



St Andrew's Parish News

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

THE 06TH SUNDAY IN ORINARY TIME - YEAR A - 14 & 15 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.standrewsclaytonsouth.org.au

Daily Reflections:

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

Facebook: www.facebook.com/standrewsparishclaytonsouth

SEASON OF LENT 2026

Lent is a sacred season of grace, inviting us into forty days of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving as we journey toward Easter. Beginning on **Ash Wednesday, 18 February 2026**, the Church calls us to renew our hearts and refocus our lives on Christ. It is a time to pause, reflect, and realign ourselves with the Gospel.



Through prayer, we deepen our relationship with God. Through fasting, we learn self-discipline and detach from what distracts us. Through almsgiving, we turn outward in love and service to those in need. These practices are not simply obligations, but pathways to transformation.

Lent reminds us that God's mercy is always greater than our weakness. As a parish community, may we walk this journey together - supporting one another, participating in the sacraments, and embracing opportunities for reconciliation and spiritual growth. May this Lenten season prepare our hearts to celebrate with renewed joy the victory of Christ at Easter.

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.
School Mass at 12 noon.**

PANCAKE WEEKEND - 14 & 15 FEBRUARY

Our delicious Pancake Weekend is happening this weekend **Saturday 14 & Sunday 15 February** after all weekend Masses. Join us for a sweet treat and great company! We look forward to seeing you there! You may wish to make a gold coin donation on the day.



Lenten Reflections



Lent is an important season in the Church's liturgical year. This beautiful time of penance and prayer invites us to look at the areas of our lives where we struggle and return our gaze to Jesus Christ and his sacrificial love.

The Bible Study group of St. Andrew's Parish will be conducting the Lenten Program this year, commencing from **Thursday the 19th of February 2026**. We plan to meet every Thursday at 7.00 p.m. in the Parish House, to reflect on the Readings and prepare ourselves for Jesus' death and resurrection and experience true transformation in our lives during this powerful season.

You are all most welcome to join us. Should you have further queries, please contact Ean Brewty on 0457 527 633 or ebrewty@hotmail.com.

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)

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY:

Atanasio Johnson, Aidan Lawrence,
Kieran Lansakara, Neil Del Castillo

HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Carol and Simeon



START OF SCHOOL YEAR AND STAFF COMMISSIONING MASS




St Andrew's Parish Church Clayton South
Lenten Pilgrimage to Bacchus Marsh
 On
Saturday 14th March 2026
 Leaving from 96 Bunny rd, Clayton South, Vic 3169
Departing at 7am (sharp) – Returning approx.. 12.30pm
Cost only \$25 – Includes, Transportation, breakfast and Drink

AGENDA

- > Reach Ta Pinu Shrine at 8.15am
- > Refresh and use of Restroom
- > 8.30 – 9.15am- Mass in church – Fr Shibu Joseph
- > 9.15 – 10.00 am – Snacks and Refreshments
- > 10.00 – 11.00am – Stations of the cross on the hill
- > 11.00 – 11.30am - Free Time
- > 11.30am – Depart from Bacchus Marsh for Clayton south

We Have 2 Buses

Booking will be on a first come, first paid basis
Payment to be made latest by Saturday 7th March

For Bookings
 Contact: **Edwin Braganza 0403 005 962**
Pearl Braganza 0425 816 942



Save for a Greater Reward

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

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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 16 FEB 2026

Monday 16 February

09.15am Mass
07.00pm Choir Practice (11am Choir)
07.00pm Choir Practice (6pm Choir— Parish House)

Tuesday 17 February

10.30am Friendship Group—Pancake Tuesday
04.00pm Sacramental Program
07.00pm Mass / Novena to St Jude

Wednesday 18 February - Ash Wednesday

09.15am Mass
12.00pm School Mass
07.00pm Mass

Thursday 19 February

09.15am Mass
06.00pm 1st Reconciliation Information Night
07.00pm Choir Practice (8am Choir)
07.00pm Bible Study

Friday 20 February

09.15am Mass - Fr. Elmer Ibarra SVD

Saturday 21 February

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

Sunday 22 February - 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

08.00am Mass - CDF Talk
09.30am Mass / RCIA / Welcome Rite / CDF Talk
11.00am Mass / CDF Talk
12.30pm Baptisms

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: Jacqueline Li Youn Hin, Agnes Fletcher, Mark Pinto, Anthony Besterwitch, Shanika Perera, Julie Mason, Carlos Monteiro, Yvonne Pimenta.

Birthday Remembrance: Teresa D'Lazarus

Monthly Remembrance: Mildred Seixas, Patricia Lewis,

Death Anniversaries: Stefanie Lam Loong In, Rodney Murrian, Iris Murrian, Alice Pereira, Paul Pereira, Lawrence Dmello, Collen Foran, David Robertson, Philomena Fernandez, Heather & Denzil Woods, Queenie Stone, Leslie Stone, George Barnes, Sandra Goriah, Walter Roussety, All Forgotten Souls & Souls in Purgatory.

ROSTERS

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	Lachlan Katie Sophia Chanelle Alexia		Zach Joshua Alivia	Ryan Gavin
Comm	Edwin B	Victor T	Terry M	Maria B
Readers	Cheryl L Cheryl R	Marcelle J Neddie A	David G Rodolfo G	Joanna D Beatriz C
Special Ministers	Michael M Xavier F Cora D Julianne M	Rima J Atanasio J Marguerita Rebecca G	Philip N 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			

THE 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR A

21 & 22 FEB 2026	MASS TIMES			
	Saturday	Sunday		
	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am	11.00am
Altar Servers				
Comm	Edwin B	Philippe D	Oka G	Beatriz C
Readers	Esther T Lota F	Lynette F Rebecca G	Jan Van R Volunteer	Volunteer Volunteer
Special Ministers	Cheryl R Anne L F Jenny C Pearl B	Marguerita Marlene E Marcelle J Victor T	Hanna T Carol N Linda M Rodolfo G	Beata G Pat I Linda K Gloria A
Welcomers	Pearl B	George V	Laurence	Claire R
Children's Liturgy	Joanna D Robin A	No C. L.	Annette S Antigit T	No C. L.
Altar L.	Claudette Chung			
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 06TH SUNDAY
IN ORD TIME - YR A
15TH FEBRUARY 2026**



FIRST READING Sirach 15:15-20

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

If you wish, you can keep the commandments,
to behave faithfully is within your power.
He has set fire and water before you;
put out your hand to whichever you prefer.
Man has life and death before him;
whichever a man likes better will be given him.
For vast is the wisdom of the Lord;
he is almighty and all-seeing.
His eyes are on those who fear him,
he notes every action of man.
He never commanded anyone to be godless,
he has given no one permission to sin.

RESP PSALM Ps 118:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34.

(R.) Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

1. They are happy whose life is blameless,
who follow God's law!
They are happy those who do his will,
seeking him with all their hearts. (R.)
2. You have laid down your precepts
to be obeyed with care.
May my footsteps be firm
to obey your statutes. (R.)
3. Bless your servant and I shall live
and obey your word.
Open my eyes that I may consider
the wonders of your law. (R.)
4. Teach me the demands of your statutes
and I will keep them to the end.
Train me to observe your law,
to keep it with my heart. (R.)

SECOND READING 1 Cor 2:6-10

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

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are

coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him.

These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION MT11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL MT 5:20-22, 27-28, 33-34, 37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

SUNDAY REFLECTION

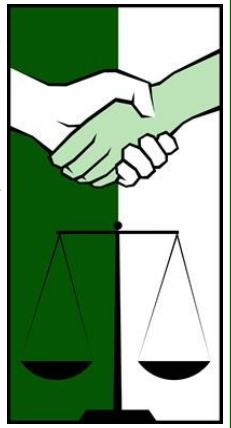
TRUTH TELLING: We have just heard the least observed command of Our Lord in the Sermon on the Mount. Referring to oaths he taught, ‘Do not swear at all ... instead let your “yes” mean yes and your “no” mean *no*. Whatever goes beyond these simple words is from the Evil One.’ This is strong language. Why does Our Lord say this?

In the same Sermon on the Mount, he teaches us the proper use of God’s name: ‘Our Father’. It is our privilege as adopted children of God to *use* God’s name in that way. The use of God’s name for oath-swearing is an *abuse*. Our Lord was trying to establish a new sort of society (The Kingdom) within which truth-telling was of paramount importance, where there is no two-tiered way of speaking the truth.

Truth telling should issue simply from the character of the person – the truthful person truths.

We know this at the very private level of intimate relationships. As a Church, we need to heed this passage and listen to the epistle of St James recalling this passage almost verbatim. (James 5:12-13)

We could pause for a moment to pray that the Church herself heeds the Great Commission: ‘Teach them to keep *all* that I have commanded you.’ (Matthew 28:20)



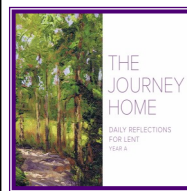
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PIETY STALL AT ST ANDREW’S



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 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. 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.

Safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility.

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

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.](#)

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.



FINANCE



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.

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

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