



Parish of St Brendan & St Michael Annandale

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A

16 August 2026

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Entrance Antiphon:

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

First Reading: **Isaiah 56:1.6-7**

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I will lead the foreigners to my holy mountain.

Responsorial Psalm: **Ps 66:2-3 5-6. 8. R. v.4**

(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!

Second Reading: **Romans 11:13-15. 29-32**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The gifts and call of God are irrevocable.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

Gospel: **Matthew 15:21-28**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Woman, you have great faith.

Communion Antiphon:

With the Lord there is mercy; in him is plentiful redemption.

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

IDENTITY IDEOLOGUES

St. Maximilian Kolbe (1894-1941) believed that the world is passing through a time of intense spiritual crisis:

A crisis of truth. A crisis of love.

The rise of identity culture and politics surely highlights the issue:

I naively identify as a pensioner.

But the employee at Centrelink says, 'Bad luck buddy, you were born in 1963 – you don't qualify.'

What I take seriously is rightly rejected by the fella behind the counter. Truth be told.

In our time, too, mercy and forgiveness are in short supply, yet forgiveness is at the heart of our relationships because we are weak and sinful:

Forgiveness bears witness, that in our world, love is stronger than sin (CCC 2844).

Mercy draws good out of evil, something only God can do:

God is so good that in his hands, even evil brings about good (St. Augustine).

Notice the language and petition of the woman in the Gospel:

Out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me (Matthew 15).

This is why we 'shout out' our sins as Mass begins, and beg for grace:

Lord, have mercy.

A moment of truth and love.

AMEN.

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Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Registrations Now Open

Are you—or someone you know—feeling drawn to explore the Catholic faith?

RCIA offers a prayerful and supportive journey for adults preparing for Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist, as well as for those who simply wish to grow in their understanding of the Catholic faith.

To register, please visit:

<https://stbrendan.org.au/becoming-catholic> or

contact the Pastoral Associate at pastoral@stbrendan.org.au.



CHARITABLE WORKS FUND

Your local charity

CWF APPEAL- THANK YOU

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 August. This is our **first 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>



CURIOUS GRACE – HELP NEEDED

Wanted: someone with expertise in marketing or promotions. Curious Grace needs advice on how to promote our event to the wider community. Your help would be much appreciated. Contact Cathie on 0402384168.

POSITION VACANT – Senior Administration Officer

The Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea is seeking applications for this position. Based at Stanmore, the role can be full-time or part-time, as suits the successful applicant. Enquiries to Vivian Meloni on 0438 001 840

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MARY MACKILLOP NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE

A 12 day pilgrimage from Melbourne to Sydney following the life and times of St Mary MacKillop, offering a rich insight into her story, faith and legacy. Planned by the Sisters of St Joseph, with all travel arrangements managed by Harvest Journeys. Bookings are now open – reserve your place at:

<https://www.harvestjourneys.com/tour/mm2602sj/>

ST CARLO ACUTIS – RELIC & EUCHARISTIC MIRACLES EXHIBITION

Campion College will host the internationally renowned Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition created by St Carlo Acutis, along with the opportunity to venerate a relic of the Church's newest saint.

Explore the exhibition, learn about St Carlo's life, and join evening events featuring a guest lecture, prayer and Eucharistic Adoration. All are welcome.

Dates: Tue 1 & Wed 2 Sep 2026 **Venue:** Campion College, Toongabbie **Open to:** General public, families, schools, parish groups **Cost:** Free (ticketed)

WOMEN'S NIGHT OF SPIRITUALITY

Join us for our next Women's Night of Spirituality: an evening of connection, encouragement, and friendship.

Featuring guest speaker Sister Patty Andrew, OSU, a member of the Ursuline community who has had a long career in education - and is Vicar for Consecrated Life in the Diocese of Parramatta. She will talk about the Holy Women of Helfta, and what the early Christian mystics can teach us about love of God and neighbour.

Come and be renewed in spirit and strengthened in faith.

St Brendan's Parish Centre
7 September 2026

6:30 – 8:00pm (light refreshment following)

All women are warmly welcome - come as you are.

"NOLITE TIMERE"
(MT 28:10)

CARDINAL'S CORNER
CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULTS IN SYDNEY

TUESDAY, 25 AUGUST

Guest speaker
FR JAMES BAXTER



"The Cardinal Virtue of Temperance"

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

Sacred Art

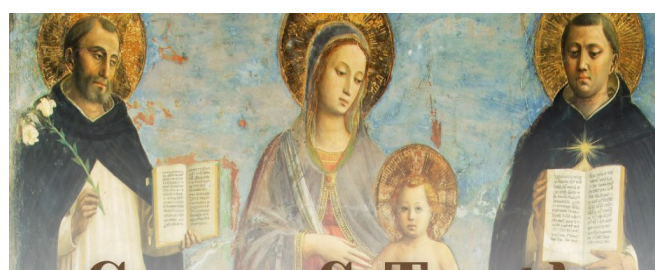
An evening with Michael Galovic

Join renowned iconographer and artist Michael Galovic, who will explore the idea of sacred art and its importance. A collection of his works will be on display.

Michael's vast work ranges from many traditional icons to pieces with contemporary influences. These works adorn churches across Australia and further abroad. Our icon of St Brendan is his work.

When: Thursday 27th August, 7pm.

Where: New Parish Centre
36 Collins St, Annandale NSW 2038
Any questions: admin@stbrendan.org.au



Grace & Truth

4 September 2026

St Mary's Cathedral, 5-8:30PM

Prof. Hayden Ramsay & Fr. James Baxter, OP
and the Dominican Friars and Sisters

Topic: What and who are you looking for?



Plus a special announcement
about upcoming 2027 events

Questions: sydney@op-tn.org



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) 16 August 2026 -This Week	Week (4) 23 August 2026 -Next Week
	Sunday	Sunday
Acolyte	F Green	P Alves
Readers	M Gibbs, H Paton	M Marr, S Lenihan
Welcomers		
Altar Group		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: Anne Kury, Nevenka Milanovic, Vincenzo Ferraiolo.

Anniversaries: Luis da Silva, Constaca Eloi, Giovanni Giorla, Maria Celia, Giovanni Curcio, Raffaella Giorla, Santo Giorla, Maria Cuccovilla, Anne, Kevin, Patrick and James Doyle.

Also: Antonietta Fera, Joao Manuel Guioman, Eduardo Casado, Maria Ferraiolo.

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.

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

If you or someone you know has experienced abuse, or if you are worried about the safety of a child, young person or vulnerable adult, please know that you are not alone and that help is available.

The Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office is available to listen, support you, and provide guidance about reporting options. You can contact the office on (02) 9390 5800 or at safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also wish to speak with your Parish Priest, who can offer pastoral care and assist you in taking the next step.

The Archdiocese takes all safeguarding concerns seriously and is required to report criminal matters to police. If there is an emergency or someone is in immediate danger, please contact NSW Police on 000.