



Jesus said 'Come and see'..... *John 1:39-41*
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.



8th SUNDAY in
ORDINARY
TIME

Please visit our Parish Website: www.standrewsmarayong.org.au Year C: Vol.44 No.13 02nd / 03rd March, 2019

PARISH STAFF:

Monsignor Ron McFarlane
 Father Florito [Flor] Apalias
 Father Luis Herrera
 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

After hours phone: 9676 7960

PRESBYTERY:

41 Breakfast Rd, Marayong

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: 7.30am 9.15am
 12.00 noon & 7.00pm
 Thursday: 8.00am
 Friday: 9.00am
 Mass & Stations: 7.00pm
 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: Yvette Baird
 Phone: 8869 6700
 Address: 36 Breakfast Road
 Marayong 2148

ST. ANDREWS COLLEGE

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

THE SEASON OF LENT : ASH WEDNESDAY

This Week:

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday when the Church puts ashes on our foreheads and calls us to penitence. Penitence, above all else, means conversion. In this regard the passage of the gospel of Ash Wednesday is very significant. Jesus speaks about carrying out acts of penitence known to and practised by his contemporaries. At the same time, he criticises the purely external ways in which these acts of charity, fasting, and prayer are carried out. The purpose of these acts of penitence is a sincere turning of our lives to God. Therefore, the first and principle meaning of penitence is interior.

Ash Wednesday Masses:

This should be a priority to participate in the Mass receive the Ashes.

Ashes may be received by all baptised adults and children.

Masses: 7:30am; 9:15am, 12 noon & 7:00pm

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 FROM BISHOP VINCENT
- ♦ LENTEN DISCUSSION / REFLECTION GROUPS
- ♦ STATIONS OF THE CROSS
- ♦ COLLEGE OPEN DAY
- ♦ UPCOMING PARISH AND DIOCESAN EVENTS

From Monsignor Ron ...

I would like to suggest that it would be appropriate this weekend to look at the ways that we can grow in self-knowledge. There are three points I would like to make.

The first is that we do need to take a closer look at ourselves. It is amazing how often we find people criticising others for a fault that is even more noticeable in themselves. I think that our capacity for self-delusion and self-deception is quite remarkable. One thing we need to do is to face the truth about ourselves for we will never grow in self-knowledge unless we are honest about who we are. I remember a very important quotation from Thomas A' Kempis book the Imitation of Christ: the humble knowledge of yourself is a surer way to God than the deepest search after science."

The second way that we can grow in self-knowledge is to listen with openness and humility to what others are saying about us and here I mean especially those who are closest to us. The positive things they say for the encouragement we need. We also need to honestly evaluate the critical things they say about us. The willingness to listen is so very important. We know this from the frustration we have experienced when people apparently do not listen to us. It is vital for growing in self-knowledge that we pick up the signals that come to us from the people around about us.

There is a third way we can grow in self-knowledge and that is by measuring ourselves against the teaching of Sacred Scripture. For example, the Scriptures of this weekend invite us not just to watch our words and to think before we speak, but they

also teach us the importance of not being judgemental about others because we do not know what is in their hearts. Neither do we know how hard they are trying or how much pain and difficulty they are experiencing.

This leads us to our final point. As Christians we should each day be seeking to grow in faith. If we truly want to change our lives and the lives of those around us, then it is always best to be positive rather than critical and negative. We are called to challenge unkindness with kindness and love. If we honestly strive to live according to the teaching of Jesus, we will inspire others so that they will want to have their lives shaped and moulded by the goodness of that message of Jesus.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW MARRIED DEACONS

On Friday evening February 22, four men were ordained to the Diaconate by Bishop Vincent at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. They are Rev Mr John Cinya, Rev Mr Rock Dias (former parishioner of St Andrew's), Rev Mr Thong Nguyen (currently appointed to St Andrew's parish) and Rev Mr Roderick Pirotta.

We congratulate them on their appointment. We also congratulate their wives and families for the ongoing support they have offered and will continue to offer to them in their ministries.

Deacon Thong will continue to minister in this parish at least for this year and maybe longer. Many of you already know him and I am sure you will continue to help him and his wife to feel at home in this parish family.

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



MASS READINGS -YEAR C

THIS SUNDAY:

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Sirach 27:4-7

Psalm: Ps 91:2-3, 13-16

Second Reading: 1 Cor 15:54-58

Gospel: Luke 6:39-45

NEXT SUNDAY:

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: Deut 26:4-10

Psalm: Ps 90:1-2, 10-15

Second Reading: Romans 10:8-13

Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

THIS WEEK'S ROSTER: 2nd / 3rd March 2019

[1st Sunday of the Month - Odd Month]

MINISTRIES	6.00pm	7.30am	8.45am	10.30am
ACOLYTE	Ruben Bables Joe Doyle	Ged Oblea Rufino Oblea	Thong Nguyen Mario Spiteri	Ike Enriquez Edsel Paltoo
COMMENTATOR	Joyce Vincent	Mary Anne Xuereb	Margaret Berry	Therrie Chin
FIRST READER	Roshan Thomas	Anthony Culbert	Nerissa Toong	Volunteer Required
SECOND READER	Martin Zammit	Julie Nunez	Joan Leong	Maury Villanueva
PROJECTOR OPERATORS	Delia Fernandes	Volunteer Required	Volunteer Required	Volunteer Required
WELCOMER	Volunteer Required	Annette Hudson Rita Vaughn	Dot Kaster, Des Zammit	YouthWorks!
MUSICIANS	Worship Hymn	NO Music Mass	CD Music Mass	YouthWorks!
MINISTERS OF COMMUNION - First Sunday of the Month				

NEXT WEEK'S ROSTER: 9th / 10th March 2019

[2nd Sunday of the Month - Odd Month]

MINISTRIES	6.00pm	7.30am	8.45am	10.30am
ACOLYTE	Romy Gapud Emmanuel Tabone	Gus Kaster Edsel Paltoo	Noe Adan Mario Picart	Robert Bautista Volunteer Required
COMMENTATOR	Nenette Gapud	Claire Blunt	Lita Picart	Volunteer Required
FIRST READER	Ralph Vaz	Antonette Elogious	Roseanne Victoria	Allen Brady
SECOND READER	Myra Estrera	Belinda Elogious	Rose Rotik	Maryanne Bautista
PROJECTOR OPERATORS	Sarah Debrincat	Derica Elogious	Vesna Kenny	Abigail Chin
WELCOMER	Annette Hudson	Claire Blunt Agnes iligan	Volunteer Required	Jerome Chin
MUSICIANS	Hearts	NO Music Mass	Couples For Christ	Dingalings
MINISTERS OF COMMUNION - Second Sunday of the Month				

LENTEN DISCUSSION / REFLECTION GROUPS

The first meeting will take place on Ash Wednesday evening after the 7:00pm Mass. It is important that we do not simply drift through this season without making the most of the opportunities to grow in our faith and use this time as time of renewal. One of the ways in which we can do this is to become involved in Lenten Discussion Groups which will be held each Wednesday evening after the evening Mass until 9:00pm in the Fr. Byrne Centre. The theme for this years Lenten program is "Trust" and we do encourage parishioners to be involved in this important aspect of our Lenten journey. Booklets are available for purchase in the piety store at a cost of \$9. These can be used privately, but I would suggest that being involved in a group will be more beneficial. I would point out that there are a limited number of books available as Wollongong diocese has had to do a second print run. Once the books we have are sold there will be no more available.

The wonderful thing about our Lenten discussion books this year is that they contain a reflection for each day of lent as well as the discussion materials for the Sundays of lent.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

This will take place during Lent on a Friday evening following Mass. As we have done in the past we would like the groups in the parish to volunteer their services in leading this devotion. If your group is able to volunteer, please contact the office.

The proposed leaders for the Stations of the Cross are as follows:

Friday, March 8: <i>Volunteer required</i>	Friday, April 5: H JM
Friday, March 15: SayWat	Friday, April 12: <i>Volunteer required</i>
Friday, March 22: <i>Volunteer required</i>	Good Friday, April 19: Sunday school
Friday, March 29: Legion of Mary	

PROJECT COMPASSION: Please collect your project compassion envelopes or boxes from the doors of the church for your Lenten sacrifice to help people in need.


In the coming weeks, we have the privilege of walking with some of our sisters and brothers who participate in Caritas programs, and who feature in the Project Compassion stories this year. How might we learn about living hope-filled lives in solidarity with one another and for the common good of our one human family? As the season of Lent approaches, we might consider: What could we do to commit ourselves to the flourishing of hope in our time? How can we give Lent 100%?



BISHOP'S LENTEN APPEAL

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who contributed so generously last weekend to this appeal.

For those who do not have the opportunity to contribute last week, there are envelopes at the doors of the church and we would invite you to seriously consider making a contribution. Once again, we remind you that your donations and generosity do attract a taxation deduction and it is important that you provide all your details and tick off the appropriate spot. Last weekend as a community we raised under \$10,000 of our \$15,500 target.



ST ANDREWS COLLEGE




St Andrews College

OPEN DAY – TUESDAY MARCH 5

is about doing more and going beyond

St Andrews College is offering parents and students the opportunity to tour the Junior Campus. Visit the College website to book a tour time. For further details phone 9626 4000 www.standrewscmarayong.catholic.edu.au

Junior Campus Tour Times:
9.00am, 9.45am, 11.00am, 1.15pm and 2.00pm

Junior Campus Years 7 to 10
116 Quakers Road Marayong

Senior Campus Years 11 and 12
50 Breakfast Road Marayong

Sunday	3
8th Sunday in Ordinary Time	
Counters: Group 1	
08:30 FHC class 1	
09:30 Sunday School	
10:30 Youth Mass	
11:45 Baptism	
Monday	4
Catholic Schools Week	
09:00 Mass	
09:30 Rosary	
19:15 RCIA Faith Education	
Tuesday	5
SAC Foundation Day	
SAC Open Day	
09:00 Mass	
09:30 Rosary	
19:00 Legion of Mary	
Wednesday	6
Ash Wednesday	
07:30 Mass	
09:15 Mass SAP	
10:00 Rosary	
12:00 Mass	
19:00 Mass	
19:45 Lenten Reflection group	
Thursday	7
08:00 Mass	
08:30 Rosary	
Friday	8
09:00 Mass	
09:30 Rosary	
16:00 Junior Legion of Mary	
19:00 Mass &	
Stations of the Cross	
20:00 Choir Practice HJM	
Saturday	9
09:00 Mass & Confirmation	
09:30 Rosary	
09:40 Jnr Legion of Mary	
10:00 Church Cleaning CFC	
16:00 Music Practice Worship Hymn	
16:30 Penance	
19:00 Prayer Meeting HJM	

Pastoral letter to the people and clergy of the Diocese of Parramatta

Dear friends,

The news concerning Cardinal George Pell and his conviction and incarceration on historic child sexual abuse crimes has dominated local and international media this week. Such news has caused a wide range of emotions in the community.

Even among Catholics, there is a sense of shame and anger at the betrayal that the clerical sex abuse crimes represent, and the hypocrisy they reveal. It is wider than simply the case of Cardinal Pell. We must respect the processes of the law and await the outcome of the appeal.

In the meantime, our primary concern must continue to be the care of the victims of sexual abuse. The revisiting of such grievous wounds has been difficult for many. As we approach Lent, may we, too, grieve with all those suffering intensely. Genuine hope begins whenever we listen to the story of another with an open heart.

Some, too, feel that in the marketplace the "brand Catholic" has suffered a grievous blow. Perhaps so. But we are not a market nor are we a popular cult.

We are first and always a community of disciples following our one master, Jesus Christ. We are not the Church of one particular leader, be it Pope Francis or Cardinal Pell or any other bishop.

We are the living Body of Christ made up of saints and sinners.

We are challenged by Our Lord to reach out to all who are hurting, and to all victims of every abuse and sinfulness. **We are to be the "field hospital" for all the marginalised as Pope Francis has asked us to become. We are to be in the messiness of life, not to run away into some "idealised future or romantic past."**

To be such, demands that we let go of our sense of superiority, privilege and power and embrace again our need for healing and forgiveness and to look again at the Suffering Servant leader who is our Lord Jesus.

Many people may say these are only words and they would be correct. However, for us they are the words of Jesus and we are called to put our faith in Him and demonstrate it in our actions by our care for all in need.

This would mean changing the way we think and act so that all may feel safe and welcome in our communities regardless of what they believe, look like, or have, and regardless of their sexuality, gender or marital status.

The season of Lent summons us to a discipleship of humility, weakness and vulnerability, of dying and rising in Christ. We are challenged to remove our heart of stone and to have a heart of flesh instead.

During this period of crisis and darkness, as the Church, let us pray that we have the courage to die to that which is contrary to the Gospel, and rise to be what Christ has called us to be.

Yours in Christ the Chief Shepherd,

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "+ Vincent Long Van Nguyen".

Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv
Bishop of Parramatta

Given at Parramatta on 1 March 2019.