



2/3 December 2017-Year B First Sunday of Advent



ST ANTHONY'S PARISH CHURCH 320 Edmondson Ave AUSTRAL 2179

Pastor:

Fr. Robert Hayes PP RFD VF
Dean of the Western Deanery

Secretary: Cheryl McKell

House Manager: Cathy Sanders

Presbytery: Parish Office is

open on: Tuesday - Thursday

Closed for lunch 12.30-1.30 pm.

Phone: 9606 0206; Fax: 9606 0153

Email Address:

stanthonysaustral@bigpond.com

Web Address:

www.stanthonysaustral.org

Archdiocesan website:

www.sydney.catholic.org.au

Presbytery is closed on Mondays.

St Anthony of Padua Catholic College

School Principal:

Mrs Lea De Angelis

Phone: 9606 8600

Email: info@stapaustral.catholic.edu.au

Sacramental Life

Celebration of the Eucharist:

Mass Schedule:

Saturday - 5.30pm Vigil (Includes
Children's Liturgy during School
Term)

Sunday - 7.30am

Sunday - 9am (Includes Children's
Liturgy during School Term)

Monday - No Mass

Tuesday - 9am

Wednesday - 9am

Thursday - 9am

Friday - 9.00am

Reconciliation: Saturday

4.30 - 5.15pm

Baptisms & Marriages:

By appointment at Presbytery

Anointing: Every 2 months -

check bulletin for dates

Sick Calls: Any time - day/night.

Funeral Masses: In co-operation
with Funeral Directors.

Entrance Antiphon: To You, I lift up my soul, O my God. In
You, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult
over me; and let none who hope in You be put to shame.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, make us turn to You, let us see Your face and
we shall be saved.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia!

Lord, show us Your mercy and love, and grant us Your salvation.

Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: The Lord will bestow His bounty, and our earth
shall yield its increase.

Dear Parishioners,

We celebrate the First Sunday of Advent

1. Wandering Off

In the reading from Isaiah (Is 63:16-17, 19; 64:2-7), the prophet is
longing for the love of God. But what he finds instead is what he cannot
bear: God angry, God gone. The experience the prophet gives voice to is
familiar to all of us. God is angry and has hidden his face; he is
somewhere above the heavens, and we cannot find him there.
How can this be? How can this be? Doesn't God love us? Where is he?
Why isn't he here?

The prophet answers these questions, and in the saddest way. The
reason lies in our sinfulness, the prophet says. God is not gone from us
because he has forsaken us. Our sins—our weaknesses, our willfulness,
our pride, our failure to love, our failure even to accept the love of
others—all these things have made us wither. Desiccated and unclean,
we have been blown away from God by the winds of life.
And so the prophet cries out to God, "Why do you let us wander, O Lord,
from your ways?"

But how are we supposed to be holy—clean and good—for the Lord,
except by the Lord's own doing? We reject as Pelagian the thought that
any one of us can make himself holy by his own efforts. Only God's
grace can make a person lovely in holiness.

And so the prophet cries out to God, "Why do you let us wander, O Lord,
from your ways?"

There is an answer in the Psalm. The Psalmist says, "Lord, make us turn
to you!" This cry is from a person who wanders from the Lord. He
wanders because he wants to—that is the sad truth. But when he can't
find God in his wandering, he cries to God, "Make me turn to you!" Then
he wants fervently not to want the very wandering he is so prone to want.
Maybe then God lets us do what we want to do, including wandering
from him, until we at least want to want him. Maybe we will find him
when we can cry with the Psalmist, "Lord, make me turn to you!"

2. The parish has Child and Young Persons Protection Policies

The Archdiocese has an agency in the Polding Centre called "The Safeguarding and Child Protection Agency." The Director, Ms Trish Larkin, is responsible to the Archbishop (and Govt Agencies) for all Child Protection and Young Persons issues. The Parishes within the Archdiocese have to ensure that all children and young persons are safe in any area of Church life. All volunteers in the various ministries have a "Working with Children" check and verified by the Parish Priest.

In the Church is a noticeboard next to the sacisty that has three (3) documents on it.

1. Chart of Archdiocesan Child Protection Roles and Responsibilities
2. Reporting Protocol for Proests and parish Staff for any child related or vulnerable adult concerns.
3. Policy on the Care, Wellbeing and Protection of children and young persons.

Our parish will continue to work with the Safeguarding Agency to ensure that all children and young persons are safe when attending any activity, whether Mass of social functions in the parish.

I invite you to look at the three policies on the noticeboard and if you have any concerns talk to Fr Bobor ring the Safeguarding Agency Ph: 9390 5812.

3. Catechist News

On Tuesday our Catechists will gather for a Thanksgiving Mass at 11.15am in the Church.

Our catechists have given their time to communicate the Catholic Faith to the catholic children at Austral Public School.

This is their special ministry of Evangelisation, that they undertake on my/our behalf.

Our Catechists Are:

Margaret Pisani

Margaret DeVries

Vanessa Casha

Francis Musso

Faye Hockings

Margaret Cvetko (Co-Ordinator)

Josie Garzaniti

Julie Dimech

Isabel Scullino

Joe Cilia

John Camilleri

At the Mass, we say farewell to Isabel Scullino as she has sold up and moved down to Camden.

Isabel started as a Catechist in 1981 doing Intermediate and Advanced Course at that time. In 2012, she was acknowledged for 30 years service, and this year it would have been 35 years service except for breaking her leg and having a longer period of healing and rehab.

On behalf of St Anthony's Parish family we thank you Isabel for your 34 years of faithful service as a minister of the Good News of Jesus Christ to the catholic children of Austral.

May God Bless you and your husband in this next part of your retirement.

4. Christmas Day Rosters

There are sheets at the back of the Church for you to sign up for Readers etc for our Christmas Services, please put your names down for the Mass you attend.

5. Christmas Vigil Pageant

Calling all children to assist in the Christmas Vigil Pageant for the Family Mass.

Can you read? Can you dance? Come and get involved in the Christmas Liturgy.

Practises begin this week.

When: Tuesday @ 3.30pm in the Church.

Please put your name on the sheet and the information as required.

Parents assisting have their child protection numbers etc. Thank you to all who turned up , but we need a few more boys.

6. New Apostolate Consecrated in the Heart of the Holy Family

Mother Rosa, Sister Gina and our Postulant Jayann have become part of our community attending weekday and weekend masses and conducting the Sacramental Programmes for the candidates.

The young girl in the light blue habit Jayann, has been considering her vocation in the community. She has been a postulant to date, but next Friday the 8 December at a Mass at 3pm, she will take another step into Religious life by becoming a Novice.

Parishioners are invited to join us in this Mass and she invites us to pray for her.

7. Tuesday Morning Mass-5 December

A notice to parishioners attending weekday morning mass.

This Tuesday, our Kindergarten Children will be celebrating their end of school Thanksgiving Mass.

In order for the children to arrive and be organised the Mass will begin at 9.15am.

As you will appreciate, the Mass will go over the normal 25 minutes.

May God Bless you.



Fr Bob

CHURCH CLEANING ROSTER

4-9 December

V Laferla, L Pecotich,
M Gimellaro, M DeVries



11-16 December

F Palamara, K Vartuli,
M Pisani

READERS ROSTER

2/3 December

Saturday Vigil: 5.30pm

Commentator: Veronica Casha

Readers:

Veronica Casha: 1st Reading

Vanessa Casha: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

Sunday: 7.30am

Commentator: Chris Pisani

Chris Pisani: 1st Reading

Margaret Pisani: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

Sunday: 9am

Commentator: John-William Fisher

Readers:

John-William Fisher: 1st Reading

Frances Musso: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

9/10 December (Second Sunday of Advent Year B)

Saturday Vigil: 5.30pm

Commentator: Charlei Cilia

Readers:

Charlie Cilia: 1st Reading

Julie Dimech: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

Sunday: 7.30am

Commentator: Pasqualina Catanzariti

Readers:

Pasqualina Catanzariti: 1st Reading

Margaret Cvetko: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

Sunday: 9am

Commentator: Faye palamara

Readers:

Faye Palamara: 1st Reading

Maria Zucco: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful



Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist Roster

2/3 December

Saturday Vigil

Victoria Bugeja & Robert Gimellaro

Sunday 7.30am

Pasqualina Catanzariti & Margaret Pisani

Sunday 9am

Frances Musso & Pam Ajkay



9/10 December

Saturday Vigil

David & Sarah Casha

Sunday 7.30am

Virginia Romeo & Pasqualine Catanzariti

Sunday 9am

Faye Palamara & Ken O'Leary

ACOLYTES ROSTER

2/3 December

Saturday Vigil

Gerry Crescini

Sunday 7.30am

George Ajkay

Sunday 9am

Anthony Zanetic

9/10 December

Saturday Vigil

Eric Hockings

Sunday 7.30am

Matt Young

Sunday 9am

Peter Grizelj

ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER

2 December

Saturday Vigil

Kimberley Camilleri
Alyssa & Emily Galea

3 December

Lucas & Jayden Laferla

9 December

Saturday Vigil

Joey Grima
Lucas & Jayden Laferla

CHILDREN'S LITURGY ROSTER

2 December

S Mercieca & L Camilleri

9 December

Pauline & Lauren Vassallo

9am Sunday

Nicole Hext



NURSING HOME ROSTER

10 December

Santina & Frances

24 December

Lina & Faye

POPE FRANCIS COLUMN



Pope Francis in Myanmar: Address of the Holy Father

Madam State Counsellor,
Honorable Government and other Authorities,
Your Eminence, My Brother Bishops,
Distinguished Members of the Diplomatic Corps, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am grateful for the kind invitation to visit Myanmar and I thank you, Madam State Counsellor, for your kind words. I am very grateful to all who have worked so hard to make this visit possible. I have come, above all, to pray with the nation's small but fervent Catholic community, to confirm them in their faith, and to encourage them in their efforts to contribute to the good of the nation. I am most grateful that my visit comes soon after the establishment of formal diplomatic relations between Myanmar and the Holy See. I would like to see this decision as a sign of the nation's commitment to pursuing dialogue and constructive cooperation within the greater international community, even as it strives to renew the fabric of civil society.

I would also like my visit to embrace the entire population of Myanmar and to offer a word of encouragement to all those who are working to build a just, reconciled and inclusive social order. Myanmar has been blessed with great natural beauty and resources, yet its greatest treasure is its people, who have suffered greatly, and continue to suffer, from civil conflict and hostilities that have lasted all too long and created deep divisions. As the nation now works to restore peace, the healing of those wounds must be a paramount political and spiritual priority. I can only express appreciation for the efforts of the Government to take up this challenge, especially through the Panglong Peace Conference, which brings together representatives of the various groups in an attempt to end violence, to build trust and to ensure respect for the rights of all who call this land their home.

Indeed, the arduous process of peacebuilding and national reconciliation can only advance through a commitment to justice and respect for human rights. The wisdom of the ancients defined justice precisely as a steadfast will to give each person his due, while the prophets of old saw justice as the basis of all true and lasting peace. These insights, confirmed by the tragic experience of two world wars, led to the establishment of the United Nations and the universal declaration of human rights as the basis for the international community's efforts to promote justice, peace and human development worldwide, and to resolve conflicts through dialogue, not the use of force. In this sense, the presence of the diplomatic corps in our midst testifies not only to Myanmar's place in the concert of nations but also to the country's commitment to uphold and pursue those foundational principles. The future of Myanmar must be peace, a peace based on respect for the dignity and rights of each member of society, respect for each ethnic group and its identity, respect for the rule of law, and respect for a democratic order that enables each individual and every group – none excluded – to offer its legitimate contribution to the common good. In the great work of national reconciliation and integration, Myanmar's religious communities have a privileged role to play. Religious differences need not be a source of division and distrust, but rather a force for unity, forgiveness, tolerance and wise nation building. The religions can play a significant role in repairing the emotional, spiritual and psychological wounds of those who have suffered in the years of conflict. Drawing on deeply-held values, they can help to uproot the causes of conflict, build bridges of dialogue, seek justice and be a prophetic voice for all who suffer. It is a great sign of hope that leaders of the various religious traditions in this country are making efforts to work together, in a spirit of harmony and mutual respect, for peace, for helping the poor and for educating in authentic religious and human values. In seeking to build a culture of encounter and solidarity, they contribute to the common good and to laying the indispensable moral foundations for a future of hope and prosperity for coming generations.

That future is even now in the hands of the nation's young people. The young are a gift to be cherished and encouraged, an investment that will yield a rich return if only they are given real opportunities for employment and quality education. This is an urgent requirement of intergenerational justice. The future of Myanmar in a rapidly changing and interconnected world will depend on the training of its young, not only in technical fields but above all in the ethical values of honesty, integrity and human solidarity that can ensure the consolidation of democracy and the growth of unity and peace at every level of society. Intergenerational justice likewise demands that future generations inherit a natural environment unspoiled by human greed and depredation. It is essential that our young not be robbed of hope and of the chance to employ their idealism and talents in shaping the future of their country and, indeed, our entire human family.

Madam State Counsellor, dear friends:

In these days, I wish to encourage my Catholic brothers and sisters to persevere in their faith and to continue to express its message of reconciliation and brotherhood through charitable and humanitarian works that benefit society as a whole. It is my hope that, in respectful cooperation with the followers of other religions, and all men and women of good will, they will help to open a new era of concord and progress for the people of this beloved nation. "Long live Myanmar!" I thank you for your attention, and with prayerful good wishes for your service to the common good, I invoke upon all of you the divine blessings of wisdom, strength, and peace. Thank you.



Calling for Help!!

We are in desperate need of help for the Church cleaning.

The ladies do a wonderful job, but most have been doing it for many years and need to retire.

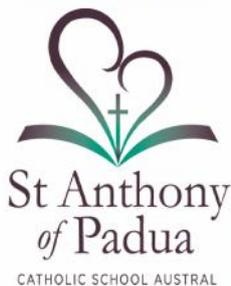
If you could help out could you please let Fr Bob know or ring the parish office on 9606 0206, and we will put you on the roster. It only takes a couple of hours and the more we get the better.

It is only about once every 6 or so weeks. Remember many hands make light work. Thanking you in advance for your help.

Parish Choir calls for help at the 9am Mass of a Sunday and to assist in helping at Christmas Masses.



New Catholic school NOW OPEN in Austral



NOW ENROLLING Kindergarten - Year 2, 2018

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO ENROL CONTACT US

www.stapaustral.catholic.edu.au P 9606 8600

PARISH CENSUS FORM (PCF)

Have you filled in a PCF which can be found on the table behind the pews.

Why? It's important that we have your details if we need to contact you.

Please fill in the Census Form found on the table behind the pews and leave in the Census Box.

Christmas Gift-Giving Tree

Our Christmas Tree has been set-up and this year when we contacted St Vincent de Paul they have asked for food items instead of gifts.

They are in need of Cereal, milk, milo, breakfast bars, Tin - soup, veggies, tuna and meat. Spreads, 2 minute noodles, pasta, rice and pasta sauce. Some Christmas treats.

They also get requests for Cleaning products such as Dishwashing liquid, washing powder, disinfectant, shower cleaner and floor cleaner.

They will then make up gift hampers and distribute them to those in need over Christmas.

Please put your items in the box beside the Christmas tree. Thank you all in advance for your giving.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

In your love and concern, please pray for:-

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries:

Also for: Mary Vella, Special Intention.

We remember those who are sick in the community that the Lord will be their comforter and healer as we pray for:

Tony Pustahija, Paul Farnsworth, Levi Rolands, Olga Del Vescono, Peter Calarco, Erminia Demasi, Anton Beuk, Dr David Catterall ((PP Oran Park), Jim Brassil, Antonio Rudan.



- Massive week ahead for Sydney Catholics
- Pope visits Myanmar
- A new statue for Dulwich Hill
- Olivia to lead Australia XI
- Justice League reviewed
- Gunpowder, treason and plot
- Fun with Faith -Kids page- P26

Please put \$2 in the poor box

We hope our Parishioners will support the businesses that support our Parish of St Anthony's by advertising in our weekly Bulletin

westhoxtonpharmacy

Corner Fifteenth & Edmondson Avenues,
AUSTRAL, N.S.W. 2179



Monday - Friday 8.30 am - 6.00 pm

Saturday 8.30 am - 12.30 pm

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Facsimile: (02) 9606 9151

Email: westhoxton.pharmacy@nunet.com.au

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so you'll understand.*

The Chain of Mary Association Inc

One Decade Rosary Booklet.

Please feel free to take the Chain of Mary one decade Rosary booklet & pray it each day with faith and devotion.

Ask for any grace you need and Mother Mary will listen to you.

Write your name and intentions in this book & once a week Mass will be offered for you.

For any enquiries please call

Sr-in-Christ Rosa

Ph: 96067571



KID'S CORNER.



Q. What goes oh oh oh?

A. Santa walking backwards.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT AT ST MARYS CATHEDRAL

The Cathedral Choir together with The Orchestra of the Antipodes will perform some of your most loved Christmas music including pieces by J S Bach, John Rutter and Tallis. And of course we will all join together with the audience to sing carols such as "O Come, all ye Faithful" "Hark the Herald Angels Sing", "Once in Royal David's City" and more.

Friday 15 December
11am and 7pm

PARKING

Parishioners are asked to please **NOT PARK** on the grassed areas around the Church near the top of the driveway. The elderly are welcome to do so, but able bodied persons are asked to park in the Church parking grounds. Thank. Fr Bob

Using the Parish Toilets

Anyone using the Church toilets are asked to **PLEASE DO NOT** place nappies, hand towels, wet ones or anything other than toilet paper in the toilets.

We have had some problems with nappies in the toilets previously, but a few weeks ago it was so blocked we couldn't fix it ourselves (which is never pleasant) and we had to get an Emergency Plumber to unblock the toilet as we had not only our weekend masses but also First Holy Communion and it didn't come cheap it cost the parish \$350.00.

Parents please dispose of your nappies appropriately. As you would in your own homes.

WESTERN SYDNEY MRC AGED CARE SUPPORT

If you are caring for a relative or a friend and would like help to allow you time out from your caring role, Western Sydney MRC are here to help.

We can assist in the following areas:

Flexible in-home respite

Support to access services and the community including transport to appointments and shopping

Centre-based respite including arts and crafts

Social outings

For more information, please contact Rosaria on 8778 1240 or email rosaria@wsmerc.org.au

Catechist News

Another year comes to a close as our Catechists finish at Austral Public School. I'm sure that the Catholic Children can say that their catechist was there teaching them about the love of God for them, every Tuesday.

I thank our Catechists for their ministry to the children in 2017.

A reminder to all catechists:

Catechists Mass: Tuesday December 5 at 11.15am followed by lunch at Austral Bowling Club.

Any parishioner interested in becoming a catechist is warmly invited to attend the Mass and talk to the ladies afterwards.

SCHOOL NEWS



What a wonderful day we had last Friday week, celebrating another milestone in the history of St Anthony of Padua Catholic School. Fr Bob invited Bishop Tony Randazzo to come and bless our beautiful classroom, office and play areas. While this is not the 'official' Blessing and Opening which will take place next year when the permanent building is finished, it was a very special opportunity for us to come together in community, give thanks for all our blessings and ask our loving God to look over and care for us as we continue on this amazing journey.

Bishop Tony has become a great friend to us here at Austral and we are very grateful that he was able to celebrate our liturgy and spend some time chatting and getting to know us. Bishop Tony spoke to us about the importance of having Jesus in our lives as a friend, and spoke to parents of the importance of recognising the close bond between school and parish. We are not just building a school community, but a faith community and we are responsible for helping our children understand that their faith life is not something which they only experience at school, but also in their home and their parish. It is vital that students see why their parents chose a Catholic school for them. Our faith, values and traditions are what makes us who we are.

FR SHORT

Fr Short has moved into Rosary Village at 1 Tara Close, Yennora (Fairfield) and is in Unit 42.

His phone number is 8790 0442.

He is celebrating Mass on weekday mornings at the Village and that means a lot to him.

His health is not 100% but he is jovial. If anyone in the Parish would like to visit him he would be happy to catch up with you.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Kemps Creek Cemetery will host our first ever **Carols by Candlelight** on Friday 15 December at 6pm.

The band Christmas Crackers will play all your favourite carols, horse and sleigh rides for the children, face painting, sausage sizzle and the Rural Fire Brigade will be there. We hope as many families as possible bring a rug and make a donation for a candle, as we gather to sing under the stars at Kemps Creek. There will also be a guest appearance from Santa.