



Jesus said to his disciples:

'As the Father has loved me,
so have I loved you.
Remain in my love,
If you keep my commandments
you will remain in my love,
just as I have kept my Father's commandments
and remain in his love.
I have told you this
so that my own joy may be in you
and your joy be complete.
This is my commandment:
love one another,
as I have loved you.
A man can have no greater love
than to lay down his life for his friends.
You are my friends,
if you do what I command you.
I shall not call you servants any more,
because a servant does not know
his master's business;
I call you friends,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my Father.
You did not choose me,
no, I chose you;
and I commissioned you
to go out and to bear fruit,
fruit that will last;
and then the Father will give you
anything you ask him in my name.
What I command you
is to love one another.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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LOVING ONE ANOTHER AS JESUS LOVED

We can only start to imagine the surprise and unsettling effect on Peter when Cornelius, a Roman centurion, prostrated himself before him. Cornelius was a representative of a hated and oppressive foreign government and here he publicly humiliates himself in front of a Galilean fisherman! Peter's own response is as generous and spontaneous as that of Cornelius: 'God has no favourites!' In saying this the barrier separating Jews and Gentiles is in the process of being shattered. When the gift of the Spirit is poured out so obviously on this Gentile household Peter can no longer see any reason to maintain long-held prejudices and instructs his companions to baptise them.

Breaking down barriers is at the heart of the readings for today as the Gospel invites us to no longer see God as a distant master to be feared. God loves us with that same love which leads Jesus to give his life for us. Changing our perception of God is one barrier to be overcome, but there is another, our perception of ourselves. Fear can keep us from God, from ourselves, and others. Invited to see ourselves as God's friends we are also invited to respond by sharing in Jesus' mission. To use the Gospel's words, we are commissioned to bear fruit, to overcome our reserve, and join in the task of loving one another as Jesus has already loved us. In Jesus' resurrection, we are not just saved from death, perhaps even more importantly, we are shown how to live.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING Acts 10: 25-26, 34-35, 44-48

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out upon the gentiles also.

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. 'Stand up,' he said 'I am only a man after all!'

Then Peter addressed them: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.'

While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, 'Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?' He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 97: 1-4, R. cf. v. 2

R. The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power. (or Alleluia!)

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.**
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.**



SECOND READING

1 Jn 4: 7-10

A reading from the first letter of St John

God is love.

My dear people,
let us love one another
since love comes from God
and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God.
Anyone who fails to love can never have known God,
because God is love.
God's love for us was revealed
when God sent into the world his only Son
so that we could have life through him;
this is the love I mean:
not our love for God,
but God's love for us when he sent his Son
to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 14: 23

Alleluia, alleluia! / All who love me will keep my words, / and my Father will love them and we will come to them. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 15: 9-17

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

No one can have greater love than to lay down his life for his friends.

**Catholic Parishes of
St. Andrew's Malabar & St. Agnes' Matraville**

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Secretarial Support: Julie Wright

WEEKEND MASSES

Malabar

Vigil Sat. 5pm Sunday 9am

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

RECONCILIATION:

Sat 4.30 - 4.45pm

Also available by appointment.

School: 9311 1203



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www.stagnesmatraville.org.au

Office located at 6 Prince Edward St Malabar

Office hours: Tues & Wed 9.30am - 4.30pm

Parish Secretary: Yvonne Larssen

WEEKEND MASSES

Matraville

Vigil Sat. 5.30pm Sunday 10am

Weekday Masses: 7 am Tues, Wed, Fri

9.10am Thurs

RECONCILIATION:

Sat. 5pm - 5.15pm

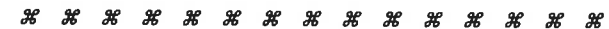
Also available by appointment

School: 9311 1995



Happy Mother's Day to all our Mums

Thank you and God bless you.



From my desk

Greetings to you all as we move through our Easter Season. Next Sunday, we will celebrate the feast of the Ascension and the following week, we will celebrate the end of the Easter Season with Pentecost, the beginning of the Church.

I ask for your continued prayers, as I do for you each day.

Next Sunday, 16 May, Bishop Richard Umbers will install me as Parish Priest of St Agnes', Matraville at our 10am Mass. All are welcome and please bring along a plate of food to celebrate in the St Agnes' School Hall. Thank you.

At all our Masses at Matraville and Malabar this weekend we continue the commitment rite for our Year 4 children and above, to the Eucharist Program. Let us pray for these candidates and their families.

Let's not forget our Mother's living, and passed, they have given us life, nourishment and love.

God bless you all.

Fr John

Many Thanks to Boland Funerals for providing St Andrew's and St Agnes' with the Paschal Candles, we have used over Easter.

CFW Appeal Sincere thanks to all who contributed recently. If you could not contribute then please be generous today. **CFW donations are 100% tax-deductible.** Charitable Works Fund supports social, charitable & pastoral works in the Archdiocese

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Go Make Disciples,

The Mission Plan for the Archdiocese of Sydney

Please pray for the Faithful Departed:

Recently deceased: Jack Davis, Lee Piper, Ben Bisheden, Roslyn Testa, Diomedes

Ocay, Fr. Michael McCarthy and Fr Reg Wison, Alejandro (Alex) Clay,

Anniversary: Andy Couch, Peter Mills, Sylvia Craig, Antoni Depczynski, Loi Hangue Lai, Daisy

Joseph, Jebamony Pillai, Louise Micallef, and Maria Dimura, Aileen Langdon, Tony Galea



Please try to download the Service NSW app so that your phone can scan the QR Code

St Agnes' 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 please form one line & keep to the centre of the aisle and go back along the side aisle.

Funeral for the late Lee Piper – St Andrews, Thursday, 13 May at 10:00am

Dear Parishioners, as you may have noticed the Malabar Processional Cross has been missing, for some time? The reason is, that it has been at the Restorers being restored. This is a wonderfully, beautiful cross, that we now can appreciate fully in its restorative beauty. There are other items of beauty that are also in need of restoring, since our church opened in 1977. A book of donors has been acquired, so that anyone wishing to make a donation (please place in an envelope and place in any of the collection baskets), can write your name or your family's name to be remembered and inscribed in the Donors Book. Thank you, for your generous giving.

PARISH OUTING – Tuesday, 1st June 2021

Outing by Coach to the **Aviation Museum Albion Park** and lunch at **The Builders Club, Wollongong.** \$50 per person (includes coach fare, museum entry, morning tea, and lunch. Full Payment by Sunday, 2 May. Call, Kathy Sullivan: 9311 1749/Marie Jennings: 9661 7186.

All in the Planned Giving (St Andrew's Parish), are kindly asked to fill in the notification form on the table near the donation boxes, and also those wanting to join. If we have accurate information, we may be able to give a higher tax deduction in the new financial year. **Sincere thanks for your generosity.**

Where will Fr John be??

This Week Saturday 8 May - 5.00 pm Malabar, Sunday 9, May, - 10am Matraville

Next Week: Saturday, 15 May – 5.00pm Malabar, Sunday 16 May – 10am Matraville