



Entrance Antiphon: Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

Responsorial Psalm: Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia!

Blessed are You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; You have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the Kingdom. **Alleluia!**

Communion Antiphon: They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

**Dear Parishioners,
We celebrate the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1. Fulfilling the Law

In the Gospel Reading, Christ says that he has not come to do away with the law but to fulfill the law. In fact, no one will get into heaven unless his righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the law-observing scribes and the Pharisees.

The scribes and Pharisees thought that murderers and adulterers are shut out of heaven. As Christ explains it, simply having hatred or lust in your heart is enough to shut you out of heaven.

Anywhere such a person goes ceases to be heaven, just because he is there.

So Christ's saying is perplexing, isn't it? Isn't the law of the old covenant replaced by the new covenant of grace? What does Christ mean when he says that he has come to *fulfill* the law? What happened to salvation by faith and not by works?

It's troubling, as well as perplexing. Isn't the burden of guilt for us heavy enough without Christ's telling us that we will be excluded from heaven unless our righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees? The burden of the Law was great enough, wasn't it? What happened to Christ's saying, "Come unto me, all you who labour and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest" (Mt 11:28)?

But think about heaven. Those in heaven have everlasting life. What would that everlasting life be like if Christ's saying were false?

If it were false, a person who hated his brother or lusted after someone else's wife could still have everlasting life in heaven. And now think about living forever in the psychic pain of surreptitious hatred or secret lust. How could anyone with such a psyche be in heaven? Anywhere such a person goes ceases to be heaven, just because he is there. His own unrighteousness will make him miserable. He carries the absence of heaven in his unrighteous heart.

And that is why no one can enter into heaven whose righteousness does not exceed the righteousness mandated in the law.

This is a very heavy burden indeed. What could anyone do to carry it? The solution is to listen when Christ says, "Come to me, all you who labour and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest." The rest we want and the righteousness we need in order to get that rest comes to us only when we come to Christ.



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.

2. Y-Factor Camp for Year 7-12 Students

The Annual Archdiocesan Y-Factor Camp is a youth camp held in the April School Holidays every year. It brings together over a hundred high school students from the Catholic faith all across Sydney in an encounter with Church and relationship with Jesus.

The camp is run as a collaboration between Sydney Catholic Schools and Sydney Catholic Youth. The vision for the camp is to create healthy relationships between young Catholics, for them to meet each other like-minded young people so that they can grow together in their faith in community. The structure of Y-Factor is a mixture of sport, games, dramas, interactive workshops, small group discussion, prayer, Mass and fellowship.

The Y-Factor Camp will be a great experience for any young people and I encourage you to support your son/daughter that might like to attend. I would be happy to assist in the funding for the camp and look to your son/daughter getting involved in the parish on their return. If you have any issues or would like any more information, please do not hesitate to contact me at the presbytery or at info@sydneycatholicyouth.org



3. One Year Mass

Family and friends are invited to attend the one year anniversary Mass of the late Salvatore Polistena at St Anthony's on this Monday night, 17 February at 7pm. All welcome.

4. Funeral

The Funeral of Sam Villarosa will be held this Tuesday 18 February commencing at 10.30am. There will be a rosary the day before, Monday at 5pm. All welcome to attend both services.

5. St Anthony of Padua Catholic College: Opening Mass at 9.15am

The school year has begun with our college settling in with 300 students.

On this coming Friday the College will celebrate the opening Mass seeking the Lord's blessing on the Executive Staff, Staff and college students and families for a blessed 2020 college year.

Parishioners who attend the weekday morning Mass are welcome to attend but a reminder the Mass will begin at 9.15am in order to assemble and to walk the college students down to the Church.

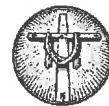


6. Caritas Australia

Each year Project Compassion brings together thousands of Australians in parishes and Catholic colleges and schools to stand solidarity with the world's most vulnerable communities, to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold the worth and dignity of every person.

This year's Project Compassion showcases the many ways Caritas Australia works around the world with local partners to offer hope to people most vulnerable to extreme poverty and injustice. Through a holistic approach Caritas is working with communities providing hope for a just and fair world regardless of their ethnicity, political beliefs, gender or religion. Caritas is assisting women, children and men to break free from the cycle of poverty whilst ensuring they are the architects of their own development in their communities.

Project Compassion boxes will be available from next weekend.



7. The Season of Lent

Lent begins on Wednesday 26 February and the Masses are:

7am, 9.15am (attended by students from St Anthony's and Clancy Colleges) and 7pm. More information next week.

We Welcome Fr Kene

Due to the inclement weather last weekend, I wish to inform all parishioners that Archbishop Fisher has appointed Fr Kene Onwukwe as Administrator of St Anthony's for 12 months beginning on 13 April. The Archbishop appoints all new clergy holding a leadership role in a parish as an administrator for 12 months and then, appoints them as Parish Priest for a period of six years. Parish Priests appointments for six years and then, renewed for another six years.

I informed Fr Kene of his appointment as he was away with his Army Unit assisting communities ravaged by the bushfires down the South Coast. Fr Kene was excited to know of his appointment to St Anthony's and he looks forward to coming amongst the community, as he did, while I was on long service leave during March-May 2019. I am sure you will welcome him and give him your support, as he has the task of building the community and together welcoming the many new families moving into the parish and college.

May God Bless you

Fr. Bob

Fr Bob



CHURCH CLEANING ROSTER

17-22 February

Brianna, Raquel,
Olivia

24-29 February

L Pecotich, S Taoum, V Laferla



READERS ROSTER

15/16 February

Saturday Vigil: 5.30pm

Commentator: Julie Dimech

Readers:

Julie Dimech: 1st Reading

Margaret de Vries: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

Sunday: 7.30am

Commentator: Heidi O'Neill

Readers:

Heidi O'Neil: 1st Reading

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

Sunday: 9am

Commentator: John-William Fisher

Readers:

John-William Fisher: 1st Reading

Tessie Christophers: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

22/23 February (7th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Saturday Vigil: 5.30pm

Commentator: Marcelo Steimeisser

Readers:

Marcelo Steimbeisser: 1st Reading

Natasha Steimbeisser: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

Sunday: 7.30am

Commentator: Liz Habib

Readers:

Liz Habib: 1st Reading

Margaret Cvetko: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

Sunday: 9am

Commentator: Nicole Hext

Readers:

Nicole Hext: 1st Reading

Frances Musso: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful



Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist Roster

15/16 February

Saturday Vigil

Veronica & Sarah Casha



Sunday 7.30am

Virginia Romeo & Pasqualina Catanzariti

Sunday 9am

Jayann Montemayor & Frances Musso

22/23 February

Saturday Vigil

Rose Crescini & Margaret De Vries

Sunday 7.30am

Virginia Romeo & Pasqualina Catanzariti

Sunday 9am

Faye Palamara & Karen Power

ACOLYTES ROSTER

15/16 February

Saturday Vigil

Gerry Crescini

Sunday 7.30am

George Ajkay

Sunday 9am

Anthony Zanetic

22/23 February

Saturday Vigil

Gerry Crescini

Sunday 7.30am

George Ajkay

Sunday 9am

Anthony Zanetic

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

15 February

Rita & Chiara Moro

22 February

Faye Hockings & Vicky Bugeja

9am Sunday

Nicole Hext & Michelle Falzon



NURSING HOME ROSTER

23 February

Sister Rosa & Jayann

28 February

Mass



POPE FRANCIS COLUMN



Pope Francis Recalls the Gift of Tears

Holy Father Focuses on Second Beatitude at General Audience: FEBRUARY 12, 2020
“I have spoken often of the gift of tears, and how precious it is. Can one love coldly? Can one love out of function, out of duty? Certainly not; there are the afflicted to console, but sometimes there are also the consoled to be afflicted, to awaken the people that are unable to be moved by others’ pain.”

Pope Francis made these remarks during his commentary on the Beatitudes, presented at his February 12, 2020, General Audience in Paul VI Hall. He continued his journey through the Beatitudes, this day focusing on the second Beatitude: “Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.”

“In the Greek language, in which the Gospel is written, this Beatitude is expressed with a verb that isn’t the passive — in fact, the Blessed don’t suffer this mourning — but in the active: they are afflicted,” the Pope reminded the audience of pilgrims gathered from around the world to hear his teaching. “They mourn but from within. It’s an attitude that became central in Christian spirituality and that the Desert Fathers, the first monks of history, called *penthos*, an interior sorrow that opens to a relationship with the Lord and with one’s neighbour — to a renewed relationship with the Lord and with one’s neighbour.”

Pope Francis stressed that mourning arises from two places. First, it can come from the death or suffering of someone. Second, it can come from the pain of one’s own sin. “Mourning...is a bitter path, but it can be useful to open the eyes on life and on the sacred and irreplaceable value of every person, and in that moment, one realizes how brief time is,” Francis said.





FAREWELL TO FR BOB



Sadly, Fr Bob is moving on and leaving St Anthony's, as much as we wish him well, he will be sorely missed.

Catherine and I have organised a committee to help us with a Farewell Morning Tea for Fr Bob on Sunday March 29 in the hall, after the 9am Mass.

I am putting out a sheet for parishioners to sign up to come, for catering purposes. Please put your name and number of Adults and Children in the space provided.

As Fr Bob is leaving us to travel to Italy, he will be travelling very light, so, a collection box will be set up in the Church after Masses on the Sundays before Fr Bob leaves.

Collection dates are 7/8, 14/15, 21/22 and 28/29 March. The box will also be in the Hall the day of his farewell.



WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

In your love and concern, please pray for:-

Recently Deceased: Sam Villarosa, Francesca Grima.

Anniversaries: Salvatore Polistena, Charlie Vella.

Also for: Holy Souls, Young people starting primary and high school.

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, Fred Pjanic, Marie Gough, Michael Jasenko, Tomislav Juric, Ernest Rust, James Dimech, Jean Poles.

Catholic Weekly—Available \$2.00

- Faith and darkness: Thousands grieve and pray
- New VC commences
- Islam made me Christian
- Mary Higgins Clark dies
- Movie Reviews: Gretel & Hansel
- Celibacy: "A decisive grace" says Francis

Please put \$2 in the poor box

Banns of Marriage

The Banns of Marriage are announced for:

Anthony Raso (Lurnea)
and

Vanessa Mitroff (Lurnea)

Sam Rigitano (Lurnea)
and

Meghan Leah Bissett (Austral)

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)



Parish Hall for Hire

The Parish Hall has had a make-over, as those who have worked in it can testify.

The room has been painted, splash tiles around the sink area, a new oven and the cupboards have been repaired.

Parishioners are welcome to hire the hall for family celebrations, baptism parties, wedding anniversaries and birthday parties for children up to age 10.

Teenage parties may be an issue so the parish will NOT hire out to these events.

The cost of hire is: \$450 plus a bond of \$100 that will be returned as long as the Hall is left clean & tidy with no damages.

Anyone interested in hiring the hall should contact the parish secretary for the rental agreement and the hirer's responsibility using the hall.

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. 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.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT MORNINGS

This service is for family and friends who grieve the loss of a loved one and the changes that loss makes in one's life.

Morning tea is provided in a relaxed and caring setting.

For further information contact:

Bereavement support Ph: 02 9646 6908 or email: bereavementsupport@catholiccemeteries.com.au

If you or a friend are in need of such support please ring and attend the session

Sessions held: Every Third Wednesday of the Month from 10am-1pm.

KID'S CORNER

Q. What did the policeman say to his tummy?

A. You're under a vest!



National Pastoral Ministry Conference Alive in the Spirit Being the Community

Christ calls us to Be 9-11th July 2020 St Mary Star of the Sea College, Wollongong
Save the Date for the National Pastoral Ministry Conference Thursday 9th to Saturday 11th July 2020. Keynote Speaker: Leisa Anslinger from the United States of America and a National Leader in StrengthsFinder work and in Parish Engagement & Stewardship. The Conference, coordinated by the NSW Association of Pastors, Pastoral Associates and Parish Workers (NAPPA) collaborating with the Christian Initiation Australia Network (CIAN), and the Oceania Mission Planners Network (OMPN) invites all people working in Pastoral Ministry to explore:

- What gives life in the Spirit and renewal in our Church
- Ways to invigorate the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults within our parishes
- Our engagement with Plenary 2020

The Conference will be held at St Mary, Star of the Sea College, Harbour St, Wollongong.
Spread the word and look out for more information in coming months.

The Chain of Mary Association Inc

The Chain of Mary Association Inc One Decade Rosary Booklets.

Please feel free to take the Chain of Mary one decade Rosary booklet and 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 the book provided on the table at the back of the church and once a week Mass will be offered for you and your intentions.

For any enquiries please call
Sr-in-Christ Rosa
Ph: 96067571



Lenten Discussion Programme

The Liturgy Committee meeting held last Tuesday evening suggested that we re-introduce the Lenten Discussion Programme during the Season of Lent.

Lent is a time to make sacrifices and time for God. Instead of not putting sugar in your tea or giving up watching TV one night a week, instead deepen your faith through listening and sharing with other parishioners.

We are following the Wollongong Diocese programme entitled "Grace." The programme has reflections, prayers and discussion questions.

Two members of the Liturgy Committee invite you to join them.

Edward—Thursday Evening at 7pm

Faye—Tuesday Morning at 9.30am

The Programme looks at about 1 1/4 hours in duration.

Please put your names on sheets at the back of the Church.



Using the Parish Toilets

A bin has been placed in the Ladies toilets for soiled nappies and sanitary napkins.

Please use the bags provided and the bin.

Please **DO NOT** throw them in the toilet, we have had to get the plumber out too many times, and this is a big cost to the parish.

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.

Pastoral Support Safe-Guarding Officer (PSSO)



Recently, I met with our PSSO, Mrs Natasha Steimbeisser. As mentioned late last year after Natasha offered to be the PSSO, I said that the Archbishop has mandated that all parishioners involved in any ministry or group in the parish community is asked to attend a training session.

The sessions will cover areas of interest regarding the safety of children, young people and vulnerable adults.

At this time, Natasha is offering Sessions both evening and morning. I ask all parishioners to look at the three sessions on offer, choose the session that suits you and come along. The sessions will be held in the hall.

Safeguarding Sessions:

Thursday 27 February	7-9.30pm
Friday 6 March	9.30-12 noon
Thursday 2 April	7-9.30pm

All sessions will be held in the Parish Hall.
Tea/Coffee will be available during the session.

Safeguarding God's Children



Visit Of The Relics Of St Thérèse Of Lisieux and Her Parents

The National Pilgrimage of the Relics of Saints Thérèse, and her parents, Louis and Zélie, will visit the Archdiocese of Sydney in February and March. Attached to this email is the full itinerary, which we ask you to print in A3 and post up on your parish noticeboard so that parishioners are aware of where and when they can take this opportunity to venerate the relics of one of the Catholic Church's most popular saints and her parents who helped nurture her faith.

Women's Lenten Retreat

This is an invitation to all women to attend a Lenten Retreat to be held at Mt Schoenstatt, Mulgoa from 6 pm, Friday 28th February – 4 pm Sunday 1st March, 2020
Venue: Mount Schoenstatt Spirituality Centre, 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa 2745
Cost: \$170 – twin-share, \$210 – single room (when available)
Day Participation: 9am – 5pm - \$60 Registration.
For Booking Form & Payment contact: info@schoenstatt.org.au or Phone: 4773 8338
Essential by 14 February.