

WELCOME TO ST. ANNE'S STRATHFIELD SOUTH PARISH

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

15 & 16 July 2023

Weekday/Weekend Mass Timetable:

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:00 am
Tuesday - Friday 9:15 am
Saturday: 9:15 am

Reconciliation - Saturdays from 9:45 am
Baptisms, marriages and funerals, by appointment only.

SUNDAY READINGS:

Isaiah 55:10-11
St Paul to the Romans 8:18-23
Matthew 13:1-23

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge and celebrate that this land is of the Wangal people of the Darug nation on which we are gathered. We commit ourselves to work together for reconciliation, justice and peace.



Responsorial Psalm:

The seed that falls on good ground, will yield a fruitful harvest

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower. All who come to him will have life forever . Alleluia!



FOR OUR DEAD

Please remember those who have gone before us:

Masie Russel
Norma Williamson
Joseph Ann
Mary Agnes
Arokianather
Patrick Joseph Vannie
Beryl Fernandes
Fr Giovanni

SPECIAL INTENTION

Nisha B'Day

FOR OUR SICK

Theresa Fony
Beth



Jesus may have been raised by a carpenter-builder, but many of his parables are those of a farmer. His keen eye for the workings of nature led to thought-provoking stories for his hearers to imagine God's dream for the world, the "kingdom". That's not so

easy these days when the natural world is in such disarray as a result of carbon emissions and global warming. It is "groaning" like never before, to use Paul's word.

Nonetheless Pope Francis invites us to keep reading the precious book" of creation. He quotes the bishops of Canada: "From panoramic vistas to the tiniest living form, nature is a constant source of wonder and awe. It is also a continuing revelation of the divine". The bishops of Japan are cited too: "To sense each creature singing the hymn of its existence is to live joyfully in God's love and hope". And finally Pope John Paul II: "This contemplation of creation allows us to discover in each thing a teaching which God wishes to hand on to us, since 'for the believer, to contemplate creation is to hear a message, to listen to a paradoxical and silent voice.'" (*Laudato si'*, #85)

Source: Liturgy Brisbane

St. Anne's Strathfield South Parish

Administrator: Father Jacek Cichy
Deacon: Rev Mr Constantine Rodrigues
11 St Anne's Square
Strathfield South NSW 2136
Phone (02) 9642 1523
Email: stannesstrathfieldsouth@outlook.com
Website: <https://www.stannestrathfieldsouth.org.au/>



St. Anne's Catholic Primary School

Principal: Mr Philip Townsend
St Anne's Square
Strathfield South NSW 2136
Phone: (02) 9642 6149
Website: <https://www.stastrathfield.catholic.edu.au/>

FROM THE PASTOR'S



HOLY FATHER'S APPEAL

Thank you to everyone who gave generously to the Holy Father's Appeal. \$975.00 was collected. Thank you for your generosity and support for the Holy Father. If you missed our appeal weekend, it is not too late to give. Envelopes are still available in the pews and can be placed in our parish collection.

BE TO ME A PRIEST AND A FATHER EVENT

University Catholics are excited to host this event with international guest speaker Fr Carter Griffin from the U.S. who will be speaking on the topic of priesthood, celibacy and how we can support our priests in living out their spiritual fatherhood. Visit the University Catholics website for more information and to [register for the event](#).

Date: Wednesday 19th July 2023

Time: 6.30pm

Venue: St Joachim's Parish Hall – Lidcombe

SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT

Forthcoming tri-diocesan social justice evening, coming up on Wednesday 26 July between 6 pm to 8:30 pm at Catholic Institute of Sydney, Strathfield (99 Albert Road Strathfield NSW 2135). We will be discussing the 2022-23 Social Justice Statement of the Australian Bishops, on the subject of family and domestic violence. The direct link to the event registration page is:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/653360527927>

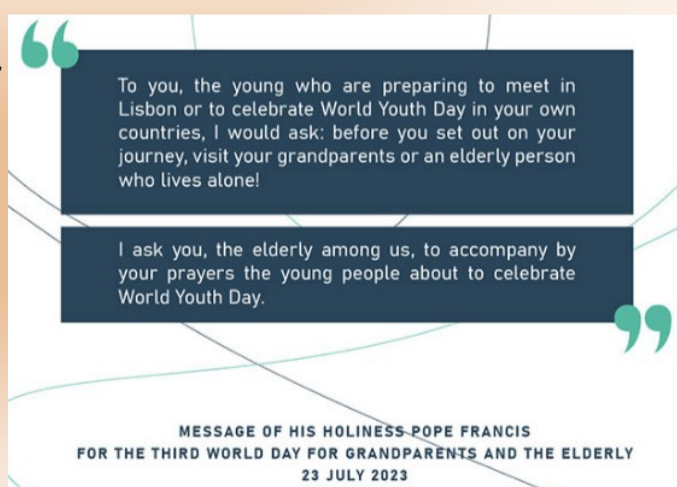
WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY, 23 JULY 2023

“From the elderly, we received the gift of belonging to God’s holy people”
Pope Francis

The upcoming World Day for Grandparents and Elderly will take place on Sunday, the 23rd of July. Pope Francis has provided an exhortation on the invaluable presence that our grandparents and elderly provide in the life of the Church. [Download the PDF booklet](#).

Further information – official prayer, catechesis on old age, and message from Pope Francis – can be found on the following website:

sydneycatholic.org/life-marriage-and-family



FEAST OF ST ANNE AND ST JOACHIM (GRANDPARENTS DAY)

Parishioners are invited to join the children from St Anne's School to celebrate the Feast of St. Anne and St. Joachim (in honour of all grandparents) on Thursday 27th July commencing with Mass at 9.15 am.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

Children in 2023 who are enrolled in Year 6 and above, who have been Baptised in the Catholic Church, and who have received the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion are eligible to enrol in the Confirmation Program. Mass attendance during the program is required since the sacraments are an initiation into the Church and one of the basic features of our faith.

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated in the Parish at 5pm on Saturday 26th August 2023 with Bishop Terry Brady. Confirmation is the Sacrament in which we are enriched by the gift of the Holy Spirit. It is the beginning of a new and important chapter in faith formation and is intimately linked to Baptism and Eucharist as the Sacraments of Initiation. Confirmation is the continuation of what was begun at Baptism and therefore confirms our Baptism.

Enrolments are now available from the Parish Office. Please email to receive your Form and Information. Enrolment forms need to be returned to the Parish Office by 21 July 2023. Please register as soon as possible.

The first preparation session commences on Sunday morning at 9am 23rd July 2023 in the Therry Building.

SAFEGUARDING UPDATE

It is important that all Parishioners are aware of the importance and responsibility of our Volunteers to meet the Child safety requirements. This week I bring your attention to the requirement of a Working with Children Check.

All Safeguarding requirements are on the Archdiocese Website and the website of the Office of the Children's Guardian. **Office of the Children's Guardian** regulates and oversees organisations in NSW because children and young people have the right to be safe.

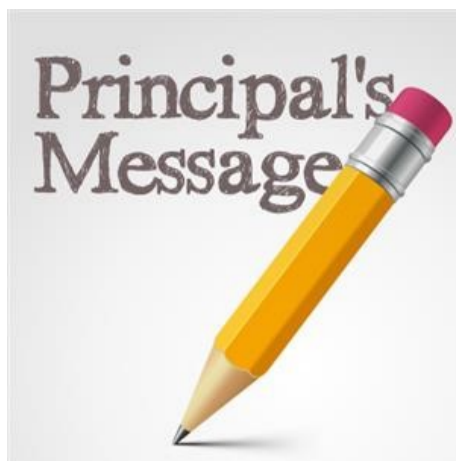
The Archdiocese Safeguarding Office has been advised that Churches within the Archdiocese will be audited by the Office of the Children's Guardian this year. It is the Church's obligation to participate in the audit but more importantly, we are required to meet the Regulations set down for Volunteers.

The first responsibility (among others) is to ensure that volunteers in certain Parish roles that DO require a WWCC, have one. In our Parish the following roles are required to hold a WWCC which must be verified by the Parish:

Parish Secretaries, Sacramental Group Leaders, Catechists in State Schools, Acolytes and Senior Altar Servers, Ministers of the Word/Readers/Lectors, Parish Collectors and Eucharistic Minister

If we do not meet the requirements of the Office of the Children's Guardian, the Priest and the Church will be fined and the amounts are substantial. I urge any volunteer in the above categories that do not have a WWCC to immediately obtain one and forward a copy to the Parish Office. Please check that your WWCC has not expired, and you need to renew it. There is no cost associated with holding a WWCC and if you have any queries, please contact the Parish Office on a Tuesday and we will be able to answer your queries.

Dear Parishioners, Parents and Carers,



This Monday 17 July is the beginning of Term 3. Once upon a time Term 3 was considered to be a quieter time in the year but this is not the case anymore. Students will participate in public speaking during the first weeks of the term culminating in the School Public Speaking Showcase on Friday 4 August. Later in the Term our most accomplished speakers will represent St Anne's in the Ashfield-Olympic Park Network Public Speaking. On Monday 24 July we are looking forward to whole school student incursion when we look at Poetry in Action.

On Thursday 27 July we will celebrate the Feast Day of St Anne and St Joachim with our Grandparents' Day Mass. This is followed by our Open Day on Saturday 5 August and the Feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. A reminder that our Family Educator, Mrs Giovanna Conti, facilitates a play group every Friday during the term in the Therry Building from 9:15 to 11am. A number of grandparents bring grandchildren to playgroup every week. You are all invited.

Monday is the 198th day of the year which means there are just 161 days till Christmas.

Warm regards
Phil Townsend

NEW PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

The new planned giving envelopes for 2023/2024 can be collected from the back table in the church. If you have requested a receipt for Year ending 30th June 2023 they are also available for pick up from the back table. If you are not currently part of the planned giving program but would like to join, please contact the parish office. Thank you.

CATHOLIC CARE HOPE APPEAL

This year, over 300 young women aged 16-24 in Metro Sydney will be at risk of having their recently born or soon-to-be born child removed from their care. CatholicCare Sydney's HOPE program works to prevent the need for a Child Protection Response by supporting vulnerable young families overcome intergenerational disadvantage and trauma. Please donate today to give vulnerable young families HOPE for the future. For more information or to donate go to: <https://fundraise.catholiccare.org/appeal>

OVERSHADOWED: FILLED WITH THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

18-20 AUGUST 2023

VENUE: CARMEL HOUSE, 345 ST ANDREWS RD, VARROVILLE NSW

Join the MGL Sisters in a weekend retreat exploring what happens we say yes to the Holy Spirit. Experience the life-changing power of deepening in God's love, surrendering to Jesus and living under the grace of the Holy Spirit. Booking (by 11 August):

<http://www.trybooking.com/CFBQX>

For further information, please contact Katherine (mgl sisters.sydney@gmail.com)

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY:

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you, or anyone you know have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding an Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police. **Website:** [Archdiocese of Sydney Safeguarding and Child Protection](http://www.archdioceseofsydney.org.au/safeguarding)

