

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Ask, and it will be given to you.

Once Jesus was in a certain place praying, and when he had finished, one of his disciples said, 'Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.' He said to them, 'Say this when you pray:

"Father, may your name be held holy, your kingdom come; give us each day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive each one who is in debt to us.

And do not put us to the test."

He also said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend and goes to him in the middle of the night to say, "My friend, lend me three loaves because a friend of mine on his travels has just arrived at my house and I have nothing to offer him"; and the man answers from inside the house, "Do not bother me. The door is bolted now, and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up to give it to you." I tell you, if the man does not get up and give it him for friendship's sake, persistence will be enough to make him get up and give his friend all he wants.

'So I say to you: Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For the one who asks always receives; the one who searches always finds; the one who knocks will always have the door opened to him. What father among you would hand his son a stone when he asked for bread? Or hand him a snake instead of a fish? Or hand him a scorpion if he asked for an egg? If you then, who are evil, know how to give your children what is good, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

24 JULY 2022

FOUNDATION OF PRAYER

Like the disciples we find ourselves asking, 'Lord, teach us to pray'. All people of faith are called to pray but how are we to pray? What attitudes are appropriate? Should we be fearful of the living God or trusting and open? The readings for today provide us with some useful orientations. Abraham's pleading for Sodom and Gomorrah is not simply a theoretical concern. Abraham is pleading for the survival of Lot and his family, though he does not mention them specifically. He is prepared to push God's mercy to the limit to save his relatives. His trust in God and his courageous persistence in prayer are rewarded. Similarly, Jesus teaches the disciples that such persistence is the very stuff of the life of faith. Those who seek will find, to those who knock the door will be opened. Abraham knew that the living God was a God of justice and mercy; Jesus goes further to show that the living God is also to be seen as a loving parent, a tireless provider, to be addressed as our Father.

Paul knew that we can have this sort of confidence in God because of what had come about through Jesus' death. Our baptism enables us to share in his saving death and resurrection. On the cross, Jesus has already graciously paid the debt our sin would normally require us to pay. Because of this gift, we can approach God with confidence and trust because the burden of our past has already been taken up by Jesus.



Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Gen 18:20-32

A reading from the book of Genesis

Lord, do not be angry if I speak.

The Lord said, 'How great an outcry there is against Sodom and Gomorrah! How grievous is their sin! I propose to go down and see whether or not they have done all that is alleged in the outcry against them that has come up to me. I am determined to know.'

The men left there and went to Sodom while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Approaching him he said, 'Are you really going to destroy the just man with the sinner? Perhaps there are fifty just men in the town. Will you really overwhelm them, will you not spare the place for the fifty just men in it? Do not think of doing such a thing: to kill the just man with the sinner, treating just and sinner alike! Do not think of it! Will the judge of the whole earth not administer justice?' The Lord replied, 'If at Sodom I find fifty just men in the town, I will spare the whole place because of them.'

Abraham replied, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this to my Lord, I who am dust and ashes. But perhaps the fifty just men lack five: will you destroy the whole city for five?' 'No', he replied, 'I will not destroy it if I find forty-five just men there.' Again Abraham said to him, 'Perhaps there will only be forty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'for the sake of the forty.'

Abraham said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry, but give me leave to speak: perhaps there will only be thirty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'if I find thirty there.' He said, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this, but perhaps there will only be twenty there.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the twenty.' He said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry if I speak once more: perhaps there will only be ten.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the ten.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 137:1-3, 6-8. R. v. 3

R. Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, / you have heard the words of my mouth. / Before the angels I will bless you. / I will adore before your holy temple. **R.**

2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love / which excel all we ever knew of you. / On the day I called, you answered; / you increased the strength of my soul. **R.**

3. The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly / and the haughty he knows from afar. / Though I walk in the midst of affliction / you give me life and frustrate my foes. **R.**

4. You stretch out your hand and save me, / your hand will do all things for me. / Your love, O Lord, is eternal, / discard not the work of your hands. **R.**

SECOND READING

Col 2:12-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

He has made you alive with Christ for he has forgiven all our sins.

You have been buried with Christ, when you were baptised; and by baptism, too, you have been raised up with him through your belief in the power of God who raised him from the dead. You were dead, because you were sinners and had not been circumcised: he has brought you to life with him, he has forgiven us all our sins.

He has overridden the Law, and cancelled every record of the debt that we had to pay; he has done away with it by nailing it to the cross.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Rom 8:15

Alleluia, alleluia!

You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children, and in that Spirit we call God our Father. Alleluia!



**St ANDREW & St AGNES
TWINNED CATHOLIC PARISHES**

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Decon: Rev Bijoy Joseph



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Sunday 9 am
RECONCILIATION:
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Also available by appointment
Principal: Rose André
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Our Parishes acknowledge and honour the Bidjigal and Gadagal People of the Eora Nation as traditional custodians of this land, that we stand on.



17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Go Make Disciples, The Mission Plan for the Archdiocese of Sydney



Please pray for the Faithful Departed:

Recently deceased: Peter Byrne, Susan Ball, Alan Martin, Albert Piggens-Weeks, and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, the sick and dying, the poor and the homeless (that they continue to walk in the light of God's love, mercy & compassion), the people of Ukraine and Russia, and all who have died from the Covid-19 Virus



Deceased: Agnes Brisbane.

Anniversary: Fay Davis, Anthony Moore, Eileen Stublely, Manuel Alvaro da Cruz, Dulce Cruz, Raymond Carmichael, J esuina Sarmiento, Beatruz Araujo, Archbishop Rush, Teresa Sousa, Chinnappa Kandur, John Reverado, Jenny Moy, Moyah Buckley, Jim Tomlinson, Brian Hetherington, Alex Pekin, Rebecca Soriano, Fr Anthony Simari, Esther & Philip Velu, Ellie & Renee Nemeah.

The Sick: Eva Pethes, Kevin Roberts, Angelo Portelli, Anton Snashel, Ellie Carter, Mary Lau, Lilly Weekes,

Where will Fr John be celebrating Masses next weekend?

Saturday, - 30 July, 5.30pm St Agnes'
Sunday - 31 July, 9.00am St Andrew's (Livestreamed) - Supply Priest

Please scan the QR code to watch on Youtube.



SCAN ME

Funeral for the Late Josephine Dilernia, Thursday, 28 July, 11.00am St Andrew's Parishioner of St Agnes'



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

Welcome back to Term 3, 2022. I hope all have had a great break and are all well refreshed.
Last Thursday 21st July, Deacon Bijoy Joseph

arrived in our parishes. (Deacon Bijoy gave this Bio). I was born in India in 1990 and grew up in Sydney. I attended St Luke's Catholic Primary School, Revesby and High School at Sydney Technical College, Bexley. St Luke's Parish has been and still is my parish for some 27 years. I worked as an engineer for 3 years before joining the Seminary of the Good Shepherd, Homebush. I was sent to Rome for theological studies, and I am currently completing a Licentiate (Maters) in Liturgy. I will be Ordained a Priest on Friday 6 August, 10.30am at St Mary's Cathedral and then will return in late September to finish my licentiate.



I am sure you will make Deacon Bijoy welcome. This weekend Deacon Bijoy has commitments outside the parish, but I am sure you can say hello to him at our Weekday Masses.

On Sunday 10 July, at St Agnes', we celebrated a Mass for repose of the soul Father Simari's 1st anniversary of his passing from this world to the next. Many thanks to Dagny Payet, Sue Donovan and Chris Maron who worked so hard in preparing the Meeting Room and the Moring Tea.

Congratulations to Randwick Local Councilor Noel D'Souza (Parishioner of St Agnes' Matraville) on recently receiving the Legion of Honour, Chevalier (Knight) from the French Government, recognising Noel when Mayor of Randwick in restoring history at La Perouse and expanding one of the prominent French Schools. This award was given by the French Consul-General, Madame Anne Boillon. Congratulations Noel.

Next Sunday Fr John will be blessing an Air Force Banner, and Deacon Bijoy will be engaged with Cathedral Confirmation Masses.

Please if you have not had your next Covid vaccination jab please do so. Keep well everyone

Can you undertake an Overseas Mission? Our sister churches in Africa, Asia and the Pacific are requesting Australian Catholics to join them to build the skills of those in their community who have had less opportunity than ourselves. Please consider these [Mission opportunities abroad](#). The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference provide support. [Palms Australia](#), who have prepared Australian Catholics for global mission since 1961, will ensure accommodation and a living allowance is provided to you during your time away. [Enquire online](#) or **Ph: 0422 742 567** to find out about a placement to engage your skills. You can also [Register](#) for a Webinar on **Monday August 1st at 7:00 pm** to talk directly with a Palms' partner community in Timor Leste and two Australians recently posted to work with them. Invite your friends. **The stories will inspire.**

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. 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.

Please see Parish Website for other notices