep do not belong to him,  
abandons the sheep and runs away  
as soon as he sees a wolf coming,  
and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep;  
this is because he is only a hired man  
and has no concern for the sheep.

I am the good shepherd;  
I know my own  
and my own know me,  
just as the Father knows me  
and I know the Father;  
and I lay down my life for my sheep.  
And there are other sheep I have  
that are not of this fold,  
and these I have to lead as well.  
They too will listen to my voice,  
and there will be only one flock  
and one shepherd.

The Father loves me,  
because I lay down my life  
in order to take it up again.  
No one takes it from me;  
I lay it down of my own free will,  
and as it is in my power to lay it down,  
so it is in my power to take it up again;  
and this is the command I have been given  
by my Father.'

### ■ The Gospel of the Lord.

#### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



Unauthorised reproduction of this bulletin 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, 2024. No 2033. Website: www.stpauls.com.au

# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / B

21 APRIL 2024

## FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

One of the recurring themes in Acts is that of the apostles and disciples being 'filled with the Holy Spirit' which, in turn, finds expression in the boldness of their speech. As Peter addresses the rulers and elders, we observe his boldness in answering their query concerning the healing of a disabled person. Peter qualifies that he does this 'in the name of Jesus Christ the crucified one whom God raised.' He acknowledges that his power and authority come from God through Jesus Christ. He acts in the name of Jesus Christ; he heals as he did. His actions, and not just his words, are testament and witness to the one whom God raised.

The Gospel of John speaks of Jesus as the good shepherd, 'the one who lays his life down for his sheep.' This image of Jesus contrasts with that of the shepherds mentioned in the Old Testament who were bad leaders who led the people of Israel astray. It also interacts with New Testament writings that warn of false shepherds. Jesus, the good shepherd, can be trusted. He is the Son of God and not a hired hand. The focus of the passage is on Jesus as the one who laid down his life freely. In John's account, we hear that Jesus has the power to take up his life again. This is possible, Jesus says, as it is 'the command I have been given by my Father' and it offers strong assurance of God's power in Jesus, of his complete trust in the love of God and his own love for his sheep.

Dr Rosemary Canavan

## FIRST READING

Acts 4: 8-12

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

*This is the only name by which we can be saved.*

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: 'Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence today. This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved.'

### ■ The word of the Lord.

**RESP PS** Ps 117: 1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28-29. R. v. 22

**R. The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone. (or Alleluia!)**

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, / for his love has no end. / It is better to take refuge in the Lord / than to trust in men: / it is better to take refuge in the Lord / than to trust in princes. **R.**
2. I will thank you for you have given answer / and you are my saviour. / The stone which the builders rejected / has become the cornerstone. / This is the work of the Lord, / a marvel in our eyes. **R.**
3. Blessed in the name of the Lord / is he who comes. / We bless you from the house of the Lord; / I will thank you for you have given answer / and you are my saviour. / Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; / for his love has no end. **R.**



## SECOND READING

1 Jn 3: 1-2

A reading from the first letter of St John.

*We shall see God as he is.*

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us,  
by letting us be called God's children;  
and that is what we are.  
Because the world refused to acknowledge him,  
therefore it does not acknowledge us.  
My dear people, we are already the children of God  
but what we are to be in the future has not yet  
been revealed;  
all we know is, that when it is revealed  
we shall be like him  
because we shall see him as he really is.

### ■ The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 10: 14

**Alleluia, alleluia! / I am the good shepherd,  
says the Lord; / I know my sheep, and  
mine know me. / Alleluia!**



**TWINNED CATHOLIC PARISHES  
OF THE HOLY MARTYRS OF ANDREW & AGNES**

**Parish Priest: Fr John M. Knight KCHS**



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  
St Andrew's Primary School Malabar: 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  
standrewmal@gmail.com30  
[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  
Sacred Heart School Matraville: 9311 2995



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



**4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

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



**Please pray for the:**

**Recently Deceased:** Ryan Straney, Stephen Drabik, Betty Stuart, George Atrash, and all those who have died from the Covid-19 Virus.

**Anniversary:** Robyn Deacon, Louise Micallef, Claire Pekin, Robert Garcia, Manuel Alvaro Da Cruz, Dulce Da Cruz, Raymond Carmichael, Juanto De Sousa, D Basilio Do Nascimento, Angelina Da Cruz, Alfred & Helena Gainge,

**Deceased:** Grace Abela, Francis Abela, Sime Pedisich, Joyce Gander, Agnes Brisbane. All the souls in Purgatory.

**The Sick:** Esperance Mankarios, Helen Facione Stephany Hiew, Margaret Gately, Maureen Maron, Sandra Russell, Bishop Peter Ingham, Ha Oi Lan, Mario Assini, Sam Strano, Josephine Regan, Mary Vella, Beatriz Visperas, Michael Victor, Marcus O'Dean, Angela Beveridge, Merley Nate Fien, John Sarniak Thomson, Heracleo & Mamerta Dela Torre, and Santa Viselli. Pray for the sick, the dying, the poor and homeless in our parishes, and pray for World Peace, and those suffering from Covid.

**Prayers for:** Care of the World Environment.



**Where will Fr. John be celebrating Mass next weekend?**

Saturday - 27 April, 2024 - 5.30pm St Agnes'  
Sunday - 28 April 2024 - 9.00am St Andrew's (Livestreamed)

Please see Parish websites for further notices.

Note  
from the  
pastor



**Greetings dear parishioners and visitors to our Twinned Catholic Parishes of the Holy Martyrs of Andrew & Agnes.**

The tragedy of last Saturday afternoon at Bondi Junction of the senseless act of the knife attack that 6 lives were taken, and the injuries of others are still fresh in our minds. Together with the attack on Assyrian Bishop Mar Mari Emmanuel at Wakehurst last Monday night. Our hearts go out to all of those who have been affected. Pope Francis, through the Secretary of State, Cardinal

Pietro Parolin sends his message of condolence to Archbishop Fisher. 'His Holiness Pope Francis was deeply saddened to learn of the violent attack in Sydney and he sends the assurance of his spiritual closeness to all affected by this senseless tragedy, especially those who are now mourning the loss of a loved one. He likewise offers his prayers for the dead, the injured as well as the first responders, and involved upon the nation the divine blessings of condolence and strength.' There will be a Catholic Service of Remembrance at Holy Cross Catholic Church, Adelaide Street Bondi Junction this Saturday evening commencing at 7.00pm. All are welcome.

This Thursday is ANZAC Day there will be one Mass in our parishes at St Agnes' War Memorial Catholic Church, Matraville at 9.00am. I would invite you to be part of this commemorative Mass as we honour and remember the fallen, as we can live in the freedom that they died for. If you are interested in attending the ANZAC Eve Mass at St Mary's Cathedral on Wednesday 24 April at 5.30pm, you are most welcome as well.

We congratulate our Regional Bishop, Bishop Richard Umbers who last Monday became an Australian Citizen. As those who have spoken with Bishop Richard will note that he is a New Zealander, not anymore, he is now one of us. G'day cobber and welcome to the other side of the ditch!

Please return your Project Compassion giving from Lent, as we need to finalise our giving and send it to Caritas Australia. Many thanks.

It is great to see that many are interested in our 2025 Holy Year Pilgrimage of Italy and Rome. There are itineraries available at the entrances of the Church, the price includes airfares. The more that wish to come along the cheaper it becomes. We will be calling a meeting shortly to see who might be interested and answer any questions.

This being Good Shepherd Sunday we pray that the Holy Spirit will touch the hearts of young people to be called to the Priesthood and Religious Life to the Church. Please contact the Vocation Office if you would like further information on 9307 8424.

**Blessings of Eastertide**

**Fr John**



We welcome into our Parish community **Hunter Mark Christie, Sienna Vela Gamboa, Isla Leafe and Nami Leafe** who will receive the sacrament of Baptism on Sunday at St Agnes Matraville. **Congratulations.**



**Parish Outing:** By Coach, Wed, 14 May, 2024 — Central Coast, Saddles Mount White Café, Gosford. Cost \$50 p.p. includes Coach Fare, Morning Tea and Lunch at Railway Hotel Gosford. Contact Kathy Sullivan: 9311-1749 or Marie Jennings : 9661-7186.

