



24/25 February 2018-Year B Second Sunday of Lent



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: Of You my heart has spoken: Seek His
face. It is Your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not Your face from me.

Responsorial Psalm: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of
the living.

Gospel Acclamation: Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! From
the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard: this is My beloved Son, hear
Him. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Communion Antiphon: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well
pleased; listen to Him.

**Dear Parishioners,
We celebrate the Second Sunday in Lent Year B**

1. Sacrifice

In the First Reading, Abraham offers his beloved son as a sacrifice to
God. The Gospel Reading identifies Jesus as God's beloved Son. The
two readings together remind us that God offers his beloved Son as our
sacrifice to God. Christ, our Passover lamb, is sacrificed for us. (1 Cor.
5:7).

And so the First Reading and the Gospel invite us to reflect on sacrifice.
What is a sacrifice? And why would God want one, from Abraham or
from us through Christ?

The first thing to see is that a sacrifice is a peculiar kind of gift.
Witnesses reported afterwards that Kolbe prayed and sang hymns until
the end when his voice failed.

In the case of ordinary gifts, which aren't sacrifices, the person who *gets*
the gift is the one who benefits from the gift-giving. That person has the
thing given, and if that thing was good enough to give, it is a good thing
to get too. So the gift-receiver is the primary beneficiary of ordinary gift-
giving.

But a sacrifice is a different kind of gift. When one person gives
something as a sacrifice, however great his gift is, in the giving of it he
himself receives something of very great value. In sacrifice, the gift-giver
is the primary beneficiary of gift-giving.

To see this point, consider Maximilian Kolbe, who sacrificed his life for
Franciszek Gajowniczek at Auschwitz.

The Nazis had randomly selected 10 prisoners to die, and Franciszek
Gajowniczek was one of them. When he was picked, he cried out, "Oh,
my poor wife! My poor children! I will never see them again!" But
Maximilian Kolbe stepped forward and offered to take Franciszek's
place. Kolbe knew that the selected prisoners would be slowly starved to
death in a dark and airless bunker. But Kolbe offered his life for that of
his fellow prisoner anyway. Witnesses reported afterwards that Kolbe
prayed and sang hymns until the end when his voice failed.
In his sacrifice, Kolbe became a person in whom the beauty of love
shone so brightly that his story now illumines all who hear about it. He

gave his life to give life to Franciszek, but he himself received far more than he gave. Who would not want to be as lovely a soul as Kolbe was?

And so God, who lacks for nothing, is glad to have the gift of our sacrifices, not because he gets something great from them, but because we do.

2. Stations of the Cross

During Lent, the Stations of the Cross will follow the Friday 9am Mass.

Parishioners are invited to attend Mass and Stations of the Cross as a worthy penance to perform during this season of Lent.

3. Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)

The PPC will meet on Monday 5 March in the presbytery, starting at 7.30pm. Parishioners with ideas/suggestions should forward them to the parish office by Friday March 2, either by email or letter.

4. Parish Finance Committee

Members of the Finance committee are asked to attend the first Finance Meeting for 2018 on Wednesday March 7 at 7.30 pm in the presbytery.

5 Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)

Parish Council has agreed to hold two functions in the coming weeks.

(a) Youth Movie Night-Saturday March 3

We will have a movie night after the Saturday Vigil Mass in the Parish Hall.

Date: Saturday March 3

Time: 6.30pm-9pm

Cost: \$15 includes food & drink (Pizza and slushie).

Tickets: Available from this weekend.

Age: Year 3 students-Year 9 students.

(b) Seniors Bus Trip—Friday March 9

Where: Mt Annan Gardens

When: Friday March 9

Time: 10.30am pick-up at the Church (morning tea etc provided).

Please indicate your intentions to join us by filling in the sheet next weekend.

Cost: Your presence and time together.

6. Liturgy News

We are in need of readers for the Masses and I invite parishioners to consider being an Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist, to accept this ministry we do need to attend Mass on a weekly basis (unless sick etc). We also need more Altar Servers.

Please complete forms on the back table if you are interested.

7. Days of Penance During Lent

1. Abstinence from meat, and fasting, **must** be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. All who have completed their eighteenth year and have not begun their sixtieth year are bound to fast. All who have completed their fourteenth year are bound to abstain.
2. On all other Fridays of the year including Fridays of Lent, the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled by performing **any one** of the following:
 - (a) Prayer—for example, Mass attendance; family prayer; a visit to a church or chapel; reading the Bible; making the Stations of the Cross; praying the rosary.
 - (b) Self-denial - for example, not eating sweets or dessert; giving up entertainment to spend time with the family; limiting food and drink so as to give to the poor of one's own country.
 - (c) Helping others—for example, special attention to someone who is poor, sick, elderly, lonely or overburdened.

Days of Penance

Lent lasts from Ash Wednesday (14 February) to the Mass of the Lord's Supper (29 March).

On Good Friday and, if possible, also on Holy Saturday until the Easter Vigil, the Easter Fast is observed.

Paschal Precept

Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This is to be done between Ash Wednesday, 14 February, and Trinity Sunday, 27 May 2018 unless for a good reason it is done at another time during the year. All the faithful are obliged to confess their grave sins at least once a year.

May God Bless you.

Fr Bob



CHURCH CLEANING ROSTER

26 Feb-3 March

L Pecotich, V Laferla,
M Gimellaro, M DeVries



5-10 March

Volunteers

READERS ROSTER

24/25 February

Saturday Vigil: 5.30pm

Commentator: Vanessa Casha

Readers:

Vanessa Casha: 1st Reading

Veronica Casha: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

Sunday: 7.30am

Commentator: Margaret Pisani

Readers:

Margaret Pisani: 1st Reading

Chris Pisani: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

Sunday: 9am

Commentator: Frances Musso

Readers:

Frances Musso: 1st Reading

John-William Fisher: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

3/4 March (3rd Sunday of Lent)

Saturday Vigil: 5.30pm

Commentator: Julie Dimech

Readers:

Julie Dimech: 1st Reading

Charlie Cilia: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

Sunday: 7.30am

Commentator: Margaret Cvetko

Readers:

Margeret Cvetko: 1st Reading

Pasqualina Catanzariti: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

Sunday: 9am

Commentator: Maria Zucco

Readers:

Maria Zucco: 1st Reading

Faye Palamara: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful



Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist Roster

24/25 February

Saturday Vigil

Victoria Bugeja & Robert Gimellaro

Sunday 7.30am

Pasqualina Catanzariti & Margaret Pisani

Sunday 9am

Pam Ajkay & Frances Musso



3/4 March

Saturday Vigil

David & Sarah Casha

Sunday 7.30am

Virginia Romeo & Pasqualina Catanzariti

Sunday 9am

Ken O'Leary & Faye Palamara

ACOLYTES ROSTER

24/25 February

Saturday Vigil

Gerry Crescini

Sunday 7.30am

George Ajkay

Sunday 9am

Anthony Zanetic

3/4 March

Saturday Vigil

Eric Hockings

Sunday 7.30am

Matt Young

Sunday 9am

Peter Grizelj

ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER

24 February

Saturday Vigil

Sabrina & Leo Steimbesser

February 25

Lucas & Jayden Laferla

3 March

Saturday Vigil

Daniel Garzaniti

Zac & Taliyah Stepic

CHILDREN'S LITURGY ROSTER

24 February

S Mercieca & L Camilleri

2 March

Pauline & Lauren Vassallo

9am Sunday

Nichole Hext



NURSING HOME ROSTER

4 March

Lina & Faye

9 March

Mass Fr Bob & Frances

POPE FRANCIS COLUMN



Women, with their faith, open the Gospels to us....

According to Vatican News, during the Pope and Roman Curia's spiritual exercises, Fr. José Tolentino Mendonça, who is leading the meditations, stressed this as he put the beauty of women's faith at the forefront of today's morning meditation.

Meditations this year have been entrusted by the Pope to Portuguese priest and Biblical theologian, Father José Tolentino de Mendonça, vice-rector of the Portuguese Catholic University in Lisbon, who is leading the meditations on the theme: "Praise of Thirst." In this morning's reflection, the priest discussed the women throughout Luke's Gospel. "The women in the Gospel," he stressed, "prefer to express themselves with gestures. Their faith seeks comfort through touch—tangible, emotional, disarming—rather than through abstraction."

Recognizing that the way women accompanied the Lord was different than how the men did, he explained, "The women 'were with' Jesus exactly in the same way as the Twelve. They made his destiny their own destiny. But the text adds one thing regarding only them: 'they were serving Jesus.'"

Suggesting that the women's reaction is deeply evangelical, Fr. Tolentino observed that they never ask Jesus the questions that the disciples ask Him such as "Lord, will only a few people be saved" (Luke 13:23)? or "Lord, what must I do to inherit eternal life (Luke 10:25)? Rather, he noted, their declarations are concrete such as, "Blessed is the womb that carried you and the breasts at which you nursed" (Luke 11:27).

With women, he said, there is a "ripple of reality that intervenes in order to shape faith. In this way it does not remain a prisoner—as often happens to our faith—rationalistic, lived mechanically according to doctrine or ritual." It is because they are in touch with daily life that they give "perfume to the faith." The priest also recognized that the women in Luke's Gospel, such as the women of Jerusalem or the widow of Naim, cry. St Gregory Nazianzen, he said, describes these tears as a baptism—which many other saints have experienced.

Concluding his meditation with the image of the woman washing Jesus' feet with her tears, he noted: "What this woman gave thus serves Jesus as the litmus test for what the Pharisee refused to give." "It is this unheard-of hospitality which Jesus wants to praise—that thirst, expressed in tears—which is our turn to learn."

Whereas on Tuesday afternoon, the Portuguese priest reflected on a verse from John's Gospel: "After this, aware that everything was now finished, in order that the scripture might be fulfilled, Jesus said, 'I thirst' " (John 19:28).

There are other occurrences in John's Gospel that help us understand Jesus' words, for instance when Jesus is thirsty and asks the Samaritan woman for a drink (John 4:13-15), and the declaration: "whoever believes in me will never thirst" (John 6:35). Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta, he highlighted, experienced Jesus' thirst "in a mystical experience." "In an almost physical way she felt Jesus' thirst calling her to give her life in service to the thirst of the poor and rejected, to the poorest of the poor." The Holy Spirit, he said, is the gift given to us to satiate our thirst is the Holy Spirit.

"We are called to live even suffering, persecution, illness, and joyfully. We are called to live every situation with lively hope. Why? Because the Holy Spirit, God's strength, wind, breeze, breath, is in us."

Sunday afternoon, Feb. 18, 2018, Pope Francis departed the Vatican to participate in his annual Lenten Spiritual Exercises at Casa 'Gesù Divin Maestro' (the Divine Master House) in the town of Ariccia near Rome. For a week, the Holy Father will remain there praying with members of the Roman Curia. The retreat will conclude on the morning of Friday, Feb. 23. Until then, all of the Pope's activities, including the weekly General Audience, Feb. 21, are suspended.

Originally, the Spiritual Exercises took place in the Vatican, but Pope Francis moved them to the retreat house, 16 miles outside of Rome.



Calling for Help!!

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

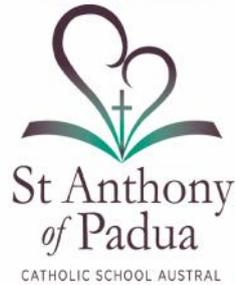
The ladies do a wonderful job, but most have been doing it for many years and need to retire.

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.



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.

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, so parents please dispose of your nappies appropriately. As you would in your own homes.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

In your love and concern, please pray for:-

Recently Deceased: Xavier Bugeja.

Anniversaries: Diane Duka (Steve Simat's sister), Teresa Carmel Brassil, Rosario Cavallaro, Anna Maria De Angelis, Jasna Stipicic.

Also for: Dec'd members of the Vartuli Families.

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

Paul Farnsworth, Erminia Demasi.





Catholic Weekly—Available
\$2.00

- 100 and still going strong: CWL celebrates volunteer's centenary
- Maronites open first Australian seminary
- Priest to be Chaplain at Commonwealth Games
- Meet Wollongong's new bishop
- Movie Review: Black Panther
- Simcha Fisher: Friendships help develop healthy relationships

MT SHOENSTATT RETREATS

25th February, 2018 - Lenten Retreat Afternoon for Families of all ages and constellations

2pm: Talk for Adults: JOY in SUFFERING including Testimonies (Children's Programme and Baby sitting)

3pm: Prayer, Adoration, Confession and Benediction

4pm: Afternoon Tea

Where: Mount Schoenstatt Spirituality Centre, 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa 2745

Cost: Free

Contact: Sr M Julie Brcar - 0408 738 334 or juliebrcar@gmail.com

THE BISHOPS BLEND

The Bishop's Blend: Looking to network with other young Catholic professionals and learn how to live your faith in the workplace? Then join the Most Reverend Bishop Richard Umbers, Auxiliary Bishop of Sydney on **Tuesday, 27th February 2018 at 7:00am at the Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel Sydney** for The Bishop's Blend, a quarterly breakfast series for young professionals. Online booking is essential. For more information and to purchase tickets go to <https://thebishopsblendthirdedition.eventbrite.com> or contact us at bishopsblend@sydneycatholic.org

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



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



KID'S CORNER

Q. What time do you go to the dentist?

A. At tooth-hurty.

INVITATION TO CLERGY, RELIGIOUS AND PARISHIONERS

Clergy, religious and parishioners are invited to join Archbishop Anthony Fisher, OP and his auxiliary bishops in their **Prayers of Forgiveness and Reparation** for all people who have been affected, directly or indirectly, by abuse within the Church. Survivors of abuse who feel able to attend this liturgy are warmly welcome.

The prayers, centered around the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary, will be in St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney at 6.30 pm on Friday March 2nd, which is an **Ember Day** of prayer and fasting throughout Australia.

Grief to Grace

– **Healing the Wounds of Abuse** – is a spiritual retreat for anyone who has suffered degradation or violation through physical, emotional, sexual or spiritual abuse. The retreat will be held April 8th – 13th 2018. To request an application contact Anne by emailing info@griegtograceaus.org.au or phone 0407 704 539. For more information visit www.griegtograce.org

CatholicCare

Are families in your community struggling or experiencing a crisis?
Call CatholicCare's CCareline Team on 13 18 19: helping Sydney families with relationships, parenting, in-home ageing services, disability, addictions and mental health concerns.

FOOTSTEPS OF ST PAUL - PILGRIMAGE TO GREECE

Fr. Peter De Souza from Hornsby Cathedral, would like to invite you for a 14-day pilgrimage to Greece. The group departs on 28th of May, 2018, featuring Athens, Corinth, Ephesus, Patmos, Crete, Santorini, Thessaloniki, Philippi, Meteora for an all-inclusive early-bird offer of \$5,690. This fare includes a 3 Night Cruise with all meals + Return Airfares + Local Transfers + Stay in 4 Star Hotels + All Breakfasts & Dinners. For enquiries & bookings call 0385 622 246 or email pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au

Bereavement Support Reflections Mornings

Third Wednesday of Every Month 10.00am – 1.00pm. For family and friends who grieve and their companions. Understanding and managing life's changes in Loss, Grief & Bereavement. Morning tea provided. For further information please contact Bereavement Support Ph: (02) 9646 6908 / bereavementsupport@catholiccemeteries.com.au

Days of Fasting and Reparation

The Australian Catholic bishops have proclaimed the days from Ash Wednesday until the following Saturday (14-17 February) Days of Fasting and Reparation in sorrow for child sexual abuse and the healing of victims. In addition to the work that has been undertaken in the area of the protection of children and vulnerable adults, the Days of Fasting and Reparation are an authentically Catholic response to supplement those efforts. Resources can be accessed at www.catholic.org.au/fastinandreparation

BAPTISMS AT ST ANTHONY'S

We welcomed into our Faith-Community
last weekend

Cooper John Coridas
(Child of Ben & Gemma)



Banns of Marriage

The Banns of Marriage are announced for:

Dean Jonathon Zinghini (Oran Park)
and
Kate Madeleine Sandy (Terry Hills)
.....

Alessandro Joseph Tilocca (Austral)
and
Diandra Clemente (Lurnea)

Anyone knowing any reason why these couples
should not be bound in the Sacrament of
Marriage is asked to inform the Parish Priest.
(Canon Law Nos 1066 and 1069)



QUOTA'S INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY BREAKFAST

Quota International of Liverpool will celebrate their 11th International Women's day Breakfast on 8 March and is extending an invitation to you and your friends to come and help us celebrate.

Where: **Hunts Country Comfort Liverpool**
Cnr York Street & Hume Highway, Casula

When: **Thursday 8 March 2018 at 7.15am**

This year we are proud to have as our Guest Speaker, Kiersten Fishburn, Chief Executive Officer of Liverpool Council. Kiersten was promoted to this position in late 2016, having held a number of Executive Positions at the Council focusing on community, culture and engagement.

Whilst Director of the Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre from 2011 to 2016 Kiersten led the creation and delivery of a contemporary arts and cultural development program.

Kiersten's topic will be "**Women in Leadership**". She will also be available to answer questions.

Cost: \$25 (full breakfast) when booking please advise of any dietary requirements

RSVP: 1 March, 2018

Enquiries: June Young OAM 0412968504 or Lorraine Perry 0409880805.

PROJECT COMPASSION **FOR A JUST FUTURE**

Rattanak in Camodia contracted polio as a child and also became deaf. The Deaf Development Program, supported by Caritas Australia, helped him become a barber and he is now supporting himself, his wife and baby.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2018.