



# St Andrew's Parish News

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

## THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A – 06 & 07 DECEMBER 2025

### 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: Brian Martin  
**Phone:** 9551 5094  
principal@saclaytonsth.catholic.edu.au

#### School R.E. Co-ordinator

Emma Strom

### ONLINE SERVICES

#### Website:

[www.standrewsclaytonsouth.org.au](http://www.standrewsclaytonsouth.org.au)

#### Daily Reflections:

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

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/standrewsparishclaytonsouth](http://www.facebook.com/standrewsparishclaytonsouth)

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY - END OF YEAR MASS

The Children's Liturgy Committee held a successful End of Year Mass on Saturday, 29 November 2025, at the 6.00 pm Mass. We were blessed with wonderful participation from the children and their families, concluding with a joyful action song. Our sincere thanks to all the children, their parents, and the Children's Liturgy Committee members for helping make this celebration meaningful. A special word of appreciation to Oreen Tannen, Fr. Joe and the Parish Office staff for their ongoing support. This Mass marks the conclusion of Children's Liturgy for 2025, which will resume in Term 1, 2026.



### ADVENT RELECTION PROGRAM 2025



You are warmly invited to join our **Parish Advent Reflection Program**. On every Wednesday after Mass from **10:00am to 11:00am** in the Church followed by morning tea and fellowship. (Dec 10 & 17) **OR** On every Thursday at **7pm** in the parish house with the Bible Study Group. (Dec 11 & 18). Take this opportunity to pause, pray, and prepare your heart for the coming of Christ. All are welcome!

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

## PARISH NEWS



**Happy Birthday to** Sabrina D'Cruz, Rachael Tannen, Jason, Nick D'Rozario, Imma Medalle, Evan Fernandes, Sharen Oliver, Pierre and Marilyne Wong. **Have a nice day!**



**St Vincent de Paul Society**  
*good works*

CLAYTON SOUTH  
CONFERENCE



### Christmas Giving Tree!

St. Vincent de Paul Society members are reaching out to deserved families with food assistance for a decent meal at this Christmas. Some of the students in our School will also be given special Christmas hampers. Increased cost of living continues to put pressure on many families. The

Christmas giving tree is up at the narthex 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.

We encourage you to make donations using the QR code attached to the box. Alternatively, you may go to the web page too for your valuable contribution, however small it might be. <https://fundraising.svdp-vic.org.au/claytonsouthconference>

Vincentians of St. Andrews Conference and our companions from the society, wishing all of you a Merry Christmas!

### ENROL NOW! SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2026

It's time to enrol for St. Andrew's Parish Religious Education Program 2026. This program is designed for children who will be receiving the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation in 2025. Classes are held on Tuesdays during school terms from 4:00pm to 5:00pm and are intended for children who do not attend a Catholic school. The program provides both general religious education and specific preparation for the Sacraments of Reconciliation in Year 3, First Eucharist in Year 4, and Confirmation in Year 6. These are the minimum age requirements for each Sacrament; however, older children who need to prepare are most welcome to join. For more details or to enrol, please contact the Parish Office on 03 9551 5666 or email [claytonsouth@cam.org.au](mailto:claytonsouth@cam.org.au).



**WORKING BEE** - A church working bee will be held on Sat 13th December from 10am to 12noon to prepare the church for Christmas celebrations. If you can lend a helping hand, please put your name on the list kept in the foyer.



### DONATION FOR CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

We kindly welcome any donations towards our wonderful Christmas and New Year celebrations. Contributions can be made either in cash through the Parish Office or via bank transfer to the church account. To help us issue a receipt promptly, please send us an email notifying us of your donation. Thank you for your generosity.

**ACCOUNT NAME: ST. ANDREW'S PARISH**

**BSB: 083 347**

**A/C NO: 662557799**

**Reference: CHRISTMAS & Your Name**

## TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

COUNTDOWN TO  
**2026**

ST. ANDREW'S PARISH PRESENTS  
NEW YEARS EVE DANCE

**31 DECEMBER 2025, 7:30 PM - 12:30 AM**

St. Andrew's School Hall,  
96 Bunney Rd, Clayton South, VIC, 3169

LIVE BAND BY AFTER DARK & DJ STONE

BUFFET DINNER BY BURROWS CATERERS  
BYO DRINKS

Adults - \$50  
Children aged 5-12 yrs - \$25  
Children below 5 yrs - FREE

For tickets please contact:

Cheryl Lansakara 0407 435 267  
Cheryl Rodrigues 0490 659 344

Jenny Conyers 0417 588 116  
Janet D'Mello 0431 514 004

The St Andrews' New Years' Eve Dance Committee invites you to the New Year Dance on Wednesday, 31st December 7.30 pm to 12.30 am. More details are available in the flyer displayed in the foyer of the Church. Tickets will be available for sale after all weekend masses.

**Prices of tickets are as follows. This will include a delicious buffet dinner, dessert and soft drink.**

**Adults - \$50**

**Children 5 to 12: \$25**

**Children below 5 : Free of charge**

Please buy your tickets early, to avoid disappointment.



**CHILDREN MUST HAVE ADULT SUPERVISION AT ALL TIMES**



**WEEKLY CALENDAR 01 DEC 2025**

**Monday 8 December**

**THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BVM**

09.15am Mass  
07.00pm Choir Practice (11am Choir)

**Tuesday 9 December**

11.00am Friendship Group - BBQ  
07.00pm Mass / St Jude's Novena

**Wednesday 10 December**

09.15am Mass (**Anointing within Mass**)  
10.00am Advent Program  
07.00pm Choir Practice (6pm Choir)

**Thursday 11 December**

09.15am Mass  
06.00pm Graduation Mass  
07.00pm Advent Program  
07.00pm Choir Practice (8am Choir)

**Friday 12 December**

09.15am Mass

**Saturday 13 December**

09.15am Mass  
10.00am Working Bee  
10.30am Choir Practice (9.30am Choir)  
06.00pm Mass

**Sunday 14 December - 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

08.00am Mass  
09.30am Mass  
11.00am Mass

**REMEMBERING OUR COMMUNITY**

**Pray For Healing:** Candice Walker, Alexander, Felipe & Anne, Dom Carlos Ximenes Belo, Oemoe Jong, Eugene Roberts, Alyson, Uttam Sharma, Alex D'Cruz, Julie Kanta.

**Recently Deceased:** Fr. Miachael Shadbolt, Adrian Peter Gomez, Thomas Santos, Dave Raymond.

**Birthday Remembrance:** Noel & Anna D'Cruz, Leo D'Cruz, Anuradha Vangari, Pauline D'Cruz, Balachandrika, Louise Rozario, Chippy Williams, Olive Ann Ross.

**Death Anniversaries:** Violet, Leela Pereira, Helen and Dunstan Brewty, Annamma Chacko, Susie Fernandes, Hazel Carron, Janet Marks, Mathew D'Souza, Anthony Melappilly, Aprem Payyapilly, Frank Anthony, Odwell D'Silva, Beverley Geer, Philip and Ema Geer, Mr & Mrs Alcantara, Deceased member of Ulcigrai and Marotta families Deceased members of the Braganza and Rodrigues families, All Forgotten & Souls in Purgatory.

**ROSTERS**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A**

6 & 7 DEC 2025	MASS TIMES			
	Saturday	Sunday		
	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am	11.00am
<b>Altar Servers</b>				
<b>Comm</b>	Edwin B	Neddie A	Rosemary	Linda K
<b>Readers</b>	Ado F Cheryl L	Marguerita Victor T	Ronald M Adam D	Arputha V Anna L
<b>Special Ministers</b>	Oreen T Cheryl L Marilyn Pierre W	George V Riekie V Rebecca G Atanasio J	Angela H Jan Van R Linda M Rodolfo G	Ean B Beatriz C Rada P Rodney N
<b>Welcomers</b>	Pearl B	Riekie V	Laurence B	Claire R
<b>Altar L.</b>	Laurence Bernard			
<b>Counters Team</b>	Marian J, Maureen H, Eugene G, Peter F, Basil H, Glenda L, Laurence Bernard, Pearl Braganza			

**3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A**

13 & 14 DEC 2024	MASS TIMES			
	Saturday	Sunday		
	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am	11.00am
<b>Altar Servers</b>				
<b>Comm</b>	Janet D	George V	Angela H	Beatriz C
<b>Readers</b>	Tiyah S Jenny C	Rima J Atanasio J	Geneveive Dewi M	Colette D Maria B
<b>Special Ministers</b>	Pearl B Edwin B Nial F Vanessa F	Marcelle J Victor T James M Maureen H	Phillipe N <b>Volunteer</b> Hanna T Joyce S	Beata G Pat I Linda K Erlinda D
<b>Welcomers</b>	Pearl B	Riekie V	Anna W	Peter F
<b>Altar L.</b>	Tina Rana			
<b>Counters Team</b>	Marian J, Maureen H, Eugene G, Peter F, Basil H, Glenda L, Laurence Bernard, Pearl Braganza			



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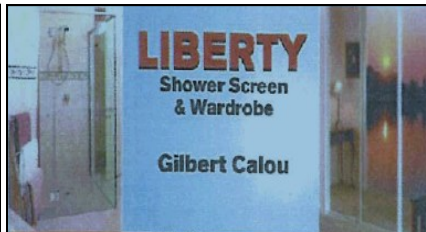
**A WELL WISHER FOR THE PARISH  
 OF ST. ANDREW'S**

From the depths of my nothing-  
 ness I prostrate myself before  
 you O most Sacred Divine Ador-  
 able Heart of Jesus to pay to  
 you all the homage of love praise  
 and adoration in my power.  
 Amen

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**THE 02ND SUNDAY  
OF ADVENT - YR A  
30TH NOV 2025**



**FIRST READING Isaiah 11:1-10**

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse, a scion thrusts from his roots:

on him the spirit of the Lord rests, a spirit of wisdom and insight, a spirit of counsel and power, a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. (The fear of the Lord is his breath.) He does not judge by appearances, he gives no verdict on hearsay, but judges the wretched with integrity, and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land. His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless, his sentences bring death to the wicked. Integrity is the loincloth round his waist, faithfulness the belt about his hips.

The wolf lives with the lamb, the panther lies down with the kid, calf and lion cub feed together with a little boy to lead them. The cow and the bear make friends, their young lie down together. The lion eats straw like the ox. The infant plays over the cobra's hole; into the viper's lair the young child puts his hand.

They do no hurt, no harm, on all my holy mountain, for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters swell the sea. That day, the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples. It will be sought out by the nations and its home will be glorious.

**RESP PSALM Ps 71**

**(R.) Justice shall flourish in his time,  
and fullness of peace for ever.**

1. O God, give your judgement to the king, to a king's son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgement. (R.)
2. In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails. He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to the earth's bounds. (R.)
3. For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless. He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor. (R.)
4. May his name be blessed for ever and endure like the sun. Every tribe shall be blessed in him, all nations bless his name. (R.)

**SECOND READING ROMANS 15:4-9**

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

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans  
Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the

examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing your name.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION LUKE 3: 4. 6**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:  
all people shall see the salvation of God.

**Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL Matthew 3:1-12**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said: A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

## SUNDAY REFLECTION

**Inaugurating a New Humanity:** John proclaimed that the reign of God was ‘at hand’ as he immersed and plunged followers into the waters of the Jordan River. (His nickname was John the Immerser, or ‘baptiser’ in the Greek.) He used flowing water to symbolise the washing away of the past for those who repented so that they could be totally focused on the ‘at hand’ person who would inaugurate God’s kingdom.

In this passage, John does not identify the ‘Someone’! But he realised that this ‘Someone’ would have divine power to affect the future by immersing, baptising, his followers with the Holy Spirit and with fire. At this stage of Advent, we should be like John’s disciples, filled with a sense of anticipation, looking forward to the coming towards us (‘Advent’ in Latin) of the One who can flood our minds and bodies with the Holy Spirit and can immerse our hearts in Divine Fire.

We could pause for a moment to thank God that, even though we are unworthy to carry His sandals, there is One who is coming towards us wanting to transform us with Divine Power.

© Fr Michael Tate; [mtate@bigpond.com](mailto:mtate@bigpond.com)



**Catholic Mission sincerely thanks the parish community of St Andrew’s for your generous and faith-filled support of this year’s Zambia Appeal.**



*Reach out. Give life.*

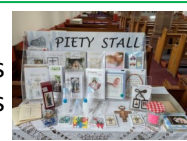
Your kind gift of **\$1,609.85** is more than a donation - it is a lifeline of hope. Through your compassion, mothers in Zambia will walk safer roads to give birth with dignity, and children in remote villages will take steps towards a brighter future through access to healthcare and education. Your generosity not only strengthens local missionaries in Zambia, but also sustains the Church’s vital work across more than **1,000 mission dioceses worldwide.**

In a world where many feel forgotten, your parish has reminded them they are seen, loved, and never alone. Thank you for walking with us - hand in hand, heart to heart, and mission to mission. We look forward with joy to continuing this journey together, bringing life, faith, and hope to those on the margins.

**With deepest gratitude, The Catholic Mission team**

### PIETY STALL AT ST ANDREW’S

Come visit our Parish Piety Stall after Mass and explore our new arrivals! It includes beautiful religious items, rosaries, medals, prayer cards, Bibles, and gifts for all occasions. We have a lovely selection perfect for First Holy Communion, Confirmation, Baptisms, or simply to enrich your personal prayer life. Your purchase supports the parish and helps spread the faith in simple ways!!



The second candle of the Advent wreath, **the Candle of Peace**, invites us to reflect on the quiet and steady peace that Christ brings into our lives. Its gentle light reminds us that true peace is found not in the absence of problems, but in trusting that God is with us in every moment. In a world filled with noise and uncertainty, this candle calls us back to stillness and prayer. It encourages us to let go of anxieties and fears that disturb our hearts. The prophets foretold a Messiah who would bring peace, and in Jesus this promise is fulfilled. As we prepare for His coming, we are invited to open our hearts to His calming presence. This candle challenges us to become instruments of peace in our families and communities. Even small acts of kindness can bring light to someone’s darkness. As its flame grows, may our desire for Christ’s peace grow within us. May this Advent week renew our hope in Jesus, the Prince of Peace.



**FINANCE**

**GIVING via QR CODE** To financially support our parish, you can make a donation by scanning this QR code which is unique to St. Andrew’s Church, Clayton South. It will give you direct access to the CDF pay webpage by following a few easy steps. The QR code is also displayed in the Church foyer. Thank you.



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# ST. ANDREW'S FEAST DAY CELEBRATIONS



# CHRISTMAS PROGRAM 2025

DAY	TIME	PROGRAM
Saturday 06 December Carols by Candlelight	06.30 - 09.30pm	Carols by Candlelight School Hall
Wednesday 10 December	09.15am	Anointing within Mass
Monday 15 December	07.00pm	Advent Retreat - Day 1 Fr. Joby George VC <i>Mass, Talk and Adoration</i>
Tuesday 16 December	07.00pm	Advent Retreat - Day 2 Fr. Joby George VC <i>Mass, Talk, Confession and Adoration</i>
Wednesday 24 December	06.30pm 07.00pm 11.30pm	Carols Children's & Family Mass With Nativity Play Carols Followed by Midnight Mass
Thursday 25th December Christmas day	08.00am 08.30am 10.00am 10.30am	Carols Christmas Mass Carols Christmas Mass
NEW YEAR 2026		
New Year Eve Wednesday 31 December	05.00pm 06.00 pm	Eucharistic Adoration Thanksgiving/Mary Mother of God
Thursday 1st January 2026	10.00am	Mary, Mother of God



St. Andrew's Parish

# Advent Retreat 2025

**MONDAY**

**DECEMBER 15TH 7PM**

MASS, SPIRITUAL TALK & ADORATION

**TUESDAY**

**DECEMBER 16TH 7PM**

MASS, SPIRITUAL TALK &  
CONFESSION



**Led by: FR. JOBY GEORGE VC**

*We have held his glory...*  
*John 1:14*



# TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

COUNTDOWN TO  
2026

ST. ANDREW'S PARISH PRESENTS  
NEW YEARS EVE DANCE

**31 DECEMBER 2025, 7:30 PM - 12:30 AM**

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**LIVE BAND BY AFTER DARK & DJ STONE**

**BUFFET DINNER BY BURROWS CATERERS  
BYO DRINKS**

Adults - \$50

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For tickets please contact:

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