

WELCOME TO ST. ANNE'S STRATHFIELD SOUTH PARISH

Fourth Sunday of Lent (Year B)

9 & 10 March 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

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.



READINGS:

2 Chronicles: 36: 14 - 16, 19 - 23
Ephesians: 2: 4 - 10
John: 3: 14 - 21

Responsorial Psalm:

Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

Gospel Acclamation:

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

4TH SUNDAY OF LENT - LAETARE SUNDAY

Today, the 4th Sunday of Lent Year B, we are celebrating Laetare Sunday or Rejoice Sunday, not only because Holy Week and Easter feasts are fast approaching, but above all, because God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ.

In Paschal Triduum we will celebrate our salvation through the pure grace and love of God, who, having died for our sins, has made us to live with Christ (2nd reading: Eph 2:4-10).

In today's Gospel (Jn 3:14-21) which recounts Jesus' conversation with Nicodemus, Jesus assures us beyond doubt that God loves us very much, an immense love manifested by sending His Only-Begotten Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ into the world not to condemn it, but to save it. This unmerited gift of total love from God calls for us to receive it with faith:

"Whoever believes in him will not be condemned, but whoever does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God."

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

During Lent, the Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday at 6.30 pm followed by Adoration and Benediction in the church.



THE WEEK'S PRAYER FOCUS

We pray for artists of every kind, that their works of imagination will help us glimpse God's beauty in humanity and in creation.



FOR OUR DEAD

Please remember those who have gone before us:

Damian Wong
Peter Rühl
Beth Tudehope
Tony & Laura
Bou-Chahine
Tom Riemer
Teresa Ku

ANNIVERSARY:

Juvana Rodrigues
John Rodrigues
Jack Dowling

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
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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



LENTEN PROGRAM 2024 – REPENT AND BELIEVE

Be Filled with the Love of God - Lenten Companion 2024. The Parish Lenten group meets every Tuesday during Lent at 7.00 pm in the Parish House.

The Sydney Archdiocese Lenten program is being followed.

ST ANNE'S PARISH SACRAMENTAL DETAILS



Sacrament of First Holy Communion

Sunday 2nd June 2024 at 12 noon.



Sacrament of Confirmation

Saturday 31st August at 5.00 pm during the Vigil Mass.



Sacrament of First Reconciliation

Thursday 14th November at 6.30 pm for First Holy Communion in 2025.

2024 EASTER CEREMONIES

A Flyer setting out the dates and times of the Easter ceremonies has been included in the bulletin. Extra copies are also available on the back table. Please take the flyer home so you are aware of what is happening in the Parish this Easter.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT 9 & 10 MARCH



Memory is 26 years old and lives in rural Malawi. As the eldest child in a low-income farming family, Memory had to take on many household chores and farming activities to support her parents. They struggled to pay for Memory's school fees and school supplies, and Memory often had to walk to school barefooted.

With the support of Caritas Australia and its partner the Catholic Development Commission in Malawi (CADECOM), Memory was able to enrol at a technical college where she learnt technical skills in carpentry. She undertook a three-year carpentry course, with CADECOM supporting part of her tuition and boarding fees.

Memory became the first female carpenter from her village. Today, she works as a carpenter at one of Malawi's largest hydroelectric power stations. With the income from her job, she can provide financial support to her family and inspire other young women in her community so that they may have the opportunity to succeed in a male-dominated industry.

Please donate to Project Compassion.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **for all future generations**. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.



FROM THE PASTOR'S

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PALMS

As Palm Sunday is fast approaching, does anyone have any large palm branches that they would like to donate? These would be used to decorate the church for Palm Sunday. Please contact Fr Jacek for further details.

DIDASKŌ ADULT FAITH FORMATION

We cannot love what we do not know (St Augustine) God is forever revealing Himself to us. Have you ever been curious to find out more? Join Chris Wolter online for a thought-provoking short course titled God the Beautiful: An Introduction to Theology that will make learning about God both enjoyable and accessible.

DATES: Mondays 11 and 18 March 2024
TIME: 7:30 pm – 8:45 pm
MODE: Online via Zoom
COST PER COURSE: \$35 for individuals

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

A LENTEN RETREAT DAY FOR WOMEN WITH THE DOMINICAN SISTERS OF SAINT CECILIA

Women of all ages are invited to participate in a Lenten Retreat Day hosted and lead by the Dominican Sisters of Saint Cecilia. This retreat day will focus on renewing the foundations of the spiritual life as we strive to live the Paschal Mystery throughout the year. The retreat day will include all day Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions, talks by the Sisters, personal testimony, a Holy Hour, and discussion groups.

Morning tea and lunch are included. A \$20 fee assists with covering retreat expenses. Women who have attended previous retreat days with the Sisters are encouraged to bring a friend to this event.

***DATE: Saturday, 16 March
St Mary's Cathedral Hall
10am to 4pm***

All day Adoration (in the crypt) and confession.

For more information and to register: <https://bit.ly/3RRAKfa>

For questions, please contact the Dominican Sisters of Saint Cecilia at



ST PATRICK'S DAY MASS

Bishop Terry Brady, Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus warmly invites you to the celebration of the St Patrick's Feast Day Mass.

DATE: Monday, 18th March 2024
TIME: 10:00am
VENUE: St Mary's Cathedral

Dear Parishioners, Parents and Carers,



Last Sunday we celebrated our first Family Mass for the year at 10am. It was good to see students and families from our school as well as ex-students in attendance. Father Jacek always makes it a special occasion for the children. Thank you to the parishioners who were able to join us for Morning Tea after mass. You are always very welcome.

In 2024 the NAPLAN testing period begins this week on Wednesday March 13 and runs until Monday March 25. All students in Years 3 and 5 will complete 4 tests during this time with most tests being completed online. The exception of the Year 3 Writing test.

The tests are:

Writing (on paper for Year 3)

Reading

Conventions of Language: Spelling, Grammar, and Punctuation

Numeracy

Now that the first round of Open Days has been completed it is time to begin the enrolment interviews for Kindergarten 2025. Sydney Catholic Schools provides a list of priorities for enrolments. Number 1 on the list is practising Catholics from the parish. It is important that Catholics from the parish ensure that they guarantee this priority by making an application promptly. Please contact the school office. Alternatively, an application can be made online on the school website.

Last Monday morning our Year 5 and 6 students and teachers left for Canberra at 6am. Among the highlights of the excursion were visits to Parliament House, the War Memorial, The Royal Australian Mint Collection and Questacon. We returned, via McDonalds at Sutton Forest, on Tuesday evening. I have been on many school outings in my time as a teacher but this Year 5 and 6 group were the best class I have ever witnessed on excursion. They were respectful, responsible, safe and kind. They also exhibited beautiful manners. We should all be very proud of our senior class.

Finally, I would like to congratulate George from Year 1 – George scored 8 out of 8 in the first round of the Project Compassion Football Tipping competition.

Warm regards
Phil Townsend

PRAYER & THE MISSION TO PROCLAIM JESUS: LIVING THE YEAR OF PRAYER 2024

Join us as Eric Chow shares how to make our parishes missionary outposts, with prayer as the foundation. Eric will share proven principles, practical tips, and stories of renewal from his extensive experience in missionary leadership.

DATE: Monday 18 March 2024 **TIME:** 7:30 – 9pm
VENUE: St Martha's (38 Renwick St, Leichhardt)
PARKING: On-site parking and street parking available.
COST: Free
RSVP: Reserve your place by Thursday 15 March at trybooking.com/CPENF

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