

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor,  
to make you rich out of his poverty.

Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

Lk 16:10-13

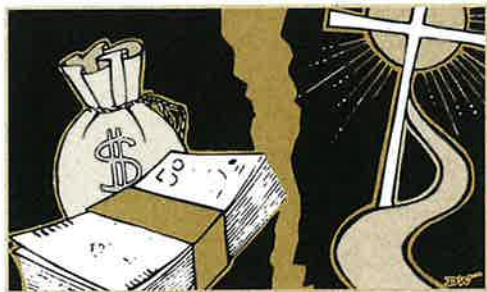
A reading from the holy Gospel according  
to Luke.

*You cannot be slaves both of God and of money.*

Jesus said to his disciples, 'The man who can be trusted in little things can be trusted in great; the man who is dishonest in little things can be dishonest in great. If then you cannot be trusted with money, that tainted thing, who will trust you with genuine riches? And if you cannot be trusted with what is not yours, who will give you what is your very own? 'No servant can be the slave of two masters: he will either hate the first and love the second, or treat the first with respect and the second with scorn. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

*Longer form Lk 16:1-13*



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# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

18 SEPTEMBER 2022

## NO ONE CAN SERVE TWO MASTERS

How are we to live in the world and yet remain faithful to the living God? What attitudes to wealth and material goods are appropriate for the person of faith? How are we Christians to balance the demands of the world and those of our faith? Each of us has to address these complex questions and today's readings provide us with some useful orientations.

Amos had the courage to call some of his contemporaries to account because they had come to see their poor brothers and sisters as an opportunity for personal gain. They are reminded that while they have forgotten their responsibilities, God has not. Jesus' statement that none of us can be the servant of two masters goes straight to the heart of the matter. We are called to use material goods astutely but to always remember that these have been entrusted to us.

A regular part of civic life in the ancient world was the worship of the gods of the city and empire. But how were Christians to resolve this dilemma? Timothy's community members are encouraged to live their Christian lives in peace by making it known that they prayed to their own God for their rulers and authorities. It is made clear to them that this is not a case of having divided loyalties. God is the ultimate authority and God's plan is that all be saved through Jesus. By means of this creative response, these Christians were able to remain faithful to the demands of faith and their rulers.

## FIRST READING

Amos 8:4-7

A reading from the prophet Amos

*The Lord spoke against those who buy the poor for money.*

Listen to this, you who trample on the needy and try to suppress the poor people of the country,

you who say, 'When will New Moon be over so that we can sell our corn,  
and sabbath, so that we can market our wheat?

Then by lowering the bushel, raising the shekel,

by swindling and tampering with the scales, we can buy up the poor for money, and the needy for a pair of sandals, and get a price even for the sweeping of the wheat.'

The Lord swears it by the pride of Jacob, 'Never will I forget a single thing you have done.'

■ **The word of the Lord.**

## RESP PSALM

Ps 112:1-2, 4-8. R. cf. vv. 1, 7

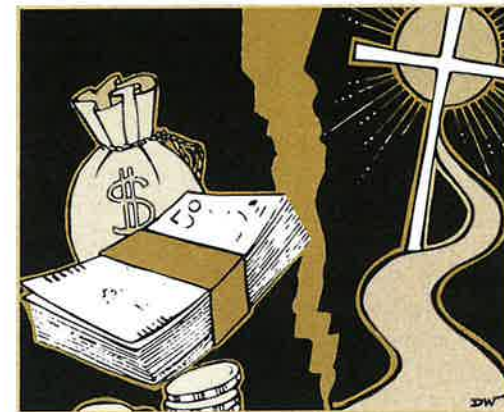
**R. Praise the Lord, who lifts up the poor.**

*(or Alleluia!)*

1. Praise, O servants of the Lord, / praise the name of the Lord! / May the name of the Lord be blessed / both now and for evermore! **R.**

2. High above all nations is the Lord, / above the heavens his glory. / Who is like the Lord, our God, / who has risen on high to his throne / yet stoops from the heights to look down, / to look down upon heaven and earth? **R.**

3. From the dust he lifts up the lowly, / from the dunghill he raises the poor / to set him in the company of princes, / yes, with the princes of his people. **R.**



## SECOND READING

1 Tim 2:1-8

A reading from the first letter of St Paul  
to Timothy

*Let prayers be offered to God for everyone; he wants all people to be saved.*

My advice is that, first of all, there should be prayers offered for everyone – petitions, intercessions and thanksgiving – and especially for kings and others in authority, so that we may be able to live religious and reverent lives in peace and quiet. To do this is right, and will please God our saviour: he wants everyone to be saved and reach full knowledge of the truth. For there is only one God, and there is only one mediator between God and humankind, himself a man, Christ Jesus, who sacrificed himself as a ransom for them all. He is the evidence of this, sent at the appointed time, and I have been named a herald and apostle of it and – I am telling the truth and no lie – a teacher of the faith and the truth to the pagans.

In every place, then, I want the men to lift their hands up reverently in prayer, with no anger or argument.

■ **The word of the Lord.**



**ST ANDREW & ST AGNES  
TWINNED CATHOLIC PARISHES**

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Masses Tues, Wed, Fri: 9 am  
Vigil Saturday 5 pm  
Sunday 9 am  
**RECONCILIATION:**  
Sat 4.30 - 4.45pm  
Also available by appointment  
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School: 9311 1203

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Masses Tues, Wed, Fri: 7 am Thurs: 9 am  
Vigil Saturday 5:30 pm  
Sunday 10 am  
**RECONCILIATION:**  
Sat. 5pm - 5.15pm  
Also available by appointment  
Principal: Rose André  
School: 9311 2995



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

**25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**



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

Please pray for the Faithful Departed:

Recently deceased: Agata Fichera and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, the people of Ukraine and Russia, and all who have died from the Covid-19 Virus.

Deceased: Agnes Brisbane.

Anniversary: Sarkis Pireh, Victor Bonifacio, Reg Foster, Giovanni Spano, Robert & Helena Dwyer, Isabel & Atia Leite and Leonard & Rudy Velu.

The Sick: Maria Reilly, Lachlan Strawbridge, Josh Peel-Yates, Dagney Payet, Tina Maria, Eva Pethes, Anton Snashel, Ellie Carter, Mary Lau, Lilly Weekes, Brian and Colleen Maguire, Max Fenech, Marc Bakusic, Fran Evans, Ernie Ross, Metilda and Jacintha Mary. Pray for the sick, the dying, the poor and homeless in our parishes and those suffering from Covid.



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

Saturday - 24th September 5.30 pm at St Agnes' Matraville  
Sunday - 25th September 9.00 am at St Andrew's Malabar

Please scan the QR code to watch on Youtube.



SCAN ME

**Funeral for the late Agata Fichera Thursday, 29 September 9am at St Agnes' Matraville**

*From the Pastor's Desk*



**Greetings to all parishioners and visitors of St Andrew & St Agnes Twinned Catholic Parishes, Malabar — Matraville**

We continue to mourn the passing of Queen Elizabeth II. Many tributes have been paid to this gracious woman of faith, devotion, and duty. Our Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has announced that this Thursday 22 September we will have a Public Holiday as a day of National Mourning for our Late Sovereign Queen. On 22 September at St Agnes', Matraville at 9am, there will be one Mass as part of our National Mourning Day. To mark the life and reign of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Archbishop Fisher will celebrate a Solemn Pontifical Requiem Mass at St Mary's Cathedral on Saturday, 24 September 2022 at 10am. This Mass is open to all to attend.

It only seems like yesterday that Deacon Bijoy arrived at our Twinned Catholic Parishes of St Andrew & St Agnes, Malabar—Matraville. It was 20 July; Ordained a Priest on 6 August and this coming Wednesday 21 September Father Bijoy departs us to return to Rome to complete his Masters in Liturgy. It has been a delight to have Fr Bijoy living and working with us. Our two Schools of St Andrew's & St Agnes', teachers and children have gained so much of his knowledge. Thank you, Fr Bijoy, from all in our parishes you have enlightened us with much enthusiasm and knowledge. I am grateful for Fr Bijoy's presence in the house and parish, and this reminds me of my time as a newly ordained priest with the fresh scent of sacred Oil of Chrism on my hands and been that new minister of Christ the High Priest. May he continue to bless Fr Bijoy in his priestly journey in the service of Jesus Christ. Wherever Fr Bijoy is sent after coming back from Rome I am sure he will have a special place in his heart for our parishes. God bless and keep you and thank you Fr Bijoy. ad multos annos (to many years) in the service of the Lord.

Congratulations to 21 of our community of St Agnes' who will receive their First Eucharist this weekend at a special 11.30am Mass. I wish to congratulate also their parents/carers who have brought them to this important and sacred moment of Grace. Congratulations to Julie Lippman's mother Carmel Kennedy who celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday on 15 September in Wagga. Happy Birthday Carmel from all at St Andrew's & St Agnes'.

**Wishing God's Blessings to all.**

**Father John**

**HEALTH ALERT**

**NSW Health has advised us that a person who attended St Andrew's Church on Sunday, 4 September (Father's Day), 9am Mass was infected with the measles virus. If you are susceptible to measles please watch for any symptoms until 22 September 2022.**

**FAREWELLING ST AGNES' PRIMARY SCHOOL**

The amalgamation of St Agnes' Matraville and OLA Pagewood has been fast-tracked, with the new Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School Matraville to open in January 2023. As such, a variety of celebrations are currently being organised to farewell St Agnes' school including a Mass of Thanksgiving and Morning Tea on 18 November.

**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 [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@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.