



You are always welcome at....

# ST. ANDREW THE APOSTLE PARISH MARAYONG

## *Parish Vision Statement*

We are an active and welcoming Catholic community,  
where people of all ages draw closer to God.  
His love is expressed through each one of us by prayer,  
liturgy and reaching out in service to one another.



## 24th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

Please visit our Parish Website: [www.standrewsmarayong.org.au](http://www.standrewsmarayong.org.au) Year A: Vol.42 No.43 16th / 17th September 2017

### **PARISH STAFF:**

Monsignor Ron McFarlane  
Father Joby Kadambattu MS  
Father Alfonsus Nahak SVD  
Maria Hyson  
(Sacramental Coordinator)  
Michelle Sultana &  
Joe Clemson  
(Office staff)

### **PARISH OFFICE:**

**Phone: 9622 0817**  
Fax: 9671 7971  
40 Breakfast Rd, Marayong 2148  
[PO Box 4345]  
Email Address:  
**saapm@bigpond.com**

### **Office Hours:**

Monday to Friday  
9.00am to 4.00pm

### **PRESBYTERY:**

41 Breakfast Rd, Marayong  
After hours phone: 9676 7960

### **WEEKEND MASSES:**

Saturday (Vigil) 6.00pm  
Sunday:  
7.30am, 8.45am, 10.30am

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL:**

Each Sunday morning  
after the 8.45am Mass.

### **Weekday Masses:**

Monday: 9.00am  
Tuesday: 9.00am  
Wednesday: 9.00am  
*Novena & Mass: 7.00pm*  
Thursday: 8.00am  
Friday: 9.00am  
Saturday: 9.00am

**Mass for the Sick:** 4th Saturday  
of the month at 9.00am

**Rosary:** After each morning  
Mass and before the  
Saturday Vigil Mass

### **SACRAMENT OF PENANCE**

- After weekday morning Masses.
- Saturday: 4.30pm - 5.30pm
- Anytime by arrangement.

### **SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

**Baptisms:** 1st & 3rd Sunday  
of each month at 11.45am

### **Baptismal Preparation:**

2nd Wednesday of each month  
at 7.30pm  
in the Fr Byrne Centre.  
Please book for Baptisms  
with the Parish Office.

### **PIETY STALL:**

Open after Masses on Saturday  
night and Sunday morning or  
by asking for an appointment  
at the Parish Office.

### **FR. BYRNE CENTRE:**

(Parish Meeting Rooms)  
38 Breakfast Rd, Marayong.

### **PARISH SCHOOLS:**

#### **ST. ANDREW'S PRIMARY**

Principal: Mr M. Tonnet  
Phone: 9671 6622  
Address: 36 Breakfast Road  
Marayong 2148

#### **ST. ANDREWS COLLEGE**

College Principal: Mr N. Vidot  
Phone: 9626 4000

### **Campus -**

#### **JUNIOR CAMPUS (YRS. 7-10)**

Address: 116 Quakers Road  
Marayong 2148

#### **SENIOR CAMPUS (YRS. 11-12)**

Address: 50 Breakfast Road  
Marayong 2148

## EVER THOUGHT OF BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

We hope you don't mind us asking this question, but experience has shown us that time and again many people feel drawn to the Catholic community. Often they would like to ask some questions but don't know where to start. Well, there is one place to begin, and that is through this parish community.

At St Andrews Parish, Marayong, we offer opportunities for people to come together, with members of the Parish community, to find out what makes the Catholic Church or, rather, what makes Catholics tick.

There is no "hard sell" and no strings attached. We provide a friendly series of informative evenings among friends. We would be delighted to share with you some of our own experiences of what it means to be Catholic. We would like you to learn about the community we belong to and the values that are important to us.

To find out when and where the next program is being held,  
please contact the parish office on 9622 0817.

*We encourage members of our Parish family to offer this invitation to people  
they know who might be interested in having a look at the Catholic Church.*

### **PARISH REGISTRATION**

If you have not filled out a Registration Form, please do so as soon as possible and return it to the Church or Parish Office. Forms are available at the back of the Church.

If you are a new parishioner, we ask you to complete a Registration Form, and return it to the Parish Office.

### **Bulletin Highlights ...**

- ♦ PASTORAL LETTER ON THE SAME-SEX MARRIAGE POSTAL SURVEY
- ♦ YEAR 12 GRADUATION MASS
- ♦ AGENDA PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
- ♦ UPCOMING PARISH AND DIOCESAN EVENTS

## From Monsignor Ron ...

The stated reason for the Book of Ecclesiasticus is that the author wishes to help people to be wise and this comes about by remembering our purpose in life. God's plan for us is to be united with him now and for ever when we come to the end of our earthly life. If we live this life in unity with our God, then we are keeping up part of the covenant between God and us. To be a wise person is to be a person who stands for mercy, forgiveness and peace.

We are also reminded by St Paul that whether we are alive or dead, we belong to the Lord. What he is saying to us is that Jesus Christ made God's covenant plan possible -- for through Jesus the human race is united with God; we do belong to the Lord and it is in this relationship with our God that our meaning in life is found. Through this relationship all our behaviour and lifestyle should be influenced, especially in regard to the people who are part of our lives.

It is this final point that is taken up in the gospel passage this weekend. We are called to build up a community made up of brothers and sisters of Jesus and called to show his forgiveness, to the world. We belong to a community of love and understanding in which forgiveness and mercy are basic attitudes for every member of the kingdom of God.

There is a very practical point in what Jesus says and it is that we must be prepared to forgive in order to be forgiven. As we forgive others, our heavenly Father will forgive us. This means that in all situations, no matter how painful or negative, and at all times we must strive to be forgiving people. You know, the reality is that there is nothing that people can do to us which can in anyway compare with

what we have done to God. So if God has forgiven us it is a logical extension that we should forgive each other.

In one sense forgiveness takes only a moment, in that there is a key moment of decision that helps us cross the threshold from bitterness to forgiveness. But, there is a large amount of preparation required to reach that point, and a lot of effort required to strengthen us and to remain faithful afterwards. The ability to forgive is the answer to a persevering amount of praying. There will be many temptations to turn back to bitterness; you might even slip occasionally. So we do need to pray for the gift of forgiveness. We need also to focus on Jesus. If we rephrase the words of consecration we could come up with: My Blood, my whole life was lived and poured out so that you might know forgiveness and be able to forgive one another.

### Reflection for the Week

"Jesus went out again beside the sea; the whole crowd gathered around him and he taught them. As he was walking along, he saw Levi, son of Alphaeus, sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, 'Follow me.' And he got up and followed him" (Mark 2:13-14)

You look into the heart, Almighty God, whereas I see only with my eyes. Give me the ability to see what you see in the tax collector who follows your Son Jesus Christ. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

(A Spirituality of Mission by Mark Boyer)

Please contact the  
Parish Office, **if you are**  
**unavailable** for your  
rostered Ministry.



#### MASS READINGS -YEAR A

##### THIS SUNDAY:

##### 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Sirach 27:30 - 28:7

Psalm: Ps 102:1-4. 9-12

Second Reading: Romans 14:7-9

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

##### NEXT SUNDAY:

##### 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9

Psalm: Ps 144:2-3. 8-9. 17-18

Second Reading: Phil 1:20-24. 27

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

#### THIS WEEK'S ROSTER: 16th / 17th September 2017

#### [3rd Sunday of the Month - Odd Month]

| MINISTRIES   | 6.00pm                  | 7.30am                          | 8.45am                           | 10.30am                            |
|--|-------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ACOLYTE  | Joe Doyle<br>Rudy Rupac | Charles Hyson<br>John Fernandes | Morie Balisbisan<br>Thong Nguyen | Edward Yuliardhyanto<br>Luis Ortiz |
| COMMENTATOR  | Erna Ferrer             | Mary Anne Xuereb                | Chris Bettiol                    | Carmelita Liceralde                |
| FIRST READER                                       | Marian Fernandez        | Fely Perez                      | Roseanne Victoria                | Vicky Ilagan                       |
| SECOND READER                                      | Edward Yin              | Laurinda Atienza                | Bernardo Rivera                  | Eduardo Gatchalian                 |
| PROJECTOR<br>OPERATORS                             |                         | Aradhana Hyson                  | Jaden Victoria                   | Rachel Berry                       |
| WELCOMER   | Melita DelosReyes       | Annette Hudson                  | Denise Farla<br>Dot Kaster       | Peter Maw                          |
| MUSICIANS  | Lorraine's Group        | NO Music Mass                   | St Andrew's<br>Family Choir      | Living Word Choir                  |
| MINISTERS OF COMMUNION - Third Sunday of the Month |                         |                                 |                                  |                                    |

#### NEXT WEEK'S ROSTER: 23rd / 24th September 2017

#### [4th Sunday of the Month - Odd Month]

| MINISTRIES  | 6.00pm  | 7.30am                            | 8.45am                       | 10.30am                               |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ACOLYTE   | Rudy Rupac<br>Ike Enriquez                                    | Candido Velasco<br>John Blackford | Mario Picart<br>Joy Kakodkar | Noe Adan<br><i>Volunteer Required</i> |
| COMMENTATOR   | <i>Volunteer Required</i>                                     | Claire Blunt                      | Derca Elogious               | Maryanne Bautista                     |
| FIRST READER  | Felecia Silva   | Pauline Sultana                   | Maricor Espinosa             | Judith D'Cruz                         |
| SECOND READER                                       | Lisa D'Souza  | Nila Mangona                      | Luz Tiqui                    | Vicky Ilagan                          |
| PROJECTOR<br>OPERATORS                              | Sian D'Souza  | Vianney Rodrigues                 | Belinda Elogious             | Emily Webb<br>Natalie Webb            |
| WELCOMER  | Marian Fernandez<br>Melville Fernandez<br>Henryka Ogronniczek | Agnes iligan                      | Mathias Family               | Editha Brady<br>Carl Republica        |
| MUSICIANS   | Hearts  | NO Music Mass                     | Worship Hymn                 | Couples For Christ                    |
| MINISTERS OF COMMUNION - Fourth Sunday of the Month |   |                                   |                              |                                       |



## Year 12 Graduation Mass

*This Mass will be celebrated on Monday evening, September 18, at 7:30pm in our parish Church.*

Parishioners are welcome to attend this Mass. As this is the final week before our year 12 students complete their time at school before the holidays and the commencement of their examinations, parishioners are invited to pray for their intentions during this busy and stressful time.

### AGENDA Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

7:15pm on Tuesday, September 26



- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Welcome and Opening Prayer<br>(5 minutes)                | 6. Reports                                      |
| 2. Apologies  | 7. Parish Priest Update<br>(10 minutes)         |
| 3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting<br>(5 minutes)           | 8. Sacramental Program Update<br>(5 minutes)    |
| 4. Matters arising from the Previous Meeting<br>(5 minutes) | 9. Calendar Events and Planning<br>(20 minutes) |
| 5. Financial Report<br>(5 to 10 minutes)                    | 10. Survey Discussion (20+ minutes)             |
|   | 11. General Business (10 minutes)               |

#### SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY: 24 September

The Catholic Church in Australia celebrates Social Justice Sunday on 24 September. This year, the Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement is titled: 'Everyone's Business: Developing an inclusive and sustainable economy'. The Statement calls for an economy that is founded on justice and offers dignity and inclusion to every person. For further details about the Social Justice Statement, visit the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council website:

([www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au)) or call (02) 8306 3499.

#### DISCERNMENT TO THE PERMANENT DIACONATE: 24 September

Come and learn more about vocations to the Diaconate and have a chat with our team members. We are looking for men aged between 35 to 55 and residing in the Diocese of Parramatta. Our discernment program consists of five sessions, with each session dealing with different aspects of the Diaconate. This is the fourth session of the 2017 program. Subsequent sessions will be announced in due course. Venue: St Anthony of Padua Parish, 27-33 Aurelia Street, Toongabbie, NSW 2146. Time: 2:30 to 5 pm (including Mass and fellowship).

For further information visit <http://parracatholic.org/permanent-diaconate/> or please contact any of the following deacons:

Deacon James - [deacon@stanthonyschurch.org.au](mailto:deacon@stanthonyschurch.org.au)

Deacon Tan - [deacontan@john23rd.org.au](mailto:deacontan@john23rd.org.au)/0407270782

Deacon George - [g.bryan1@bigpond.com](mailto:g.bryan1@bigpond.com)

#### WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS: 24 September

All Married couples are invited to celebrate their Wedding Anniversary with other couples and family members at the 11am Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Parramatta on Sunday, 24th September, 2017.

Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv will celebrate the Mass and will host a light lunch following Mass. Please contact your Parish Secretary to register your names by 18th September, 2017; or call the Life Marriage & Family Office on 02 8838 3460 or [lmf@parra.catholic.org.au](mailto:lmf@parra.catholic.org.au).



Connect with the Diocese and find out the latest news and events on Social Media:

<https://www.facebook.com/parracatholic>

Twitter @parracatholic



| Sunday   |
|--|
| 17<br><b>24th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b><br>Counters: Group 3<br><b>09:30</b> Sunday School<br><b>11:45</b> Baptism   |
| Monday   |
| 18<br><b>09:00</b> Mass<br><b>09:30</b> Rosary<br><b>19:00</b> Legion of Mary<br><b>19:30</b> SAC Yr 12 Graduation Mass  |
| Tuesday  |
| 19<br>Saint Januarius,<br>Bishop, Martyr<br><b>09:00</b> Mass SAP Yr 3<br><b>09:30</b> Rosary  |
| Wednesday  |
| 20<br>Saints Andrew Kim Taegon,<br>Priest, and Paul Chong Hasang,<br>and their Companions, Martyrs<br><b>09:00</b> Mass SAP Yr 5<br><b>09:30</b> Rosary<br><b>19:00</b> Novena & Mass        |
| Thursday   |
| 21<br>Saint Matthew,<br>Apostle, Evangelist<br><b>08:00</b> Mass<br><b>08:30</b> Rosary<br><b>19:00</b> SVDP Meeting   |
| Friday   |
| 22<br>SAP Last Day for Students<br><b>09:00</b> Mass<br><b>09:30</b> Rosary<br><b>16:00</b> Junior Legion of Mary<br><b>20:00</b> Choir Practice HJM   |
| Saturday   |
| 23<br>Saint Pio of Pietrelcina<br><b>09:00</b> Mass for the Sick<br><b>09:30</b> Rosary<br><b>09:40</b> Jnr Legion of Mary<br><b>16:15</b> Legion of Mary<br><b>19:30</b> Prayer Meeting HJM |



# Pastoral letter on the same-sex marriage postal survey

Dear brothers and sisters,

As I write to you, the national debate on same-sex civil marriage is in full swing. It is an issue that many feel passionate about and hence, it has potential to polarise the community. I appeal to all Catholics in the Diocese of Parramatta to conduct this dialogue with a deep sense of respect for all concerned, and for the opinion and decision that each person is free to make.

It is important to remember from the very outset that the postal survey is about whether or not Australians want the legal definition of civil marriage changed to include same-sex couples. It is not a referendum on sacramental marriage as understood by the Catholic Church.

Many years ago, divorce was legalised in Australia; but this change did not alter the law of the Church. Therefore, whatever the outcome of the survey or the eventual legislation by the government, the Church will continue to hold that marriage is a natural institution established by God to be a permanent union between one man and one woman, directed both to mutual companionship and to the formation of a family in which children are born and nurtured.

For many Catholics, the issue of same-sex marriage is not simply theoretical but deeply personal. These may be same-sex attracted people themselves or that may be the case with their relatives and friends. In such cases, they are torn between their love for the Church and their love for their same-sex attracted child, grandchild, sibling, cousin, friend or neighbour.

**As your bishop, I wish to reiterate the commitment I made at my installation: "I am committed to make the church in Parramatta the house for all peoples, a church where there is less an experience of exclusion but more an encounter of radical love, inclusiveness and solidarity." As a community of disciples, we seek to accommodate, accompany and care for one another irrespective of sexual orientation, marital status and situation.**

I invite all Catholics in our Diocese to exercise our responsibility as citizens to engage in this community discernment. It should not be a matter of a simple answer Yes or No to the postal survey. It should be an opportunity for us to witness to our deep commitment to the ideal of Christian marriage. But it should also be an opportunity for us to listen to what the Spirit is saying through the signs of the times.

Throughout much of history, our gay and lesbian (or LGBTI) brothers and sisters have often not been treated with respect, sensitivity and compassion. Regrettably, the Church has not always been a place where they have felt welcomed, accepted and loved. Thus, regardless of the outcome of the survey, we must commit ourselves to the task of reaching out to our LGBTI brothers and sisters, affirming their dignity and accompanying them on our common journey towards the fullness of life and love in God.

Let us pray, discern and act with the wisdom of the Holy Spirit. Catholics, in keeping with the tradition of the Church, are asked to exercise their consciences, ensuring that they are informed as they come to exercise their democratic rights in the coming postal survey.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv  
Bishop of Parramatta

*Given at Parramatta on 13 September A.D. 2017,  
Memorial of St John Chrysostom*

