



# 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.



## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Please visit our Parish Website: [www.standrewsmarayong.org.au](http://www.standrewsmarayong.org.au) Year A: Vol.51 No.13 21st & 22nd February 2026

### THE PARRAMATTA WAY OF SAFEGUARDING IS TO...

Act with Justice, and state that we have a zero tolerance for any form of abuse or harm to children or any person; ensure that laws and obligations are upheld, and safety is paramount.

"This is what the Lord asks of you: only this, to act justly,  
to love tenderly and to walk humbly with your God." (Micah 6:8)



#### PARISH STAFF:

Fr. Kevin Redmond sm,  
Fr. Floyd Gatana sm,  
Fr. Lauro Arcede sm.  
Maria Hyson  
(Sacramental Coordinator)  
Merlinda (Merly) Generalao,  
Michelle Sultana &  
Joe Clemson  
(Office staff)

#### PARISH OFFICE:

Phone: 9622 0817  
40 Breakfast Rd, Marayong 2148  
[PO Box 4345]

Email Address:  
[saapm@bigpond.com](mailto:saapm@bigpond.com)

Office Hours:  
Monday to Friday  
9.00am to 4.00pm  
after hours 9671 5793

#### PRESBYTERY:

41 Breakfast Rd, Marayong

#### FR. BYRNE CENTRE:

(Parish Meeting Rooms)  
38 Breakfast Rd, Marayong.

#### SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

- After weekday & Saturday morning Masses.
- Before Vigil Masses Saturday afternoon 4:00~4:30pm
- Anytime by arrangement.

#### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptisms: 1st & 3rd Sunday  
each month at 11:45am

#### Baptismal Preparation:

Second Wednesday of  
each month at 7.30pm  
in the Fr Byrne Centre.

Please book for Baptisms  
with the Parish Office.

#### PIETY STALL:

By asking for an appointment  
at the Parish Office.

#### WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday:  
Vigil 5.00pm  
Sunday:  
7.30am, 8.45am  
& 10.30am

#### WEEKDAY MASSES:

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

#### PARISH SCHOOLS:

##### ST. ANDREW'S PRIMARY

[www.standrewpsmarayong.catholic.edu.au](http://www.standrewpsmarayong.catholic.edu.au)

Acting Principal:

Annemarie Bond

Phone: 8869 6700

Address: 36 Breakfast Road  
Marayong 2148

##### ST. ANDREWS COLLEGE

[www.standrewscmarayong.catholic.edu.au](http://www.standrewscmarayong.catholic.edu.au)

College Principal:

Stephen Kennaugh

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



E: [youthworksadmin@gmail.com](mailto:youthworksadmin@gmail.com)  
IG / FB @youthworksmarayong

## PARISH YOUTH GROUP

February 20 - CHOIR PRACTICE - 7pm at the FBC

February 21 - SAYWAT - 6pm at the FBC

February 22 - YOUTH MASS - 10:30am

Saturday, February 28 - ADORATION - 6pm in the CHURCH

# EUCHARIST28

## 54th International Eucharistic Congress 2028

On Sunday, March 1st after the 8:45am Mass, there will be period of Adoration as our Parish joins parishes around the country to launch the preparations for the next International Eucharistic Congress to be held in 2028 in Sydney. This first year of preparation is the Year of Prayer. In the Second Sunday of Lent, we hear the account of the Transfiguration, we are being invited to be united in prayer, asking the Lord to transform our hearts through the Eucharist, that his will may be done in our lives and in the life of the Church. The theme for Eucharist28 is 'This is My Body, Given for You' over the next three years let us continue to reflect on and put this into practice.

<https://eucharist28.org/>

# Let God be in control

My friends, as we begin our Lenten journey, it is an opportunity for us once again to reflect on our own faith journey as Catholics. Our readings for this First Sunday of Lent remind us of who God is for us and how we can live in His Spirit.

Genesis tells us how Adam and Eve gave in to temptation and sinned. Their curiosity led to disobeying God. St. Paul tells us that Jesus brings us back to God. Jesus is a gift from God, and His grace comes to us through Jesus. In the Gospel, we hear how Jesus was tempted, but He did not give in.

The readings for the First Sunday of Lent invite us to dwell on the love and mercy of God. If we are grounded in the love of God, then we will also be like Jesus, having the courage to say no to the evil one. Notice in the First Reading, God breathed His Spirit to Adam. And in the Gospel, Jesus is led by the Spirit to the desert. How many of us constantly remind ourselves of the gift of life God has given us and the constant protection God bestow on us. God has breathed His Spirit in us, and he lives in us.

However, it is up to you and me to make choices each day. The message in our readings today clearly states that if we allow the Spirit of God to be in control, then we will be able say no to the temptations of the evil one. Once we rely on our own human wisdom and knowledge, we can easily submit like Adam and Eve, giving in easily to the temptation of evil. Our problem as human beings is that we want to be in control rather than allow God to lead us to the path that leads to Him.

Let us be reminded again of the gift of God's Spirit in us. His Spirit enlighten and protects us. We must learn to trust God by surrendering ourselves to Him and allowing Him to be in control of our lives and the situations we are in. Let this Lenten season be a time of spiritual awakening and renewal for individuals, families, and the parish community.

.....from Fr Floyd Gatana SM

21st & 22nd February 2026		LITURGY ROSTER			[4th Sunday of the Month]
MINISTRIES	5.00pm	7.30am	8.45am	10.30am	
MINISTERS AT THE ALTAR	Myles Anderiesz, Kartiko Effendy	Aileen Dela Cruz Joanel Dela Cruz	Joy Kakodkar	Noe Adan, Ding Mojica	
COMMENTATOR	Nenette Gapud		Vinetta Lobo		
FIRST READER	Dorris Barrios	Elvie Clark	Rittarina Reay	Linda Ranee	
SECOND READER		Elizabeth Abbey	Lydia Villamarin	Socorro Amos	
PROJECTIONIST	Jerome Chin		Mariah Cutajar		
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Merlie Domingo., Mariyam Wijeyaratnam, Anne Marie Moriarty, Henryka Ogrodniczek	Linda Dessa, Geraldine Pereira, Maurice Perera	Annette Morales, Joshua Daly, Maryanne Parsons, Estrellita Viola, Revathi Hyson	Brenda Payne, Virginia Salom, Luke Binny, Anna Amos, Socorro Amos. +1	
USHERS/ WELCOMERS	Henryka Ogrodniczek, Janine Wheeler	Anthony Culbert			
MUSIC	Lorraine's Choir	NO Music Mass	Worship Hymn	Couples For Christ Australia	
28th February & 1st March 2026		LITURGY ROSTER			[1st Sunday of the Month]
MINISTRIES	5.00pm	7.30am	8.45am	10.30am	
MINISTERS AT THE ALTAR	Romeo Gapud	Ruben Bables John Fernandes	Olan Cruise Joy Kakodkar	Jacob Chin Ferdi Chin (B)	
COMMENTATOR	Erna Ferrer		Vinetta Lobo	Therrie Chin	
FIRST READER	Theodra D'Lima	Zeny Bables	Martin Zammit	Maricor Espinosa	
SECOND READER	Mariyam Wijeyaratnam	Fely Perez	Maria Hyson	Socorro Amos	
PROJECTIONIST	Mariyam & Joel Wijeyaratnam		Jeremy Portelli Keith Vaz	Abigail Chin	
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Mary Ann Zammit Christine Zammit Maria Webb Valerian D'Lima	Agnes Zabala, Maryse Pereira, Suzanne Daniels	Gari De Guzman Maryanne Parson Linda Renee Josephine Daly Braedan Monteiro	Joseph Widjaja Scocorro Amos Maria Carpio Virginia Salom Jay Ilagan Vicky Ilagan	
USHERS/ WELCOMERS	Henryka Ogrodniczek, Janine Wheeler	Anthony Culbert			
MUSIC	Hearts of Jesus & Mary	NO Music Mass	Worship Hymn	Mafi Family Choir	

## PRAYER FOR FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Lord God, you who breathed the spirit of life within me. Draw out of me the light and life you created. Help me to find my way back to you. Help me to use my life to reflect your glory and to serve others as your son Jesus did.

## Developing a New Parish Pastoral Council



The Parish Pastoral Council is an important representative body in a Parish. From the Second Vatican Council, through Synods and the Plenary Council of Australia to the Parramatta Diocesan Synod and our Pastoral Plan we are called to walk together (be synodal) in the mission of discerning a response to God's mission here at St Andrew the Apostle.

For a number of years, our Parish Pastoral Council has been operating as an opportunity to co-ordinate the various activities of the groups of the Parish. This has made a valuable contribution to our Parish but it is now the opportunity to develop a new model of the Parish Pastoral Council that can help our Parish now and into the future. However, we will be continuing to invite representatives of the groups of the Parish to two PPC meetings each year.

We are asking you to prayerfully reflect on members of our Parish that you feel can make a contribution to the new Parish Pastoral Council. We are looking for people who are yearning for spiritual growth, with enthusiasm, flexibility and an openness to others and their ideas, a desire to listen and discern, they have an illustrated capacity for patience, tenacity and courage, they can work alongside others, are co-operative, openminded, are people of wisdom and imagination and above all are prayerful.

In 2024 the Parramatta Diocese launched its Pastoral Plan for a Synodal Church 2024-2028 called Behold, I am with you always. It is a wonderful opportunity for our parish to look again at our Mission and how we proclaim the Good News here among ourselves and our neighbours.

We will be calling for Nominations during March and on April 19 an information and discernment session will be held, so that at the Parish Pastoral Council meeting scheduled for April 30 the new PPC will hold its first meeting.

## CATHOLIC YOUTH PARRAMATTA 2026 KICK-OFF | 26 FEBRUARY

Young people from across the Diocese are invited to an evening of celebration - hear testimonies from local leaders, take part in prayer, connect with others, Join us on Thursday 26 February from 7pm at Holy Family Primary School, Emerton. Register [online](#).



### MASS READINGS -YEAR A

#### THIS SUNDAY:

##### FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: Genesis 2:7-9. 3:1-7

Psalm: Ps 50:3-6. 12-14. 17

Second Reading: Romans 5:12-19

Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

#### NEXT SUNDAY:

##### SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4

Psalm: Ps 32:4-5. 18-20. 22

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:8-10

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

### During the week prayers have been requested for.....

Ernesto 'Ernie' & Aurora Aaron, Jose Bobby Abarabar, Guilherme Alvares, Josephine Alvares, Silvia Braganza, Julie & Paul Clemson, Arsenio 'Sonny' Cortez, Mary Cumbo, Jessie de Pedro, Mabel Dickinson, Jacob D'sa, Nazarino Egdane, Santiago Letty D'Souza, Imelda Q Espinosa, Francisco Eugenio, Felino Fernandes, Sally Bertha Fernandes, Teresita Gepullano, Aquilina Mendoza Gopiao, Anthony Grima, Raymond Grima, Victoria Guevara Tan, Elizabeth Hales, Martin Jacob, Mario Lagado, Abraham Macaraeg, Consuelo Mangona, Joseph Martyris, Sr Alice Mary Martyris, Rogelio L Mendoza, Graciano Menezes, Gregory Menezes, Maria Regina Menezes, Julie Nunez, Efren Ponsaran, Donald Quessy, Palmira Do Rosario, Rodrigo Rupac, Josephine Schembri, Santan Sequeira, Milagrena Sison, Stella & Felic Zammit, Adrian, Auring, Brigit, Dods, Mr Moses, Farla & Duchenne Families, Collins & Quinn Families, McCabe & Fitzgibbon Families, Vaz & Rodrigues Families, All Souls in Purgatory

.....Please remember in your prayers

## Sunday

22-Feb

### 1st Sunday of Lent

Counters: Group 8

Marriage Blessing - All Masses

07:30 Mass

08:45 Mass

09:30 1st Reconciliation Class 1

09:30 Choir Practice CFCA

10:30 Mass

11:45 Baptism

## Monday

23-Feb

Monday of the

1st week of Lent

Commemoration of Saint

Polycarp, Bishop, Martyr

09:00 Mass

10:00 SGT C2 M4&5 FBC

15:30 Jnr Legion of Mary

19:00 SGT C2 M5 FBC

19:00 SVdP Meeting

## Tuesday

24-Feb

Tuesday of the 1st week of Lent

09:00 Mass

19:00 Legion of Mary

## Wednesday

25-Feb

Wednesday of the

1st week of Lent

09:00 Mass

19:00 Novena & Mass

## Thursday

26-Feb

Thursday of the

1st week of Lent

09:00 Mass

14:00 Church Cleaning Group 4

19:00 Social Justice group meeting

19:00 Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

19:00 RCIA

## Friday

27-Feb

Friday of the 1st week of Lent

Saint Gregory of Narek,

Abbot & Doctor of the Church

09:00 Mass

15:30 Jnr Legion of Mary

19:00 Mass &

Stations of the Cross

19:00 Choir Practice HJM

## Saturday

28-Feb

Saturday of the

1st week of Lent

09:00 Mass for the Sick

09:40 Legion of Mary

16:00 Jnr Legion of Mary

17:00 Vigil Mass

18:00 Adoration - Youth

18:30 Prayer Meeting HJM



## LITURGY ROSTER FOR HOLY WEEK

In order to facilitate the preparation of a liturgy roster for the events of Holy Week, it would be appreciated if you could let the parish office know of your availability or non-availability during this time. We hope to have a roster presented by the 4th Sunday of Lent.

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

Thankyou to everyone who will lead us in the Stations of the Cross through Lent, the roster is now full.

Friday, February 27:	Legion of Mary Praesidium 2	Friday, March 06:	Hearts	Friday, March 13:	Social Justice Group
Friday, March 20:	SVdP	Friday, March 27:	Legion of Mary Praesidium 1	Good Friday, April 3:	St Andrews Primary school

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS MEETINGS - MARCH 2026

There will be a series of meetings during March for the various Ministries involved in our Liturgical celebrations to come together to address practical issues that need to be identified and talked through and allow an opportunity to confirm or update your roster availability / preferences; as well as how ongoing formation and training is best provided. This will provide an opportunity to confirm people on our rosters have undertaken the necessary ministry & safeguarding training, and for Acolytes / Ministers at the Altar that they hold a current WWCC clearance from the OCG that has been verified by the Diocese of Parramatta.

**These meetings will occur on Monday evenings at 7:00pm in the church.**

**2nd - Acolytes / Ministers at the Altar**

**9th - Extraordinary Ministers of Communion**

**16th - Readers**

**23rd - Commentators**

## SAFEGUARDING TRAINING for Parishes of the Blacktown Deanery

**New to Ministry or have not begun any Safeguarding Training?** Complete Introductory Modules 1-3 (Cycle 1)  
Available online: <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au/courses>

**Did you complete Cycle 1 Modules two or more years ago?** Complete Renewal Modules 4 and 5 (Cycle 2)  
Face- to-Face Cycle 2 opportunities are available on: **WALKINS WILL BE ACCEPTED at the FBC on Monday.**

- During the day on **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February** at St Andrew's Marayong (10.00am-1.30pm)
- **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March** at Bishop Bede Heather Centre Blacktown (9.30am-1.00pm)

Safeguarding Training Modules can always be completed independently online at -

<https://learning.safeguarding.org.au>

*Please update your Safeguarding Training by this Autumn. Your renewal date will then be Autumn 2028.*

*Thank you for helping to make the Diocese of Parramatta a safe Church for children, young people and adults at risk.*



**Caritas**  
AUSTRALIA

**PROJECT**  
**COMPASSION**

**UNITE**  
**AGAINST**  
**POVERTY**

## First Sunday of Lent 21-22 February 2026

this Lent

This Lent, we are called to Unite Against Poverty through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. **Please take home a Project Compassion box or donation envelope to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season.** Your generosity this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities in need.

As Pope Leo XIV has reminded us that the vulnerable are great teachers.

In Dilexi Te he writes:

*Christians must not abandon almsgiving... It is always better at least to do something rather than nothing. Whatever form it may take, almsgiving will touch and soften our hardened hearts... for our part, we need to give alms as a way of reaching out and touching the suffering flesh of the poor.*

You can donate online by scanning the QR code or visiting:

<https://www.projectcompassion.org.au/fundraisers/marayongcatholicparish>

or use the PC donation boxes & envelopes available in the church,

or by calling 1800 024 413.

**Thank you for standing with us, as we Unite Against Poverty this Lent.**



7th & 8th March 2026		LITURGY ROSTER		[2nd Sunday of the Month]
MINISTRIES	5.00pm	7.30am	8.45am	10.30am
MINISTERS AT THE ALTAR	Myles Anderiesz	Aileen Dela Cruz Joel Dela Cruz	Nayana Menezes Lobo Joy Kakodkar	Noe Adan
COMMENTATOR	Nenette Gapud	Gari De Guzman	Josephine Daly	Socorro Amos
FIRST READER	Doris Barrios	Anthony Culbert	Nerissa Toong	Vicky Ilagan
SECOND READER	Therrie Chin	Nila Mangona	Christina Monteiro	Jay Ilagan
PROJECTIONIST	Demaiyrah Desouza, Evelyn Moras		Jeremy Portelli	
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Mirza Alata Anne Marie Moriarty Henryka Ogrodniczek Marie Webb	Linda Dessa Geradine Pereira Julie Nunez	Salve Gatchalian Connie Cassar Sam Cassar Rose Rotik Juliet Parame	Mario Picart, Brenda Payne, Anna Amos, Virginia Salom, Maria Carpio Luke Binny
USHERS/ WELCOMERS	Henryka Ogrodniczek, Janine Wheeler	Anthony Culbert		
MUSIC	Lorraine's Choir	NO Music Mass	Praise and Glory	Couples For Christ Australia

14th & 15th March 2026		LITURGY ROSTER		[3rd Sunday of the Month]
MINISTRIES	5.00pm	7.30am	8.45am	10.30am
MINISTERS AT THE ALTAR	Romeo Gapud,	Elvie Clark John Blackford		Ding Mojica, Mauricio Balisbisan (B)
COMMENTATOR	Melvina Vaz			YouthWorks
FIRST READER	Mercy Aquino	Luz Tiqui	Isabella Metcalfe	YouthWorks
SECOND READER		Sharmali Perera	Delia Cristostomo	YouthWorks
PROJECTIONIST	Demmfiyrah Desouza, Evelyn Moras		Jeremy Portelli	Louisa Velasco
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Theodora D'Lima, Myles Anderiesz, Mariyam Wijayaratham, Nenette Gapud	Agnes Zabala, Anthony Culbert. Maurice Perera	Rose Rotik, Henrietta D'Sa, Estrellita Viola, Maryanee Parson Josephine Daly	Aida Jamolin, Brenda Payne Virgina Salom, Maricor Espinosa, Therrie Chin +1
USHERS/ WELCOMERS	Henryka Ogrodniczek, Janine Wheeler	Anthony Culbert		Aileen Dela Cruz
MUSIC	Hearts of Jesus & Mary	NO Music Mass	St Andrew's Family Choir	Fresh in Faith Youth Choir

21st & 22nd March 2026		LITURGY ROSTER		[4th Sunday of the Month]
MINISTRIES	5.00pm	7.30am	8.45am	10.30am
MINISTERS AT THE ALTAR	Myles Anderiesz, Kartiko Effendy	Aileen Dela Cruz Joel Dela Cruz	Maria Hyson Joy Kakodkar	Noe Adan, Ding Mojica
COMMENTATOR	Nenette Gapud		Vinetta Lobo	
FIRST READER	Dorris Barrios	Elvie Clark	Rittarina Reay	Linda Ranee
SECOND READER		Elizabeth Abbey	Lydia Villamarin	Socorro Amos
PROJECTIONIST	Jerome Chin		Mariah Cutajar	
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Merlie Domingo., Mariyam Wijayaratham, Anne Marie Moriarty, Henryka Ogrodniczek	Linda Dessa, Geraldine Pereira, Maurice Perera	Annette Morales, Joshua Daly, Maryanne Parsons, Estrellita Viola, Revathi Hyson	Brenda Payne, Virginia Salom, Luke Binny, Anna Amos, Socorro Amos. +1
USHERS/ WELCOMERS	Henryka Ogrodniczek, Janine Wheeler	Claire Blunt, Anthony Culbert		
MUSIC	Lorraine's Choir	NO Music Mass	Worship Hymn	Couples For Christ Australia

28th & 29th March 2026		LITURGY ROSTER		[5th Sunday of the Month]
MINISTRIES	5.00pm	7.30am	8.45am	10.30am
MINISTERS AT THE ALTAR	Joe Doyle Nayana Menezes Lobo	Joel Dela Cruz	Derica Elogious	Ferdi Chin
COMMENTATOR	Erna Ferrer		Melvina Vaz	Socorro Amos
FIRST READER	Myles Anderiesz	Nila Mangona	Children's Choir	Maricor Espinosa
SECOND READER	Mercy Aquino		Children's Choir	Rittarina Reay
PROJECTIONIST			Jeremy Portelli	
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Mirza Alata, Nenette Gapud, Theodora D'Lima, Mariyam Wijayaratham	Maryse Pereira, Anthony Culbert, Luz Tiqui	Rittarina Reay, Rose Rotik, Maria Hyson, Estrellita Viola, Maryanne Parsons	Luke Binny, Maria Carpio, Virginia Salom, Linda Ranee,
USHERS/ WELCOMERS	Henryka Ogrodniczek, Janine Wheeler	Anthony Culbert		Anna Amos
MUSIC	Hearts of Jesus & Mary	NO Music Mass	Children's choir	Choir & Rondalla Group