

Alleluia, alleluia!

God has called us with the gospel
to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mk 9:30-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according
to Mark.

*The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of
humanity . . . All who wish to be first must make
themselves the servants of all.*

After leaving the mountain Jesus and his
disciples made their way through Galilee; and
he did not want anyone to know, because he
was instructing his disciples; he was telling
them, 'The Son of Man will be delivered into
the hands of men; they will put him to death;
and three days after he has been put to death
he will rise again.' But they did not understand
what he said and were afraid to ask him.

They came to Capernaum, and when he was
in the house he asked them, 'What were you
arguing about on the road?' They said nothing
because they had been arguing which of them
was the greatest. So he sat down, called the
Twelve to him and said, 'If anyone wants to
be first, he must make himself last of all and
servant of all.' He then took a little child, set
him in front of them, put his arms round him,
and said to them, 'Anyone who welcomes one
of these little children in my name, welcomes
me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes
not me but the one who sent me.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word

LIVING WITH OUR DIFFERENCES

As the letter of James observes, wherever there
is jealousy and ambition there is disharmony.
It is the sign of both human and spiritual
maturity to be able to live in peace with
ourselves and others. A reality of life is that
there are differences between people and
that they can often be a source of division
and discontent. Today's readings invite us to
reflect on the ways in which differences can be
life-giving rather than destructive.

For the writer of the book of Wisdom the
truly righteous person will be a thorn in the
side of those whose values they do not share.
The implied challenge is that of daring to be
different when it means being true to our
values.

Even within the Christian community the
problems provided by our differences and
desire for recognition need to be addressed.
It is to the credit of the early Christians
that they did not veneer over their very
real differences and honestly admitted their
difficulties in this area. At the very moment
that Jesus is speaking of the violent death that
awaits him the disciples are already arguing
among themselves about who is the greatest.
It is precisely in this context that Jesus reveals
to them that true greatness has always been
found in the ability to serve and sacrifice
oneself for the good of others. It is not that
differences do not exist, or that some have
the responsibility of leadership. What counts
is the manner in which that responsibility
is exercised. In that, Jesus remains our most
enduring example.

Christopher Monaghan CP



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

19 SEPTEMBER 2021

FIRST READING

Wis 2:12, 17-20

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

Let us condemn him to a most shameful death.

The godless say to themselves,

'Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man, since

he annoys us

and opposes our way of life,

reproaches us for our breaches of the law

and accuses us of playing false to our

upbringing.

Let us see if what he says is true,

let us observe what kind of end he himself will
have.

If the virtuous man is God's son, God will
take his part

and rescue him from the clutches of his enemies.

Let us test him with cruelty and with torture,

and thus explore this gentleness of his

and put his endurance to the proof.

Let us condemn him to a shameful death

since he will be looked after – we have his
word for it.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 53:3-6, 8. R. v. 6

R. The Lord upholds my life.

1. O God, save me by your name; / by your
power, uphold my cause. / O God, hear my
prayer; / listen to the words of my mouth. **R.**

2. For proud men have risen against me, /
ruthless men seek my life. / They have no
regard for God. **R.**

3. But I have God for my help. / The Lord
upholds my life. / I will sacrifice to you with
willing heart / and praise your name for it is
good. **R.**



SECOND READING

James 3:16-4:3

A reading from the letter of St James.

*Justice is the harvest of peacemakers from seeds sown
in a spirit of peace.*

Wherever you find jealousy and ambition, you
find disharmony, and wicked things of every
kind being done; whereas the wisdom that
comes down from above is essentially something
pure; it also makes for peace, and is kindly and
considerate; it is full of compassion and shows
itself by doing good; nor is there any trace of
partiality or hypocrisy in it. Peacemakers, when
they work for peace, sow the seeds which will
bear fruit in holiness.

Where do these wars and battles between
yourselves first start? Isn't it precisely in the
desires fighting inside your own selves? You
want something and you haven't got it; so you
are prepared to kill. You have an ambition that
you cannot satisfy; so you fight to get your way
by force. Why you don't have what you want
is because you don't pray for it; when you do
pray and don't get it, it is because you have not
prayed properly, you have prayed for something
to indulge your own desires.

■ The word of the Lord.

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Tuesday - Friday 9am

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Available by appointment

Principal: Rose Andre

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From my desk

Greetings to one and all, as we progress in this lockdown, towards a road map out of lockdown, God willing! Hopefully, you are fully vaccinated. Those who have been travelling by St Agnes' Church, may have noticed some work taking place. This coming week, for several weeks, there will be a lot of activity, with the much needed restoration to parts of the Church and the outside of the St Agnes' Presbytery. This includes outside painting, carpentry work to the farceurs, interior LED lighting, lead-light glass repairs and cleaning of the glass, together with restoration of the War Memorial of our War Memorial Church. Can I just remind you that it is possible if you so desire, to go to the websites of St Agnes' and St Andrew's and use the support button and go to donations, to assist in these projects, your generosity would be appreciated.

Last Friday concluded our 3rd Term with much 'home schooling'. Let's hope and pray that we will be out of lockdown in the early part of 4th Term and will be able to prepare for the Sacraments of Confirmation (Year 6) and the Eucharist (First Holy Communion) (Year3). Dates and times will be published as soon as we can see some possibility of celebrating these Sacraments, together with the Sacrament of Baptism.

I know how difficult it is not to attend Mass or visit the Church during these lockdown restricted times. I do hope that you are taking advantage of our livestream Masses from St Andrew's, 9am Sundays and Tuesdays to Fridays, at 9am. I am grateful for the generous donation of Joseph Medcalf Funerals, who made it possible for this facility to become a reality. I wish to thank the parishioners of our St Andrew and St Agnes, Twinned Catholic Parishes at Malabar and Matraville, for ministering at these Masses. Please pass on to others this wonderful medium, that we have in beaming Masses into your homes.

The Plenary Council begins on October 3, please pray the Plenary Council Prayer each day, I will definitely speak further about Plenary Councils next week.

God bless you all, keep safe and well, and please contact the Parish Offices if we can be of assistance.

Fr John

Plenary Council Prayer Campaign: People across the country are invited to participate in the "Fan the Flame" prayer campaign leading up to the first assembly of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia. The assembly starts on October 3. Campaign materials include resources for personal and communal prayer, reflections, musical suggestions and multimedia content. Find the resources at: www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fanthefflame/



Our Parishes acknowledge and honour the Bidjigal and Gadagal People of the Eora Nation as the original custodians of this land

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Go Make Disciples,

The Mission Plan for the Archdiocese of Sydney



Please pray for the Faithful Departed:

Recently deceased: Yvonne Plumber, Tom Fitzpatrick, Victor Ballard,

Fr Anthony Simari, and all who have died from the Covid-19 Virus. **Deceased:** Agnes Brisbane.

Anniversary: David Blackmore, Peter John Skeffington, Frank Chessari, Alana Doyle, Dympna Fownes, Teofila Depczynski, Reg Foster, Victor Bonifacio, Yolande & Robert Aquilina, and Lydia & Joe Bujeya.

The Sick: Emilia Grace Kelly

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.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: If anyone in the parish has a love of high-tech equipment and is interested in learning the running of our new livestreaming equipment, we would appreciate your help. We are hoping to get enough parishioners involved, to make up a roster system for weekend masses. Anyone who is interested, please contact our offices on 9311 2062 or emailing standrewmal@gmail.com or stagnesmatra@bigpond.com.

Where will Fr John be??

**Every Sunday 9.00am Mass Livestreamed
Tuesday - Friday 9am**

Please scan QR code to watch on Youtube



SCAN ME