

# WELCOME TO ST. ANNE'S STRATHFIELD SOUTH PARISH

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

27 & 28 January 2024

## 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

## SUNDAY READINGS:

Deuteronomy 18: 15 - 20  
Corinthians 7:32-35  
Mark 1:21-28

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

## 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:

If today, you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

## Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia! Alleluia! A people in darkness have seen a great light: a radiant dawn shines on those lost in death. Alleluia!



## FOR OUR DEAD

Please remember those who have gone before us:

David Jesudasan  
John Galea

## ANNIVERSARIES:

Ridwan Salim  
Antonino Costa

## REMEMBRANCES:

Patricia Salim

## SICK:

Sharon Holliday  
Barry Foley



Unclean spirits play a significant role in Mark's gospel. Scripture scholar Brendan Byrne sets the scene for us: "People in the ancient world attributed to demons control of storms and other manifestations of nature out of control and threatening to human life. Demons could also enter human beings and bring about illness of various kinds – physical (sickness), psychological (madness) and moral (vice, alienation from God, resistance to divine grace). In general, the demonic world was held to be 'unclean,' standing over against the 'cleanliness' or 'holiness' associated with God and communicated by God to the covenant people, Israel... How to preserve the covenant 'holiness' and avoid contamination with the unclean and destructive force of the demonic was a major preoccupation of the Jewish religious system around the time of Jesus" (A Costly Freedom. A Theological Reading of Mark's Gospel. Sydney: St Paul's, 2008, 4).

Source Liturgy Brisbane

## WELCOME



We welcome all our students, parents and carers, teachers, and school staff returning to our school this coming week and wish them every success in 2024.

## 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](mailto:stannesstrathfieldsouth@outlook.com)



## 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

### AUSTRALIA DAY THANK YOU

Last Friday, Australia Day celebrations were a great success. A special thank you to everyone who helped to make this event so successful. I am glad and happy that Australia Day united us in prayer and around the table of hospitality.

### FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD



The Feast of the Presentation will be celebrated on Friday 2nd February. Mass as normal at 9.15 am. This feast marks 40 days since the joyful birth of Jesus. It is a tradition in the Catholic Church to bless candles at this Mass. These candles then stay with the family during the year and are lit to remind them of Christ the light, especially during storms or placed in the hand of a dying person. You are invited to bring candles to be blessed on this day.

### OUR LADY OF GOOD SUCCESS MASS & PROCESSION

Bridget Sakr from the Heartfelt Community has invited the Sydney community to join her in procession devoted to Our Lady of Good Success at St Joachim's Parish, Lidcombe. The procession will take place following Mass at 7.00pm on Our Lady's feast day, 2nd February 2024 at St Joachim's Church in Lidcombe. This event will be preceded by a Novena to Our Lady, which will commence on 24 January and conclude on 1 February. Bridget is hoping to pledge 20,000 participants to pray the novena. You can scan the QR code to make your pledge.



### MEMORIAL OF ST. BLAISE – BLESSING OF THROATS / 1<sup>ST</sup> SATURDAY OF THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY



On Saturday 3rd February 2024 we celebrate the memorial of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr. Tradition tells us that while Blaise was being taken into custody, a distraught mother, whose only child was choking on a fishbone, threw herself at his feet and implored his intercession. Touched at her grief, he offered up his prayers, and the child was cured. Consequently, Saint Blaise is invoked for protection against injuries and illnesses of the throat. The blessing of throats will take place following the 9.15 am Mass. Anointing of the sick will take place as usual after the homily.



### OPENING SCHOOL MASS

Opening School Mass will be on Friday 9th February at 10.15 am. This will be an additional Mass to the regular parish mass at 9.15 am. Parishioners are very welcome at the school mass.

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

### CATECHIST SUNDAY

Catechist Sunday is Sunday, 4th February. A special blessing for our Catechists will be given during the 10 am Mass. Our Catechists are committed and dedicated to bringing the Word of God to our State schools. Being a Catechist and bringing the Word of God to our children is an important Mission of the Church. Thank you to all our Catechists for your amazing commitment and representation of Christ and our Parish in the community.

*Have you considered being a Catechist?*

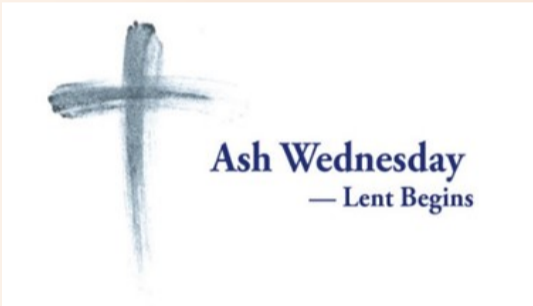
*Isaiah 6:1-2a,3-8*

*I then heard the voice of the Lord saying:*

*Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?*

*And I said, "Hear am I, send me."*

### ASH WEDNESDAY – 14 FEBRUARY 2024



The Season of Lent begins with  
Ash Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

*This a day of Fasting and Abstinence.*

Mass times and Distribution of Ashes are 9.15 am (St Anne's school attending) and 6.30 pm.

### SEASONS OF RENEWAL: LENT AND EASTER

Join us online as we explore practical ideas that parishes can implement in these sacred seasons, so that others may come to share in the joy and hope that Jesus gives. All welcome!

**Tuesday 30 January: 10 - 11 am**

**Thursday 1 February: 3 - 4 pm**

**Wednesday 7 February: 12:30 – 1:30 pm**



To register for the workshop, visit [www.gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events](http://www.gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events)

### WORLD DAY OF THE SICK 11<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2024

"It is not good that man should be alone—Healing the Sick by Healing Relationships," is the theme of Pope Francis' message for the 2024 commemoration of the World Day of the Sick, held on 11 February. Pope John Paul II initiated the day in 1992 to encourage people to pray for those who suffer from illness and for their caregivers.

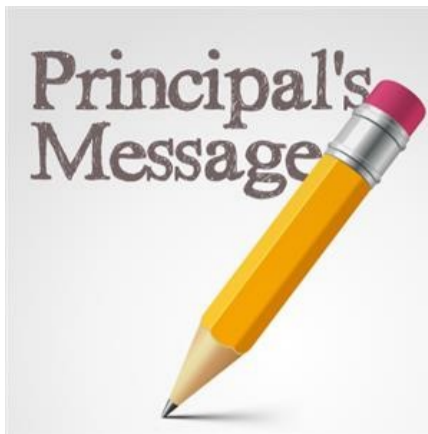
### DIDASKŌ ADULT FAITH FORMATION

The Parish Renewal Team and the **University of Notre Dame Australia** are delivering a series of five **online** short courses, each consisting of three evening sessions. Topics include Philosophy, Scripture, Theology, Christology, and Moral Theology. Ideal for beginners and those interested in continuing their formation. **Cost per course is \$35 pp**

To find out more and to register, visit  
<https://gomakedisciples.org.au/didasko/>.



Dear Parishioners, Parents and Carers,



On behalf of St Anne's School, I would like to offer you every best wish for the new year. The staff will return to school on Tuesday 30 January, followed by Years 1 to 6 on Wednesday and our brand-new Kindergarten students on Thursday. These days are all one day later than usual – the teachers normally return on the first weekday after Australia Day. I have been told that this is because 2024 is a leap year and so we have an extra day. In any case we are looking forward to another exciting year at St Anne's

The staff will attend the Parish mass on Tuesday while the whole School Opening Mass will be on Friday 9 February. This will be followed by Ash Wednesday on 13 February as we note that Easter is early this year.

Warm regards  
Phil Townsend

### **UPDATE ON SAFEGUARDING TRAINING**

The Safeguarding Office has released its Induction and Refresher zoom training meetings for Safeguarding for 2024. It is highly recommended that you attend the first zoom meeting for the year which is as follows:

1. **Induction Training:** Tuesday 20 February 2024 from 9.00am to 10.00am  
Induction Training is for all volunteers who have not previously done any Safeguarding Training.
2. **Refresher Training:** Tuesday 27 February 2024 from 9.00am to 10.00am  
Refresher Training is for those volunteers who have previously completed the Induction Training three or more years ago. It must be renewed.

To register for Zoom training you need to email [safeguardingtraining@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingtraining@sydneycatholic.org) and advise them you will be participating in their Training and they will reply with the zoom link.

If you are not confident in doing the zoom training from your own computer or do not know how to download the zoom app on the computer and would like to complete the training by zoom rather than online please email the parish office or phone the parish office on a Tuesday and Janelle will register you and then you can participate in the zoom session at the Parish Office on the 20 February or 27 February.

As Safeguarding Training is mandatory for all volunteers, please take this opportunity to complete this requirement.

### **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](mailto: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](https://www.archdioceseofsydney.org.au/safeguarding)