



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.



**28th SUNDAY
in ORDINARY
TIME**

Please visit our Parish Website: www.standrewsmarayong.org.au Year B: Vol.46 No.46

10th October 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

FR. KEVIN MEDILO SM:

Fr. Kevin has now joined us here at St Andrews and I am sure that as soon as it is feasible you will make him feel welcome and at home. When it is opportune, it will be great if those involved in the various ministries in the parish make arrangements to meet with Fr. Kevin to explain the structure and dynamics of your group or ministry.

FR. FLOR:

Fr. Flor will be leaving us in a couple of weeks to take up his new appointment. Hopefully, we will find a way to express our gratitude to him for his ministry with us. If we are fortunate, our church will be open for worship the Sunday before he leaves us and we will be able to thank him in person for the gifts he has brought to this parish family.

PARISH MEETING

I am proposing that, as soon as it is possible, we have an open meeting in the parish which will include the members of the Parish Pastoral Council and is also open to all parishioners. In regard to the PPC members, it is important that we have at least 2 representatives from each group and ministry in the parish. This meeting will take place in the Church which does create the opportunity for spatial distancing and following the other regulations of the government.

At this meeting we will be looking at how we begin to re-establish our vibrant parish community after so long in lockdown. This is particularly important as so much as been limited or close down over the past 18 months.

This meeting will also provide the opportunity to give Fr. Kevin an overview of life here at St Andrews. As well, you have the opportunity to get to know him.

From Monsignor Ron ...

We should have a great feeling of gratitude for the rich young man who came to Jesus. Hopefully, from him we will learn about the dangers of over attachment to worldly goods and about how they can be one of the biggest obstacles to our spiritual life and living a truly Christian life. This young man is a good living person who kept all the commandments, and who wanted eternal life. But it seems that he wanted these things on his own terms.

I wonder how much like him we are in our lives. We do truly want to love God and have a good and vibrant relationship with him. We know that we do not give sufficient time to him in our daily living. We know from the Gospels that we are called to help people. We know also that our whole life is a journey of conversion where we are constantly looking for opportunities to grow and to improve. We know that we should pray more, and hopefully realise that we should be more consistent in our visiting of him. Of course, we know all these things but somehow, too often, we never get around to doing them.

The message of Jesus this weekend is a very important one that calls us to self-reflection and then to action. Jesus says to us is not sufficient just to keep the commandments and that is because they are the absolute minimum, the starting point of our spiritual journey. I guess the important question is whether or not our lives show a person who loves God more than anything or anybody else. Do the words, the life and the actions of Jesus have a definite influence on all the decisions we make and on all the actions we take.

I also think our readings this weekend emphasise the importance of prayer for all of us because it is in prayer that will gradually come to see things from God's perspective. If we truly develop a personal friendship with Jesus in prayer and, as part of that, if we are prepared to talk over our lives with him each day, we will gradually become aware of the areas where we fall short in our daily living. I am confident that we will obtain his understanding of life and discover how he wants us to face each situation. With that, we will have a whole new meaning to life.

By way of conclusion, I think we are being presented with a challenge and a promise. The challenge is for us to recognise and admit to what prevents us from being the best disciples of Jesus we could become. The promise is that if we make our God, his friendship and being faithful to him in our daily living, everything we do will lead to fullness of life.

UPDATES CONCERNING RECEPTION OF SACRAMENTS

Baptism: Unfortunately we are still in the situation where we cannot have public gatherings in our Church. As soon as we have access to the Church, we will issue an invitation to all those who have had to delay the Sacrament of Baptism so that they may choose a date.

Reconciliation: what we have been doing in this regard is to ask people who would like to receive this sacrament at this time contact the parish office and make an appointment. The sacrament will be administered in the piazza area, following all the recommended health requirements.

Communion to the Sick and Sacrament of Anointing: if you are in need of these sacraments, you are asked to contact the parish office.

Program for the Sacrament of Confirmation: As soon as school attendance recommences, we will invite families to come to the parish office to collect the booklets to be used in the program. At this stage, the plan is to follow what we did last year. This was to invite parents in small groups to come to a parent session and then ask families to conduct the program at home. As far as a date for the Sacrament, that will depend on circumstances as they develop.

Information concerning our Schools 30 September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers, Thank you for your support as we continue to work together to respond to COVID-19. As we prepare to begin remote learning on Tuesday 5 October, I am writing to update you that the NSW Government has today announced changes to the schedule for students returning to school later in Term 4. This means that students will be welcomed back to school a week sooner than previously scheduled by the Government.

The new plan will see Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 12, students return to face-to-face learning on Monday 18 October. The remaining year groups will follow on Monday 25 October. With the safety of our community as our highest priority, we will continue to follow the health advice, which includes strong support for vaccinations.

During Term 3, 12 Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta schools needed to close for a short time as a result of COVID-19 cases within school communities. We are ready to help if there are any further cases as more students begin to return to school in Term 4. Your child's school will be in contact with further information about the return to school plan. For many secondary schools, the schedule for face-to-face learning for students in Years 7 to 11 will need to be flexible so that the larger candidature HSC exams can be held under COVID-safe conditions.

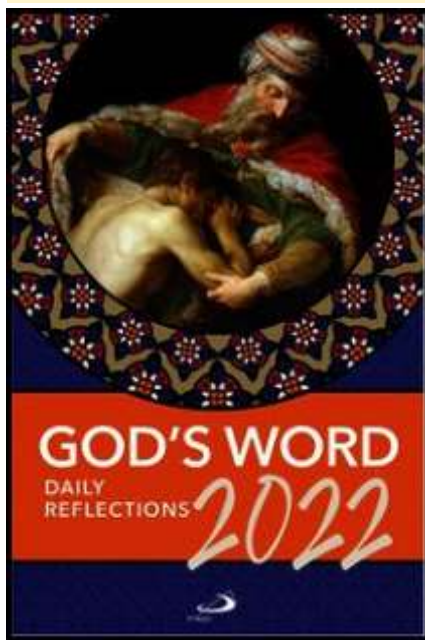
From all of our caring staff, I sincerely thank you for your partnership during this very difficult time for our community. As always, please reach out to your child's school if your family needs further support as we approach the return to face-to-face learning. We will continue to keep you updated about any further changes.

Kind regards, Gregory B Whitby AM KSG FACE FACEL Executive Director Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta

MARIAN DEVOTIONS IN OCTOBER

We encourage families to pray the rosary and for individuals make a special effort with this wonderful prayer during the month of October, which is a special time when we praise God for what he has done in and through Mary and it is a time where we seek the guidance of Mary to become more like Jesus.

When we say that Mary is help of Christians, we are saying she is there to help us to be the best possible person we can be. In other words, she will help us to become the person that God created us to be. One of the ways that he does this is in the prayer we call the Rosary. The Rosary is a prayer we pray with Mary; it is called a gospel prayer; to put it another way, it is a good news prayer. When we pray the Rosary, it is not just about saying the words, but thinking about the life of Jesus and the life of Mary and our own lives. The idea is that we are asking Mary to help us to learn more about Jesus, more about how to live our lives, and how to become more like Jesus. The Rosary is a way of praying to Jesus, through the intercession of Mary, and reflecting on the life of Jesus. It aims to give us a closer friendship with Jesus by seeking the help of Mary.



We have purchased copies of this book that parishioners make use of during the year, and it is available from the parish office or through the piety store. The cost is \$19.95



MASS READINGS -YEAR B

THIS SUNDAY:

28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Wisdom 7:7-11
 Psalm: Ps 89:12-17
 Second Reading: Hebrews 4:12-13
 Gospel: Mark 10:17-30

NEXT SUNDAY:

29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Isaiah 53:10-11
 Psalm: Ps 32:4-5, 18-20, 22
 Second Reading: Hebrews 4:14-16
 Gospel: Mark 10:35-45

★ FAITH FORMATION ★

I would draw your attention Faith Formation sessions that have been presented by Maria Hyson, Fr. Flor and Msgr Ron. The most recent one last Monday was presented by Maria and was a very thought-provoking reflection on the Rosary and how the Rosary offers us tools to empower us in our Christian living. This week Fr. Flor will be making a presentation on the Liturgical Calendar.

- ★ "Living in the Present Moment"
- ★ "Relating to God in our needs."
- ★ "Life in Balance" ★ "God's Love"
- ★ "Human Freedom." ★ "Encouragement"
- ★ "The Holy Rosary"
- ★ "Illness & Anointing of the Sick."
- ★ "Eucharistic Spirituality."
- ★ "Thy Kingdom Come."

**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.**

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

Joseph Connell, Teresa Francalanza, Eva Taylor,
 Francisco Toong Sr, Peter Vaughn,
 Victor & Maryanne Vella,
 Aeldred & Riolenne Weber, Stella & Felic Zammit,
 Collins & Quinn Families,
 All Souls in Purgatory

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

Sunday
10-Oct
28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Counters: Group 2
9:30 Mass - live stream only
Monday
11-Oct
Monday of week 28 in Ordinary Time Saint John XXIII, Pope
09:00 Mass - live stream
Tuesday
12-Oct
Tuesday of week 28 in Ordinary Time
09:00 Mass - live stream
Wednesday
13-Oct
Wednesday of week 28 in Ordinary Time
09:00 Mass - live stream
Thursday
14-Oct
Saint Callistus, Pope, Martyr
09:00 Mass - live stream
Friday
15-Oct
Saint Teresa of Ávila, Virgin, Doctor
09:00 Mass - live stream
Saturday
16-Oct
Saturday of week 28 in Ordinary Time or Saint Hedwig, Religious Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin or Saturday memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary
9:00 Mass - live stream only



DIOCESE of
PARRAMATTA

**Vicar General & Moderator of the Curia
Diocese of Parramatta**

Bethany Centre, 470 Church St, Parramatta NSW 2150, Australia
PO Box 3066, North Parramatta NSW 1750, Australia

T: 02 8838 3400 F: 02 9630 4813
E: peter.williams@parracatholic.org
W: parracatholic.org

5 October 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Re: COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update

The NSW Government has recently published its pathway out of the pandemic and lockdowns, with the “roadmap” to easing various restrictions at the 70% and 80% double dose target for those who are vaccinated. There is a further lifting of restrictions to all citizens of NSW regardless of vaccination status from 1 December 2021.

It is envisaged that NSW will achieve its double dose vaccination target of 70% sometime this week and from next Monday 11 October, restrictions will start lifting for places of worship. Although we would be entitled to open our churches for public Masses from this date, we have decided that we will instead wait the estimated two further weeks until we reach the 80% target before conducting public Masses.

In consideration of the roadmap and its implications to the faithful of the Diocese of Parramatta, a staged process should be applied towards full reopening.

Stage 1: When 70% of the double dose vaccination target is achieved by the state

The full details of the 70% roadmap can be found here: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/easing-covid-19-restrictions/70-percent>.

Our churches can be reopened for private prayer and devotion **only**. Parishes and parishioners will need to be mindful of the NSW Government requirements for this stage of the roadmap.

- There will be no public or “private” Masses with a congregation taking place until the second stage when NSW hits the 80% vaccination target.
- Religious Services:
 - Weddings and Funerals:
 - Up to 100 fully vaccinated guests can attend weddings and funerals;
 - Weddings - those who are unvaccinated may only attend a wedding with a maximum of five people; and
 - Funerals - those who are unvaccinated may only attend a funeral with a maximum of 10 people.
 - Baptisms should be delayed until Stage 2.
 - Confessions should not be publicly scheduled but can be arranged personally with the parish subject to the rules as set out at this stage of the roadmap of the NSW Government.
- COVID Safe practices for indoor venues including wearing masks, maintaining physical distancing and hygiene requirements and record keeping/sign in using QR Codes et cetera should continue to occur.

Stage 2: When 80% of the double dose vaccination target is achieved by the state

The full details of the 80% roadmap can be found here: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/easing-covid-19-restrictions/80-percent>.

At this stage of the roadmap, our churches are to open to our entire community. There is no requirement from the Government to check the vaccination status of people attending our churches.

- Religious Services:
 - All religious services held at a place of worship (including weddings and funerals) will only be limited by the 4 square metre rule.
 - Baptisms and confessions can be publicly scheduled again.
 - Music is an important part of our liturgy. Choirs of up to 10 people can perform in places of worship but all performers must be vaccinated..
 - COVID Safe practices for indoor venues as per Stage 1 above should continue to apply. In addition, the following should also be observed:
 - Avoid handling and passing of objects, for example the collection plate and Mass books.
 - Communion of the Precious Blood will be for the celebrant only.
 - The faithful can be invited to share the Greeting of Peace through a bow of their heads.
 - All ministers of Holy Communion are to use hand sanitisers before the distribution of Holy Communion commences. Those who wish to receive Communion on the tongue should be asked receive Communion at the end and the priest should endeavor to sanitise his hands after each of these communicants.
 - Allow for ventilation in the Church by opening doors and windows where possible.
- Live streaming of Masses should continue, where possible, to allow for people who are especially vulnerable or who are vaccinated but remain anxious at this point, to continue to attend Mass online.

Our parish office and other facilities (meeting rooms) will continue to be subjected to people's vaccination status at this stage. Due to this, it may be prudent for parishes to continue to delay face-to-face meetings, and gatherings until the next stage of the reopening.

Stage 3: From 1 December 2021

- Density limits will move to one person per 2 square metres for both indoor and outdoor settings.
- Congregational singing can resume at our liturgies and services.
- Mask wearing will be encouraged but will no longer be mandatory for places of worship.

At this point, the reopening, regardless of vaccination status, applies to all citizens of NSW for all indoor and outdoor venues. This means that parish officers and other parish facilities can reopen to all. The 2 square metre per person rule will, however, continue to apply.

Yours in Christ,



Very Rev Peter G. Williams
Vicar General & Moderator of the Curia