



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.



16th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

Please visit our Parish Website: www.standrewsmarayong.org.au Year B: Vol.4 No.34

17th / 18th July, 2021

PARISH STAFF:

Monsignor Ron McFarlane
Father Florito [Flor] Apalias
Maria Hyson
(Sacramental Coordinator)
Michelle Sultana &
Joe Clemson
(Office staff)

PARISH OFFICE:

Phone: 9622 0817

40 Breakfast Rd, Marayong 2148
[PO Box 4345]

Email Address:

saapm@bigpond.com

Office Hours:

Monday to Friday
9.30am to 12.30pm

After hours phone: 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 of each month at 11.30am

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.

MASS LIVE

[@standrewsmarayong](https://www.facebook.com/standrewsmarayong)

Sunday - 9:30am &

Monday to Saturday 9:00am



<https://bit.ly/SAAPM>

~ 30min after conclusion

WEEKEND MASSES:

Sunday: 9.30 am

LIVE-STREAM ONLY

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Monday: 9.00am

Tuesday: 9.00am

Wednesday: 9.00am

Thursday: 9.00am

Friday: 9.00am

Saturday: 9.00am

ALL LIVE-STREAM ONLY

PARISH SCHOOLS:

ST. ANDREW'S PRIMARY

www.standrewspsmarayong.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Yvette Baird

Phone: 8869 6700

Address: 36 Breakfast Road
Marayong 2148

ST. ANDREWS COLLEGE

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

GET VACCINATED FOR THE COMMON GOOD

Vaccination against COVID-19 is a morally good thing, providing protection for the person vaccinated and the wider community. Some COVID-19 vaccines are associated with ethically questionable production and research practices, but **Pope Francis and the Australian Bishops have advised that it is morally permissible to receive any vaccine made available.**

More information is available at <https://www.catholic.org.au/coronavirus>

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Dear Lord, thank You for the calm and quiet you promise is accessible to me even in the middle of the chaos. God, it often feels impossible to find when life is spinning out of control.

Help me to remember that when I feel overwhelmed by what I can't predict or plan, that You already know what will play out and are with me through the process. Help me, Lord, to trust

You as I steady my mind and heart on Your promises. Help me to care for my body in the way it needs so that my mind can embrace Your Truth more easily.

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 ...

- ♦ FEAST OF ST MARY MAGDALENE
- ♦ FAITH FORMATION AND RCIA
- ♦ SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION
- ♦ CREDIT CARD&DIRECT DEBIT PARISH SUPPORT
- ♦ UPCOMING PARISH AND DIOCESAN EVENTS

From Monsignor Ron ...

The Image of the good Shepherd highlights many things and reminds us that compared with God's greatness we are as helpless as sheep. While we may rather not think about this, preferring to be proud of our achievements and status, is good for us to be reminded that we are all dependent upon God's grace and that our God will always be there for us. Through God's grace we are given the great gift of Jesus to be a Shepherd and we can be confident that if we follow him, we are in the very best of care. So today let us reflect upon that wonderful Psalm.

The Lord is my Shepherd is one of the most beautiful Psalms and one that we should pray and reflect on very often. So many of the Psalm's images remind us of the life with God, a life of security, comfort, beauty, peace, and joy.

At the same time, we are presented with a realistic description of life in relationship to God. Such a life has times of gladness and overflowing joy. We also pass through difficult and stressful times as well. Our fundamental security throughout this life, which contains both light and dark, is God's commitment to us. In all the events of life he is with us, loving us. We are never alone.

To me, one of the marvelous points that the Psalm puts before us is that our God is our perfect companion who is with us every instant of our lives. This truth is of course beautifully exemplified in the Sacrament of Baptism and in Holy Communion where our God unites himself totally to us.

As well as being a loving and caring God, we are reminded that he is a concerned God who offers us perfect provision, perfect acceptance, perfect care, and the perfect destiny. He offers us perfect provision in that he gives us the means to survive today. He offers us perfect acceptance in that he will always love us and he will never reject us. He offers us perfect care because he loves us and wants to help us, and of course he always knows what is best for us. He offers us a perfect destiny in that he invites us to join him for eternal life.

In other words, we have a God who strives always to bring us to our full potential. This Psalm speaks to us about God's attitude to us. But, also, it calls us to love others and care for ourselves as he does for us; this means that it is a challenging Psalm as well.

In the Psalm we see the love of God for us and we see also his desire to support us. On our side, part of our response has to be to find plenty of space and time to be with our God.

THE CURRENT SITUATION DUE TO LOCKDOWN:

Once again we have been experiencing a lockdown across Greater Sydney and this of course creates all types of difficulties for everyone. In regard to practising our faith and gathering as a community, there have been severe, but necessary restrictions. We are still unsure how long this will continue and what impact it will have on parish activities.

What we do know is that we cannot gather as a community for the celebration of Mass. While it is nowhere close to the same thing, I do remind you that each day there is a live stream of the Mass at 9:00 AM during weekdays and 9:30 AM on Sundays. I do encourage people to make the most of this opportunity to spend time with the Lord and to make this a major part of your daily prayer. The Mass is live streamed on Facebook and within one hour of the celebration of Mass, will be available on YouTube.

While the present restrictions continue, we are unable to hold the usual meetings that take place each week in the parish. I do know that some of our groups still function through the use of Zoom or other means of communication.

What is important during this time is that we continue to live out our faith in the best possible ways we can. It is important that we do make time for prayer each day and here I would suggest spending this time on a number of occasions throughout the day. It is also important that we realise this can be a very stressful time on families and will probably demand a special effort at patience in regard to family life and relationships.

In regard to reception of the sacraments, we ask that no Eucharistic Ministers of Communion, Acolytes or Ministers of the Altar take communion to the sick and housebound. If this is going to happen, it can only be through the activity of a family member.

Be assured of our prayerful support during this time.

Msgr Ron



'The Well' offers spiritual nourishment during lockdown

Need some inspiration and spiritual encouragement during lockdown? Why not check out The Well? The Diocese's 'on demand' streaming site has a tonne of video and prayer resources for you to explore and engage with during this difficult time.

Check it out at www.thewell.org.au

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK:

FEAST OF ST MARY MAGDALENE

Thursday, July 22 Pope Francis has raised the celebration of the memorial of St. Mary Magdalene to the dignity of a liturgical Feast, recognizing the importance of her role as the "apostle to the apostles."

Mary Magdalene was the first witness to the Resurrection, and is the one who announced the event to the Apostles.

"Saint Mary Magdalene is an example of true and authentic evangelization; she is an evangelist who announces the joyful central message of Easter," he writes.

"Therefore, it is right that the liturgical celebration of this woman has the same grade of feast given to the celebration of the apostles in the General Roman Calendar and shines a light on the special mission of this woman, who is an example and model for every woman in the Church."



"God of infinite love and life,
fill us with a persevering love for
Jesus our Redeemer and Lord.
Inspired by Mary Magdalene's
example, may we be faithful to
you at all times and respond to
your call with generosity.
We ask this in the name of Jesus.
Amen."

Have you considered becoming a Catechist?:

BECOME A CATECHIST - AN SRE VOLUNTEER! Who? Me? Yes...why not you?

Have you considered becoming a Catechist? SREs are parish volunteers who:

- Have a passion for sharing the gift of faith with young people.
- Are you people who respond to the central mission of the Church to make Jesus known and loved.

In this parish Special Religious Educators, SREs, (previously known as Catechists) go into our four state primary schools. New volunteer SREs will be given support, training, teaching materials and will start as a classroom helper. To register your interest or make further enquiries visit or call the Parish Office.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

Due to the current NSW COVID Health Restrictions all churches must remain closed until the lockdown is lifted. See the parish website for further details.



MASS READINGS -YEAR B

THIS SUNDAY:

16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-6

Psalm: Ps 22

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:13-18

Gospel: Mark 6:30-34

NEXT SUNDAY:

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: 2 Kings 4:42-44

Psalm: Ps 144:10-11. 15-18

Second Reading: Ephesians 4:1-6

Gospel: John 6:1-15

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

Isabel Asumbrado, Pedro Asumbrado,
Lilyann Calilao, Alejandria & Nicanor Cleto,
Juan & Maria Concepcion, Fabiana Dela Cruz,
Maria - Khen Thi Tran, Helen McGuirk,
Ernesto Mibulos, Alberto Mibulos ,
Egnacio Narraga, Peter Vaughn,
Victor & Maryanne Vella,
Aldred & Riolen Weber, Stella & Felic Zammit,
Farla & Duchenne Families,
Collins & Quinn Families,
All Souls in Purgatory .

.....*Please remember in your prayers*

Sunday

18

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 Mass - live stream

Monday

19

Registrations - Confirmation

9:00 Mass - live stream

Tuesday

20

St Apollinaris, Bishop, Martyr

9:00 Mass - live stream

Wednesday

21

St Laurence of Brindisi,

Priest, Doctor

9:00 Mass - live stream

Thursday

22

St Mary Magdalen

9:00 Mass - live stream

Friday

23

St Bridget of Sweden,

Religious

9:00 Mass - live stream

Saturday

24

St Charbel Makhlof, Priest

*Saturday memorial of
the Blessed Virgin Mary*

9:00 Mass - live stream

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2021



We are still unsure what the impact of the restrictions will be on the Sacrament of Confirmation Program. What we have done is to place the registration form online (*Linked below*) and ask people to fill them out and submit or email them back to us. There will also be registration forms available from the parish office during the restricted times the office is open. If students to return to school, we will make these forms available through the schools.

It may be necessary to conduct a program similar to how we did it last year in regard to preparation. However, that will be decided over the next couple of weeks. What we did last year was to conduct a meeting for parents only and then asked the parents prepare the candidates at home. Obviously, at this time we are also unable to state definitely when the Sacrament of Confirmation will be administered. Our hope, of course, is that the timetable for the administration of the Sacrament will remain the same.

we are planning to commence the program for the *Sacrament of Confirmation* during term 3.

In regard to this program it is important to remember that this is a parish based program. To be eligible to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at this time, the candidates must be in at least year 5 and have received their First Holy Communion.

[2021-Confirmation-Form.pdf](#) (standrewsmarayong.org.au)

Please note the details below could change with the prevailing Covid situation and associated restrictions.

Sacrament of Confirmation Ceremony:

28th August at 6 pm, 31st August and / or 1st September 2021 at 7 pm



NEW ENVELOPES:

New sets of Planned Giving envelopes for 2021-2022 are available to be collected from the tables at the back of the church. Unfortunately, the church must remain closed during the current COVID Lockdown.

For further information and to register to receive a set of Parish Planned Giving envelopes, please contact the Parish Office. Contributions can also be made electronically on our parish website.

CREDIT CARD AND DIRECT DEBIT SUPPORT OF THE PARISH:

Credit Card and Direct Debit Support of the Parish: while we continue to appreciate the generosity of our parishioners, we are in a very difficult time which affects all of us. With the continuing lockdowns that are taking place and also with the limitations on number of people who can attend the Church for our liturgical celebrations, we could find ourselves in a difficult financial situation. We still have the normal financial expenses of running a parish church as well as payment for members of our staff.



Consequently, I would invite parishioners to consider making credit card contributions to the first and the second collections. In our parish bulletin which is available online, there is the opportunity to do this. Also in our parish website you can sign up for a regular contribution via credit card or direct debit. All the required information can be found on our parish website. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family.

FAITH FORMATION AND RCIA

We are approaching the time of the year where we once again conduct the program on faith formation. This is also known as the RCIA in that it provides a journey of faith for those who are not Catholic but are interested in learning about the faith. The reason for calling it faith formation is that we would like to encourage Catholic members of our community who feel it is time to make an update in their understanding of the faith and what it means to live as a Christian in the 21st century.

If you know of anybody who might be interested in learning about the Catholic faith, please invite them to express their interest by contacting the parish office on 9622 0817.

The program will hopefully commence in October.

BAPTISMS THAT HAVE BEEN BOOKED

Due to the current NSW COVID Health Restrictions we are currently not able to guarantee that families will be able to have the date they have requested for the baptism of their children. As we have more information, we will try to contact the families to work out what is possible. Unfortunately, this is the matter outside of our control.