

WELCOME TO ST. ANNE'S STRATHFIELD SOUTH PARISH

Second Sunday of Advent

4 & 5 December 2021

Weekday/Weekend Mass Timetable:

Saturday Vigil: 9:15 am & 6:00 pm
Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:00 am
Tuesday - Friday: 9:15 am

Baptisms, marriages and funerals by appointment.

HOLY WATER

is now permitted under the lessening of restrictions.

READINGS:

Baruch: 5: 1 - 9
Philippians: 1: 4 - 6, 8 - 11
Luke: 3: 1 - 6

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge and celebrate that this land is of the Wangal people of the Darug nation on which we are gathered. We commit ourselves to work together for reconciliation, justice and peace.



Responsorial Psalm: To Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia! Alleluia! Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

Eucharistic Acclamation: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you came again.

CONTACT WITH PARISH OFFICE

1. For matters dealing with finance, envelopes etc please address: Attention: Janelle. Janelle works on Tuesdays only.
2. For matters regarding safeguarding, working with children check etc and the bulletin, please address Attention: Rachael. Rachael works on Saturdays only
3. For all other parish matters: Attention Fr Jacek Cichy.

FOR OUR DEAD

Holy Souls, especially, Bridget "Breda" McKeown (mother of St Anne's school principal, Mark McKeown)

Please also pray for Rodrigues Family, Dennis Family, Sheila and Gerard Healy

FOR OUR SICK

especially Bill Petrie, Fr P. Maher, Peter Simon, Tony Grace, Frank Zerafa, Bishop W Wright, Mgr John Usher, Mgr Brian Raynor, Frs M Kelly, Frank Coorey, Paul Foley, David

Please
Pray
for...



Christmas Confession to be held on the evening of 15 December 2021. Time to be confirmed.

Christmas Mass times will be confirmed soon.



Should you have any prayer requests that you would like our families of families to pray for, please send them to the Parish Office on: stannesstrathfieldsouth@outlook.com

A very warm welcome to all who are visiting our family of families of St Anne's. It is good to have you with us.

Currently we are providing a small number of hard copies of the bulletin. While most have an opportunity to attend a weekend Mass, we will continue to offer the electronic bulletin but in a reduced form to assist you in spending some time in prayer as a family. We are considering simply providing the references for the readings and other measures. You are strongly encouraged to provide your thoughts on this and what form you prefer.

If you have any questions or would like to know more about our family of families, please contact Fr Jacek on the email address above. We welcome your suggestions and enquires, including feedback about the bulletin.



St. Anne's Strathfield South Parish

Administrator: Father Jacek Cichy

11 St Anne's Square

Strathfield South NSW 2136

Email: stannesstrathfieldsouth@outlook.com

Website: <https://www.stannesstrathfieldsouth.org.au/>



St. Anne's Catholic Primary School

Principal: Mr Mark McKeown

St Anne's Square

Strathfield South NSW 2136

Phone: (02) 9642 6149

Fax: (02) 9742 6250

Website: <https://www.stastrathfield.catholic.edu.au/>

ADVENT PRAYER

Jesus,
Master of both the light and the darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.
We who have so much to do seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day.
We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us.
We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom.
We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence.
We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light.
To you we say, 'Come Lord Jesus!' Amen.

Henri J.M. Nouwen



The West won the world not by the superiority of its ideas or values or religion but rather by its superiority in applying organized violence. Westerners often forget this fact, non-Westerners never do. **Samuel P. Huntington**



If you know of anyone who is not receiving the bulletin and would like to, encourage them to contact the Parish Office on stannesstrathfield@outlook.com with their email address and they will be included in our list for the following week.

The bulletin should arrive each Saturday from around mid to late afternoon. If it does not please contact us and we will resend it to you.

COVID-19 UPDATE

The NSW Government recommends that church-goers continue to wear face masks when attending Mass as a safeguard to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Churches will be able to have unlimited numbers at all religious services, as long as a two square metre rule is observed. You'll find more information here: <https://www.sydneycatholic.org/coronavirusfrequently-asked-questions>.

Up to 300 people are now allowed to attend church weddings.

This means that the capacity of St Anne's has increased to 110.

Churches are required to keep written records with names and contact details of everyone who attends Mass for contact tracing purposes. These records must be kept for at least 4 weeks. Parishes are advised to designate specific people to monitor the sign-in process and to make sure all people attending Masses are registering (at least one person from each family group). Parishioners must not mingle before, during or after Mass since social distancing rules cannot be easily observed.

COVID-19

QR codes are now compulsory for churches to ensure there is a record kept for all attendees. However in cases where you have parishioners unable to use a QR code, the parish must keep an electronic record of that person's name and contact details.

All are encouraged to download Services NSW App to your phone prior to coming to the church. When the download completed, scroll down to Tools and you will find the COVID app. Prior to entering the church, please do the following:

1. Open the app at the appropriate page.
2. Place your phone over the QR sign. A page will open with all your details.
3. Sanitised your hands (take a mask if necessary) and you are welcome to contribute to the collections
4. Show your open app to the person who is marking off names.
5. Go to your seat and ensure your phone is in silent mode.



PLEASE REMEMBER AFTER MASS: Open the app and scroll to Tools, tap on COVID and then on last place visited; tick the circle to log off. Otherwise, you will be marked as being in the church until you follow this procedure.

QR CODE

for St Anne's Catholic Church,
Strathfield South

Don't forget to Check Out afterwards.



Happy 2nd week of Advent!



Luke is at pains to situate the story of Jesus within the geo-political order of his day. His roll call of the powers-that-be, both near and far, makes it clear how unfavourable the circumstances were for a lone Galilean Jew to sow seeds of global transformation. Yet that's what he did.

Our hearing of the good news is conditioned by world order of our time. That means, for example, that we cannot hear Baruch's exuberant account of the exiles' home-coming without thinking of the tens of millions of people languishing in refugee camps around the world. We wish they could enjoy such a jubilant return home.

We hear Paul's upbeat prayer for his beloved Philippians at a time when our own Church communities are aging, diminishing and struggling with the shame of sexual abuse. Dare we let our faith be rekindled by his fervent conviction?

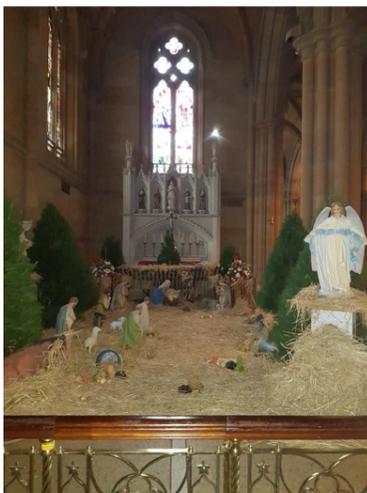
Those calling for a new Church and a new human order may feel that, like the Baptist, they are voices crying in the wilderness. Yet cry they do against all the odds, as must we. The season of Advent gives us fresh heart. It's a graced time for the powerful renewal of our hope and faith.

Source: Liturgy Brisbane

BETHLEHEM CANDLE

On the second Sunday of Advent, the second purple candle is lit. This candle typically represents love. Some traditions call this the "Bethlehem Candle," symbolizing Christ's manger:

*"This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." **(Luke 2:12, NIV)***



CATHEDRAL CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

17 December 2021
11am and 7pm

The St Mary's Cathedral Choir and the Sydney Youth Orchestra perform some of the most loved Christmas music at two concerts that have become an annual tradition.

Tickets available online: www.cathedralchoir.sydney/concerts

The beauty that will save the world is the love that shares the pain.

Cardinal Carlo Maria Martini former

Archbishop of Milan

LIGHTS OF CHRISTMAS 2021, ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL FORECOURT, 9-25 DECEMBER

Join in Sydney's favourite free Christmas tradition, uniting families, locals and tourists with a display of digital storytelling projected onto St Mary's Cathedral.



Find out more: <https://lightsofchristmas.com.au/>

Fr Danny Meagher has been appointed by Pope Francis as an Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Sydney. He will be ordained Bishop at St Mary's Cathedral on 8 December 2021 at 7pm. Please remember him in our prayers. He is likely to be appointed Bishop of our region.



7 December

Saint Ambrose (Born about 340, Ambrose, while still a catechumen, was elected Bishop of Milan. His baptismal instructions are famous. He received St Augustine into the Church. His writings reveal a man of great faith and energy).

Source: Liturgy Brisbane

8 December

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (This feast had its origin in the East as the "Conception of Mary by Saint Anne". It spread through the West during the Middle Ages as the "Immaculate Conception" and was extended to the entire Western Church in the eighteenth century. The feast celebrates Mary, preserved from sin from the moment of conception; she is the first fruits of her Son's redemption and a prophetic model of what the Church is called to be.)

Source: Liturgy Brisbane

BECOME A CATECHIST OR HELPER IN 2022

Half of Catholic children in Sydney are in public primary and high schools.

Share the hope and joy that Jesus brings with them and become a catechist or helper, ready to start in Term 1, 2022. Starting off as a helper, you'll receive easy step-by-step lessons and hand out activity books in primary schools. Find out more about the work catechists do here, whether at primary or secondary level: <https://ccd.sydneycatholic.org/>

*"Being a catechist is the most spiritually fulfilling thing I've done"- **Rose***

Support for our Parishes as they reopen Advent Companion Available Now – Prepare to Join or Lead a Group in your Parish

Churches have reopened, and Advent is here. With gratitude in our hearts, let us gather in our parishes to prepare a welcome for the newborn Jesus at Christmas and to be channels of His peace and joy to those around us. Joining or leading an Advent group is a great way to do this.



'Rejoice! Receiving and Sharing the Gift of the Good News' contains Gospel readings for Sundays and Christmas Day, spiritual reflections, and other resources for Advent. For individual or group prayer, in-person or online gatherings. Available for download on the [Go Make Disciples](http://www.gomakedisciples.com) website. The second reflection in the series for the 2nd Sunday of Advent features a Gospel reflection from the Parish Priest of St Patrick's Bondi and St Anne's Bondi Beach, Fr Anthony Robbie.

Parishes are invited to share [this social tile](#) to promote the resource

COFFEE CONVERSATIONS FOR THE SYNOD

The Synod of Bishops consultation has now commenced and parishioners are invited to gather in small groups to discuss one or more of the topics for the Synod. This is a low key discussion with responses invited to the National Team by February 27.

The Coffee Conversation leaflet will be available in parishes for interested parishioners to assist in the conversation.

If you require more information can you please contact Sr Jo Brady RSJ Plenary Council/Synod Liaison Support Officer at jo.brady@sdneycatholic.org

Do you have a Law Degree?

CatholicCare Sydney is seeking volunteer assistance from an experienced Legal Advisor for one day a week, to provide advice on privacy, consent matters, record keeping and conflicts of interest.

If you think you can help and would like to learn more about this volunteer opportunity please call **13 18 19** or email volunteers@catholiccare.org.

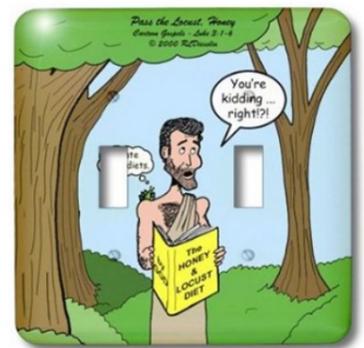
To learn more:

CatholicCare

131819

volunteers@catholiccare.org

catholiccare.org



HOW TO CELEBRATE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Go to a Mass

Make Mass a part of your observance of the feast holiday! Have your teenagers listen carefully for references to the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception.

Make a Mary candle

This is a great day to make a Mary candle. You'll need a tall white pillar candle. Use decorations of symbols of the Christ for it and then cover it with white lace or fabric for the remainder of Advent. The white cloth represents mother Mary while the candle represents Jesus Christ.

Prepare a white dish

Look up your favourite meals that are white coloured. For example, you can bake a cake with white frosting and an 'M' written on it with blue, or prepare pasta in white sauce.

Source: <https://nationaltoday.com/feast-immaculate-conception/>