

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Joel 2:12-13

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! With all your heart turn to me, for I am tender and compassionate. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL

Jn 8:1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Let the person without sin be the first to throw a stone.

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them.

The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?' They asked him this as a test, looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir,' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go away, and don't sin any more.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

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Breaking Open the Word



FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT / C

THE SAVING WORD

3 APRIL 2022

LIVING WATER

To the people of Israel in exile, Isaiah speaks of a new highway that God is making in the wilderness, a highway that would change the face of the wilderness forever. No longer desolate, the people would have what they needed, and their thirst for vindication and homecoming from exile would be satisfied.

On the road to Damascus, Paul's world had been changed forever. He had come to see that, for him, the living water that Jesus the Messiah offers is the only prize worth striving for. As a Pharisee, he had sought perfection through faithfulness to the Jewish law. He had come to appreciate that, as beautiful as the Jewish law was, Jesus' death and resurrection had opened a new pathway to God's grace. He knew he was not perfect. In response to his experience of the Risen One, he set out to travel that road with all his heart and love as a missionary and apostle.

The episode of the woman caught in adultery is another moving example of how the living God can break into our world and provide water in the desert of the human heart. Surrounded by rejection and mistaken self-righteousness, this woman is isolated and faces the threat of a brutal death. As her accusers call for her execution Jesus writes in the sand. Ever so gently a new highway is being laid and we are invited to walk it. By not condemning or judging, Jesus shows how, we too, can walk this path and provide living water for each other.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Isa 43:16-21

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I am doing a new thing and I will give drink to my people.

Thus says the Lord, who made a way through the sea, a path in the great waters; who put chariots and horse in the field and a powerful army, which lay there never to rise again, snuffed out, put out like a wick: No need to recall the past, no need to think about what was done before. See, I am doing a new deed, even now it comes to light; can you not see it? Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness, paths in the wilds. The wild beasts will honour me, jackals and ostriches, because I am putting water in the wilderness (rivers in the wild) to give my chosen people drink. The people I have formed for myself will sing my praises.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 125. R. v. 3

R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, / it seemed like a dream. / Then was our mouth filled with laughter, / on our lips there were songs. **R.**
2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!' / What marvels the Lord worked for us! / Indeed we were glad. **R.**
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage / as streams in dry land. / Those who are sowing in tears / will sing when they reap. **R.**
4. They go out, they go out, full of tears, / carrying seed for the sowing; / they come back, they come back, full of song, / carrying their sheaves. **R.**



SECOND READING

Phil 3:8-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Because of Christ I look upon everything else as useless in order to gain him.

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on faith. All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. That is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection of the dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure you my brothers, I am far from thinking that I have already won. All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus.

■ **The word of the Lord.**



**St ANDREW & St AGNES
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Sunday 9 am
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RECONCILIATION:
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Also available by appointment
Principal: Rose André
School: 9311 1995



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

THE 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT



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

Please pray for the Faithful Departed:

Recently deceased : Noel Milton Derek Bowers, all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, and all who have died from the Covid-19 Virus.

Deceased: Agnes Brisbane.

Anniversary: Daniel Soriano, Adelaida Soriano. Morgan Hill Godfrey Payet & Alice Payet, Connie Silvio, Archbishop John Bede Polding OSB, Archbishop Sir Guilford Young, Sir James Darcy Cardinal Freeman, Joseph Bujeya, Alda Balacco, Jenny Moy, Inez and Angelo D'Souza

The Sick: Brian and Colleen Maguire, Max Fenech, Marc Bakusic, Metilda and Jacintha Mary, Fran Evans, and Ernie Ross. Pray for the sick, the dying, poor and homeless in our parishes and those



Where will Fr John be celebrating Masses next weekend?

Saturday, 9 April 5.00pm - St Andrew's (Livestreamed)
Sunday, 10 April 9.30am — St Agnes' Please scan the QR code to watch on Youtube.



SCAN ME

EASTER ROSTER for the Easter Ceromnies, asking for volunteers, located at the back of the church St Andrew's, and in the Sacristy at St Agnes.



Greeting to all parishioners, visitors and friends of the Twinned Catholic Parishes of St Andrew and St Agnes, Malabar—Matraville.

Today in the old Church Calendar prior to Second Vatican Council, this Sunday was known as

Passion Sunday and the following Sunday Palm Sunday. The only remnants of the old Calendar are the Preface of the Mass which we will use today, **Passion of the Lord I** until Palm Sunday next week then we will use, **Passion of the Lord II**. Also, the covering of Statues and Images of Saints in the Church (though some Catholic Churches do not always follow this practice), allows us to focus on the Holy Week and Easter Triduum. What is this Easter Triduum? Three days of Celebrations; Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil/Sunday. It is where we celebrate Jesus' Passion, Death, and Resurrection, this is our sacred moment in time where Jesus our Saviour overcame sin and darkness by his death and resurrection and through our Baptism, we are adopted Sons and Daughters of God. So I would encourage you all to participate in these Sacred liturgies on Holy Thursday, Good Friday & Easter Vigil/Sunday to nourish your spiritual souls given to you at Baptism. Please take note of the Schedule for these ceremonies in this bulletin.

In preparation for Easter the Sacrament of Penance (Confession/Reconciliation) is being offered: St Andrew's a 2nd Rite of Reconciliation on Wednesday April at 7pm, while at St Agnes' a 1st Rite on Thursday April 5, 5-530pm or later if needed.

Congratulations to our younger parishioners of our Twinned Catholic Parishes of St Andrew & Agnes who last week completed their Unit of the Sacrament of Penance. Those due to Covid will be able to celebrate their completion of this Sacrament at another date very soon.

Freshly cut palms or olive branches may be delivered at St Andrew's/St Agnes' on Wednesday or Friday this week.

At St Andrew's the covering of Statues and Images in the Church will be delayed until later in the week, due to the ABC using our Church as part in a tele-movie. So, the Church will be closed for Thursday. Sorry for any inconvenience.

God's blessings to one and all as we journey through Lent 2022. Fr John

HOLY WEEK & EASTER TRIDUUM 2022

St Andrews/St Agnes'

Palm Sunday 9/10 April: Normal Mass Times
Holy Thursday 14 April: 7.00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper, washing of the feet and reservation until 8.30pm
Good Friday 15 April: 3pm Passion of the Lord, Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion
Holy Saturday 16 April: 6pm Easter Vigil
Easter Sunday 17 April: 9am St Andrew's and 10am St Agnes'



We welcome into our Parish Communities Beau McDonald, (St Andrew's) Tahlia Okul, Mikyla Mayoh and Kamyla Travers (St Agnes') who will receive the sacrament of Baptism this weekend.

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.

Funeral for the late Joe Smith — Tuesday, April 5, 1.30 pm, St Andrew's