

WELCOME TO ST. ANNE'S STRATHFIELD SOUTH PARISH

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

29 & 30 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:

Kings 3:5, 7-12
St Paul to the Romans 8:28-30
Matthew 13:44-52

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: Lord, I love your commands.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; for you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!



FOR OUR DEAD

Please remember those who have gone before us:

Norma Williamson
Mary Agnes
Arokianather
Patrick Joseph
Vannie
Beryl Fernandes
Fr Giovanni
Giampietro
Wahib, Nohad,

FOR OUR SICK

Karen Simonet



As we come to the end of Matthew's collection of Jesus' parables, it is worth reflecting on what a parable is. Here's what Brendan Byrne has to say about them in his commentary on Matthew's gospel (Lifting the Burden, Sydney: St Paul's, 2004, 104-05):

"As an illustrative story or image, [the parable] is a vehicle of communication and learning, as a puzzle or riddle it can just as well tease, mystify and alienate. That Jesus' teaching was replete with images and parables is certain. And that he used parables chiefly as instruments of communication is also likely. This does not mean, however, that he did not exploit the capacity of parabolic language to shock and disarm, to open up new worlds of meaning, especially in connection with the Kingdom of God, the unforeseen nature of which was so central to his message. While many found his use of parables illuminating, there were doubtless others whom they mystified and disturbed."

Source: Liturgy Brisbane

FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH OF AUGUST



1st Saturday of the month of August falls on the 5th of August. Mass at 9.15 am with the Anointing of the Sick. Confessions will follow.

St. Anne's Strathfield South Parish

Administrator: Father Jacek Cichy
Deacon: Rev Mr Constantine Rodrigues
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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

DESK

HSC STUDENTS

Please pray for our HSC students who are preparing for their HSC trials which start on the 31st of July. May the Lord give them the gifts of wisdom, good judgment, knowledge, and courage. May He bless them with calm hearts and clarity of mind as they sit for their exams. Amen

THANK YOU - FEAST OF ST ANNE AND ST JOACHIM (GRANDPARENTS DAY)



A special thank you to the teachers and students from St Anne's who helped prepare the special Mass for Grandparent's Day. We have a lot of talented children at the school. Their artistic skills and decorations can be found in the church. Congratulations also to St Anne's for being presented with a certificate acknowledging that they responded to the Archbishop's Charter for Sydney Catholic Schools.



FEAST OF MARY MACKILLOP



Solemn Mass for the Feast of Mary MacKillop prepared by the teachers and students from St Anne's school will be held on Tuesday 8th August 2023 at 9.15 am.

After Mass, a Statue of Mary Mackillop will be blessed in the school grounds. All are welcome.

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION 15TH AUGUST

The Feast of the Assumption is one of the most important feast days of the year and a Holy Day of Obligation on the official Roman Catholic Church calendar. By tradition, the holy day is observed every August 15th. This year, the Feast of the Assumption occurs on Tuesday, August 15, 2023. Mass times will be 9.15 am and 6.30 pm.

ALTAR SERVERS

Girls and boys who have received their First Holy Communion are encouraged to participate as an Altar Server. Parish training for altar servers is provided.

What is required?

Altar servers serve during one of the weekend Masses.
Altar servers attend training sessions held in the Church.

If your child is interested in this program please contact Fr Jack after Mass.

ARETÉ 2024 FOUNDATIONS IN MISSIONARY LEADERSHIP COURSE

Applications are open for the Archdiocese of Sydney subsidies for the Areté 2024 Foundations in Missionary Leadership course. The Sydney Centre for Evangelisation has a limited number of partial subsidies available for parishioners of the Archdiocese of Sydney who meet the criteria of the subsidy agreement. To apply for a subsidy or to find out more, contact parishrenewal@sydneycatholic.org and register for the Areté open night at www.aretecentre.org. Places will fill quickly.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

Preparations for Confirmation have begun and are held on Sundays at 9.00 am. 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.

CONFIRMATION MASS

The Sacrament of Confirmation at St Anne's will be celebrated on Saturday, 26th August 2023 at 5 pm by Bishop Terry Brady.

ONLINE PUBLIC LECTURE

"WOMEN DEACONS AND THE SYNOD: WHAT HAPPENS NOW?"

Monday 7 August 2023 10am-11.30am AEST

The ACU Centre for Liturgy will host Dr Phyllis Zagano (Hofstra University, New York) who will give an online public lecture (via Zoom) entitled "**Women Deacons and the Synod: What Happens Now?**" Most of the Continental Assemblies and the syntheses of several Episcopal Conferences call for the question of women's inclusion in the diaconate to be considered at the Synod on Synodality. Is it possible to envisage this, and in what way?" She will address the questions: What are the arguments for and against women ordained as deacons? What will happen in October? Dr Zagano is an internationally acclaimed Catholic scholar and lecturer on contemporary spirituality and women's issues in the church. To register, please go to www.acu.edu.au/publiclectureCfL

Registrations will close on 4 August and the Zoom link to join will be sent out then. More information can be found at: <https://www.acu.edu.au/about-acu/institutes-academies-and-centres/acu-centre-for-liturgy/news-events-and-resources>.

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

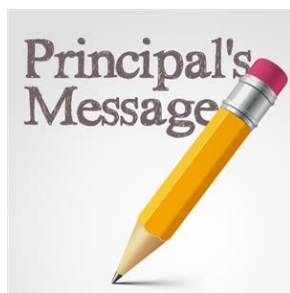
18-20 AUGUST 2023

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)

Dear Parishioners, Parents and Carers,



On Thursday morning we celebrated the Feast of St Anne (and St Joachim) with our Grandparents' Mass and Morning Tea. It was a wonderful occasion. I was very proud of every one of our students and I was very grateful that so many of our grandparents, parents, carers and parishioners were able to attend. I would also like to thank Father Jacek and Mr Geoff Ticehurst for making this celebration very special.

We had a special guest for the morning. Mrs Barbara Perry from the Mission and Identity Directorate of Sydney Catholic Schools attended our Mass. Mrs Perry was in attendance to make the presentation to our school. At the beginning of the year, we were asked to suggest an important occasion when this could occur. They don't come any more special than our Feast Day and our Grandparents' Mass.

The Archbishops Charter for Catholic Schools takes pride of place in the foyer of our school. Every five years our school goes through a process of Inquiry and Review. The school reflects on what has been done and what should be in our plans. This is how we strive to continually improve.

The Archbishop's Charter gives direction to our mission, our teaching and learning, the celebration of our faith, our Catholic life, the social teaching of the church, the pastoral care of our community, our partnership with our parents and carers including our grandparents, our work with our priest, our staff and our efforts in evangelisation.

Consequently, in our most recent Inquiry and Review, the Archbishop's Charter was at the centre of our reflection and planning. Mrs Perry presented the school with a certificate which acknowledges the St Anne's response to the Charter. This certificate is also in our foyer. In terms of 'The Castle', it went "straight to the pool room."

Our Open Day is this Saturday, 5 August, from 10am till 2pm. You are invited. Bring your neighbours, family and friends.

Warm regards
Phil Townsend



CWF PARISH APPEAL

The Charitable Works Fund (CWF) August 2023 Appeal will be happening on 5 and 6 August and we need your help. Please keep alive the vital ministries of the Church in service to those who need it most.

In hospitals, churches, schools, communities and families, your donation is making our world a loving, caring and compassionate place.

Give generously. Your tax-deductible gift changes lives.

Thank you.

Donate at www.ourfaithourworks/give-to-cwf or complete the parish envelope. All donations contribute to our Parish target.



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 and 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