



St Andrew's Parish News

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

THE 05TH SUNDAY IN ORINARY TIME - YEAR A - 07 & 08 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

PANCAKE WEEKEND - 14 & 15 FEBRUARY

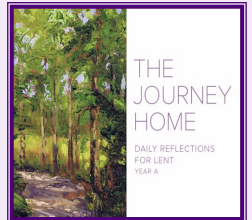


Join us for a scrumptious Pancake Weekend on February 14th and 15th, following all weekend Masses. This is a wonderful opportunity to gather as a community and enjoy delicious pancakes together before Lenten Season begins. For more information or to register your interest in volunteering, please contact Sheryl Mahony, Cheryl Lansakara, or the parish office.

THE JOURNEY HOME - DAILY REFLECTIONS 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 .

FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2025

Category	Account Description	2025 Act	2025 Budget
Income	Thanksgiving Income	181,761	175,000
	Thanksgiving - Loose	46,007	40,000
	Donations	20,438	19,000
	Fundraising	29,882	25,000
	Other Income	44,764	31,000
Subtotal - Income		322,852	290,000
Expense	Archdiocesan Levies	-19,637	-19,637
	Insurance	-16,937	-22,000
	Maintenance and Gardening	-10,842	-23,300
	Printing and Office Expenses	-19,611	-20,000
	Salary Expenses	-95,857	-96,600
	General Expenses	-62,197	-46,600
	Utilities	-7,294	-9,000
Subtotal - Expense		-232,375	-237,137
Operating Surplus		90,477	52,863

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

Dear Friends,

We are pleased to report that our Parish again experienced a financially successful year, achieving an operating surplus of \$90,477. Through your continued generosity and commitment, we exceeded our budgeted surplus by nearly \$38,000. The favourable surplus was largely attributable to income exceeding budget by \$33,000. In addition, prudent and careful management of expenditure achieved savings of \$5,000 against budget.

It is important to emphasise that thanksgiving income was approximately 74% of our total Income for 2025. As our Parish matures and becomes more established, it will develop an older age demographic. It is therefore imperative that surplus funds are carefully managed and invested to develop an income stream to supplement thanksgiving income that will ultimately decline as a proportion of total income.

We will continue to invest in our pastoral programs and ensure our buildings and facilities are safe and well maintained. This cannot be achieved without your wonderful and continued support

Fr. Shibu Joseph & the Finance Committee
Charlie Mellican (Accountant)

CHILDREN'S LITURGY MINISTRY RECOMMENCING

Welcome to Children's liturgy ministry 2026. We will start the Children's liturgy, from this weekend Masses, Saturday, 7th February at the 6.00 pm Mass and Sunday, 8th February at the 9.30 am Mass. Please bring your children along to these Masses as they can attend Children's liturgy, with our dedicated volunteers. Looking forward to seeing you soon and sharing God's word, with our Children.

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.

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY:

Wilma Geer, Marcelle Makary, Karena Cook
Patricia Williams, Kim Davey, Rahul Mendonsa,
Gabrielo Pertetto, Oka Gunawan, Andrew Geo

HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Yvonne and Rodney Gordon – (56 years)



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.



PROJECT COMPASSION 2026 – UNITING AGAINST POVERTY THIS LENT

Each Lent, Australian Catholic parishes come together through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion to support vulnerable communities. Together, we show that when faith and action unite, we can transform lives and create lasting change.



You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code. Donation boxes are in the church foyer.

If you wish to donate online to Project Compassion 2026 this year, St Andrew's Parish has a parish fundraising platform: <https://www.projectcompassion.org.au/fundraisers/claytonsouthcatholicparish>

or use the QR code (using your mobile), which takes you directly to Clayton South Catholic Parish donate page. Thank you.



Save for a Greater Reward

Help fund projects across Catholic organisations, including parishes, hospital wings and classrooms, with a CDF Community Fund savings account.

With competitive interest rates, it's a greater reward than money alone.

Visit www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund or call our team on 1800 134 135 for more information



Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

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

CHILDREN MUST HAVE ADULT SUPERVISION AT ALL TIMES



WEEKLY CALENDAR 09 FEB 2026

Monday 09 February

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

Tuesday 10 February - St Scholastica

09.00am Whole School Mass & Staff Commissioning
10.30am Friendship Group—Bingo
04.00pm Sacramental Program
07.00pm Mass / Novena to St Jude

Wednesday 11 February

09.15am Mass
06.00pm PLT Meeting
07.00pm Choir Practice (6pm Choir)

Thursday 12 February

09.15am Mass
06.00pm Finance Committee Meeting
07.00pm Choir Practice (8am Choir)
07.00pm Bible Study

Friday 13 February

09.15am Mass

Saturday 14 February - Sts Cyril & Methodius

09.15am Mass
10.30am Choir Practice (9.30am Choir)
06.00pm Mass
07.15pm Good Shepherd Servant Comm—P & W

Sunday 15 February - 6TH SUN IN ORD TIME

08.00am Mass
09.30am Mass / RCIA
11.00am Mass / 1st Holy Communion
12.00pm Baptism

REMEMBERING OUR COMMUNITY

Pray For Healing: Candice Walker, Alexander, Felipe & Anne, Dom Carlos Ximenes Belo, Oe Moe Jong, Eugene Roberts, Alyson, Alex D'Cruz, Julie Kanta, Ting Chung Sing, Lucy Lena Sing.

Recently Deceased: Fabienne Morel, Devi, Vilma and Vernon Forbs, Jacqueline Li Youn Hin.

Birthday Remembrance: Francesco Foschini, Agnus Lobow, Lorna Harrold, Allvyn Baldrey, Blossom Baldrey.

Death Anniversaries: Walter Rousetty, Rajini Nigli, Richard & Arlene Pereira, Matthew Fernandes, Mathilda Dsouza, Cristobal Caballero Senior, Aurora Godinho, Ivan Fernandez, Estelle Gordon, Elsa Lopez, Roy Walker, Flaviana Garduce, Paul Hao Le, N M George, Souls of Geer & Fernandez Family, All Forgotten Souls & Souls in Purgatory.

ROSTERS

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	Cheryl R	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	Riekie V Victor T James M Rima J	Phillipe N Hanna T Joyce S Rebecca G	Pat I Linda K Erlinda D Ean B.
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			

THE 6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

14 & 15 FEB 2026	MASS TIMES			
	Saturday	Sunday		
	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am	11.00am
Altar Servers				
Comm	Edwin B	Victor T	Terry M	Maria B
Readers	Cheryl L Cheryl R	Marcelle J Neddie A	Angela H Oka G	Joanna D Beatriz C
Special Ministers	Michael M Xavier F Cora D Julianne M	Rima J Atanasio J Marguerita Rebecca G	Angela H Rodolfo G Jan Van R Linda M	Ean B Rodney N Rada P Erlinda D
Welcomers	Xavier F	Peter F	Carol N	Joanna D
Children's Liturgy	Oreen T Laurence B	No C. L.	Romain S Lota F	No C. L.
Altar L.	Sheila Francis			
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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**THE 05TH SUNDAY
IN ORD TIME - YR A
08 FEBRUARY 2026**



FIRST READING Isaiah 58:7-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord:

Share your bread with the hungry,
and shelter the homeless poor,
clothe the man you see to be naked
and turn not from your own kin.
Then will your light shine like the dawn
and your wound be quickly healed over.

Your integrity will go before you
and the glory of the Lord behind you.
Cry, and the Lord will answer;
call, and he will say, 'I am here.'

If you do away with the yoke,
the clenched fist, the wicked word,
if you give your bread to the hungry,
and relief to the oppressed,
your light will rise in the darkness,
and your shadows become like noon.

RESP PSALM Ps 111:4-9.

(R.) A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

1. He is a light in the darkness for the upright:
he is generous, merciful and just.
The good man takes pity and lends,
he conducts his affairs with honour. (R.)
2. The just man will never waver:
he will be remembered for ever.
He has no fear of evil news;
with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord. (R.)
3. With a steadfast heart he will not fear;
open-handed, he gives to the poor;
his justice stands firm for ever.
His head will be raised in glory. (R.)

SECOND READING 1 Cor 2:1-5

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

When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION JOHN 8:12

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
the man who follows me will have the light of life.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 5:13-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men.

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'



SUNDAY REFLECTION

SALTY AND RADIANT: You are the salt of the earth, you are the light of the cosmos. 'You' is in the plural. So these descriptions are meant to apply to us as a Christian community. Salt in the ancient world was a preservative for food. So, we are the ones who are to preserve the earth, to prevent its deterioration, to keep it life-giving.

Salt has to penetrate food to have an effect. We have to penetrate the world with our Sermon on the Mount values. Staying self-contained as a perfect little band of Christians is about as useful as salt remaining in the saltshaker. In Our Lord's scary opinion we would quite rightly be trampled underfoot. How are we light for the cosmos?

By 'good works'? No, a truer translation is by 'beautiful works'. These are those things we do which have grace, elegance and proportion and are therefore pleasing to observe: beautifully-good-works.

We could pause for a moment to pray that we remain salty and tangy, doing good beautifully and elegantly.

© 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. Scholastica - 10 February

St. Scholastica was a holy woman known for her deep love of God and prayer. She was the twin sister of St. Benedict, the founder of Western monasticism. Scholastica devoted her life to serving God in a religious community of women. She believed strongly in the power of prayer and spiritual friendship. One famous story shows how her prayers brought a storm so she could spend more time with her brother. She is remembered as a symbol of faith, devotion, and God's loving power.



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.](#)

Pope praises religious for courageous witness serving the marginalized

In his homily for Candlemas—the feast of the Presentation of the Lord—which also marks the Catholic Church's celebration of World Day for Consecrated Life, Pope Leo XIV praised consecrated men and women for going to the world's peripheries and refusing to abandon their people, even amid conflict. 'They remain, often stripped of all security, as a living reminder—more eloquent than words—of the inviolable sacredness of life in its most vulnerable conditions,' he said. Continue reading: [Pope praises religious for courageous witness serving the marginalised](#)