



Parish of St Brendan & St Michael Annandale

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A

23 August 2026

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Entrance Antiphon:

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God.
Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

First Reading: **Isaiah 22:19-23**

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I place the key of the House of David upon his shoulder.

Responsorial Psalm: **Ps 137:1-3. 6. 8. R. v.8**

(R.) Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.

Second Reading: **Romans 11:33-36**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

From him, through him, and in him are all things.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church; the gates of hell will not hold out against it.
Alleluia!

Gospel: **Matthew 16:13-20**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

You are Peter, to you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

Communion Antiphon:

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

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

A FAITHFUL-EVOLUTIONARY

The Lord Jesus Christ built his Church on a rock:

You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church (Matthew 16).

Peter was the first pope. Pope Leo XIV is now the 267th successor of St. Peter.

How has the Church survived and thrived for so long?

Fidelity to the truth. Adaptability to change.

Pope Leo XIII (1810-1903) is indisputably the first truly modern pope:

He is the earliest-born person captured on film, believe that or not.

Elected in 1878, he systematically modernised the Church:

Promoted St. Thomas Aquinas method of philosophical and theological thinking (1879)

Opened the Vatican Archives (1883)

Published first modern Social Teaching Document (1891)

Setup the Biblical Commission, restoring the Bible to Theology and Prayer (1902)

Approved the new modern constitutional arrangements between Church and State.

Leo was a faithful-evolutionary.

His predecessor, Pope Pius IX (1846-1878), was nicknamed 'Pio No No,' because he was anti most things modern.

Rather, Pope Leo XIII embraced modernity with faith, not fear:

Nothing is more useful than to look upon the world as it really is, and at the same time to seek Elsewhere (God) for the solace to its troubles (Rerum Novarum 18).

AMEN.

© 2026 Bishop Anthony G Percy

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>



GRACE & TRUTH

You are invited to join the Dominican Friars and Sisters on Friday, 4 September, 5–8:30 PM, for an evening of prayer, formation, and fellowship at St Mary's Cathedral (Crypt & Hall). Open to men and women of all ages.

The night includes Adoration, Vespers & Benediction, a light supper, and talks by Prof. Hayden Ramsay and Fr James Baxter, OP.

Fee: \$20. Register: <https://www.trybooking.com/DOIVM>
Enquiries: sydney@op-tn.org

8TH ACMRO NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2026

Migrant Communities in a Synodal Church.

A two day conference celebrating the faith, gifts, and contributions of migrant communities, with keynote addresses by Cardinal Fabio Baggio, C.S. and Dr Trudy Dantis.

25–26 August 2026, 9 AM–5 PM Mary Mackillop Place, North Sydney Cost: \$143–\$385

Details & registration: acmro.catholic.org.au/nc/nc2026

CALLED & GIFTED DISCERNMENT PROCESS:

Online with In-person Workshop

If you are wondering how God is calling you to serve Him, then the Called & Gifted Discernment Process is for you! This Process is designed to help Christians identify and nurture their spiritual gifts (charisms), both to represent Christ and to serve as a channel of God's goodness to others.

Commences Wednesday 2 September 2026. Places are limited.

Register at gomakedisciples.org.au/called-gifted-discernment-process

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

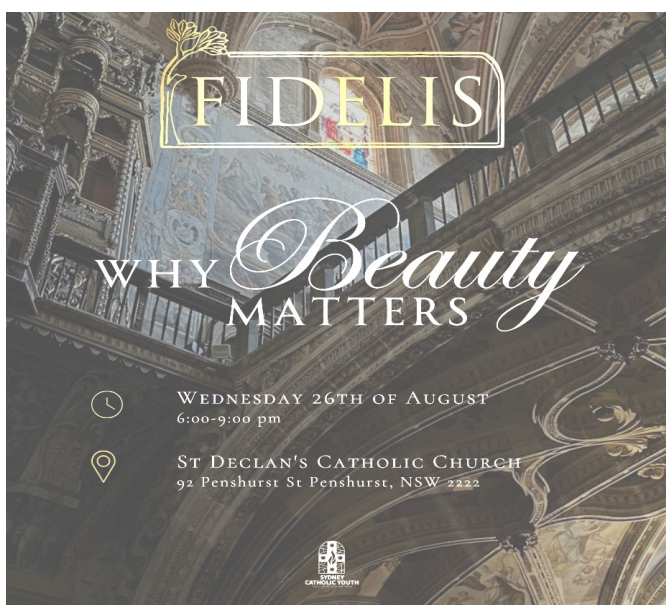
Join renowned iconographer and artist Michael Galovic, who will explore the idea of sacred art and its importance. A collection of his works will be on display.

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.

Original icons, books and A3 size posters will be available for purchase. Cash only please.

When: Thursday 27th August, 7pm.

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



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 mary-cain5@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.

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 (4) 23 August 2026 -This	Week (5) 30 August 2026 -Next Week
	Sunday	Sunday
Acolyte	P Alves	B Holdsworth
Readers	M Marr, S Lenihan	
Welcomers		
Altar Group	S Lenihan, M Stanley	
Counters		

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 Fury, Nevenka Milanovic, Vincenzo Ferraiolo.

Anniversaries: Luis da Silva, Constaca Eloj, 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.