

**FIRST READING** Isa 52:7-10  
**A reading from the prophet Isaiah.**

How beautiful on the mountains, / are the feet of one who brings good news, / who heralds peace, brings happiness, / proclaims salvation, / and tells Zion, / 'Your God is king!' / Listen! Your watchmen raise their voices, / they shout for joy together, / for they see the Lord face to face, / as he returns to Zion. / Break into shouts of joy together, / you ruins of Jerusalem; / for the Lord is consoling his people, / redeeming Jerusalem. / The Lord bares his holy arm / in the sight of all the nations, / and all the ends of the earth shall see / the salvation of our God.

■ **The word of the Lord.****RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Ps 97: 1-6. R. v. 3

**R. All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.**

1. Sing a new song to the Lord / for he has worked wonders. / His right hand and his holy arm / have brought salvation. **R.**

2. The Lord has made known his salvation; / has shown his justice to the nations. / He has remembered his truth and love / for the house of Israel. **R.**

**A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL**

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3. All the ends of the earth have seen / the salvation of our God. / Shout to the Lord all the earth, / ring out your joy. **R.**

4. Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp, / with the sound of music. / With trumpets and the sound of the horn/acclaim the King, the Lord. **R.**

**SECOND READING** Heb 1:1-6  
**A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.**

At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son, the Son that he has appointed to inherit everything and through whom he made everything there is. He is the radiant light of God's glory and the perfect copy of his nature, sustaining the universe by his powerful command; and now that he has destroyed the defilement of sin, he has gone to take his place in heaven at the right hand of divine Majesty. So he is now as far above the angels as the title which he has inherited is higher than their own name.

God has never said to any angel: You are my Son, today I have become your father, or: I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Again, when he brings the First-born into the world, he says: Let all the angels of God worship him.

■ **The word of the Lord.****GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia Alleluia! / A holy day has dawned upon us. / Come you nations and adore the Lord. / Today a great light has come upon the earth. / Alleluia!



**TODAY IS BORN  
OUR SAVIOUR,  
CHRIST THE LORD!**

**GOSPEL** Jn 1:1-18**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.**

In the beginning was the Word: the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him. All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower.

A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light. The Word was the true light that enlightens all men; and he was coming into the world. He was in the world that had its being through him, and the world did not know him. He came to his own domain and his own people did not accept him. But to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to all who believe in the name of him who was born not out of human stock or urge of the flesh or will of man but of God himself. The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth.

John appears as his witness. He proclaims: 'This is the one of whom I said: He who comes after me ranks before me because he existed before me.'

Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received – yes, grace in return for grace, since, though the Law was given through Moses, grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.****THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD / A****MASS DURING THE NIGHT****FIRST READING** Isa 9:1-7  
**A reading from the prophet Isaiah.**

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase; they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils. For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian. For all the footgear of battle, every cloak rolled in blood, is burnt, and consumed by fire. For there is a child born for us, a son given to us and dominion is laid on his shoulders; and this is the name they give him: Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God, Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace. Wide is his dominion in a peace that has no end, for the throne of David and for his royal power, which he establishes and makes secure in justice and integrity. From this time onwards and for ever, the jealous love of the Lord of hosts will do this.

■ **The word of the Lord.****RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Ps 95: 1-3, 11-13. R. Lk 2: 11

**R. Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.**

1. O sing a new song to the Lord, / sing to the Lord all the earth. / O sing to the Lord, bless his name. **R.**

2. Proclaim his help day by day, / tell among the nations his glory / and his wonders among all the peoples. **R.**

3. Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad, / let the sea and all within it thunder praise, / let the

**THE SAVING WORD**

25 DECEMBER 2022

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Lk 2: 10-11

Alleluia, alleluia! / Good News and great joy to all the world: / today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord. / Alleluia!

**GOSPEL**

Lk 2: 1-14

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.**

Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a census of the whole world to be taken. This census – the first – took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria, and everyone went to his own town to be registered. So Joseph set out from the town of Nazareth in Galilee and travelled up to Judaea, to the town of David called Bethlehem, since he was of David's House and line, in order to be registered together with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to a son, her first-born. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them at the inn. In the countryside close by there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in turns to watch their flocks during the night. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone round them. They were terrified, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. And here is a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.' And suddenly with the angel there was a great throng of the heavenly host, praising God and singing: 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to men who enjoy his favour.'

land and all it bears rejoice, / all the trees of the wood shout for joy / at the presence of the Lord for he comes, / he comes to rule the earth. **R.**



4. With justice he will rule the world, / he will judge the peoples with his truth. **R.**

**SECOND READING** Titus 2:11-14**A reading from the letter of St Paul to Titus.**

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

■ **The word of the Lord.**■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**



**ST ANDREW & ST AGNES  
TWINNED CATHOLIC PARISHES**  
Parish Priest: Fr John M. Knight KCHS



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& Fri 8.30 am - 2.30 pm  
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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

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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  
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.



**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

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



**Please pray for the Faithful Departed:**

**Recently Deceased:** Vernon Brisley, Joan O'Grady, Carmen Galleguillos, Eduino Morsillo, Jenny Frost and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, the people of Ukraine and Russia, and all who have died from the Covid-19 Virus.

**Deceased:** Agnes Brisbane.

**Anniversary:** Pat & Kath McAlleer, Maureen O'Brien, Anna-Maria Chovan, John Donovan, Ethel Donohue, Robert Franke, Mary Cauchi, Ilia Saelman, Annette Maramara, Donovan, Hinks, Cussen, & Newman Families, Robert & Helena Dwyer, Dolores Blackmore, and Amanda Fernades.

**The Sick:** John Sarniak Thomson, Pam O'Grady, Heracleo & Mamerta Dela Torre, Sylvester and Jacintha Mory, Santa Viselli, Horrie Mifsud, Billy Stitt, Roy Burton, Maria Reilly, 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 Mass next weekend?**

Saturday - 31 December—5.30pm St Agnes'  
Sunday New Years Day - 1 January, - 9.00am St Andrew's (Livestreamed)



From the  
Pastor's : Christmas  
Desk : Greetings

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

As we gather this Holy day of Christmas, we celebrate God with us (Emmanuel), God as a human being living as that Babe of Bethlehem. We celebrate with decorations, lights, songs, food, and drink—a celebration worthy of a King. He is the Prince of Peace, born for our salvation, who will overcome sin and death dispelling the darkness and being able to be bathed in the light of heaven. He is the greatest creation. This is a time where we can grow as disciples in the light of the Bethlehem babe. May we restore friendships that may have been broken, this Christmas may we remember that was God's love he sent to us may all be renewed in Faith, Hope and Love.

As I have journeyed with you all at St Andrew's and St Agnes' my second Christmas celebration, I wish to thank you all for the year that has passed. It was a year without Covid lockdowns and striving to live with the Covid virus. I hope and pray that we can grow our two parishes together. To all the staff and volunteers that help in maintaining our parishes, I am truly grateful, the smooth operations of the day to day life of the St Andrew's and St Agnes' would not be possible without you all. I wish to thank, Fr Paul as he assists the parishes each week with celebrating Masses. Thank you, Fr Paul.

May all who are holidaying find this time relaxing and return safe and refreshed to the New Year ahead.  
May all of you have a Happy, and Blessed Christmas and may 2023 be filled with Peace and Joy.

**God Bless You All**

**Father John**

**NEW YEARS DAY MASS TIMES 2023**

**St Andrew's Malabar**  
New Years Eve, 31st December, 5.00pm  
New Years Day: Sunday 1 January, 9.00am

**St Agnes' Matraville**  
New Years Eve, 31st December, 5.30pm  
New Years Day: Sunday, 1 January, 10.00am

**We would like to thank Joseph Medcalf Funerals for their kind sponsorship to our Parishes over the last 12 months. If you are wishing to use Joseph Medcalf Funerals who is Australian owned and family operated. They can be contacted on 9696 2644 (Operating 24 hours).**

**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.



**Happy Birthday to Antonia Fenech who turns 90 on Tuesday 27th December.**