

**Catholic Parishes of
St. Andrew's Malabar & St. Agnes' Matraville**
Parish Priest: Fr. Laurie Cauchi



6 Prince Edward St Malabar
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standrew@tig.com.au

www.standrewsmalabar.org.au

Office hours: Mon, Wed & Fri 9am- 2.30pm

Parish Secretary: Julie Lippmann

Secretarial Support: Julie Wright

SUNDAY MASSES

Malabar

Vigil Sat. 5pm Sunday 9am

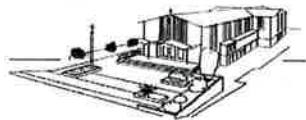
Weekday Masses: 9.10am Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat

RECONCILIATION:

Sat 4pm - 4.30pm

Also available by appointment.

School: 9311 1203



509 Bunnerong Rd Matraville
Ph: 9311 1909
stagnesmatra@bigpond.com

www.stagnesmatraville.org.au

Office located at 6 Prince Edward St Malabar

Office hours: Mon & Wed 9.30 - 4.30pm

Parish Secretary: Yvonne Larssen

SUNDAY MASSES

Matraville

Vigil Sat. 5.30pm Sunday 10am

Weekday Masses: 7 am Tues, Wed, Fri

9.10am Thurs

RECONCILIATION:

Sat. 4pm to 4.30pm at Malabar.

School: 9311 1995

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



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

Watch the above online focusing on supporting the renewal of our parishes and other Eucharistic communities for years to come.

Watch livestreamed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HITfepVdBal>

The Symbolism of the Advent Wreath

The candles and the light remind us of the light Jesus brought into the world.

The waiting for the four candles to be lit symbolizes the long years of waiting for the Saviour.

The greenery suggests life, growth and hope.

Please pray for the Faithful Departed:

Recently deceased: Georgina Stewart, Bryan McDonald (Mary Curotta's twin brother) .

Anniversary: Hemelda Kandur, Candyce Basheer, Alfred (Alf) Martin, Vince O'Grady,

Kenneth Mak, Tony de Luca, Geraldine Leonard, Joseph Strawbridge, Beryl Stevenson, Colin O'Donnell,

Joseph Attard and Joseph Avellino.

We strongly encourage you to wear a face mask while at church.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

ST ANDREW'S MALABAR
Christmas Eve (Thur.) 7pm & 9pm
Christmas Day (Fri.) 9am

ST AGNES MATRAVILLE
Christmas Eve 6pm & Midnight
Christmas Day 10am

Seating in our churches will be limited.

You are asked to be at the church early (20 minutes) to secure a seat especially for the 6pm and 7pm Christmas Eve.

If you do not have children you are encouraged to attend the 9pm or Midnight.
(This would greatly help to create more room for families with young children)

Receiving God's forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation really helps to make it a spiritual preparation for Christmas.

CHRISTMAS RECONCILIATION TIMES

St Andrew's Malabar

Sat 19 Dec. 4-4.30pm

Tues 22 Dec. 7pm-8pm

St Agnes' Matraville

Friday 18 Dec. 7pm-8pm

Sat 19 Dec. 9.30-10.30pm

St. Vincent de Paul CHRISTMAS APPEAL this weekend & 12/13 Dec.

Donations to this appeal are 100% tax deductible.

You can donate by envelope, online or by using the tap machine (Malabar)

Let us help those who are less fortunate.

In our Piety Stall this Christmas

Columban Calendars - \$9, St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Cards - (both parishes)

Christmas Colouring Books - \$3.50 All proceeds go to the SVdeP Society

OUR PARISH CHRISTMAS TREE (Malabar)

We would be very grateful for donations of non-perishable food items (nut free) and brand-new children's toys for our Annual St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal.

(See notices near the doors of the church for suggestions. Thank You)



St Agnes's and St Andrew's are registered as COVID Safe

Those who are unwell or at high risk are asked not attend.

Please observe signs on the pews.

Please keep the physical distance of 1.5 metres (2 arms lengths) at all times.

When coming to Holy Communion or placing your donation, please form **one line** & keep to the **centre** of the aisle and go back along the **side** aisles.

THE JESSE TREE: Jesse was a shepherd who lived near Bethlehem 1000 years before Jesus was born. Samuel, a prophet of God, chose one of Jesse's sons, David and anointed him as King of the Jewish nation. With our Jesse tree, we are remembering David and other members of Jesus' family; as well as, others who waited for the coming of Jesus the Messiah. Our Jesse Tree reminds us too that each one of us is important and that we each add something special to the coming of Jesus.

GOSPEL

Jn 1:6-8,19-28

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

There stands among you, unknown to you, the one who is coming after me.

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.

This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied:

a voice that cries in the wilderness:

Make a straight way for the Lord.'

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word

JESUS, GOD'S GREATEST GIFT

The build-up to Christmas and the festive season has a way of leaving many people tired and stressed as many tasks call for our attention. It is probably impossible to avoid much of this as the feast of Christmas marks the end of the year and the beginning of the summer break. The readings for today can help each of us to determine more clearly what are our major priorities as Christians in preparing for Christmas.

Within the readings today two dimensions of our preparation are stressed. The first is the call to witness to our faith by sharing in God's life-giving, freeing, and healing love. The second dimension is that of finding time to give thanks and praise to God for the gifts we have received through the presence of Jesus among us.

Isaiah's mission of proclaiming liberty and God's love to those in exile comes out of his own experience of this love. Because of this experience, he is able to be a witness to what God is doing in his own day. John the Baptist provides us with a powerful example of a person of faith who is prepared to stand up and bear witness.

As Paul concludes the letter to the Thessalonians he reminds them that the best way to prepare for the Lord's return is by living at peace with one another and being constant in their prayer. One relationship nourishes the other. Making time for the Lord in prayer enables us to make time for each other.

Christopher Monaghan CP

THE SAVING WORD

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT / B

13 DECEMBER 2020

FIRST READING

Isa 61:1-2, 10-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I exult for joy in the Lord.

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for the Lord has anointed me.

He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to bind up hearts that are broken; to proclaim liberty to captives, freedom to those in prison; to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.

'I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God,

for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation,

he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity, like a bridegroom wearing his wreath, like a bride adorned in her jewels.

'For as the earth makes fresh things grow, as a garden makes seeds spring up, so will the Lord make both integrity and praise spring up in the sight of nations.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Lk 1:46-50, 53-54

R. My soul rejoices in my God.

1. My soul glorifies the Lord./ my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour./ He looks on his servant in her nothingness;/ henceforth all ages will call me blessed. R.

2. The Almighty works marvels for me./ Holy his name!/ His mercy is from age to age,/ on those who fear him. R.

3. He fills the starving with good things,/ sends the rich away empty./ He protects Israel, his servant,/ remembering his mercy. R.



SECOND READING

1 Thess 5:16-24

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

May you all be kept blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus.

Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything – hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Isa 61:1; Lk 4:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

The spirit of the Lord is upon me;

he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!