



Parish of St Brendan & St Michael Annandale

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, YEAR A

Good Shepherd Sunday

26 April 2026

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Entrance Antiphon:

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

First Reading: **Acts of the Apostles 2:14. 36-41**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
God has made Jesus both Lord and Christ.

Responsorial Psalm: **Ps 22:1-6. R. v.1**

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Second Reading: **1 Peter 2:20-25**

A reading from the first letter of St Peter
You had gone astray but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me.
Alleluia!

Gospel: **John 10:1-10**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
I am the gate of the sheepfold.

Communion Antiphon:

The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

THIS WEEK'S MASS TIMES

Annandale	Stanmore
Tuesday 9:00am	
Wednesday 9:00am	
Thursday 9:00am	Friday 9:00am
Saturday 9:00am	Saturday Vigil 5.30pm
Sunday 9:30am	Sunday 8.00am
5:00pm	

ADORATION AND RECONCILIATION TIMES:

Saturday: 8.00am-8.50am Annandale

Reflection

ROLL THE DICE

Luke speaks of the 'narrow door' (Luke 13). Matthew speaks of the 'narrow gate' (Matthew 7).

Either way, the metaphor is evocative, challenging:

The difficulty of Jesus' path is not some kind of ascetic self-flagellation either. It is simply the difficulty of choosing and persevering in the distinctive way of life outlined by Jesus (Montague, Companion God, p.117).

Experience is helpful.

We decide to 'roll the dice' and make a lifetime decision. What seems restrictive is, in fact, expansive. The commitment – the 'narrow gate' – liberates us:

A young couple 'roll the dice' and enter matrimony – a word that means 'mother making,' and by implication, 'father making.' The adventure of love and life begins.

John, for his part, dilates the metaphor of the 'narrow gate.' Christ is the gate:

I AM the gate.

Anyone who enters through me will be safe. He will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture (John 10).

Moreover, Christ is the 'pasture,' transcending human understanding.

With Jesus there is 'breadth and length,' 'height and depth' – a love surpassing any form of human knowledge' (Ephesians 3).

We 'roll the dice' again – and walk with others through the 'narrow gate.'

AMEN.

2026 Bishop Anthony G Percy

Fourth Sunday of Easter, Year A

Entrance Antiphon:

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you, we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 2:14. 36-41

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

God has made Jesus both Lord and Christ.

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.'

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 22:1-6. R. v.1

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. **(R.)**
2. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort. **(R.)**

3. You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. (R.)

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:20-25

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

You had gone astray but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty. This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;

I know my sheep, and mine know me.

Alleluia!

Gospel: John 10:1-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

I am the gate of the sheepfold.

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again: 'I tell you most solemnly, I am the gate of the sheepfold. All others who have come are thieves and brigands; but the sheep took no notice of them.'

I am the gate.

Anyone who enters through me will be safe: he will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture.

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.'

Communion Antiphon

The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

"NOLITE TIMERE"
(MT 28:10)

CARDINAL'S CORNER
CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULTS IN SYDNEY



TUESDAY, 28TH APRIL

Guest speaker
FR BEN SALIBA



'Emmaus - walking in the right direction?'

St Michael's Church
69 Clarendon Rd, Stanmore NSW 2048
5:30pm Adoration & Confession
6:30pm Holy Mass
7pm Talk

Followed by dinner and drinks
at the pub

Did you know we have a Catholic Preschool and Long day care at our neighbouring parish in Camperdown. The service, operated by Sydney Catholic Early Childhood Services, at St Joseph's opened in January this year in Missenden Road. The service caters for babies to preschoolers, 7.30am - 6pm and is set within a beautiful outdoor environment. The Service is having an open day next Saturday 2 May and you are very welcome to bring family and friends.

**ST JOSEPH'S
PRESCHOOL & LONG DAY CARE
OPEN DAY**





SAT 2 MAY 10AM - 12PM
2 Missenden road, Camperdown

Special Guests:
Kidz Zoo, Face Painters, Balloon Twisters

HOLY SPIRIT
Formation Series

<p>7 May</p> <p>"The Holy Spirit in Liturgical Worship"</p> <p>Fr James Baxter OP</p>	<p>14 May</p> <p>"What Happened at Pentecost and Why Does it Matter?"</p> <p>Fr Chris Caruana OP</p>	<p>21 May</p> <p>"Following the Spirit, Living Christ's Call"</p> <p>Tania Rimac</p>
---	--	--

Thursdays, 7:30 - 8:30 pm
St James' Catholic School Hall, Glebe

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

This weekend the Church celebrates Good Shepherd Sunday, inviting us to reflect on Christ who calls each of us by name and leads us with patience, mercy, and unwavering love. In the Good Shepherd we see the heart of Jesus: the One who seeks the lost, strengthens the weary, and walks with His flock through every valley and joy. It is also the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, a time to pray for those God is calling to serve as priests, deacons, and religious. We give thanks for the shepherds who guide our parish with faithfulness, and we ask the Lord to raise up new shepherds filled with courage and compassion. As we listen for the voice of the Good Shepherd, may we open our hearts to His call and support all who are discerning their path. Let us keep every vocation—married, single, religious, and ordained—in our prayers, trusting that Christ continues to guide His Church with tenderness and strength.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

– PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

Parents of children preparing to receive the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion are advised that the Parent Information Session will be held on:

Thursday 30 April at 6.00pm

St Brendan's Church, Annandale

Parents who have not yet registered their child are asked to do so at:

<https://stbrendan.org.au/first-reconciliation-first-holy-communion>

CURIOS GRACE MORNING TEA

Our Curious Grace morning tea will be held after the **9.30am Sunday Mass this Sunday** at St Brendan's. Everyone is warmly invited to come along and share in friendship and conversation. If you need transport, please contact **Justin on 0403 480 050**.

MAY CELEBRATION IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY

Praying for Peace in the World and the Welfare of Australia.

All are invited to the May Celebration on Saturday 9 May at St Mary's Cathedral, hosted by the Sydney Archdiocesan Committee of the World Apostolate of Fatima. The entrance procession with the Pilgrim Virgin Statue begins at 11.30am, followed by Mass at 12 noon celebrated by Fr Roberto Keryakos. Enquiries: 0403 578 994

the **messy family project**

AUSTRALIAN TOUR 2026

HOSTED BY THE CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
<p>10 MAY</p> <p>GROWING OUR FAMILY CULTURE</p> <p>SPIRITUAL + PRACTICAL FOUNDATION</p> <p>St Michael's Lane Cove</p>		<p>12 MAY</p> <p>FOLLOWING MARY'S FOOTSTEPS</p> <p>FOR MUMS AND BUBS</p> <p>St Jerome's Punchbowl</p> <p>+ WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A FATHER</p> <p>FOR DADS</p> <p>St Luke's Neveley</p>		

8-9 MAY

FAMILY CULTURE COURSE

Marriage + Parenting Renewal

St Peter Chanel & St Joseph Berala



Mike and Alicia Hermon, co-founders of the Messy Family Project, will empower parents, strengthen marriages and bring families to Christ through a number of formation evenings from 8-12 May 2026.




ST BRENDAN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

34 Collins Street, Annandale

ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

69 Clarendon Road, Stanmore

(Postal address: 34 Collins Street, Annandale NSW 2038)

Email: admin@stbrendan.org.auWebsite: www.stbrendan.org.au

Telephone: 9550 3707

PARISH STAFF**Parish Priest** - Fr Matthew Meagher**Parish Secretary** - Zina Pappalardo**Pastoral Associate** - Angelique Mackenzie**Catechist coordinator** - Mary Cain marycain5@hotmail.com**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:**

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 8:30am to 3.00pm

St Brendan's School

Principal: Ms Hayley de Vries

Telephone: 9519 3974

St Michael's School

Principal: Katherine Micallef

Telephone: 9569 7479

BAPTISM BOOKINGSPlease contact Angelique for all Baptism enquiries at pastoral@stbrendan.org.au**MARRIAGE**

By appointment only. Six months notice required.

ROSARY: The Rosary is recited at St Brendan's on the last Sunday of the month, at 9:10am, before Mass.**CRAFT GROUP**

The parish craft group meets in the church hall on the third Wednesday of the month between 5pm and 7pm and on the first Saturday between 2pm and 4pm. New members are welcome. Contact Ann Allen – 0487 500 951.

PARISH LIBRARY— St Brendan's (at the present time located in the confessional)You can now browse the parish library collection or search for a particular author or book online at <https://www.librarycat.org/lib/StBrendansLibrary>.

Borrowing is still transacted as before by entering your name, email and the book title on the borrowing sheet which is on the top of the bookcase in the confessional. Please place returned books in the returned books tray.

PLAYGROUP AT ST MICHAEL'S SCHOOL HALL

—Every second Tuesday from 9am to 10.30am during school Terms

Each child must be supervised by parents or carer.

CHILDREN SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children are invited to join Adriel in the parish hall for Sunday school sessions each week following the 9:30am Mass.

No registration needed—just come along!**We look forward to seeing you there.****MONTHLY MORNING TEA AND DROP IN**

The Curious Grace Pop In Cafe morning tea is held on the last Sunday of the month in conjunction with the parish morning tea.

Transport is available by calling Justin on 0403 480 050.

For more information email curious.grace@stbrendan.org.au

Everyone is welcome and, for those wanting to rediscover or develop new interests, a range of activities are offered including knitting, gardening and painting. It's a great way to meet others in the parish and local community.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC?If you're curious about the Catholic faith or feel drawn to explore it more deeply, please contact the Pastoral Associate at pastoral@stbrendan.org.au.**ROSTERS - ANNANDALE**

	Week (3) 26 April 2026 This week	Week (4) 3 May 2026 Next Week
	Sunday	Sunday
Acolyte	P Alves	D Lee
Readers	M Marr, S Lenihan	M Marr
Welcomers		M Diggles
Altar Group	A Jansen, S Lenihan, M Stanley	S Edward, J Gow
Counters	D Lee, J McNamara	S & K Edwards

Please remember in Your Prayers**Our dead** - Lord grant them eternal peace and joy and to their families and friends strength and comfort."**Recently deceased:** Bernadette Rosier, Andrea Mullins, Frank Jaku, Giovanna Costa, Andrea Mullins, Valentina Clara Gandiogo.**Anniversaries:** Maria Luchi, Annunziata Severino.**Also:** Vincenzo Carini, Giovanni Sidoti, Anna Sidoti, Assunta Roberto.**Our sick:** Lord, grant them and their carers strength and courage.

Cassandra Lubrano, Margot Harrington, Rosie Marzouk, Helen Scott, Claire West, C & J Rayner, Michael Tannous, Mary Patricia O'Brien, Simon Myers, Stephanie McNamara.

The FEAST of OUR LADY of

FATIMA

Saturday 16 May 2026

Vigil Mass at 6pm followed by Marian Procession

Walk with Our Lady of Fatima in a candle-lit procession from St Mary's Cathedral as we pray for the needs of the Church and the world.




For more information, visit sydneycatholic.org/our-lady-of-fatima-procession

The Catholic Weekly**On Sale at the Church Entrance for \$2.00!****A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY**

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) 93905810 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.