

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Whomsoever you find invite to the wedding.

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited" he said "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He despatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants. "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out on to the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, "How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?" And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

Shorter form, Mt 22: 1-10

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

15 OCTOBER 2023

CALLED TO HOPE

The readings for today are both comforting and unsettling. Isaiah's vision of the whole human family gathered in peace on the mountain of the Lord is one that all people of goodwill hope will one day come to pass. The Gospel, on the other hand, introduces a discordant and unsettling note as Jesus continues to confront his opponents with the disturbing parable of the wedding feast. It seems hardly fair that a poor man dragged off the street to make up the numbers at a wedding feast should then be cast out because he was improperly dressed. If Matthew is compared with Luke 14:15-24 it quickly becomes apparent that Matthew has combined two parables of Jesus regarding weddings. One spoke of guests who were invited but refused, the other spoke of someone who came to a wedding improperly dressed. Since Matthew's community comprised both Jewish and Gentile Christians it seems his aim was to make sure both groups avoided complacency and taking God's gracious invitation for granted.

As Paul reflects on his experience as an apostle, one thing he learned was that there was no room for complacency. The ministry he had received to preach the gospel was one which entailed many risks, poverty and plenty, acceptance and rejection. In order to preach the gospel, he worked to support himself but was often assisted by communities that he had established. As he nears the conclusion of the letter to the community in Philippi, he thanks them for their generosity and support.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Isa 25:6-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord will prepare a feast and will wipe away the tears from every cheek.

On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all people a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines, of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines. On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy Death for ever. The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so. That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation; the Lord is the one in whom we hoped. We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us; for the hand of the Lord rests on this mountain.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 22. R. v. 6

R. I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

1. The Lord is my shepherd; / there is nothing I shall want. / Fresh and green are the pastures / where he gives me repose. / Near restful waters he leads me, / to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**
2. He guides me along the right path; / he is true to his name. / If I should walk in the valley of darkness / no evil would I fear. / You are there with your crook and your staff; / with these you give me comfort. **R.**
3. You have prepared a banquet for me / in the sight of my foes. / My head you have anointed with oil; / my cup is overflowing. **R.**



4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me / all the days of my life. / In the Lord's own house shall I dwell / for ever and ever. **R.**

SECOND READING

Phil 4:12-14, 19-20

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

I am able to do all things in him who strengthens me.

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

■ 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!



**ST ANDREW & ST AGNES
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Vigil Saturday 5 pm
Sunday 9 am

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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

Sacred Heart School Matraville: 9311 2995



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



28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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



Please pray for the Faithful Departed:

Recently Deceased: Kathleen Lundy Antonio Lamagna, Kathleen Lundy, Stuart Collings, Peg Denny, Antonio Lamagna, Esme Russell-Timberly, Pam O'Grady (Mick Hall's sister-in-law), and all those who have died from the Covid-19 Virus.



Deceased: Agnes Brisbane, May Peraets Stoja, Ivan Zubčić Braders Molrito, Stanko Grgo Marijan, Sistar Zorka, Zubric Masq Pelisich, Wasa Pedisich and All the souls in Purgatory.

Anniversary: Inez D'Souza Noel Mahon, William Hurworth, Lydia & Joe Bujeya, Dr Ralph Bacash, Marie Therese Cullen, Maree Knight (10 years), Geoff Reid, and on the 21st Anniversary of the Bali Bombings, Gayke Airlie, Cathy Seelin, Geradine and Steven Buchan, Tom Singer and all those who died in Bali.

The Sick: Sandra Russell, Bishop Peter Ingham, Ange Portelli, Ha Oi Lan, Mario Assini, Sam Strano, Josephie Regan, Mary Vella, Robert 'Bob' Spanswick, Beatriz Visperas, Michael Victor, Marcus O'Dean, Angela Beveridge, Marie Cullen, Merley Nate Fien, John Sarniak Thomson, Heracleo & Mamerta Dela Torre, Santa Viselli and Ernie Ross. Pray for the sick, the dying, the poor and home-

Where will Fr. John be celebrating Mass next weekend?

Saturday - 21 October 2023 - 5.00pm St Andrew's Malabar (Livestreamed)
Sunday - 22 October 2023 - 10.00am St Agnes Matraville



Greetings dear parishioners and visitors of our Twinned Catholic Parishes of St Andrew's & St Agnes' Malabar-Matraville. Welcome back to our holiday makers on the recent 3rd Term School vacation. It is hard to take in that at the end of this 10-week term it will be Christmas celebrations. If you go into the stores now, there are Christmas Decorations to dazzle your eyes. It is most important that we keep all in perspective that Christmas is

the birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father who redeemed the human race. We must keep this in mind as a Catholic/Christian Community. The holidays that we will celebrate come from the words HOLY DAYS. Holy because we recognise that God is Holy, and we are incorporated into his family through our Baptism as Daughters and Sons of God.

This month of October the Pope Francis, Bishop of Rome and Bishops of the World and lay people have gathered in Rome to begin the First Session of the Synod of Synodality (the Second will happen next October). We pray that the Holy Spirit may guide them in their derivations to know what God is moving the Church into this 21st Century towards the coming of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the fullness of time.

This Sunday St Agnes' Parish, Matraville will have the Annual Mission Appeal. I wish to encourage you to give generously towards the Church in Timor as they strive to live as a developing nation that sees the dignity of all in the love of Jesus Christ. Your giving brings so much joy in a world that we take for granted. Your giving is 100% tax deductible. So, please fill out the envelopes and give generously. Malabar Parish next week we will have the Annual Mission Appeal.

Please remember in your prayers those students who are sitting for their High School Certificates together with their families. May our tender loving God bring peace in their lives.

We also pray for the conflict Middle East we pray for those who have died have been injured, and may peace be at the heart of all to bring a lasting peace.
God Bless

Fr John

Parish Outing: By Coach, Tuesday 21 November 2023—Penrith RSL, Nepean River, Penrith Printing Museum. Cost \$50 p.p. includes coach fare, museum entry, morning tea and all you can eat buffet lunch. Contact Kathy Sullivan: 9311-1749 or Marie Jennings :9661-7186. **Full payment required by 29th October 2023**



We welcome into our Parish Community **Hendrix Ky Fisher** and **Noah Frankie Ognjenovski** who will receive the sacrament of Baptism this Sunday at St. Andrew's Malabar. **Congratulations.**

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. 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..

Funeral for the late Kathleen Lundy, Tuesday, 17 October, 10.30am—St Agnes' Church