

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



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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



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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

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

May we all try to really live as a Parish family.

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



Please pray for the Faithful Departed:

Recently deceased: Julie Laporte and Ethel Donohue.

Anniversary: Mary Cauchi, Lucia Spano, Maureen O'Brien, John Donovan,
Louise & Xavier Micallef,

Som Lukes, Francise, Jean Filewood, Dolores Blackmore, Keith Goggin, Jim Smith,
Rosemary Smith, Anna-Maria Chovan, Robert Franke and Margaret Swainbourne.

Special Prayer at Christmas Time

Please pray for those who experience sadness instead of happiness at this time.

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

New Year Mass Friday 1st January

Solemnity of Mary Mother of God

Matraville 9 am

Malabar 10 am

Let's start the New Year honouring Mary for bringing Jesus among us.

THANK YOU

to all parishioners who have helped in any way throughout 2020.

Your help has made many things possible.

Let's keep working together.

St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Food & Toy Appeal

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone in our parish who donated so generously to the Christmas Appeal. You have made Christmas for so many local families just a little bit brighter this year.

St. Agnes' Feast Day will be on Thursday, 21st January

There will be Mass at 9.00 am at Matraville on that day.

All welcome to come and celebrate.

Parish Outing: Wednesday, 17th February 2021 – Outing by coach to the Sydney Tramway Museum Loftus (National Park). \$50 p/p includes Coach Fare, Museum Entry & Ride, Morning Tea at the Tramway Museum and Lunch at the Gynea/Miranda Bowling Club.

Full payment by Sunday, 17th January 2021.

Please contact Kathy Sullivan (9311-1749) or Marie Jennings (9311-7186) if you are interested.

*Let us continue to develop a true sense of gratitude.
At every Mass we are expressing our gratitude to God.*

WHAT ARE THOSE CHRISTMAS ENVELOPES FOR?

The money from those envelopes goes to a Central Fund that attends to the needs of the priests of the Archdiocese. These include: sick priests, priests in special works, migrant chaplains and priests undertaking further studies. Some of these priests are often "out of sight, out of mind" but they do need to be supported.

Please give them some thought especially at this time.

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.

Let's all remember that life's treasures are people not things.



It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead; and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Heb 1: 1-2

Alleluia, alleluia! In the past God spoke to our fathers through the prophets; now he speaks to us through his Son. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lk 2: 22, 39-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

The child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom.

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

Longer form Lk 2: 22-40

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GOD AT WORK IN THE FAMILY

In today's readings, there is a tension between dreams and reality, between hope and fear, that helps us situate ourselves as we reflect on the Holy Family and our own experience of family life. The letter to the Hebrews speaks rightly of Abraham and Sarah as being models of faithfulness, however, this should not blind us to the very real struggles they experienced.

At times both Abraham and Sarah had lost heart and become fearful that God's promises were only a false hope after all. Abraham had decided to make one of his young relatives his heir. Sarah hoped that her slave Hagar would give them the son they longed for. In the end, God would realise the promises made to them despite their attempts to take matters into their own hands!

As Mary and Joseph bring Jesus to the Temple they bring all their hopes and fears for him as they wonder how his life will unfold. Simeon and Anna recognise that God is powerfully at work in this child but Simeon also warns how Jesus' life will be marked by both success, as well as rejection. What Simeon and Anna have the eyes to see is that God's saving plan will be at work in all that will befall him.

While models of family life are placed before us today it is important not to judge ourselves too harshly. Abraham and Sarah had their difficulties, and Mary and Joseph did not always understand how God was at work in their family either!

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Gen 15: 1-6; 21: 1-3

A reading from the book of Genesis.

Your own son shall be your heir.

The word of the Lord was spoken to Abram in a vision, 'Have no fear, Abram, I am your shield; your reward will be very great'.

'My Lord,' Abram replied 'what do you intend to give me? I go childless . . .' Then Abram said, 'See, you have given me no descendants; some man of my household will be my heir'. And then this word of the Lord was spoken to him, 'He shall not be your heir; your heir shall be of your own flesh and blood'. Then taking him outside he said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

The Lord dealt kindly with Sarah as he had said, and did what he had promised her. So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the time God had promised. Abraham named the son born to him Isaac, the son to whom Sarah had given birth.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 104: 1-6, 8-9. R. vv. 7, 8

R. The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

1. Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name, / make known his deeds among the peoples. / O sing to him, sing his praise; / tell all his wonderful works! **R.**

2. Be proud of his holy name, / let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice. / Consider the Lord and his strength; / constantly seek his face. **R.**



3. Remember the wonders he has done, / his miracles, the judgements he spoke. / O children of Abraham, his servant, / O sons of the Jacob he chose. **R.**

4. He remembers his covenant for ever, / his promise for a thousand generations, / the covenant he made with Abraham, / the oath he swore to Isaac. **R.**

SECOND READING

Heb 11: 8, 11-12, 17-19

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

The faith of Abraham, Sarah, and Isaac.

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.