



# 21/22 December 2019-Year A Fourth Sunday of Advent



**ST ANTHONY'S  
PARISH CHURCH**  
105 ELEVENTH  
AVENUE  
AUSTRAL 2179

**Pastor:**  
Fr. Robert Hayes PP RFD VF

**Secretary:** Cheryl McKell  
**House Manager:** Cathy Sanders

**Presbytery and Parish Office:**  
320 EDMONDSON AVENUE  
AUSTRAL

**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 Mass and Adoration till 10am.

**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:** Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Let the Lord enter, He is King of Glory.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, Alleluia!

The virgin will give birth to a son; His name will be Emmanuel: God-is-with-us. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and His name will be called Emmanuel.

**Dear Parishioners,**  
**We celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Advent**

### 1. The Greatness of Mary

In the Gospel Reading, in a dream, God tells Joseph to marry Mary, even though Joseph had discovered she was pregnant.

According to Jewish law, premarital sex is punishable by death; and, in the ordinary course of things, pregnancy doesn't occur without sex. So, Mary's pregnancy out of wedlock exposes her to the penalty of death. Even apart from legal penalties, Mary's pregnancy jeopardizes her flourishing. As Joseph's own attitude shows, in Mary's society, no one wants to marry a woman who looks like a sinful woman and has an illegitimate child to support.

**How shaming for Mary to be thought a little liar as well as a sinful woman!**

It is clear, then, that Mary's pregnancy exposes her not only to legal penalties but also to suffering and shame in her society.

It is noteworthy too that Joseph needs to hear from God himself that God, and no man, is the father of Mary's child. Presumably, Joseph had already asked Mary how she came to be pregnant, and Joseph didn't believe her when she told him. That's why God had to confirm Mary's story for Joseph. How shaming for Mary to be thought a little liar as well as a sinful woman! Why would God put Mary through this?

As the First Reading indicates, it helps us to recognize Jesus as Emmanuel—God with us—to know that Jesus did not have a human father; and we are helped towards that view by knowing that Mary was pregnant before she was married.

But why didn't God protect Mary from the shame and suffering of being an unmarried pregnant woman by having the conception of Jesus result from some great public miracle involving Mary, so that everyone knows Mary's pregnancy stems only from the miraculous workings of divine power? God doesn't have to expose Mary to humiliation to make her pregnant, does he?

Well, here's one way to think about the matter. Mary's steadfastness and trust in God even in the trouble of being an unmarried pregnant woman are a training for her and a sign for us, aren't they? Mary will eventually find the greatness of soul to love God and her son at the foot of the cross, in the shame of having her son die a shaming death. And, from watching Mary standing by the cross we learn that human greatness has at its core fidelity through shame and suffering, don't we?

## 2. Missing Pyx's

There are two Pyx's missing. The Pyx's is a container used to carry the Blessed Sacrament to the sick in their homes.

If an Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist has a pyx or Acolyte could they please return them to the sacristy.

## 3. Welcome to Mrs Katsahone (Gerry) Ly

At the 9am Mass, this Sunday, we welcome into the Catholic Faith Mrs Gerry Ly.

Gerry has been having instructions in the faith over the past 6 months with myself.

Gerry is married to husband Peter and they have two sons, Tobias and Jaxon.

Gerry will be Baptised, confirmed and receive the Eucharist with us for the first time. We welcome her to the community, together with Peter and the boys, as she joins us at the table of the Lord for the first time.

Gerry, Peter and the boys have been attending the 9am Mass on a Sunday, but sitting in the side chapel due to the youngest likes to move around.

May God bless you on your faith journey.



## 4. Boxing Day Mass

There will be the usual 9am Mass on Boxing Day at the Church.

## 5. Christmas Masses and Carols

### 24: December Christmas Eve

5pm: Carols

5.30pm: Family Mass

### 25 December: Christmas Eve Night

11.30pm Carols

12.00pm Midnight Mass

### Christmas Day Masses

7.30am and 9am



Wishing all parishioners and visitors a very Blessed and Holy Christmas.

Fr. Bob

Fr Bob

## Catholic Weekly—Available \$2.00

- God walks amongst us: Christmas Wrap
- A family Grace for Christmas lunch
- Monica Doumit: Don't be gloomy
- Students top HSC
- Movie Reviews: Knives Out
- When a tribe is a blessing

**Please put \$2 in the poor box**

## BAPTISMS AT ST ANTHONY'S

We welcomed into our Faith-Community last weekend

Jacob Richardson Zammit  
(Child of Richard & Thipawan)



## KID'S CORNER

Q. What do you call a greedy Elf?

A. Elfish!



## CHURCH CLEANING ROSTER

### 23-28 December

Brianna, Raquel, Olivia

### 30 December –4 January 2020

L Pecotich, M Gimellaro,  
M DeVries, S Taoum



## READERS ROSTER

### 21/22 December

#### **Saturday Vigil: 5.30pm**

Commentator: Vanessa Casha

Readers:

Vanessa Casha: 1st Reading

Veronica Casha: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

#### **Sunday: 7.30am**

Commentator: Wendy Tourle

Readers:

Wendy Tourle: 1st Reading

Anne Violi: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

#### **Sunday: 9am**

Commentator: Nicole Hext

Readers:

Nicole Hext: 1st Reading

Frances Musso: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

### 28/29 December (Feast of The Holy Family)

#### **Saturday Vigil: 5.30pm**

Commentator: Rita Moro

Readers:

Rita Moro: 1st Reading

Teresa Calarco: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

#### **Sunday: 7.30am**

Commentator: Heidi O'Neill

Readers:

Heidi O'Neill: 1st Reading

Mark O'Neill: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

#### **Sunday: 9am**

Commentator: Faye Palamara

Readers:

Faye Palamara: 1st Reading

Mica Pace: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful



## Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist Roster

### 21/22 December

#### **Saturday Vigil**

Veronica & Sarah Casha



#### **Sunday 7.30am**

Virginia Romeo & Pasqualina Catanzariti

#### **Sunday 9am**

Jayann Montemayor & Phil Gigliotti

### 28/29 December

#### **Saturday Vigil**

Rose Crescini & Julie Dimech

#### **Sunday 7.30am**

Virginia Romeo & Pasqualina Catanzariti

#### **Sunday 9am**

Faye Palamara & Frances Musso

## ACOLYTES ROSTER

### 21/22 December

#### **Saturday Vigil**

Gerry Crescini

#### **Sunday 7.30am**

George Ajkay

#### **Sunday 9am**

Anthony Zanetic

### 28/29 December

#### **Saturday Vigil**

Gerry Crescini

#### **Sunday 7.30am**

George Ajkay

#### **Sunday 9am**

Anthony Zanetic

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY

### 21 December

School Holidays

### 28 December

School Holidays

#### **9am Sunday**

School Holidays



## NURSING HOME ROSTER

### 29 December

Lina & Faye

### 12 January 2020

Lina & Santina



## **A Message from the Archdiocese of Sydney**

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes 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) 9390 5810 or [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto: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.

## **Calling The Catholic Youth**

Sydney Catholic Youth extends an invitation to the youth in the parish who aspire to get involved in parish youth life as a leader!

The Youth Leaders Evangelisation School (YLES) will be held from 25 January - to February 2020. YLES is a week long live-in experience that allows youth and young adults the opportunity to explore their call to get involved in parish life and assist young people in the parish to come back to faith and Jesus.

YLES builds community by engaging those attending by the talks presented, workshops, day pilgrimages, communal and personal prayer and fellowship with all attending the school.

The school will be held at Campion College Toongabbie.

Any youth interested, the parish will support your attendance for the week with the proviso you give back to the parish by trying to gather youth and young adults back to the parish.

See Fr Bob for more details or contact [elizabeth.pasion@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:elizabeth.pasion@sydneycatholic.org) or phone 9307 8152.

## **WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED**

**In your love and concern, please pray for:-**

**Recently Deceased:** Agata Emmi

**Anniversaries:** Vincenzo Camera

**Also for:** The Holy Souls.

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

Ian & Shirley Farrell, Ken O'Leary, Paul Farnsworth, David Angeles, Fred Pjanic, Marie Gough, Paul Galea, Herb Herman, Michael Jassenko, Antoinette Grotto, Tomislav Juric, Fr David Coffey (Former Lecturer in the Seminary), Doris Gauci, Romeo San Jose, Ernest Rust.