

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Repent, and believe the Good News.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

As he was walking along by the Sea of Galilee he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake — for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men.' And at once they left their nets and followed him.

Going on a little further, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they too were in their boat, mending their nets. He called them at once and, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the men he employed, they went after him.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.



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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

21 JANUARY 2024

METANOIA

"Repent" rings out in our readings today. Jonah, sent by God to Nineveh, delivers the message that they will be destroyed in only forty more days. "They believed God" and, with no hint that they may be reprieved, set a fast and put on sackcloth and ashes (3:5). We miss the details of this reaching the King who, joining in, makes a declaration that everyone and their animals will fast and put on sackcloth and ashes, with the hope that God might relent (vv. 6-9). God repents, changes heart and mind (Greek: *metanoō*). This metanoia, is found in the Gospel of Mark as Jesus moves from the wilderness, after forty days, to Galilee and begins his public ministry. The call to "repent" (metanoia) is couched in his declaration that "the time is fulfilled" and "the kingdom of God has come near" and is accompanied with "believe the Good News" (1:15). We know from the first verse of this Gospel that Jesus, the anointed one, the Christ and Son of God is the Good News unfolding. Our gaze is taken to Jesus in this area calling people to follow him and leave everything to do so.

Paul writing to the Corinthians further awakens our senses declaring "our time is growing short" (v. 29) and "this world is passing away" (v. 31). Sadly, we can imagine this in our time where war, famine, climate change, pandemics and much more wreak havoc. Amid this cacophony, can we hear our call to a change our heart and mind, to believe the Good News and follow Jesus?

Dr Rosemary Canavan

FIRST READING

Jonah 3: 1-5, 10

A reading from the prophet Jonah

The people of Nineveh renounced their evil ways.

The word of the Lord was addressed to Jonah: 'Up!' he said 'Go to Nineveh, the great city, and preach to them as I told you to.' Jonah set out and went to Nineveh in obedience to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was a city great beyond compare: it took three days to cross it. Jonah went on into the city, making a day's journey. He preached in these words, 'Only forty days more and Nineveh is going to be destroyed.' And the people of Nineveh believed in God; they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least.

God saw their efforts to renounce their evil behaviour. And God relented: he did not inflict on them the disaster which he had threatened.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

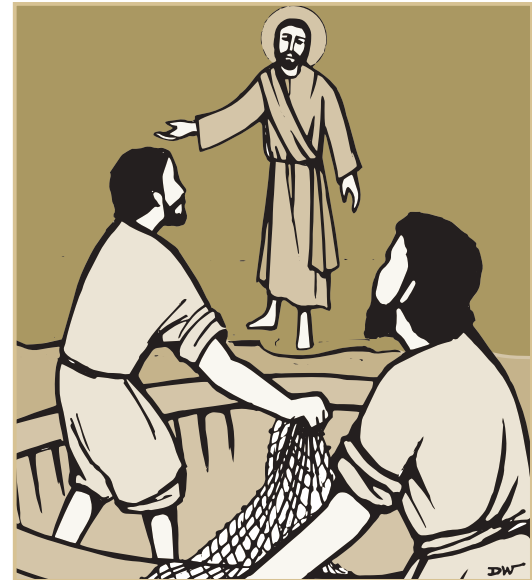
Ps 24: 4-9. R. v. 4

R. Teach me your ways, O Lord.

1. Lord, make me know your ways. / Lord, teach me your paths. / Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: / for you are God my saviour. **R.**

2. Remember your mercy, Lord, / and the love you have shown from of old. / In your love remember me, / because of your goodness, O Lord. **R.**

3. The Lord is good and upright. / He shows the path to those who stray, / he guides the humble in the right path; / he teaches his way to the poor. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Cor 7: 29-31

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

The world as we know it is passing away.

Brothers, our time is growing short. Those who have wives should live as though they had none, and those who mourn should live as though they had nothing to mourn for; those who are enjoying life should live as though there were nothing to laugh about; those whose life is buying things should live as though they had nothing of their own; and those who have to deal with the world should not become engrossed in it. I say this because the world as we know it is passing away.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mk 1: 15

Alleluia, alleluia! / The kingdom of God is near: / believe the Good News! / Alleluia!



**ST ANDREW & ST AGNES
TWINNED CATHOLIC PARISHES**
Parish Priest: Fr John M. Knight KCHS



6 Prince Edward Street, Malabar
Ph: 9311 2062
standrewmal@gmail.com
www.standrewsmalabar.org.au
Office hours: Tues & Wed 8.30 am - 4.30 pm
& Fri 8.30 am - 2.30 pm
Secretarial Staff
Julie Lippmann and Julie Wright
Masses Tues, Wed, Fri: 9 am
Vigil Saturday 5 pm
Sunday 9 am
RECONCILIATION:
Sat 4.30 - 4.45pm
Also available by appointment
Principal: Mr Phil Tax
St Andrew's Primary School Malabar: 9311 1203

War Memorial Church
509 Bunnerong Road, Matraville
Office located at 6 Prince Edward St, Malabar
Office hours: See Opposite Box
Ph: 9311 2062
stagnesmatra@bigpond.com
www.stagnesmatraville.org.au
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 Gadigal People as traditional custodians of this land, that we stand on.



3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Please pray for the Faithful Departed:

Recently Deceased: Gerry Burns, Mary Messina, Irudaya Doss (Fr Daney's father), Pauline Cleary, Ellen Viollet, Ernie Ross, Christine Ricketts, Craig Campbell, Iedo Ribeiro, Frank O'Brien, Dragutin Sprem, and all those who have died from the Covid-19 Virus.



Anniversary: Brian Kennedy, Robert Jennings, Spjepan (Steve) Cavlovic, Horace Grazio Mifsud, Cardinal George Pell AC., Marie Hurworth, Albert Absi, Yolande Aquilina, Leonard Velu, Angeline & Joseph Portelli.

Deceased: Joyce Gander, Agnes Brisbane. All the souls in Purgatory.

The Sick: Fr Pat Hurley, Maureen Maron, Sandra Russell, Bishop Peter Ingham, Ange Portelli, Ha Oi Lan, Mario Assini, Sam Strano, Josephine Regan, Mary Vella, Beatriz Visperas, Michael Victor, Marcus O'Dean, Angela Beveridge, Merley Nate Fien, John Sarniak Thomson, Heracleo & Mamerta Dela Torre, and Santa Viselli. Pray for the sick, the dying, the poor and homeless in our parishes, and pray for World Peace, and those suffering from Covid.

Where will Fr. John be celebrating Mass next weekend?
Saturday - 27 January 2024 - 5.30pm St Agnes
Sunday - 28 January 2024 - 9.00am St Andrew's (Livestreamed)



Greetings dear parishioners and visitors of our Twinned Catholic Parishes of St Andrew & St Agnes Malabar-Matraville. This Sunday (21 January) our Twinned Catholic Parish of St Agnes celebrates its Feast Day. St Agnes of Rome was martyred at the age of 12, not much is known about her though most illustrious martyr of the Church as she is mentioned in the Roman Canon (1st Eucharistic Prayer). Happy Feast Day to all the Matraville parishioners.

With the third Sunday in Ordinary Time, we move back to the Gospel of Mark (In Year B the synoptic Gospel of Mark is proclaimed). We hear the call of the first disciples from St Mark's account in that call to repentance. The time has come for Jesus to make his decisive moment of his public ministry. These men are called as we are to be instruments of God's love in our world. The Kingdom begins to be planted and in time when all are ripened and all will be fulfilled, God will not leave us wanting.

This coming Friday we celebrate 26 January Australia Day, and we celebrate the commencement of modern Australia from 1788, remembering 1st Nation people and nations that have been part of this land for thousands upon thousands of years. This year we celebrate Australia Day at St Andrew's (9am Mass) as last year we celebrated at St Agnes', last All are welcome to come and celebrate. **(No 7am Mass on 26 January at St Agnes')**

This Thursday is the Feast Day of the Conversion of St Paul. Mass 9am St Agnes', Matraville.

God bless,

Fr John



We welcome into our Parish Community **Ellie Celine Batuigas**, who received the sacrament of Baptism on Saturday at St. Andrew's Malabar. We also welcome, **Hugh Joseph and Zoe Louise Conacher, Willow Linda Deborah Connors, Connor David & Emma Grace Healey, Harold Ronald Charlie Lawson, and Elliot William Robert and Spencer Frazer Ryan Sexty** who received the sacrament of Baptism on Sunday at St Agnes', Matraville. **Congratulations.**

Parish Outing: By Coach, Wednesday 21 February, 2024—Thirlmere NSW Rail Museum, lunch at Picton Pub. Cost \$50 p.p. includes coach fare, museum entry, morning tea and Lunch at Picton Pub. Contact Kathy Sullivan: 9311-1749 or Marie Jennings : 9661-7186. **Full payment required by Sunday, 4th February 2024**



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 Mary Messina, Wednesday, 24 January, 1.00pm, St Andrew's.
Funeral for the late Gerry Burns, Wed, 31 January, 10am Sth Chapel, Eastern Suburbs, Crematorium.