



St Andrew's Parish News

We are a Dynamic Faith Community in the Spirit of the Gospel

THE 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A - 24 & 24 DECEMBER 2023

OUR PARISH

Parish Office

76 Springs Road
Clayton South VIC 3169
Phone: 9551 5666
Email: claytonsouth@cam.org.au
Tuesday - Friday 10am - 3pm

Mass Times

Saturday: Vigil 6.00pm
Sunday: 8.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am
Mon—Sat (except Tues): 9.15am
Tues: 7.00pm & Novena to St. Jude

Reconciliation

Saturday: 9.45 to 10.15am

Baptism & Wedding

Please contact the Parish Office

Funeral

Please contact the Parish Office

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest

Fr. Shibu Joseph sac
shibu.joseph@cam.org.au

Parish Team Leader

Linda De Souza (Tues/ Thurs/Fri)
Email: claytonsouth@cam.org.au

Parish Secretary

Smita Pinto (Tue/Wed)
Luisa May - Bookkeeper (Thu)

Youth Co-ordinator

SAYGCS21@gmail.com

St. Andrew's Primary School

Principal: Mr. Paul Wakeling
Phone: 9551 5094
principal@saclaytonsth.catholic.edu.au

R.E. Co-ordinator

Nicole Black

ONLINE SERVICES

Website:

www.standrewsclaytonsouth.org.au

Daily Reflections:

<https://catholic-daily-reflections.com/>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/standrewsparishclaytonsouth



**May you be blessed
with joy and love
this Christmas Season
and all Year through 2024**

Fr. Shibu Joseph SAC

**St. Andrew's Parish, Clayton South is committed to the safety,
wellbeing & dignity of all children, young people & vulnerable adults.**

PARISH NEWS

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT 2023

A heartfelt thank you to all who made our Carols by Candlelight a magical evening. Your presence and enthusiasm lit up the night, and we are thrilled to announce that we raised **\$1,437.24** for our new shed project. Your generosity propels us forward, and we are grateful for the spirit of unity and community that defines us. Special thanks to our dedicated volunteers who helped out before, during and after the event. Wishing you all a Blessed Christmas season and a prosperous New Year 2024!

TOTAL INCOME (INCLUDEING GRANT) - 3,713.01
TOTAL EXPENSES - 2,275.77

Lynette Fernandes for Social Committee

Happy Birthday

Paul Nettar, Jenny Guzman, Jacob Mendonca, Oreen Tannen, Eugene Simon, Raymond L., Candice Walker, Danilo Calingasan, Olimpia Fraser, Bronwyn Ryan, Clare Peters .



David and Shihalini, Edwin and Janet D'mello, Errol and Natasha, Adolph and Mary F, Ean and Maria Brewty Pam and Nigel F

HAVE A HAPPY JOURNEY TOGETHER

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS & MESSAGE FROM ARCHBISHOP PETER COMENSOLI



A card with Christmas Blessings from the Archbishop is kept in the church foyer. Please take one home. Also, a form / postage paid return envelope is attached to support the Advent Appeal for Ukraine. A tax deductible receipt will be sent to the email address you provide on the form. Please read:

[Archbishop Comensoli's 2023 Christmas Message](#)

Christmas Giving Tree!




St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

St. Vincent de Paul Society members are delivering special vouchers to the deserved families for a decent meal at this Christmas. Coming school year, some disadvantaged students will get extra help with their uniforms and books; without this support some of them might not continue the schooling. The Christmas giving tree is up at the church foyer this year again. Please contribute in the blue box kept next to the tree. All donations at the giving tree will go directly to support the deserved people in our community.

Wishing all of you a Merry Christmas!

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S ROSTER

	Christmas Eve		Christmas Day		New Year's Eve	New Year's Day
	Sun 24.12.23 7.30pm	Sun 24.12.23 11.30pm	Mon 25.12.23 8.30am	Mon 25.12.23 10.30am		
Altar Servers	Alexia, Amelia Nathaneal Janelle Andrew G Ahaana	Evan Chanelle Sanuli Sophia	Alexia Adam	Mateo Gavin	Sun 31.12.23 4.30pm Adoration 6.00pm Mass	Mon 01.01.24 10.00am Sanuli Gunasekara Sophia Fernando
Choir	Maria B	Meilanny	Donna	Eugene	Meilanny Chandra	Adam D'Souza
Comm	Maria B	Edwin B	Neddie A	Betty C	Cheryl Rodrigues	Cheryl Rodrigues
Readers	Colette D Janet D	Cheryl R Lynette F	Rebecca Patricia	Sabrina D Lota F	Colette D'Costa Victor Thanasamy	Cheryl Lansakara Marguerita Singh
Special Ministers	Cheryl L Oreen T Gazielle P Marguerita	Oreen T Atanasio J Pearl B Edwin B	George V Riekie V Marlene E James	Rada Gloria A Pat I George V	Pearl Braganza Rima Johnson Atanasio Johnson Victor Thanasamy	Edwin Braganza Cheryl Lansakara Cheryl Rodrigues Marguerita Singh
Welcomers	Mario	Oreen T	Rima Atanasio	Helen Ng	Laurence Bernard	Edwin Braganza
Collection	Rodney P	Joe L	Peter F	George	Rodney Paul	—



CHILDREN MUST HAVE ADULT SUPERVISION AT ALL TIMES



WEEKLY CALENDAR 2023

Monday 25 December - HAPPY CHRISTMAS

08.30am Christmas Mass
10.30am Christmas Mass

Tuesday 26 December - NO MASS

No Mass

Wednesday 27 December - St John

09.15am Mass
07.00pm RCIA Meeting
07.00pm Choir Practice (6pm Choir)

Thursday 28th December - The Holy Innocents

09.15am Mass
08.00pm Choir Practice (8am Choir)

Friday 29 December

09.15am Mass
05.00pm 60th Wedding Anniversary Mass

Saturday 30 December

09.15am Mass
10.30am Choir Practice (9.30am Choir)
04.45pm Choir Practice (6pm Choir)
06.00pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 31 December – The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

08.00am Mass
09.30am Mass
11.00am Mass
04.30pm Eucharistic Adoration
06.00pm Year End Thanksgiving Mass

REMEMBERING OUR COMMUNITY

Pray For Healing: Candice Walker, Simon Gelera, Pellegrina Nheu, Tommy Lee, Jim Alexiou, Geetha, Arun, Bhaskharan P V Nair, Sarath Kumar, Peter, Alex D'Cruz, Naville Goddar.

Recently Deceased: Ramona Pelly, Norman Anthony Noronha, Malcolm Francis, Wayne James,, Balachandrika, Raymond Peppin,

Birthday Remembrance: Rita Geer, James Patrick Roberts,

Monthly Remembrance: Victor Guirguis, Peter Vena, Teodoro D'Amelio, Vernon Hendricks

Death Anniversaries: Rowena Silva, Agnes Nadal, Marie Michele Carlos, Marie Olga Baxy, Maud Highland, Lexie Baldrey, Zanini Marilena, Tom, Connie Abraham, Ceolfred Monterio, Feonia & Frederic Luchow, Placido Nallas, Gladys Fernandez, forgotten souls, and All Souls in Purgatory.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE—The Parish Office will remain closed for Christmas & New Year break after Friday 22nd December 2023. The office will re open on Tuesday 16th January 2024. During this period, kindly Contact Fr. Shibu for any pastoral assistance Thank You!

ROSTERS

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A 24TH DECEMBER 2023

	MASS TIMES			
	Saturday	Sunday		
	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am	11.00am
Altar Servers		Ryan G		Chanelle
Comm	Cheryl R	Jennie D	Felecia F	Maria B
Readers	Cheryl L Jenny C	Lynette F Rebecca G	Ashlyn Rudolfo	Lourdes R Chantelle D
Special Ministers	Cheryl R Anne L F Corazon X Jenny C	Marlene E Victor T George V Reiki	Hanna T Joyce S Linda M Rodolfo G	Gloria A Pat I Linda K Erlinda D
Welcomers	Kim & Burle D	Peter F	Laurence B	Marie R
Altar L.	Claudette Chung			
Counters Team	Marian J, Maureen H, Eugene G, Duong V N, George V, Jose E, Peter F, Basil H, Glenda L			

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH YEAR B - 31ST DECEMBER 2023

	MASS TIMES			
	Saturday	Sunday		
	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am	11.00am
Altar Servers			Andrew G	Ryan G
Comm	Chantelle D	Neddie A	Ashlyn F	Volunteer N
Readers	Cora D Tina P	Victor T Jennie D	Volunteer N Allen S	Linda K Lourdes R
Special Ministers	Kim D Burle D Pearl B Corazon X	George V Riekie V Maureen Atanasio J	Carol N Felecia F Jan Van Volunteer N	Gloria A Beatriz C Rada P Ean B
Welcomers	Kim & Burle D	George & Riekie V	Carol N	Gloria A
Altar L.				
Counters Team	Marian J, Maureen H, Eugene G, Duong V N, George V, Jose E, Peter F, Basil H, Glenda L			



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Uttam Sharma - 0422 575 547
Uttamsharma@yahoo.co.in

A WELL WISHER FOR THE PARISH OF ST. ANDREW'S

From the depths of my nothingness I prostrate myself before you O most Sacred Divine Adorable Heart of Jesus to pay to you all the homage of love praise and adoration in my power. Amen

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**FOURTH SUNDAY OF
ADVENT - YEAR B
24 DECEMBER 2023**



FIRST READING 2 Samuel 7:1-5.8-12.14.16

A reading from the second book of Samuel

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent'. Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.' But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: 'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever."'

RESP PSALM Ps 88:2-5.27.29.

(R.) For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord; through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth. Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever, that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. (R.)
2. 'I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant: I will establish your dynasty for ever and set up your throne through all ages.' (R.)
3. He will say to me: 'You are my father, my God, the rock who saves me. I will keep my love for him always; for him my covenant shall endure. (R.)

SECOND READING Romans 16:25-27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION LUKE 1:38

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord:
may his will for me be done.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke 1:26-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

REFLECTION – by Fr Michael Tate

“Spirit Hovering” St Luke’s account of the Annunciation draws on the Jewish tradition describing creation: ‘There was darkness over the deep and *God’s Spirit hovered over the water*. God said: “Let there be light”, and there was light.’ (Genesis 1:2-3) St Luke depicts Mary hearing in the depths of her soul: ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow.’

The Holy Spirit hovers over this young Jewish woman so that the most stupendously creative act in human history can take place. With her consent, God assumes human nature to be gradually enfleshed, embodied, in Mary’s womb. A naturally bewildered young woman was able to respond to God’s will because she understood the imagery and the symbolism of the Genesis Story. We, in turn, need to read the Gospels in all their Jewishness so that we can understand when God’s Holy Spirit hovers over our lives, asking us to fulfil some particular role in the Divine Plan.

We could pause for a moment to ask whether *now* is the time for a Marian response: ‘Be it done unto me according to your word.’



©Fr Michael Tate;mtate@bigpond.com

PIETY STALL AT ST ANDREW’S We have lots of religious items, books, cards etc, Statues & gifts at our piety stall now open at all weekday & weekend Masses. Contact parish office during office hours if required. **Thank you!**



LEGION OF MARY Statue Visitation

The Statue of Mother Mary is available to visit homes in the Parish. Please contact: Lawrence Bernard - 0413 695 662 or Joe Lansakara - 0419 748 349. Legion of Mary will resume the monthly recitation of the Rosary at the Adoration Chapel Every 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm.

Next Rosary at 7:00 pm on Wed 17th January 2024

Please join us to say the Rosary.

KINGSTON COUNCIL INTERFAITH NETWORK BREAKFAST



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

The Kingston Interfaith Network Committee would like to highlight the upcoming Interfaith Breakfast in February 2024, and invite your faith organisation to participate in the Interfaith Network. The Interfaith Network aims to encourage understanding and respect between peoples of all faiths and cultures. The Interfaith Network Committee helps to build connections amongst the diverse and vibrant faith communities within our municipality and with the City of Kingston. To book follow the link below:



Book online via Eventbrite

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/kingston-interfaith-network-breakfast-tickets-763233220107>

**Bookings essential as tickets are limited.
Bookings close on 25 January at 5pm.**

ST. ANDREWS PARISH CLAYTON SOUTH
**NEW YEAR'S EVE
2024**
Dinner Dance
31 DECEMBER 2023
TIME: 7:30 PM TO 12:30 AM
VENUE: ST ANDREWS SCHOOL HALL
96 BUNNEY RD, CLAYTON SOUTH
LIVE MUSIC BY:
THE HITCHHIKERS
&
DJ STONE
BUFFET DINNER BY:
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