



# St Andrew's Parish News

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

## THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD - YEAR A - 10 & 11 JANUARY 2026

### OUR PARISH

#### Parish Office

76 Springs Road  
Clayton South VIC 3169  
**Phone:** 9551 5666  
**Email:** [claytonsouth@cam.org.au](mailto: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](mailto:shibu.joseph@cam.org.au)

#### Parish Team Leader

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

#### Parish Secretary

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

#### Youth Co-ordinator

[SAYGCS21@gmail.com](mailto:SAYGCS21@gmail.com)

#### St. Andrew's Primary School

Principal: Brian Martin  
**Phone:** 9551 5094  
[principal@saclaytonsth.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@saclaytonsth.catholic.edu.au)

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

Ange Walsh

### 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)

### THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord brings the Christmas season to a close and invites us to reflect on the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. At the Jordan River, Jesus humbly steps into the waters to be baptized by John, not because He needed repentance, but to fully identify with us and to sanctify the waters of Baptism.

As Jesus emerges from the water, the heavens open, the Holy Spirit descends like a dove, and the voice of the Father is heard: "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." In this powerful moment, the Holy Trinity is revealed, and Jesus is made known as the beloved Son, sent to bring salvation to all.

This feast also invites us to reflect on our own Baptism. Through Baptism, we became children of God, members of the Church, and were entrusted with the mission to live and share the Gospel. We were called to walk in the light of Christ, to reject sin, and to grow in faith, hope, and love.

As we celebrate this feast, let us renew our baptismal promises and remember that we are God's beloved sons and daughters, called to live our faith daily and to bear witness to Christ in our words and actions.

### HEALING MASS AND RETREAT

All are warmly invited to a **Healing Mass and Retreat** conducted by **Fr. Antony Parankimalil VC** on **Tuesday, 20th January** from 6.30pm. This special time of prayer and reflection offers an opportunity to seek God's healing, peace, and renewal- spiritually, emotionally, and physically. Come with faith and an open heart, and invite family and friends to share in this grace-filled experience.



### 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).



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

## PARISH NEWS

### NEW YEAR DANCE - THANK YOU



A heartfelt thank you to the New Year Dance 2026 Committee - **Cheryl Lansakara, Janet D'Mello, Savio Dias, Laurence Bernard, Cheryl Rodrigues, Clare Roussety, Jenny Conyers, Rodney Paul, and all**

**who assisted.** Your dedication in planning, preparing, decorating, serving, coordinating, and participating made the celebration joyful and meaningful for our parish community. Through your selfless service, many began the New Year in faith, unity, and joy. The event successfully raised a **net profit of \$10,312.45.** May the Lord, who sees all your good works, bless you abundantly, reward your generosity, and fill your homes with peace and happiness throughout the year.

### BEGINNING OF ORDINARY TIME

This week, after the Feast of the Baptism of our Lord, the Catholic Church begins the Ordinary Season, a period in the liturgical calendar that follows the celebrations of Christmas and the Epiphany. Ordinary Time may seem "ordinary" in name, but it is a rich and meaningful season dedicated to spiritual growth, reflection, and living out the Gospel in our daily lives. Unlike Advent or Lent, which focus on preparation and penance, Ordinary Time invites the faithful to recognize God's presence in the everyday moments of life—through prayer, acts of service, and love for others.



During this season, the Church's liturgical color is green, symbolizing hope, life, and growth. It reminds us that our faith is a journey that unfolds gradually, requiring patience, perseverance, and commitment. Ordinary Time encourages us to deepen our relationship with Christ, not only through attendance at Mass but also by embodying His teachings in our families, workplaces, and communities. While called "ordinary," this season is an extraordinary opportunity to cultivate virtues such as humility, charity, and compassion. Let us embrace Ordinary Time with hearts open to God's grace, striving to live the Gospel in every aspect of our lives, and witnessing His love to those around us.

### NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION



NEWSLETTER

If you are not on the parish mailing list and would like to receive the newsletter every week, please click [HERE](#) to subscribe or scan the QR code. Just follow the prompts to complete the process. Thank you.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY:

Jenny Guzman, Payton D'Mello, Maureen Hendricks, Esther Biju,

### WEDDING ANNIVERSARY:

Vince & Virginia Bruno (60), Brian and Jenny Peters, Sheldon and Sandra, Russel and Marian, Christne & Markus,

### BAPTISM PREPARATION NIGHT

The next Baptism Preparation Night will be held on Wednesday 4th February 2026 at 7.30pm in the parish house. To register, please contact the parish office via email: [claytonsouth@cam.org.au](mailto:claytonsouth@cam.org.au) or Tel: 9551 5666.

### BIRTHDAYS & WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES DIARY

A diary has been placed in the foyer of the church for you to note your birthdays and wedding anniversaries. Please record the date clearly and kindly do not include the birthdays of deceased members. Simply follow the dates in the diary not the year. This will help us remember and acknowledge these special occasions within our parish community.

### NEWSLETTER ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertisements in the Parish Newsletter provide a convenient way for parishioners to access a network of service providers. They also generate income that assists with the publishing and printing costs of the Newsletter throughout the year. However, it is important to note that:

- Advertisers are not required to be members of St. Andrew's Parish community.
- The Parish does not endorse or recommend any advertiser as a preferred service provider.
- Advertisements and graphics are published as supplied by the advertiser, and the Parish assumes they are accurate and current.
- Parishioners are encouraged to satisfy themselves that an advertised service provider is suitable for the work they require before engaging their services.
- Any engagement is strictly between the parties concerned, and the Parish will not intervene or mediate in the event of a dispute.

In dispute situations, differing perspectives are common, and responsibility may rest with one or both parties. The Parish will only take the serious step of cancelling an advertisement if there is overwhelming evidence of incompetence, misleading conduct, or fraudulent behavior.

**Fr. Shibu Joseph**



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



## WEEKLY CALENDAR 12 JAN 2026

### Monday 12 January

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

### Tuesday 13 January

07.00pm Mass / Novena to St Jude

### Wednesday 14 January

09.15am Mass

### Thursday 15 January

09.15am Mass

### Friday 16 January

09.15am Mass

### Saturday 17 January

09.15am Mass  
10.30am Choir Practice (9.30am Choir)  
06.00pm Mass  
08.00pm Good Shepherd Servant Comm—P & W

### Sunday 18 January - 2ND SUN IN ORD TIME

08.00am Mass  
09.30am Mass  
11.00am Mass

### Feast of the Santo Niño

Join us in celebrating the Feast of the Santo Niño, a joyful reminder of God's love revealed through the Child Jesus. May this feast renew our faith, bring blessings to our families, and fill our hearts with hope and joy. Mass: 18th Sunday at 1:00 pm. Viva Santo Niño!



### REMEMBERING OUR COMMUNITY

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

**Recently Deceased:** Sr. Leoni, Vivian Tadros, Rohel Noveloso, Patricia Lewis, Anna Thanh Nguyen, Nicky Fernandez.

**Birthday Remembrance:** Mertle Peberdy, Rita Geer, Rual Lynch, Marie Soares, Cheryl Gable, Cyril Mahony, Iris D'Cruz,

**Death Anniversaries:** Ashish & Akshay Miranda, Nancy Miranda, Fr. Augustine Puthota, Louise Rozario, Fredric & Fiona, Guillaume Koo Yuk Cheong, Alain Yan, France Yip Chee Fong, Alicia Chue-Fong-See, Leon Threlfo, Mable Valles, Fr. Benedict Kannadan, Eileen Ebell, Merlyn Grant, Dudley and Marlene Fernandez, All Forgotten & Souls in Purgatory.

## ROSTERS

### THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD - YEAR A

10 & 11 JAN 2026	MASS TIMES			
	Saturday	Sunday		
	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am	11.00am
Altar Servers				
Comm	Janet D	Marguerita	Angela H	Anna L
Readers	Kim D Burle D	Tanya V Helen A	Rosemary David G	Colette D Maria B
Special Ministers	Pearl B Edwin B Nial F Vanessa F	Marcelle J James M Riekie V George	Phillipe N Hanna T Joyce S Jan Van R.	Beata G Pat I Linda K Erlinda D
Welcomers	Pearl B	George V	Anna W	Claire R
Altar L.	Tina Rana			
Counters Team	Marian J, Maureen H, Eugene G, Peter F, Basil H, Glenda L, Laurence Bernard, Pearl Braganza			

### THE 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

17 & 18 JAN 2026	MASS TIMES			
	Saturday	Sunday		
	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am	11.00am
Altar Servers				
Comm	Jenny C	Victor T	Volunteer	Maria B
Readers	Janet D Pearl B	Marcelle J Neddie A	Daniel G Rodolfo G	Joanna D Beatriz C
Special Ministers	Michael Xavier F Cora D Julianne	Volunteer Volunteer Marguerita Rebecca G	Angela H Rodolfo G Jan Van R Volunteer	Ean B Rodney N Rada P Erlinda D
Welcomers	Edwin B	Riekie V	Laurence B	Beatriz C
Altar L.	Winnie Miranda			
Counters Team	Marian J, Maureen H, Eugene G, Peter F, Basil H, Glenda L, Laurence Bernard, Pearl Braganza			

**Parish Office Christmas Break:** Please note that the Parish Office will be closed for the Christmas break from **24 December to 12 January**, both dates inclusive. Normal office hours will resume on **13 Jan 2026**.



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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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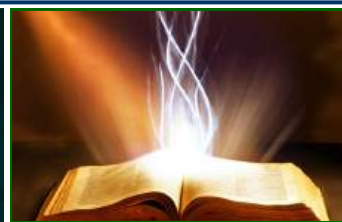
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**THE BAPTISM  
OF THE LORD - YR A  
11TH JAN 2026**



**FIRST READING Isaiah 42:1-4. 6-7**

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah**

Thus says the Lord:

Here is my servant whom I uphold,  
my chosen one in whom my soul delights.  
I have endowed him with my spirit  
that he may bring true justice to the nations.  
He does not cry out or shout aloud,  
or make his voice heard in the streets.  
He does not break the crushed reed,  
nor quench the wavering flame.  
Faithfully he brings true justice;  
he will neither waver, nor be crushed  
until true justice is established on earth,  
for the islands are awaiting his law.  
I, the Lord, have called you to serve the cause  
of right;  
I have taken you by the hand and formed you;  
I have appointed you as covenant of the people  
and light of the nations,  
to open the eyes of the blind,  
to free captives from prison,  
and those who live in darkness from the  
dungeon.

**RESP PSALM Ps 28:1-4. 9-10.**

**(R.) The Lord will bless his people with peace.**

1. O give the Lord you sons of God,  
give the Lord glory and power;  
give the Lord the glory of his name.  
Adore the Lord in his holy court. **(R.)**
2. The Lord's voice resounding on the waters,  
the Lord on the immensity of waters;  
the voice of the Lord, full of power,  
the voice of the Lord, full of splendour. **(R.)**
3. The God of glory thunders.  
In his temple they all cry: 'Glory!'  
The Lord sat enthroned over the flood;  
the Lord sits as king for ever. **(R.)**

**SECOND READING ACTS 10:34-38**

**A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.**

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.

'It is true, God sent his word to the people of Israel, and it was to them that the good news of peace was brought by Jesus Christ – but Jesus Christ is Lord of all men. You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.'

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION MARK 9:8**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

The heavens were opened and  
the Father's voice was heard:  
this is my beloved Son, hear him.

**Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL Matthew 3:13-17**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptised by John. John tried to dissuade him. 'It is I who need baptism from you,' he said 'and yet you come to me!' But Jesus replied, 'Leave it like this for the time being; it is fitting that we should, in this way, do all that righteousness demands.' At this, John gave in to him.

As soon as Jesus was baptised he came up from the water, and suddenly the heavens opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. A voice spoke from heaven, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him.'

## SUNDAY REFLECTION

**A Whisper Echoing Heaven:** Let us focus on Jesus' mystical experience as he emerged from the waters of the River Jordan. 'Suddenly the heavens opened.' Heaven and earth are communicating again! If heaven appeared closed to humankind it is now open again. 'And he saw the spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him.' Jesus experienced a sense of being hovered over by the Divine presence 'in dove-like fashion'.



'And a voice spoke from Heaven: "This is my Son, the beloved, my favour rests on him".' In the Jewish tradition this sort of intuitive sensation is called the bat qol, the daughter of a voice, a whisper echoing heaven. Each of us has shared in the baptism of Our Lord, been incorporated into His baptism. Divine love and power streamed from heaven to earth into each one of you; the Holy Spirit hovered gently over you; and deep down, at the intimate wellspring of your life, the Divine voice was heard whispering: 'You are my beloved daughter' or 'You are my beloved son,' 'My favour rests on you.'

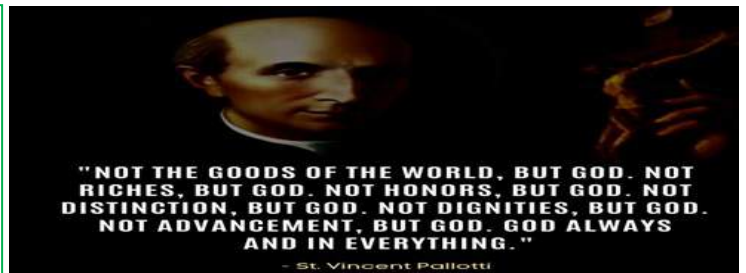
We could pause for a moment to resolve to recall each morning the heavenly whisper at our baptism and then re-echo it in our lives.

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

### 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!!



### ONE STEP FROM BEATIFICATION

The cause for sainthood of Australian-born medical missionary Dr Mary Glowrey advanced when Pope Leo XIV recognized her heroic virtues on 21 November 2025, granting her the title Venerable Mary of the Sacred Heart Glowrey and making her only



the second Australian to receive this honour. Archbishop Peter A Comensoli of Melbourne expressed deep joy, praising her as a trailblazing doctor whose compassionate service in India revealed God's tenderness. Born in Birregurra, Victoria, in 1887, Mary Glowrey was an accomplished Melbourne doctor before travelling to India in 1920 at the age of 32. In Guntur, in present-day Andhra Pradesh, she joined the Society of Jesus Mary Joseph and became known as Sr Mary of the Sacred Heart JMJ. She spent 37 years providing medical care to hundreds of thousands of marginalized people, especially women and children. In addition to her clinical work, she established medical facilities and founded the Catholic Health Association of India in 1943, now the country's largest non-government healthcare network. Her cause for canonization continues as the faithful pray for her intercession and await the verification of miracles.

### SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CLOSING JUBILEE DOOR

The final Holy Door was closed on January 6, 2026, at 9:30 am during a ceremony at St Peter's Basilica led by Pope Leo XIV, coinciding with the Feast of the Epiphany, which officially concluded the Jubilee. The closing of the Holy Doors marked the end of a special time of grace and reflection for the Church and the transition from the Jubilee Year back to ordinary time. Each ceremony included solemn rites and the celebration of Mass, emphasizing that the spiritual journey of the faithful continues even as the physical doors are closed. These moments were deeply significant for the Catholic community, reflecting the Jubilee's themes of mercy, hope, and renewal. The Holy Doors will remain sealed until the next Jubilee, expected in 2033, inviting the faithful to live out the Jubilee's values in their daily lives.



### WELCOME TO ST. ANDREW'S PARISH

Are you new to St. Andrew's? We welcome you! Please take a moment to look at our welcome kit which is available in the church foyer. You are invited to complete the registration form and return it to the Parish office. THANKS.



**Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.**

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

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