



St Andrew's Parish News

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

THE 04TH SUNDAY IN ORINARY TIME - YEAR A – 01 FEBRUARY 2026

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

Ange Walsh

ONLINE SERVICES

Website:

www.standrewsclytonsouth.org.au

Daily Reflections:

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

Facebook: www.facebook.com/standrewsparishclaytonsouth

FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Monday 2nd Feb Mass at 9.15am and Blessing of Candles

On Monday 2nd February, we celebrate the **Feast of the Presentation of the Lord**. During Mass, candles will be blessed, symbolising Christ as the Light of the World. You are invited to bring candles from home to be blessed for use in your families, prayer, and devotions. Let us rejoice in Christ's light, which guides and strengthens us in faith, hope, and love.



In Simeon and Anna, we see hearts that are patient, faithful, and open to God's promises. This feast invites us to welcome Christ anew and to carry His light into our daily lives. May we, like Mary and Joseph, offer ourselves fully to God with trust and obedience.

A PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

O God, who chose the apostles to make disciples of all nations, and who through Baptism and Confirmation calls each of us to build up your holy Church, we thank you for the gift of life and the call to make it a gift to others. Make your Church ever alive and fruitful, as she walks in hope and generates new vocations.

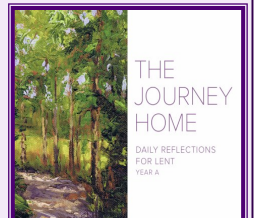
Stir within the hearts of your children the courage to respond with joy and generosity to your invitation to follow you. Raise up among us many priests, deacons, and religious— witnesses of hope who will love you with their whole hearts and gladly spend their lives to make you better known and loved.

Form them in the image of Christ, the Good Shepherd, and help them live each day as faithful labourers in your harvest. Help us, too, to recognise your voice in our own lives, and to support one another in discerning your will with openness and trust. Through Christ our Lord,
Amen.

THE JOURNEY HOME - DAILY REFLECTONS FOR LENT

Now available at St. Andrew's Piety Stall @ \$7

The Journey Home reminds us that Lent is not merely a period of sacrifice or reflection; it is a pilgrimage. This resource aims to draw us together as companions on the road, renewed in faith and strengthened in love, as we follow Jesus towards the promise of our true home. We are delighted to have had **Archbishop Emeritus Mark Coleridge** write the thoughtful and insightful daily reflections that you'll find in this year's resource.



This 2026 Lenten resource has been developed for both individual prayer and small groups. Lenten small groups are an opportunity to gather together to share life, faith and to pray with one another.

- A small book that is easy to carry and read. Designed for individual reflection .

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

PARISH VISION STATEMENT

“A COMMUNITY THAT EMBRACES, CELEBRATES AND EMPOWERS ALL TO LIVE AS DISCIPLES OF JESUS”

PARISH NEWS

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.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY:

Rose M George, Leroy King, Cynthia Omalon, Clara Dinh, Betty Calingasan, Reiki Verbeek, Sophia J Ocampo, Leroy Dsouza, Emma Alejanio

HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Rima and Atanasia Johnson, Beatriz Calingasan and Danilo Calingasan,

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 Tel: 9551 5666 or email: claytonsouth@cam.org.au

FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS – 6TH FEB

You are most welcome to join Rosary, 9.15am Mass, followed by adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Confession, Divine Mercy Prayers and Benediction.



LOURDES DAY MASS—SATURDAY 14 FEB 10.30AM The Order of Malta invites you to the annual Lourdes Day Mass—an opportunity to pray for the sick and infirm, particularly those who are not able to visit Lourdes.

The Mass will take place at St Patrick's Cathedral, with Archbishop Peter A Comensoli as the principal celebrant.

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM

We are looking for two new members to join the Parish Leadership Team. Meetings are held once in 2 two months in the evenings at 6.30pm. If you feel you can contribute your time and talents to assist the team, please contact Fr Joe after any Mass. Thank you.

VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS

A gentle reminder for all volunteers in the parish, to please check if your Working With Children's Check is valid or need renewal. If you need assistance to complete any documentation, please contact the parish office.



ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES

Join us on Ash Wednesday, 18th February, to begin the Lenten season with prayer and reflection. Masses will be celebrated at 9:15 AM and 7:00 PM.

Come and receive the ashes as a sign of repentance and spiritual renewal. All are welcome to join in this sacred journey toward Easter.

LAST YEAR'S BLESSED PALM LEAVES

In preparation for Ash Wednesday on 18 February, if you have blessed palm leaves from last year or previous years, please bring them to the church and place them in the containers provided in the foyer. Thank you.

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.



KEEP US UP TO DATE! Have you changed address recently? Has your mobile number changed? Do we have your email? It's important that we have your up-to-date contact information details. Please email any changes to claytonsouth@cam.org.au



NEWSLETTER

NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION

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.

IF ANY LOST ITEMS IN CHURCH BELONG TO YOU, PLEASE TAKE THEM HOME. THANK YOU.



CHILDREN MUST HAVE ADULT SUPERVISION AT ALL TIMES



WEEKLY CALENDAR 02 FEB 2026

Monday 02 February - The Presentation of the Lord

09.15am Mass / Blessing of candles
07.00pm Choir Practice (11am Choir)

Tuesday 03 February

10.30am Friendship Group - Birthday celebrations
07.00pm Mass / Novena to St Jude

Wednesday 04 February

09.15am Mass
07.00pm Choir Practice (6pm Choir)
07.30pm Baptism Preparation Night

Thursday 05 February - St Agatha

09.15am Mass
07.00pm Choir Practice (8am Choir)
07.00pm Bible Study

Friday 06 February - St Paul Miki & Companions

09.15am Mass

Saturday 07 February

09.15am Mass
10.30am Choir Practice (9.30am Choir)
06.00pm Mass
08.00pm Opening of Year Thanksgiving Mass—GSSC

Sunday 08 February - 5TH SUN IN ORD TIME

08.00am Mass
09.30am Mass / RCIA
11.00am Mass

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: Ricardo Gomez.

Birthday Remembrance: Amresh Triveni, Paul Pereira.

Monthly Remembrance: Noeline Vassou.

Death Anniversaries: Mandy Gao, Antoinette Livera, Leslie Peters, Heather Mathews, Gladys & Wilfred Fernandez, Barbara Clarke, Giuseppe La Roso, Alistar King, Sandy D'Costa, Johnny Gomes, Loretta Gomes, Margaret Bayross, Jules Labonne, Frank Bernard Ross, Dennis Oswald Ross, Denzil Abraham, Frank Abraham, Vivian & Susanna Fernandes, Hilda & Walter Green, Douglas Fernando, Mary Wong, Mathilda Dsouza, All Forgotten Souls & Souls in Purgatory.

ROSTERS

THE 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

31 JAN & 01 FEB 2026	MASS TIMES			
	Saturday	Sunday		
	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am	11.00am
Altar Servers	Alexia Chanelle Sophia Edwina Ryan S		Alivia Evan	Ryan G Gavin
Comm	Jenny C	Neddie A	Rosemary	Linda K
Readers	Ado F Cheryl L	Rebecca G Victor T	Adam D Rodolfo G	Arputha V Anna L
Special Ministers	Oreen T Cheryl L Marilyn W Pierre W	George V Riekie V Rebecca G Atanasio J	Angela H Jan Van R Joyce S Rodolfo G	Ean B Beatriz C Rada P Rodney N
Welcomers	Veronica D	Riekie V	Laurence B	Beatriz C
Altar L.	Laurence Bernard			
Counters Team	Marian J, Maureen H, Eugene G, Peter F, Basil H, Glenda L, Laurence Bernard, Pearl Braganza			

THE 5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

07 & 08 FEB 2026	MASS TIMES			
	Saturday	Sunday		
	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am	11.00am
Altar Servers				
Comm	Janet D	George V	Angela H	Beatriz C
Readers	Tiyah S Jenny C	Rima J Atanasio J	Genevieve Dewi M	Colette D Maria B
Special Ministers	Pearl B Edwin B Nial F Vanessa F	Marcelle J Victor T James M Volunteer	Phillipe N Hanna T Joyce S Volunteer	Pat I Linda K Erlinda D Volunteer
Welcomers	Pearl B	Riekie V	Anna W	Claire R
Children's Liturgy	Joanna D Robin A	No C. L.	Rebecca G Angel J	No C. L.
Altar L.	Tina Rana			
Counters Team	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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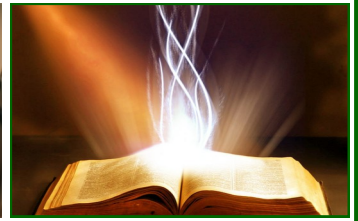
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**THE 04TH SUNDAY
IN ORD TIME - YR A
01 FEBRUARY 2026**



FIRST READING Zeph 2:3;3:12-13

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah

Seek the Lord all you, the humble of the earth, who obey his commands. Seek integrity, seek humility: you may perhaps find shelter on the day of the anger of the Lord. In your midst I will leave a humble and lowly people, and those who are left in Israel will seek refuge in the name of the Lord. They will do no wrong, will tell no lies; and the perjured tongue will no longer be found in their mouths. But they will be able to graze and rest with no one to disturb them.

RESP PSALM Ps 145:7-10.

**(R.) Happy the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!**

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith forever, who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free. (R.)
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down, the Lord, who protects the stranger and upholds the widow and orphan. (R.)
3. It is the Lord who loves the just but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age. (R.)

SECOND READING 1 COR 1:26-31

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

Take yourselves, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has

chosen – those who are nothing at all to show up those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God's doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION MT 5. 12

Alleluia, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad;

Your reward will be great in heaven.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 5:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage. Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted. Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied. Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them. Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God. Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God. Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'



SUNDAY REFLECTION

THE BEATITUDES.....A CALL TO ACTION: Jesus doesn't start in a fantasy dream world of perfection. Jesus looks at the world as it often is for many people, perhaps for most people around the world: 'the poor in spirit', 'those who mourn', 'those who are gentle', 'those who hunger and thirst for justice'. Jesus astonishes the crowd by saying that such people are 'Blessed'. How can this be? The answer lies in our Lord's emphasis on the new community he is establishing under the reign of God: what he calls 'the Kingdom of God'.

Those in such wretched circumstances *will* have things set right, but only if followers of Jesus do everything possible to lift the poor out of the poverty which crushes their spirit, do everything possible to comfort those who mourn, do everything possible to make sure the gentle share the earth's resources, do everything possible to satisfy the craving for justice.

We could pause for a moment to pray the 'Our Father' pledging ourselves to help construct this new society where the Beatitudes can come true: 'Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on *earth* as it is in heaven.'

© Fr Michael Tate; 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!!

MELBOURNE ARCHDIOCESE SYNOD FOR 2026

The Archbishop of Melbourne has announced the commencement of preparations for an Archdiocesan Synod to be held in 2026. This follows a year of prayerful listening and discernment during the Jubilee Year of Hope. The Synod will focus on three key themes: **Young Discipleship, Missionary Leadership, and Formation and Participation**. A Synod Commission will be established as the first step in this process. Further information will be shared in early 2026.

The Synod will invite clergy, religious, and lay faithful to reflect together on the life and mission of the Church in Melbourne. It builds on the insights gained from the Plenary Council and the global Synod process. Parishes will be invited to engage in consultation and prayer as part of the preparation. Parishioners are encouraged to remain open, informed, and prayerfully involved in this significant moment for our local Church.



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.

SAINTS OF THE WEEK

St. Agatha - 5 February

St. Agatha was a courageous Christian martyr from Sicily, known for her unwavering faith and purity. She dedicated her life to Christ and refused to renounce her beliefs, even under severe persecution. Despite enduring great suffering, Agatha remained steadfast and trusting in God's grace. Her strength and dignity in the face of cruelty inspired many early Christians. St. Agatha is remembered as a symbol of faith, resilience, and devotion. She is honoured as the patron saint of breast cancer patients, nurses, and protectors against fire.



Sign up for 'the Long Walk for Water' to support Project Compassion this Lent

Caritas Australia is calling on individuals, schools, parishes and community groups across the country to sign up for the Long Walk for Water challenge ahead of Lent and to walk in solidarity with the 703 million people worldwide who still live without safe drinking water. Continue reading: [Sign up for 'the Long Walk for Water' to support Project Compassion this Lent.](#)

YEAR OF ST. FRANCIS – 2026



Pope Francis has proclaimed 2026 as **the Year of St. Francis of Assisi**, inviting the Church to reflect on his life of humility, simplicity, and care for creation. Throughout this year, we are encouraged to deepen our love for the poor, protect the environment, and follow Christ with joy and compassion. Parishioners are invited to participate in special prayers, events, and initiatives celebrating the witness of St. Francis and his example of faithful service to God and neighbor. Let us take inspiration from St. Francis to live our faith more fully in our daily lives.