



St Andrew's Parish News

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

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR A - 07 & 08 MARCH 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

"SO IF THE SON SETS YOU FREE,
YOU WILL BE FREE INDEED."
John 8:36

LENTEN RETREAT

Led by MGL Fathers

Date: 11, 12 and 13 March
Time: 6:30pm to 9:30pm

*Praise and Worship • Stations of the Cross • Confession,
Preaching • Healing Holy Mass & Adoration*

St. Andrew's Church,
76 Springs Road, Clayton South, VIC 3169

For more information, contact Parish office: 03 9551 5666,
email: claytonsouth@cam.org.au

Kindly note that additional priests will be available for Confession on Friday 13th March from 7pm. Let us make good use of this opportunity as part of our fruitful preparation during this Lenten season.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS ON FRIDAYS IN LENT
AFTER 9.15AM MASS & AT 6.30 PM FOLLOWED BY MASS**

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 has commenced the Lenten Program this year, from **Thursday the 19th of February 2026**. The program will run 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 NEWS



On the third Sunday of Lent, Archbishop Peter A Comensoli will formally convoke a Synod for the Archdiocese of Melbourne. The synod calls the Melbourne Church to journey together in communion, participation and mission, echoing Pope Francis' vision of a 'listening Church' (Evangelii Gaudium, §31). Informed by Vatican II's teaching, the Church is 'a people made one with the unity of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit' (Lumen Gentium, §4). There are three themes about which the church of Melbourne is being invited to discern:

- young discipleship
- missionary leadership
- formation and participation.

The synod assembly will be held across the weekend of 4–6 December 2026. Over these next months, a range of opportunities will be available for Melbourne Catholics to be part of the consultation process toward the synod. In the meantime, further information can be accessed at melbournecatholic.org/synod2026.

In the synodal Church 'the whole community, in the free and rich diversity of its members, is called together to pray, listen, analyse, dialogue, discern and offer advice on taking pastoral decisions (ITC 68) for mission' (Final Document, §87)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY:

Phil Koo, Donna Vowles, Cynthia Menon
Elizabeth Loh, Rochelle Pereira
Genevieve Thien

BAPTISM ON SUNDAY 8TH MARCH

We warmly welcome **Dean Jacques Cumberworth and Henry Norman Dias** as they will be baptised in our community on Sunday. We welcome them, their parents & Godparents.



Dean C

2026 PATRICK ORATION Archbishop Peter A Comensoli will celebrate the St Patrick's Day Mass at 6.00pm on Tuesday 17 March 2026. This will be followed by the Patrick Oration commencing at 7.15pm in St Patrick's Cathedral. As part of this year's Patrick Oration, Archbishop Peter will launch Light into the City. Following the Oration, refreshments will be served in the grounds of the Cathedral. You are encouraged to invite five Parishioners to join you for the Mass and Oration. Bookings can be made via <https://www.trybooking.com/DJNKT>

ST ANDREW'S PARISH FIRST TWO SOCIAL EVENTS 2026

Save
The
Date



1. Mother's Day Bake Sale -
9 & 10 May 2026

2. Parish Luncheon -
Sunday 19 July 2026
LUNCHEON

INVITATION OPEN TO EVERYONE

More volunteers are invited to express their interest to assist in any small or big tasks with our first two social events for 2026.

You can be part of any one event - Mother's Day Bake Sale **OR** the Parish Luncheon.

Everyone is welcome to put your name down on the respective list kept in the church foyer or email:

claytonsouth@cam.org.au or call: 03 9551 5666

This is a great opportunity to offer your talents, meet other volunteers, learn new skills and work together as a team for a common parish goal to serve our community!

NO EXPERIENCE IS NEEDED, JUST YOUR INITIATIVE, WILLINGNESS AND GENEROSITY TO ASSIST THE TEAM.

COME, SEE, HAVE FUN AND ENJOY!!!



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 MAR 2026

Monday 09 March - St Frances of Rome

09.15am Mass
07.00pm Choir Practice (11am Choir)
07.00pm Choir Practice (8am Choir) -Parish House

Tuesday 10 March

10.30am Friendship Group - 90th B'day celebration
04.00pm Sacramental Program
07.00pm Mass / Novena to St Jude

Wednesday 11 March

09.15am Mass
06.30pm Lenten Retreat—Day 1

Thursday 12 March

09.15am Mass
06.30pm Lenten Retreat—Day 2

Friday 13 March

09.15am Mass / Stations of the Cross
06.30pm Lenten Retreat / Confessions

Saturday 14 March

09.15am Mass
10.00am St Vincent De Paul Meeting
10.30am Choir Practice (9.30am Choir)
06.00pm Mass
07.15pm Good Shepherd Servant Comm—P & W

Sunday 15 March - 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

08.00am Mass
09.30am Mass
11.00am Mass - Welcome Rite
02.00pm Altar Server's Meeting

REMEMBERING OUR COMMUNITY

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

Recently Deceased: Pietro Iannelli, Ivy D'Souza, Vilma Aruliah, Wmiasiri Silva, Paulus Alisiono, Joseph Nham Nguyen, Royston Fernandez.

Birthday Remembrance: Simon D'mello, Ossie Pereira, Hermione Pearce, Ruth Braganza.

Monthly Remembrance: Yvonne Pimenta.

Death Anniversaries: Mathilda Dsouza, Daniel Lan Youn Foong, Anne-Marie Lan Youn Foong, Hubert Barwell, Giovanni Cussigh, Justin & Eileen Van Cuylenberg, Tin Purnama, Francisca & Benjamin Miclat, Barbara Clarke, Berty Stone, Joseph Rodrigues, All Forgotten Souls & Souls in Purgatory.

ROSTERS

THE 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR A

07 & 08 MARCH 2026	MASS TIMES			
	Saturday	Sunday		
	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am	11.00am
Altar Servers	Alexia Eva Sophia		Esther T Rachel T Evan	Ryan Gavin
Comm	Cheryl R	Lynette F	Angela H	Anna L
Readers	Kim D Burle D	Tanya V Helen A	Rosemary David G	Colette D Maria B
Special Ministers	Joyce S Marilyn W Nial F Vanessa F	Marcelle J Victor T James M George V	Phillipe N Carol N Hanna T Volunteer	Beata G Pat I Ean B Erlinda D
Welcomers	Peter F	Riekie V	Carol N	Claire R
Children's Liturgy	Joanna D Oreen T	No C. L.	Helena N Antigit T	No C. L.
Altar L.	Candy Allen			
Counters Team	Marian J, Maureen H, Eugene G, Peter F, Basil H, Glenda L, Laurence Bernard.			

THE 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR A

14 & 15 MARCH 2026	MASS TIMES			
	Saturday	Sunday		
	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am	11.00am
Altar Servers	Alexia Eva Sophia		Alivia Evan	
Comm	Jenny C	Victor T	Terry M	Maria B
Readers	Janet D Pearl B	Marcelle J Neddie A	Daniel G Rodolfo 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	George V	Anna W	Joanna D
Children's Liturgy	Joanna D Robin A	No C. L.	Ishdha P Angel J	No C. L.
Altar L.	Sheila Francis			
Counters Team	Marian J, Maureen H, Eugene G, Peter F, Basil H, Glenda L, Laurence Bernard.			

MASS ROSTERS FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER 2026

- The following Mass Volunteers are needed:
1. Welcomer for Easter Vigil—4th April 7.30pm Mass
 2. Reader for Easter Sunday 5th April 8.30am Mass
 3. Collectors for Easter Sunday 5 April 10.30am Mass
 4. Commentator for Easter Sunday 5 April 8.30am Mass
- If you can assist with any of the above, please put your name down on the roster sheets kept in the church foyer.



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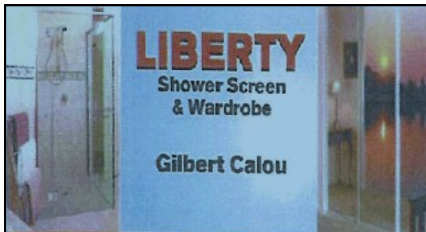
**A WELL WISHER FOR THE PARISH
 OF ST. ANDREW'S**

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 THIRD SUNDAY
OF LENT - YEAR A
08 MARCH 2026**



FIRST READING Exodus 17:3-7

A reading from the book of Exodus

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?' Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!' The Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'

RESP PSALM Ps 94:1-2.6-9

**(R.) If today you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts.**

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. (R.)
2. Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. (R.)
3. O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.' (R.)

SECOND READING ROMANS 5:1-2.5-8

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION JOHN 4:42.15

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world; give me living water, that I may never thirst again.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL John 4:5-15.19-26.39-42

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied:

'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.'

'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied:

'Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again: but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again: the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.'

'Sir,' said the woman, 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water. I see you are a prophet, sir. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said:

'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know; for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come – in fact it is here already – when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshipper the Father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.'

The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah – that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.'

Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony, so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'

SUNDAY REFLECTION

Our Sacred Site: The Jewish people worshipped at the Temple in Jerusalem. The Samaritans to the north worshipped on Mount Gerizem. But Jesus says to the woman of Samaria: 'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem . . . true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth.'

We do this by acknowledging Jesus Christ as *our* sacred site. Jesus is where God is to be found. In his earthly ministry this was around places like the well in Samaria. As Risen Lord, he is to be found in those in dire need, and in the Heavenly Bread. In both cases we need to incline the body as an act of worship: in the case of the needy, by doing something practical; in the case of the Heavenly Bread, by genuflecting, bowing, before the Blessed Sacrament.

We could pause for a moment to reorientate ourselves to the Sacred Site who is the Risen Christ, acknowledging him as indeed the 'Saviour of the World'.



© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com



3RD SUNDAY OF LENT – 8 MAR MONORANJON FROM

BANGLADESH - Monoranjon, 47, lives in a coastal village in south-west Bangladesh, one of the regions most affected by climate change. He

and his family face extreme heat, cyclones, water scarcity, and rising salinity that is destroying crops and livelihoods. As a farmer and father of two, Monoranjon struggled to provide for his family and keep his daughter and son in school. "In this dry season no seedlings come out from seeds. Due to heat of the sun and lack of water, plants are dying," Monoranjon said.

Thanks to support from Caritas Australia and its partner Caritas Bangladesh, Monoranjon joined the Community Managed Sustainable Livelihoods and Resilience Program. He learned climate-resilient farming techniques, including organic vegetable cultivation, livestock vaccination, crab fattening, and salt-tolerant crop production. His income has improved, allowing him to send his children to school and access better nutrition. Monoranjon now teaches others in his village, inspiring change and resilience across the community.

Despite these improvements, the region remains at grave risk. With the looming threat of increased strength and frequency of cyclones, rapid sea level rise, dangerously high temperatures and drought, more people like Monoranjon desperately need an increase in support, so they can continue to provide a future of education for their children, and a way out of poverty.

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.



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!!



PRAYER FOR THE SYNOD

Adsumus, Sancte Spiritus

We stand before You, Holy Spirit,
as we gather together in Your name.
With You alone to guide us,
make Yourself at home in our hearts;
Teach us the way we must go
and how we are to pursue it.
We are weak and sinful;
do not let us promote disorder.
Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path
nor partiality influence our actions.
Let us find in You our unity
so that we may journey together to eternal life
and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.
All this we ask of You,
who are at work in every place and time,
in the communion of the Father and the Son,
forever and ever. Amen

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



"SO IF THE SON SETS YOU FREE,
YOU WILL BE FREE INDEED."

John 8:36

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Led by MGL Fathers

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