

have heard the message of the truth and the good news of your salvation, and have believed it: and you too have been stamped with the seal of the Holy Spirit of the Promise, the pledge of our inheritance which brings freedom for those whom God has taken for his own, to make his glory praised.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION cf. Eph 1: 17-18

Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mk 6: 7-13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

He called the Twelve, and began to send them out.

Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out in pairs giving them authority over the unclean spirits. And he instructed them to take nothing for the journey except a staff – no bread, no haversack, no coppers for their purses. They were to wear sandals but, he added, ‘Do not take a spare tunic.’ And he said to them, ‘If you enter a house anywhere, stay there until you leave the district. And if any place does not welcome you and people refuse to listen to you, as you walk away shake off the dust from under your feet as a sign to them.’ So they set off to preach repentance: and they cast out many devils, and anointed many sick people with oil and cured them.

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

11 JULY 2021

OPPORTUNITY AND DANGER

When God intervenes in our lives it can mean radical change that brings with it both opportunity and danger. Amos' work had involved the care of trees – nothing had prepared him for his new ministry as prophet. Preaching far from his home, he was politely threatened, and told in no uncertain terms, that his message of judgement was not welcome at the king's shrine. His response was that while his message was discomfiting to hear, it had been given by God. It was not his own and his experience of God was so powerful that he could not deny it. He had a duty to preach the message he had been given.

The mission of the twelve is another example of the kind of radical change that can accompany a close encounter with Jesus. Called to share in Jesus' mission they are prepared and commissioned for this new task, a task which will lead them to face acceptance, as well as the risk of rejection. They are instructed that they must travel light, there is nothing they can carry that will defend them from a closed mind or a hardened heart.

The opening hymn in the letter to the Ephesians is a beautiful and loving reflection on what we have received in Jesus. It is filled with wonder for the fact that we have all been adopted through Jesus, who is the source of forgiveness and our freedom. There is an implicit invitation: having received so much how could we not share this with others – whatever the risk.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Am 7: 12-15

A reading from the prophet Amos.

Go, prophesy to my people.

Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, said to Amos, ‘Go away, seer; get back to the land of Judah; earn your bread there, do your prophesying there. We want no more prophesying in Bethel; this is the royal sanctuary, the national temple.’ ‘I was no prophet, neither did I belong to any of the brotherhoods of prophets,’ Amos replied to Amaziah. ‘I was a shepherd, and looked after sycamores: but it was the Lord who took me from herding the flock, and the Lord who said, “Go, prophesy to my people Israel.”’

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 84: 9-14. R. v. 8

R. Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

1. I will hear what the Lord God has to say, / a voice that speaks of peace, / peace for his people. / His help is near for those who fear him / and his glory will dwell in our land. **R.**
2. Mercy and faithfulness have met; / justice and peace have embraced. / Faithfulness shall spring from the earth / and justice look down from heaven. **R.**
3. The Lord will make us prosper / and our earth shall yield its fruit. / Justice shall march before him / and peace shall follow his steps. **R.**

SECOND READING

Eph 1: 3-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians.

Before the world was made, he chose us in Christ.

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

who has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings of heaven in Christ.

Before the world was made, he chose us, chose us in Christ, to be holy and spotless, and to live through love in his presence,



determining that we should become his adopted sons, through Jesus Christ, for his own kind purposes,

to make us praise the glory of his grace, his free gift to us in the Beloved, in whom, through his blood, we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins.

Such is the richness of the grace which he has showered on us in all wisdom and insight.

He has let us know the mystery of his purpose, the hidden plan he so kindly made in Christ from the beginning

to act upon when the times had run their course to the end: that he would bring everything together under Christ, as head, everything in the heavens and everything on earth.

And it is in him that we were claimed as God's own,

chosen from the beginning, under the predetermined plan of the one who guides all things

as he decides by his own will; chosen to be,

for his greater glory, the people who would put their hopes in Christ before he came.

Now you too, in him,

**Catholic Parishes of
St. Andrew's Malabar & St. Agnes' Matraville**
Parish Priest: Fr John M. Knight KCHS



6 Prince Edward Street, Malabar
Ph: 9311 2062
standrewmal@gmail.com

www.standrewsmalabar.org.au

Office hours: Tues, Wed & Fri 8.30am - 2.30pm

Parish Secretary: Julie Lippmann

Secretarial Support: Julie Wright

WEEKEND MASSES

Malabar

Vigil Sat. 5pm Sunday 9am

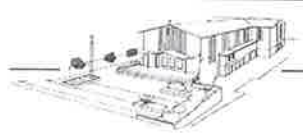
Weekday Masses: 9.10am Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat

RECONCILIATION:

Sat 4.30 - 4.45pm

Also available by appointment.

School: 9311 1203



509 Bunnerong Road, Matraville
Ph: 9311 1909

stagnesmatra@bigpond.com

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

15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Go Make Disciples,

The Mission Plan for the Archdiocese of Sydney



Please pray for the Faithful Departed:

Recently deceased: Sue Melia, Eileen Stubley, Mirella Balzam (previously from Matraville), Fr Anthony Simari, Georgette Khederlian, and Mary Reynolds

Anniversary: Xavier Micallef, Jenny Moy, Lydia and Joe Bujeya, and Robert and Yolande Aquilina

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.

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.

From my desk

My dear parishioners of St Agnes's and St Andrew's we are experiencing unprecedented times as we know, not seen since the time of the Spanish flu a century ago. We now endure another week of lockdown. This covid 19 epidemic is a health issue which is affecting our economic and financial situation also. I hope you are all keeping well, and I am hoping in the near future to welcome you all back to our parish churches of St Agnes' and St Andrew's. Please keep safe, stay at home, and only venture out for those essential needs and **please vaccinate** if you have not. You are in my daily prayers and Masses.

Last Thursday, 8 July I was privileged to concelebrate, the Pontifical Mass of Christian Burial of Reverend Father Anthony Francis Simari, Pastor Emeritus of St Agnes' Matraville (1990-2009). Fr Anthony's funeral took place at St Mary's Cathedral under covid conditions. It is still possible to view the funeral, by going to live-streamed Masses and videos at St Mary's Cathedral website. Bishop Peter Ingham DD, Bishop Emeritus and Seminary classmate of Father Anthony was Principal Celebrant together with Bishop Brady and other Concelebrating Priests. I am hoping to organise a Memorial Funeral Mass for Father Anthony at St Agnes', and I wish to invite the Simari family to be part of the celebrations. Please keep Father Anthony Simari, together with his family in your prayers and Masses as I do. May Father Anthony rest in peace, forever in the arms of our loving God, whom he served so faithfully.

Let us not forget this week concludes the official NAIDOC week. Let us always be mindful of our first nation people who are the custodians of this land, and who have faithfully cared for it, for over 60,000 years. We have so much to learn from them and need to close the gap, as we work together.

Please note to our St Andrew's parishioners (St Agnes' parishioners later this year), that our weekly envelopes have been proudly sponsored by Joseph Medcalf Funerals. I wish to thank them again for their generosity and for assisting in the funding of upgrading St Andrew's audio-visual system into the 21st Century. Joseph Medcalf Funerals is a fine institution that was established in 1880, following the closure of Central Station Cemetery site in the city, and the opening of the Eastern Suburbs Memorial Park Cemetery, I believe Joseph Medcalf Funerals were the first funeral company, to do the first interment in 1893, at this new cemetery. Joseph Medcalf Funerals has a very proud and caring history, and experience in supporting people with the passing of dear loved ones.

Our local member Michael Daley MP continues to inform us of important matters to our community. Firstly, save our bus routes and secondly, opposing the Matraville Incinerator. These matters I would urge you to write to the State Government in opposing them.

God bless.

Fr John

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES for St. Andrew's

Please pick up your new set of envelopes at the back of the church.

A few have a **different** number so please check your name and address.

You are encouraged to stay in or join the Planned Giving Program even if you will not be claiming a tax deduction.

Where will Fr John be?? - Covid Restrictions Permitting

This Week Saturday 10 July - No Masses, Sunday 1 July - No Masses

Next Week: Saturday, 17 July - 5.00pm Malabar, Sunday 18 July - 9.30am Matraville