



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.



17th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

Please visit our Parish Website: www.standrewsmarayong.org.au Year B: Vol.4 No.35

24th / 25th 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

[@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

FINANCIAL MATTERS ONCE AGAIN

I do not like to have to be talking about finances once again. However, I think it is important that parishioners are aware of the situation. Interestingly enough, the first point I'd like to make is concerning the first collection, commonly called the pastoral revenue collection. From this collection comes the support of our priests (their stipends), their medical cover, their housekeeping expenses and some other incidentals. The reality is that due to the ongoing effects of Covid lockdowns and in normal times, I think a misunderstanding of the importance of this collection, the reserves of the Diocese are rapidly diminishing. This is because the only sources of income in this regard are the collections at Sunday Masses and also the Father's Day Appeal.

I bring this matter to your attention as it is uncertain how long the restrictions on Mass attendance are going to continue. I suspect it will be for a fairly long time. As well as this, it is becoming more common for people to use credit cards rather than carry cash with them and this has flowed over into church attendance. Of course, when the church is open, we do have the "tap and go" but that has very limited success.

With these points in mind, I would like to suggest that people who normally use credit cards or direct debit in their daily lives, give serious consideration to doing the same with their financial commitment to the parish. You can obtain the forms for this online from our parish website, or when the parish opens once again, from the parish office. Online at BPOINT you are able to designate where you're offering is going to go to first or second collection, Catholic foundation, and so on.

The other point that is worth mentioning is that the only income that the parish itself actually has at the moment are the monthly credit card donations and while we can survive for a little while with that, it is not a long-term solution with the recurrent expenditure of staff wages, maintenance, and normal parish expenses which are like the expenses each family experiences.



A number of parishes have made the decision to put all the collections into one bundle and divide them up 30/70 which is approximately the average if the collections were counted separately. We have experimented with this at St Andrews, and it seems to work accurately, so we will continue doing this which will ensure at least a basic support for the pastoral revenue account.

From Monsignor Ron ...

I guess we could entitle this week's readings the "Miracle of the Loaves." We have the miracle regarding food in our first reading by Elisha. In this miracle not only does the food prove to be adequate but there is also food left over. Then we have Jesus feeding over 5000 people with five loaves and a couple of fish. And once again there is plenty left over.

What is important in St John's gospel is that the sequel to the miracle of the loaves are set out at great length in one of the most important of all the discourses given by Jesus. In fact, for us, this discourse will provide the gospel reading for next two Sundays. We shall hear again Jesus telling the people not to become more excited about bread that perishes. Rather, he says, "Work for food which in due is to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you." Then he goes on to say: "I am the bread come down from heaven that anyone who eats this bread will live for ever: and the bread that I shall give you as my flesh, for the life of the world."

What we do need to remember particularly in the case of our reading from St John's gospel is that the people gladly received this gift of food but in many ways failed to appreciate the giver. Also, we need to remember the multiplication of the loaves is but a hint of something greater to come. We need to remember that throughout the Hebrew history, God feeds his people both physically with food and spiritually with wisdom and both are expressions of his loving care, and both are equally important. The wisdom here is the faith and insight which are needed to put people in a right relationship with God. The invitation is always given that the response is not always forthcoming.

The point is that the physical hunger the people experienced was but a surface reminder of that deeper hunger by which we yearn constantly for God. Elsewhere in the gospel, Jesus teaches that his food is to do the father's will and to complete his work on earth. We need to think about this. We are truly blessed that God's nourishing word is proclaimed to us at our regular worship. The Sacred Scriptures help us to grow in our knowledge of the Lord and challenge us to adjust our living to his word. But we need to remember this is something that grows day by day. I would suggest the message is that now is the moment to seek the wisdom that comes from God and to realise that this is a lifelong journey.

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>

Reflection from Pope Francis

Love pushes us to go beyond the why, and instead to ask for whom, to pass from asking, "Why am I alive?" to "For whom am I living?" From "Why is this happening to me?" to "Whom can I help?" For whom? Not just for myself! Life is already full of choices we make for ourselves: what to study, which friends to have, what home to buy, what interests or hobbies to pursue. We can waste years thinking about ourselves, without ever actually starting to love. ...

Not only doubts and questions can undermine great and generous choices, but many other obstacles as well every day. Feverish consumerism can overwhelm our hearts with superfluous things. An obsession with pleasure may seem the only way to escape problems, yet it simply postpones them. A fixation with our rights can lead us to neglect our responsibilities to others. Then, there is the great misunderstanding about love, which is more than powerful emotions, but primarily a gift, a choice, and a sacrifice.

The art of choosing well, especially today, means not seeking approval, not plunging into a consumerist mentality that discourages originality, and not giving into the cult of appearances. Choosing life means resisting the "throwaway culture" and the desire to have "everything now", in order to direct our lives towards the goal of heaven, towards God's dreams. ...



'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:

STS JOACHIM AND ANNE – PARENTS OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Monday, July 26 This is an appropriate day to remember our grandparents and I'd like to share with you a prayer given to us by Pope Benedict XVI.

"Lord Jesus, born of the Virgin Mary, daughter of Saints Joachim and Anne, look with love on grandparents the world over. Protect and support them! As they grow older, may they continue to be for their families strong pillars of Gospel faith, guardians of noble ideals, living treasures of sound religious traditions. Lord Jesus, help families and society to value the presence and roles of and parents.

Mary, Mother of all the living, keep grandparents constantly in your care, accompany them on their earthly pilgrimage, and by your prayers, grant that all families may one day be reunited in our heavenly homeland, where you await all humanity for the great embrace of life without end. Amen! Benedict XVI

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR CONFIRMATION 2021



Due to the Covid 19 restrictions it is very difficult to ascertain just how this program will be conducted this year. The beginning of the program will depend on when we are able to gather, at least for a meeting of parents. While we cannot at this stage offer definitive dates, we are optimistic that sometime this year the Sacrament of Confirmation will be administered in St. Andrew's Parish.

This program is for young people who are at least in year 5 and have received their First Holy Communion. It is also a parish based program in that there does need to be some connection to the parish for those involved.

We would ask that families who are interested in the Confirmation of their children that they register expressions of interest. This can be done by using the registration form found on our parish website and also linked here.

[2021-Confirmation-Form.pdf \(standrewsmarayong.org.au\)](https://standrewsmarayong.org.au/2021-Confirmation-Form.pdf)



MASS READINGS -YEAR B

THIS 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

NEXT SUNDAY:

18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Exodus 16:2-4. 12-15

Psalm: Ps 77:3-4. 23-25. 54

Second Reading: Eph 4:17. 20-24

Gospel: John 6:24-35

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

Consuelo Atendido, Theresa Burn, Thomas Carvalho,
Regina Castelino, Alejandria & Nicanor Cleto,
Juan & Maria Concepcion, Rene & Linda Dablo,
Fabiana Dela Cruz, Jules Duchenne, Simone Farla,
Aloysius Jarrores, Mr Ittira Kadambattuparambil,
Maria - Khen Thi Tran, Sr Alice Mary Martyris,
Helen McGuirk, Graciano Menezes, Maria Moralde,
Coronato Sultana, John & Joyce Sutari,
Victoria Guevara Tan, Helen Tuscano, Peter Vaughn,
Sr Adeline Vaz, Victor & Maryanne Vella,
Aeldred & Riolen Weber, Stella & Felic Zammit,
Segon Family, Collins & Quinn Families,
All Souls in Purgatory.

.....Please remember in your prayers

Sunday	25
17th Sunday in Ordinary Time Counters: Group 4 9:30 Mass - live stream only	
Monday	26
Saint Joachim and Saint Anne, parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary 9:00 Mass - live stream only	
Tuesday	27
Tuesday of week 17 in Ordinary Time 9:00 Mass - live stream only	
Wednesday	28
Wednesday of week 17 in Ordinary Time, 9:00 Mass - live stream only	
Thursday	29
Saint Martha 9:00 Mass - live stream only	
Friday	30
Friday of week 17 in Ordinary Time 9:00 Mass - live stream only	
Saturday	31
Saint Ignatius Loyola, Priest 9:00 Mass - live stream 9:40 Jnr Legion of Mary? 11:00 Legion of Mary? 09:40 Jnr Legion of Mary? 17:00 Mass? 18:00 Mass?	

STRENGTH FOR THIS CHALLENGING TIME

We pray for your love and compassion to abound as we walk through this challenging season.
We ask for wisdom for those who bear the load of making decisions with widespread consequences.

We pray for those who are suffering with sickness and all who are caring for them.

We ask for protection for the elderly and vulnerable to not succumb to the risks of the virus.

We pray for misinformation to be curbed that fear may take no hold in hearts and minds.

As we exercise the good sense that you in your mercy provide, may we also approach each day in faith and peace, trusting in the truth of your goodness towards us.

BOOKINGS FOR BAPTISM CEREMONIES:

Unfortunately, we are not able to ascertain when we will be able to continue with celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism. All we can do at this time is to wait until we are able to have church services once again and able to discover the number of people who can be in attendance. I suspect that when we are able to resume church services, the numbers will be very limited. However, that is only guesswork and we will have to wait and see.

In the meantime, we will continue to keep you informed on updates either by phone or email.

Notices
from the
Diocese of
Parramatta

Positions Vacant:

Youth & Networking Coordinator - 12 Month Contract – Columban Centre for Christian-Muslim Relations – *Applications close 11.59pm Sunday 1 August*

For more details, please visit

<https://catholicoutlook.org/the-columban-centre-for-christian-muslim-relations-is-hiring/>

Diocese of Parramatta COVID-19 update

Due to stay-at-home orders from the NSW Government, all church buildings, adoration chapels and other buildings used for prayer and religious services are closed. Public Masses have ceased. Many parishes around the Diocese are celebrating Masses online. For more information, please visit the Diocesan website www.parracatholic.org/covid19

**DUE TO COVID-19, PUBLIC
MASSES AND CHURCH BUILDINGS ARE
CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

**CHURCHES ARE NOT BEING CLOSED.
BUILDINGS ARE BEING CLOSED.
YOU ARE THE CHURCH!
YOU ARE TO REMAIN OPEN.**



DIOCESE of PARRAMATTA



A THEOLOGICAL VIEW ON SUFFERING AND DEATH

2 AUGUST - THE FIRST OF THREE LECTURES IN THE SERIES

EUTHANASIA, DYING AND THE DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON

REGISTER NOW parracatholic.org/euthanasiatalks



CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF
BROKEN BAY



DIOCESE of
PARRAMATTA



Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv DD STL
Bishop of Parramatta

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🌐 parracatholic.org

Pastoral letter to the faithful of the Diocese of Parramatta on COVID-19

Dear sisters and brothers,

“For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 8:38-39)

I am sure that these words of St Paul are particularly pertinent to us as a Christian community as we endure the “second wave” of this pandemic with an increasing outbreak of the COVID-19 “delta variant.”

Having perhaps lulled ourselves into thinking that lockdowns were a thing of the past we find ourselves once again restricted in terms of our lives, and in particular, our capacity to access the Sacraments which are so fundamental to Catholic life.

I thank the pastors of our Diocese for their continuing efforts to maintain contact with the members of their parish communities, for the live streaming of liturgy, and other ways in which pastoral care is being offered particularly to those who are alone or facing other challenges.

As responsible citizens and faithful Catholics, in solidarity with our doctors and nurses, we must comply with health orders for the sake of the common good. The Gospel calls us to practice such solidarity in these difficult days.

We are also reminded that part of our identity as Catholics is our sense of engagement with one another through the celebration of the Eucharist which binds us to Christ and to those who gather with us. Whilst this communion cannot be impaired (even by a lockdown) the lack of being able to physically gather as the Body of Christ obviously can impact our sense of belonging. It is in these circumstances that we must endeavour to be sacramental to those in our families and those we are able to be in contact with by showing the face of Christ and allowing God’s love to manifest in us.

May we also use these days to deepen our prayer and spiritual lives. Our Diocesan websites www.catholicoutlook.org, particularly www.thewell.org.au contain some good and helpful information about how we can follow this path of deeper prayer, meditation and spiritual reading.

Please be assured that as your Bishop you are all constantly in my prayers, and I long for the day when once again we can express our faith tangibly by gathering in our various places of worship to celebrate the Eucharist and express that joy which comes from our faith in Jesus Christ.

Our Lady, Help of Christians, pray for us.

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, pray for us.

Yours sincerely in Christ,



Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv
Bishop of Parramatta

Given at Parramatta on 21 July 2021
The Feast of St Lawrence of Brindisi