



Parish of St Brendan & St Michael Annandale

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A

30 August 2026

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Entrance Antiphon:

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

First Reading: **Jeremiah 20:7-9**

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.

Responsorial Psalm: **Ps 62:2-6. 8-9. R. v.2**

(R.) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Second Reading: **Romans 12:1-2**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.

Alleluia!

Gospel: **Matthew 16:21-27**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.

Communion Antiphon:

How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.

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

THEOLOGICAL TIME BOMB

From Paul's most mature work:

I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God (Romans 12).

We are spirit, soul and body (1Thessalonians 5) – a profound unity. What we do in the body affects our inner life and vice versa.

Pope St. John Paul II (1978-2005) developed the Theology of the Body, which opens up Paul's invitation.

George Weigel, papal biographer, claims that the 'theology of the body is a theological time-bomb, due to be detonated some time in the 21st Century.'

No doubt we are familiar with Original Sin, but now we have three original experiences prior to Original Sin:

Original Solitude

Original Unity

Original Nakedness.

These are primordial experiences, yielding important discoveries:

The experience of solitude helps us discover that our bodies are symbolic.

The experience of unity helps us discover that our bodies are spousal.

The experience of nakedness helps us discover that our bodies are beautiful and free.

Naturally enough:

Sexuality is symbolic, spousal, beautiful and free, wounded yet redeemed.

We have an antidote for toxic sexuality. We have a medicine for corrupt sexuality.

Thank God.

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.



1 September through to the feast of St. Francis on 4 October

Season of Creation is a time for Christians to come together in prayer and action for Creation.

Season of Creation 2026 theme:

Living Water – Ezekiel 47:9-12

This year's theme, "Living Water", explores Ezekiel 47:9 and 12 as a powerful biblical vision of hope and ecological healing. Set amid exile and loss, the image of living water flowing from God's sanctuary reveals divine healing that renews land, water, biodiversity, and human responsibility towards the whole creation.

The symbol depicts water flowing from the Temple of God – at first a tiny stream that grows deeper, and deeper and as it does so, it brings life to dead areas and restores fertility to damaged or barren ecosystems. Through living water comes healing; but in order to receive new life, we too must step into the water and also become part of God's river of life, taking part in the healing of creation.

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

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

CARITAS AUSTRALIA'S WOMEN FOR THE WORLD APPEAL

Safe childbirth shouldn't depend on luck. But in Papua New Guinea, many women still face pregnancy and childbirth without access to the care, equipment and support they need. Health centres are often under-resourced, and distance, cost and extreme weather can make reaching care a challenge. By supporting Caritas Australia's Women for the World appeal, you can help upgrade rural health centres, giving women a safer chance to bring new life into the world. Your gift today can help support safer pregnancies, safer births and healthier futures for mothers and babies. Learn more or donate today at

www.caritas.org.au/wftw

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.

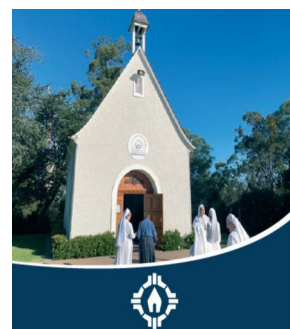
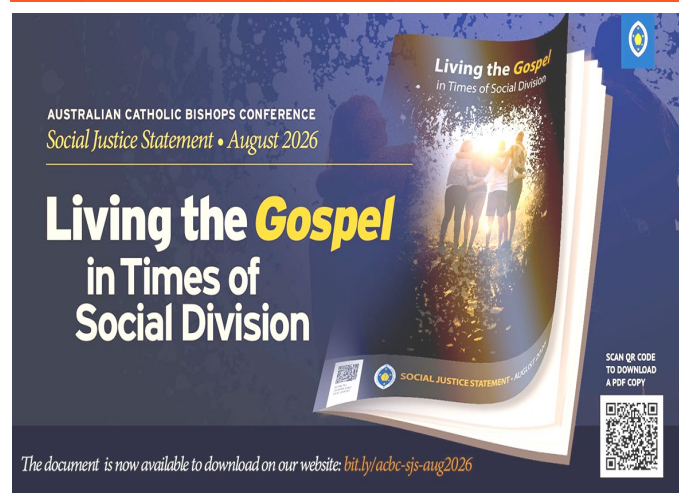
Come and be renewed in spirit and strengthened in faith.

St Brendan's Parish Centre

7 September 2026

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

All women are warmly welcome - come as you are.



The Secular Institute of the Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary is pleased to invite you to a Solemn Mass of Thanksgiving celebrating 100 years of our international community

Sunday 13th September 2026

Main celebrant:
The Most Reverend Anthony Fisher OP
Archbishop of Sydney

Please be seated by 9:45am for a 10am start
Celebration to conclude at approximately 3pm

The day will begin with Holy Mass followed by
light refreshments and a program

RSVP is required for catering purposes
by 1st September 2026



Parish bus groups are encouraged,
and registration is necessary for parking

General parking will be available onsite in the valley

An exhibition on the Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary
will be available for viewing in the Family Hall
from 8:30am - 6:00pm

230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa 2745
www.schoenstatt.org.au sistersjubilee@schoenstatt.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 (5) 30 August 2026 -This week	Week (1) 6 September 2026 -Next Week
	Sunday	Sunday
Acolyte	B Holdsworth	D Lee
Readers		S Rossetti, B Holdsworth
Welcomers		M Digges
Altar Group		S Edwards, J Gow
Counters		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: Anne Fury, Nevenka Milanovic, Vincenzo Ferraiolo.

Anniversaries: Eduardo Casado, 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.