



Parish of St Brendan & St Michael Annandale

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD, YEAR A

17 MAY 2026

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Entrance Antiphon:

Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens?

This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

First Reading: **Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven.

Responsorial Psalm: **Ps 46:2-3. 6-9. R. v.6**

(R.) God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Second Reading: **Ephesians 1:17-23**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel.

I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia!

Gospel: **Matthew 28:16-20**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Communion Antiphon:

Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, 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

THEOPHILUS

Luke is writing to Theophilus (Acts 1). That is, he is writing to you and naming you as 'Lover of God.'

What a beautiful thought.

The love of God is within us:

Where did it come from? What is its origin?

We take our cue from Pope St. Leo the Great (440-461), an excellent teacher of faith.

He says that 'great mysteries are established and great truths revealed between the days of the 'Lord's resurrection and ascension':

The Lord set before the eyes and hearts of his followers one consideration: that the Lord Jesus Christ, who was truly born, truly suffered and truly died, should be recognised as truly risen (Ascension Sermon 1).

Embed that word 'truly' in your spirit, soul and body.

These mysteries and truths enter the hearts of the faithful in such a powerful and tangible way that the Lord's ascension leads, not to sorrow, but to joy.

The death of Jesus, Leo says, filled us with fear. Our faith in the resurrection, says Leo, was hesitant, but no longer:

The days between the resurrection and the ascension of Jesus are the gamechanger.

Jesus Christ's life, death and resurrection has entered us.

We are Theophilus.

AMEN.

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BLESSING OF THE NEW PARISH CENTRE

9am, Wednesday 20 May

Bishop Danny Meagher will join us for 9am Mass, followed by a blessing of the new parish centre and presbytery.



CHARITABLE WORKS FUND (CWF) APPEAL

The CWF Appeal helps fund chaplaincies, crisis support, advocacy, and the formation of future priests. If you haven't had a chance to donate, envelopes are available on the pews and are due back by 31 May. This is our **final appeal for the financial year**, and all donations are 100% tax deductible.



You can give online by scanning the code or visiting:

<https://www.ourfaithourworks.org/give-to-cwf>

TIM FISCHER ORATION ON ETHICS IN PUBLIC & POLITICAL LIFE

The Tim Fischer Oration 2026 is an opportunity to give thanks for what we have received. It calls forth young people to protect and promote the common good through ethical attitudes and actions in public and political life.

Professor Mary Healy will deliver the third Tim Fischer Oration.

DETAILS:

Date: Wednesday, 17 June 2026. Time: 6 PM

Venue: Rosehill Gardens. Cost: \$50 per ticket

For more information, visit tfo.org.au

TRY DOMREMY FOR A DAY

Domremy College is hosting "Try Domremy For A Day" for Year 3 students on Friday 26 June. This event gives primary students the chance to experience high school life by taking part in activities across STEM, Creative Arts, Technology and Applied Studies. Students move around the campus, supported by staff and student mentors, helping them build confidence and connection as they prepare for secondary school.

Registration is essential and places are limited.

To register, visit:

<https://www.domremy.catholic.edu.au/trydomremy->

For any queries regarding Try Domremy for a Day or about enrolment at Domremy College please contact our Enrolments Officer by email at enrolments@domremy.catholic.edu.au or by calling 9712 2133

PRELUDE CONCERT & TALK

Welcoming the Courcelle Organ

Sunday 24 May • 2–3pm St Joseph's Catholic Church, Newtown

Organist: Pastor De Lasala OAM.

Guest of Honour: Pamela Kay Ward OAM

Tickets: \$50 • Parishioners/Students/Organ Society: \$25 •

Children: \$15

All proceeds support the organ installation.

Light supper after the concert — please bring a plate. Photo opportunity with our organist and Guest of Honour.

MAY — THE MONTH OF MARY

The Rosary will be recited each Sunday in May at 9:10 am, before Mass.

"Mary leads us to Jesus, and Jesus leads us to the Father." — Pope John Paul II

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE

Due to our relocation to 36 Collins Street, the parish office will be closed from

Wednesday 20 May to Friday 30 May 2026

The office will reopen on Tuesday 2 June 2026

Thank you for your understanding.

We welcome into our faith community this weekend through the sacrament of Baptism at St Brendan's and St Michael Annandale

Olimpia Grace and Violette Ruby Clark

Ella Chloe McMahon

Eloise and Delilah Mallam

Alexandra Jane and Annalise Isabel

Polkinghorne and

Atticus Dylan Thompson

and congratulate their parents.

CCR Parramatta Diocese and The Emmaus Prayer Community
Invites You to Come & Celebrate Pentecost

The
POWER OF PENTECOST

Holy Mass at 2pm celebrated by Rev Fr Ambrose Owusu-Ansah (Chaplain CCR Parramatta Diocese)

Speaker Abraham George (The Gospel of Love Community)

Praise & Worship, Prayer Ministry, Talk & Fellowship

Come and Receive the Power

**SUNDAY, 24 MAY 2026
2:00 PM TO 5:00 PM**

Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church
198 Old Prospect Road, GREYSTANES

All Welcome Free Event

Enquiries: Desiree - 0478 765 772 Amila - 0424 445 397

Or use following link to register www.trybooking.com/DLWRE

Scan to Register

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This Sunday's Hymns

Processional Hymn

Hail the day that sees him rise, Alleluia!
to his throne beyond the skies. Alleluia!
Christ, the Lamb for sinners given, Alleluia!
enters now the highest heaven. Alleluia!

There for him high triumph waits; Alleluia!
lift your heads, eternal gates. Alleluia!
He has conquered death and sin; Alleluia!
take the King of glory in. Alleluia!

Highest heaven its Lord receives; Alleluia!
yet he loves the earth he leaves. Alleluia!
Though returning to his throne, Alleluia!
still he calls us all his own. Alleluia!

Offertory Hymn

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of Heav'n to Earth come down,
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
All thy faithful mercies crown;
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation,
Enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit
Into ev'ry troubled breast;
Let us all in thee inherit,
Let us find thy promised rest;
Take away our love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver;
Let us all thy grace receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve thee as thy host above,
Pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
Glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then, thy new creation;
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in thee;
Changed from glory into glory
Till in Heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise!

Communion Hymn

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;
His the sceptre, His the throne.
Alleluia! His the triumph,
His the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus out of every nation
has redeemed us by His blood."

Alleluia! Not as orphans
are we left in sorrow now.
Alleluia! He is near us;
faith believes, nor questions how.
Tho' the cloud from sight received Him
when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget His promise,
"I am with you evermore"?

Alleluia! Bread of heaven,
here on earth our food, our stay.
Alleluia! Here the sinful
flee to You from day to day.
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,
earth's Redeemer, hear our plea
where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.

Thanksgiving Hymn

O Jesu Christ, remember,
When Thou shall come again,
Upon the clouds of heaven,
With all thy shining train;
When ev'ry eye shall see Thee,
In Deity revealed,
Who now upon this altar
In silence art concealed.

Remember then, O Saviour,
I supplicate of Thee,
That here I bowed before Thee
Upon my bended knee;
That here I owned thy presence,
And did not Thee deny;
And glorified thy greatness,
Tho' hid from human eye.

Accept, divine Redeemer,
The homage of my praise;
Be Thou the light, and honour,
And glory of my days.
Be Thou my consolation
When death is drawing nigh:
Be Thou my only Treasure,
Through all eternity.

Recessional hymn

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
to his feet your tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
evermore his praises sing.
Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise the everlasting King!
Praise him for his grace and favour
to his people in distress.
Praise him, still the same as ever,
slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Glorious in his faithfulness!

Fatherlike, he tends and spares us;
well our feeble frame he knows.
In his hand he gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Widely yet his mercy flows!

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.au

Website: 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 BOOKINGS

Please 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) 17 May 2026 This week | Week (4) 24 May 2026 Next Week |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | Sunday | Sunday |
| Acolyte | F Green | P Alves |
| Readers | M Gibbs, H Paton | M Marr, S Lenihan |
| Welcomers | | |
| Altar Group | | A Jansen, S Lenihan M Stanley |
| Counters | D Lee, J McNamara | |

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.

Anniversaries: Rui Martins, Doreen and Vince McCall.

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.

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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.