

St Brendan's & St Michael's Parish

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, YEAR B



28 APRIL, 2024

I am the vine, you are the branches.

John 15:5

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Entrance Antiphon:

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

He explained how the Lord appeared to
Saul and spoke to him on his journey.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 21:26-28. 30-32. R. v.26

(R.) I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

Second Reading: 1 John 3:18-24

A reading from the first letter of St John

His commandments are these: that we
believe and that we love one another.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit.
Alleluia!

Gospel: John 15:1-8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

All who live in me, and I in them, bear much fruit.

Communion Antiphon

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

Reflection

Bloom Where Planted

There are seven **I AM** statements in the Gospel of John. Last week we had the fourth, this week, we have number seven:

I AM the true vine, and my Father is the Vinedresser (John 15).

Jesus is the vine – we are the branches. Our lives are interwoven with our Lord in intimacy and vulnerability – essential in sincere friendship.

Furthermore:

Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty.

We are not called to be busy.

No, we are called to be fruitful, and that requires 'blooming where we are planted.'

So much of life can be wasted by waiting until the right moment arrives or the right circumstances finally present themselves: **No. Out with excuses.**

Let's shut down, once and for all, the 'complaints department.'

Fruitfulness follows as sure as day follows night.

But we must toughen up:

Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more.

Purification is entirely necessary.

We are going to have to lose some branches and let ourselves be pruned:

For the Father – the majestic Vinedresser – is constantly at work. **Amen**

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Donate to the Charitable Works Fund Appeal

4th & 5th May 2024 is our parish appeal.

Help keep alive vital ministries of the Church in service to those who need it most. In hospitals, churches, schools, communities and families, your donation is making our world a loving, caring and compassionate place.

Give generously. Your tax-deductible gift changes lives. Thank you!

Donate at www.ourfaithourworks/give-to-cwf Or complete the parish envelope.



SACRAMENTS

FIRST EUCHARIST

The Sacrament of First Eucharist will take place at St Brendan's on Sunday 2 June at 11:00am and at St Michael's on Sunday 9 June at 11:00am.

Registrations are now closed.

CONFIRMATION

The Sacrament of Confirmation this year will take place at St Mary's Cathedral on Sunday 18 August 2024 at 12.30pm.

Preparation classes will be held at St Brendan's and St Michael churches.

Children in Year 6 and upwards and have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation and Eucharist are eligible to receive the Sacrament.

To register:

https://stbrendan.org.au/sacraments/confirmation/

For any enquiries please contact

Michelle Durham, Sacramental Coordinator at sacramental @stbrendan.org.au

MAY CELEBRATION IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY- 4 May

The Sydney Archdiocese Committee of the World Apostolate of Fatima invites you to attend the May Celebration at St. Mary's Cathedral on Saturday, May 4th. The event is dedicated to honouring Our Lady and praying for peace in the world and the welfare of Australia. The celebration will begin at 11:30 am with an entrance procession inside the cathedral, featuring the Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima along with the Immaculate Heart. The programme includes recitation of the rosary, litany of Loreto, and the Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, followed by Holy Mass at noon. We would be honoured to have you join us in prayer. For further enquiries, please contact us at 0403578994.

OREMUS: Living the Year of Prayer 2024

Our Holy Father has asked the entire Church to dedicate 2024 as a Year of Prayer in preparation for the 2025 Jubilee, 'in order to foster a renewed ardour for evangelisation'. Join us online for a 3-week short course in which we will consider practical approaches to prayer as the font of renewal and mission in our parishes.

DATES: Thursday, 2 May, 2024

TIME: 7:30 – 8:45 pm

For more information and to register, go to gomakedis-

ciples.org.au/cas-events

FROM THE HEART OF JESUS - Pentecost Retreat with the Emmanuel Community

Come away for an experience of intimacy with the Sacred Heart of Jesus, who sends us His Holy Spirit at Pentecost. This retreat, run by the Emmanuel Community, will feature talks, Mass, silent Eucharistic adoration, praise and opportunities for sharing, fraternal prayer, and fellowship.

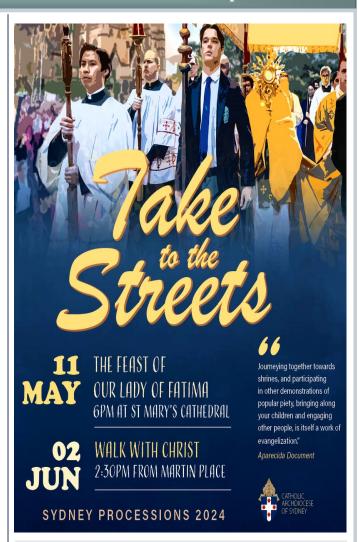
Date and time: Saturday 18 May, 10:00 am - Sunday 19

May 2024, 4:00 pm

Venue: Benedict XIV Retreat Centre **Address:** 347 Grose Wold Rd, Grose Wold

Cost: \$145 / Students: \$110

Register online: trybooking.com/CQAIY





APRIL 29 | THE FEAST OF

Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire.

ST CATHERINE OF SIENA

St Catherine of Siena was the youngest of 25 children born of a wealthy Italian family in c1347. From a young age she devoted her life to prayer and became a tertiary sister of the Dominican order despite her parents objections. She worked with the sick and attracted a following of men and women who accompanied her on her frequent journeys. Catherine became heavily involved in the politics of both Church and State as she attempted to make peace between Florence and the papacy. She urged Pope Gregory to return the papacy to Rome from Avignon, which he did in 1376. His death two years later led to a schism in the Western church, as detractors of the newly elected pope Urban VI set up a rival pope in Avignon. In an effort to restore unity to the church, Catherine gave support to the Urban VI but was exhausted by her efforts. She died soon after suffering a stroke, aged only 33.

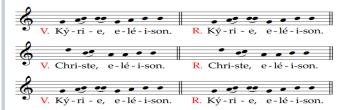
This Sunday's Hymns

Praise to the Holiest in the height, and in the depth be praise: in all his words most wonderful, most sure in all his ways.

O loving wisdom of our God! When all was sin and shame, a second Adam to the fight and to the rescue came.

O wisest love! That flesh and blood, which did in Adam fail, should strive afresh against the foe, should strive and should prevail;

And that a higher gift than grace should flesh and blood refine, God's presence and his very self, and essence all-divine.



Offertory:

O breathe on me, O Breath of God, Fill me with life anew, That I may love the things you love, And do what you would do.

O breathe on me, O Breath of God, Until my heart is pure; Until my will is one with yours, To do and to endure.

O breathe on me, O Breath of God, My will to yours incline, Until this selfish part of me Glows with your fire divine.

O breathe on me, O Breath of God, So I shall never die, But live with you the perfect life For all eternity.

Communion:

O Bread of Heaven, beneath this veil Thou dost my very God conceal: My Jesus, dearest treasure, hail! I love Thee and, adoring, kneel; Each loving soul by Thee is fed With Thine own Self in form of Bread.

O food of life, Thou Who dost give The pledge of immortality; I live, no 'tis not I that live; God gives me life, God lives in me: He feeds my soul, He guides my ways, And every grief with joy repays. O Bond of love that dost unite
The servant to his living Lord;
Could I dare live and not requite
Such love - then death were meet reward:
I cannot live unless to prove
Some love for such unmeasured love.

My dearest God! Who dost so bind My heart with countless claims to Thee! O Sweetest love, my soul shall find In Thy dear bonds true liberty. Thyself Thou hast bestowed on me; Thine, Thine for ever I will be.

O Mighty Fire, Thou that dost burn To kindle every mind and heart! For Thee my frozen soul doth yearn; Come, Lord of love, Thy warmth impart; If thus to speak too bold appear, 'Tis love like Thine has banished fear.

O Sweetest dart of love Divine!
If I have sinned, then vengeance take;
Come pierce this guilty heart of mine,
And let it die for His dear sake
Who once expired on Calvary,
His heart pierced through for love of me.

Beloved Lord, in Heaven above There, Jesus, Thou awaitest me, To gaze on Thee with endless love; Yes, thus I hope, thus shall it be: For how can He deny me Heaven, Who here on earth Himself hath given?

Recessional:

All creatures of our God and King, Lift up your voice and with us sing, Alleluia! Alleluia! Thou burning sun with golden beam, Thou silver moon with softer gleam! O praise Him! O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong, Ye clouds that sail in heav'n along, O praise Him! Alleluia! Thou rising moon, in praise rejoice, Ye lights of evening, find a voice! O praise Him! O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia

Thou flowing water, pure and clear, Make music for thy Lord to hear, O praise Him! Alleluia! Thou fire so masterful and bright, That givest man both warmth and light. O praise Him! O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia!

All hymns are in the Public Domain

Please remember in Your Prayers

Our dead - Lord grant them eternal peace and joy and to their families and friends strength and comfort."

Our sick: Lord, grant them and their carers strength and courage.

Pat Wilson, Lorraine, Val Ingate, Helen Scott, Claire West, C & J Rayner, Michael Tannous, John Emerald O'Brien.

Icon Exhibition by Michael Galovic







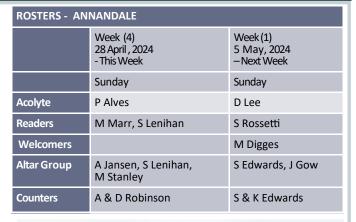
4pm 28/4

10am-2pm 29/4 to 4/5

<u>Closing Eve</u> 5-7pm 3/5

Free Entry

www.aphh.com.au





Ambrose Street, Hunters Hill NSW

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.

ST BRENDAN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

St George

he Dragon

34 Collins Street, Annandale Email: admin@stbrendan.org.au

All Saints' Church

Website: www.stbrendan.org.au Telephone: 9550 3707

ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

69 Clarendon Road, Stanmore

Email: admin@stbrendan.org.au

Website: www.stbrendan.org.au Telephone: 9550 3707

PARISH STAFF

Parish Priest - Fr Matthew Meagher Parish Secretary - Zina Pappalardo

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: Mrs Allison Travers Telephone: 9569 7479

BAPTISM BOOKINGS

Please contact the parish for all Baptism enquiries.

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.

The craft group meets meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 5:00pm and the 1st Saturday at 2pm. The meetings are now held in the Convent. Contact: Rosey 0401 337 119

(Postal address: 34 Collins Street, Annandale NSW 2038)

PARISH LIBRARY

The Parish Library is in the bookcase in the room at the back of St Brendan's church.

Parishioners may borrow books at any time the church is open (except during mass and other services and confession times (Saturday 8:00 -8:50am), entering their name, email address and the title of the book on the borrowing sheet which is on top of the bookcase.

Returned books are to be placed in the Returned Books tray on the top of the bookcase.

THIS WEEK'S MASS TIMES

Annandale		Stanmore	Stanmore	
Tuesday	9:00am	Tuesday	6:30pm	
Wednesday Thursday	9:00am 9:00am	Friday	9:00am	
Saturday	9:00am	Saturday Vigil		
,		Saturday Vigii	5.30pm	
Sunday	9:30am			
	5:00pm			

ADORATION AND RECONCILIATION TIMES:

Tuesday: 5.30pm-6.20pm Stanmore Saturday: 8.00am-8.50am Annandale