



# THE SAVING WORD

PASSION SUNDAY (PALM SUNDAY) / A

2 APRIL 2023

- C. Barabbas.**  
**N.** Pilate said to them:  
**O.** What am I to do with Jesus who is called Christ?  
**N.** They all said:  
**C. Let him be crucified!**  
**N.** Pilate asked:  
**O.** Why? What harm has he done?  
**N.** But they shouted all the louder,  
**C. Let him be crucified!**  
**N.** Then Pilate saw that he was making no impression, that in fact a riot was imminent. So he took some water, washed his hands in front of the crowd and said:  
**O.** I am innocent of this man's blood. It is your concern.  
**N.** And the people, to a man, shouted back:  
**C. His blood be on us and on our children!**  
**N.** Then he released Barabbas for them. He ordered Jesus to be first scourged and then handed over to be crucified.  
 The governor's soldiers took Jesus with them into the Praetorium and collected the whole cohort round him. Then they stripped him and made him wear a scarlet cloak, and having twisted some thorns into a crown they put this on his head and placed a reed in his right hand. To make fun of him they knelt to him saying:  
**C. Hail, king of the Jews!**  
**N.** And they spat on him and took the reed and struck him on the head with it. And when they had finished making fun of him, they took off the cloak and dressed him in his own clothes and led him away to crucify him.  
 On their way out, they came across a man from Cyrene, Simon by name, and enlisted him to carry his cross. When they had

reached a place called Golgotha, that is, the place of the skull, they gave him wine to drink. When they had finished crucifying him they shared out his clothing by casting lots, and then sat down and stayed there keeping guard over him. Above his head was placed the charge against him; it read: 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews'. At the same time two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left.

The passers-by jeered at him; they shook their heads and said:

- C. So you would destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days! Then save yourself! If you are God's son, come down from the cross!**  
**N.** The chief priests with the scribes and elders mocked him in the same way, saying:  
**C. He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He put his trust in God; now let God rescue him if he wants him. For he did say, 'I am the son of God'.**  
**N.** Even the robbers who were crucified with him taunted him in the same way.  
 From the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour, Jesus cried out in a loud voice:  
**J.** Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?  
**N.** That is: 'My God, my God, why have you deserted me?'  
 When some of those who stood there heard this, they said:

- C. The man is calling on Elijah,**  
**N.** and one of them quickly ran to get a sponge which he dipped in vinegar and, putting it on a reed, gave it him to drink. The rest of them said:  
**C. Wait! See if Elijah will come to save him.**  
**N.** But Jesus, again crying out in a loud voice, yielded up his spirit.

*All kneel and pause a moment.*

- N.** At that, the veil of the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom; the earth quaked; the rocks were split; the tombs opened and the bodies of many holy men rose from the dead, and these, after his resurrection, came out of the tombs, entered the Holy City and appeared to a number of people.

Meanwhile the centurion, together with the others guarding Jesus, had seen the earthquake and all that was taking place, and they were terrified and said:

- C. In truth this was a son of God.**

*Longer form, Mt 26:14-27:66*

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### FIRST READING

Isa 50:4-7

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah**

*I did not cover my face against insult and I know I will not be ashamed.*

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied, he provides me with speech. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24. R. v. 2

**R.** My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

1. All who see me deride me. / They curl their lips, they toss their heads. / 'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him: / let him release him if this is his friend.' **R.**

2. Many dogs have surrounded me, / a band of the wicked beset me. / They tear holes in my hands and my feet, / I can count every one of my bones. **R.**

3. They divide my clothing among them. / They cast lots for my robe. / O Lord, do not leave me alone, / my strength, make haste to help me! **R.**

4. I will tell of your name to my brethren / and praise you where they are assembled. /

'You who fear the Lord give him praise; / all sons of Jacob, give him glory. / Revere him, Israel's sons.' **R.**

### SECOND READING

Phil 2:6-11

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians**

*He humbled himself to become like us and God raised him on high.*

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Phil 2:8-9

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! / Christ became obedient for us even to death, / dying on the cross. / Therefore God raised him on high / and gave him a name above all other names. / Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!**

### GOSPEL

Mt 27:11-54

**N.** The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (**N. Narrator J. Jesus O. Other single speaker C. Crowd, or more than one other speaker**)

**N.** Jesus, then, was brought before the governor, and the governor put to him this

question:

- O.** Are you the king of the Jews?  
**N.** Jesus replied:  
**J.** It is you who say it.  
**N.** But when he was accused by the chief priests and the elders he refused to answer at all. Pilate then said to him:  
**O.** Do you not hear how many charges they have brought against you?  
**N.** But to the governor's complete amazement, he offered no reply to any of the charges.

At festival time it was the governor's practice to release a prisoner for the people, anyone they chose. Now there was at that time a notorious prisoner whose name was Barabbas. So when the crowd gathered, Pilate said to them,

- O.** Which do you want me to release for you: Barabbas or Jesus who is called Christ?  
**N.** For Pilate knew it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. Now as he was seated in the chair of judgement, his wife sent him a message,  
**O.** Have nothing to do with that man; I have been upset all day by a dream I had about him.  
**N.** The chief priests and the elders, however, had persuaded the crowd to demand the release of Barabbas and the execution of Jesus. So when the governor spoke and asked them:  
**O.** Which of the two do you want me to release for you?  
**N.** They said:



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Sunday 9 am

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Syro-Malabar Rite: 1st Sunday; 5pm

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

Sacred Heart School Matraville: 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.



**PALM (PASSION) SUNDAY**

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



Please pray for the Faithful Departed:

**Recently Deceased:** Mark Foster, Kate Friciek Peter Heaney, Sylvester Joseph, Lawrence, and Edward Rezcallah. All the people of Syria and Turkey who have died as a result of the Earthquake, all the people of the Ukraine and Russia who have died as a result of War, and all who have died from the Covid-19 Virus.

**Deceased:** Agnes Brisbane. All the souls in Purgatory.

**Anniversary:** Donald Wright, Kenneth Phillips, Betty Johnson, Gerard Dalton, Alfred & Helena Gainge, Joe Smith, Inez and Angela D'Souza, Evelyn Garas (40 days), and Alice Payet.

**The Sick:** Angela Beveridge, Marie Cullen, Merley Nate Fien, Patrick Sargent, Gina Buchan, Ethan Sharpley, John Sarniak Thomson, Pam O'Grady, Heracleo & Mamerta Dela Torre, Sylvester and Santa Viselli, Ellie Carter and Ernie Ross. Pray for the sick, the dying, the poor and homeless in our



**Where will Fr. John be celebrating Mass next weekend?**

Saturday - 7 April - 6.00 pm St Andrew's (Livestreamed) - Easter Vigil

Sunday - 8 April - 10.00 am - St Agnes'

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 [safeguarding.enquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguarding.enquiries@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.



Greetings to all parishioners and visitors of St Andrew & St Agnes Twinned Catholic Parishes of Malabar-Matraville.

Today we begin our Week of Weeks, Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion, and the beginning of Holy Week. This week combines with the concluding of Lent 2023 on Holy Thursday evening and the beginning of the

Easter Triduum also on Thursday evening, following with Good Friday and then the night of nights, the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday, Jesus rising from the dead. I would encourage all to participate in all our Easter Triduum Ceremonies, a timetable for your information is below for both parishes of St Andrew's Malabar & St Agnes' Matraville. Many thanks for all those who provided palms for today, much appreciated.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE EASTER VIGIL NEXT SATURDAY 8 APRIL WILL COMMENCE AT 6.00PM AT BOTH PARISHES.**

**THE BLESSING OF EASTER FOOD AND EGGS WILL TAKE PLACE AT ST ANDREW'S MALABAR ON HOLY SATURDAY, NEXT SATURDAY AT 9.00AM**

Congratulations to all our 2023 candidates who completed their Sacrament of Penance Unit at St Agnes' Matraville & St Andrew's Malabar, just this week gone. Thanks to the Parents, Teachers, and Catechists who prepared them for this Sacrament and the Parish Music Ministry, School Community and others who assisted in the celebration of this Sacrament, a beautiful and prayerful event.

I hope all at St Agnes' have had an opportunity to experience our Stage One of our Audio Visual Restoration with our new screens. This project has cost around \$20,000, and I am hoping for sponsorship of this project. You may wish to assist by using our Restoration Envelopes.

At St Andrew's there is now a new digital piano to assist us in enriching our liturgies  
**God Bless You All**

**Father John**

**HOLY WEEK & EASTER TRIDUUM 2022**

**St Andrews/St Agnes'**

- Palm Sunday 1/2 April: Normal Mass Times
- Holy Thursday 6 April: 10.30am Chism Mass—St Mary's Cathedral  
7.00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper, washing of the feet and reservation until 8.30pm **(Both Parishes)**
- Good Friday 7 April: 10am Stations of the Cross, 3pm Passion of the Lord, Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion **(Both Parishes)**
- Holy Saturday 8 April: 9am Blessing of Easter Food and Eggs **(St Andrew's)**  
6pm Easter Vigil **(Both Parishes)**
- Easter Sunday 9 April: 9am St Andrew's and 10am St Agnes'

ATTENTION: St Andrew's Carpark will reopen at Easter.