

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

*The scriptures were fulfilled on this day.*

Seeing that many others have undertaken to draw up accounts of the events that have taken place among us, exactly as these were handed down to us by those who from the outset were eye-witnesses and ministers of the word, I in my turn, after carefully going over the whole story from the beginning, have decided to write an ordered account for you, Theophilus, so that your Excellency may learn how well founded the teaching is that you have received.

Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to Galilee; and his reputation spread throughout the countryside. He taught in their synagogues and everyone praised him.

He came to Nazara, where he had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read, and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written:

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me,  
for he has anointed me.  
He has sent me to bring the good news to  
the poor,  
to proclaim liberty to captives  
and to the blind new sight,  
to set the downtrodden free,  
to proclaim the Lord's year of favour.

He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.'

### ■ The Gospel of the Lord.

#### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

23 JANUARY 2022

## JESUS OUR GUIDE

Often it can be difficult to know how to read the signs of the times. In our search, we naturally turn to the scriptures but often we find that we need a guide in order to fully understand them. The first reading from Nehemiah comes from a time when the people of Israel shared some of the same difficulties. The Hebrew scriptures needed to be interpreted for the people in their own language of Aramaic.

One of Paul's strengths as a pastor was that he was tireless in searching for ways to explain the nature of Christian life in language that his Christian converts could understand. How was he going to show the divided community of Corinth that they needed each other? How could he bring them to see that the variety of gifts within the community was a blessing rather than a source of division? To answer this vexing problem, he drew upon the image of the community as a body where every member of the body depends on every other member. He knew all too well that separated from Christ our head, and divided from one another, we are nothing.

For Luke, Jesus is the one who can best explain the meaning of the scriptures and the signs of the times. As Jesus begins his ministry the new age promised by Isaiah is dawning. Jesus comes among us bringing new sight to the blind, freedom to captives, and good news to the poor.

Christopher Monaghan CP

## FIRST READING

Neh 8:2-6, 8-10

**A reading from the book of Nehemiah**

*They read from the book of the Law and they understood what was read.*

Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, consisting of men, women, and children old enough to understand. This was the first day of the seventh month. On the square before the Water Gate, in the presence of the men and women, and children old enough to understand, he read from the book from early morning till noon; all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden dais erected for the purpose. In full view of all the people – since he stood higher than all the people – Ezra opened the book; and when he opened it all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people raised their hands and answered, 'Amen! Amen!'; then they bowed down and, face to the ground, prostrated themselves before the Lord. And Ezra read from the Law of God, translating and giving the sense, so that the people understood what was read.

Then Nehemiah – His Excellency – and Ezra, priest and scribe (and the Levites who were instructing the people) said to all the people, 'This day is sacred to the Lord your God. Do not be mournful, do not weep.' For the people were all in tears as they listened to the words of the Law.

He then said, 'Go, eat the fat, drink the sweet wine, and send a portion to the man who has nothing prepared ready. For this day is sacred to our Lord. Do not be sad: the joy of the Lord is your stronghold.'

### ■ The word of the Lord.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** Ps 18:8-10, 15. R. Jn 6:73  
**R. Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.**

1. The law of the Lord is perfect, / it revives the soul. / The rule of the Lord is to be trusted, / it gives wisdom to the simple. **R.**



2. The precepts of the Lord are right, / they gladden the heart. / The command of the Lord is clear, / it gives light to the eyes. **R.**

3. The fear of the Lord is holy, / abiding for ever. / The decrees of the Lord are truth / and all of them just. **R.**

4. May the spoken words of my mouth, / the thoughts of my heart, / win favour in your sight, O Lord, / my rescuer, my rock! **R.**

## SECOND READING

1 Cor 12:12-14, 27

**A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians**

*Together you are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it.*

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

Nor is the body to be identified with any one of its many parts.

Now you together are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it.

### ■ The word of the Lord.

*Longer form, 1 Cor 12:12-30.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Lk 4:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

**The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor and freedom to prisoners. Alleluia!**

**Sts. Andrew & Agnes**  
**Twinned Catholic Parishes**  
 Parish Priest: Fr. John M. Knight KCHS



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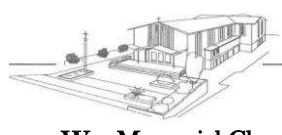
Sunday 9 am

**RECONCILIATION:**

Available by appointment.

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Vigil Saturday 5:30 pm

Sunday 10 am

**RECONCILIATION:**

Available by appointment.

Principal: Rose André

School: 9311 1995

**From my desk.**

Greetings to parishioners and friends of Sts Andrew's and Agnes'. I know that some of you have contracted Covid, you are in my prayers and thoughts, and I hope your recovery is swift. I know that some of you have not vaccinated against the virus, can I urge you, for your own safety and the safety of others to vaccinate please.

This week just passed Leonie Burfield, St Andrew's Principal for many years handed over the school keys of St Andrew's Catholic Primary School, Malabar to our new Principal Mr Phil Tax. On behalf of the Parish Community, I wish God's blessings on Leonie as she begins as Principal at St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, Sutherland, and Phil as he commences his Principalship with us here at St Andrew's.

This Wednesday is 26 January Australia Day, and we celebrate the commencement of modern Australia in 1788, remembering our 1<sup>st</sup> Nation indigenous tribes and nations that have been part of this continent for thousands upon thousands of years. This Wednesday both our Twinned Catholic Parishes of St Andrew and St Agnes Malabar-Matraville will celebrate Mass at 9am. All are welcome to come and celebrate. **(No 7am Mass this day at St Agnes')**

Just a note regarding our 9am Mass next Sunday 30 January at St Andrew's there will be 4 Baptisms that will be celebrated during Mass.

In conclusion, where has time gone? This Friday, 28 January will mark my 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary as Parish Priest/Pastor of our Twinned Catholic Parishes of St Agnes & St Andrew, Matraville-Malabar, what a wonderful and blessed year it has been. Can I thank you all for your warm welcome. We have accomplished many things, and I hope to do many other things. I must admit it has been difficult during these Covid times, as I don't know all my parishioners, as many are afraid to attend Masses and I fully understand. I do hope that they are availing themselves to the live-streamed Masses. God willing, we can grow together, St Agnes' and St Andrew's as Disciples of Christ our journey of pilgrimage to the Father.

God bless you all, keep you safe and well.

**Fr John**



Our Parishes acknowledge and honour the Bidjigal and Gadagal People of the Eora Nation as traditional custodians of this land, that we stand on.

**THE 3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

*Go Make Disciples,*

*The Mission Plan for the Archdiocese of Sydney*

**Please pray for the Faithful Departed:**

**Recently deceased:** Gloria Fisher (Archbishop Fisher's mother) Lina Gullota, Stephen Newman, Vanessa Trindall, Paul Calleja, Maria Cassar, and all who have died from the Covid-19 Virus.

**Deceased:** Agnes Brisbane.

**Anniversary:** Sylvia Paoella, Robert and Helena Dwyer, Yolande Aquilina, Robert Jennings, Brian Kennedy, Maria Italiano, Angela Nad, Julia Laporte, Angelina & Joseph Portelli, and Marie Hurthworth.

**The Sick:** Fr Paul, Ernie Ross. Pray for the sick, the dying, poor and homeless in our parishes, and those suffering from Covid.



**PERE RECEVEUR MASS AT LA PEROUSE**  
**SUNDAY 20th FEBRUARY at 11am**

This Mass is celebrated annually near the grave of Fr Receveur who died at Botany Bay on 17<sup>th</sup> February 1788.

He was a priest and scientist with the La Perouse expedition.

He may have been the first Catholic priest in Australia

*Everyone is invited to this outdoor Mass*

Sound system and transportation of equipment provided courtesy of Randwick City Council

Sausage sizzle provided by Seaside Lions &

refreshments by Friends of La Perouse Museum.

**PLEASE NOTE:** There will be no Saturday morning masses at St Andrew's commencing from January 1, 2022.

**COVID SAFETY:** Please ensure you sign in, observe signage on pews on where to sit, sit 1.5m from those not from the same household, do not touch statues, and take bulletins with you instead of returning bulletins to the receptacle.

**Parish Outing 2nd Feb 2022** please ensure you bring your ID plus your Vaccination Certificate, and wear a mask on board.

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](mailto: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.

**Where will Fr John be celebrating Masses next weekend?**

Saturday, 29, January 5.30, – St Agnes'

Sunday, 30 January, 9am St Andrew's - Livestreaming

Sunday, 30, January 10am at St Agnes'

**Please scan the QR Code to watch on YouTube**



SCAN ME