



15 March 2020-Year A Third Sunday of Lent



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:
stanthonyaustral@bigpond.com

Web Address:
www.stanthonyaustral.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: My eyes are always on the Lord, for He rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

Responsorial Psalm: If today you hear My voice, harden not your hearts.

Gospel Acclamation:

Glory to You, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear Him. **Glory to You, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!**

Communion Antiphon: For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord, the water I shall give will become in him a spring welling up to eternal life.

Dear Parishioners,

We celebrate the Third Sunday of Lent Year A

1. A Worthless Woman

The Gospel Reading tells the story of a woman who is worthless by the standards of Jewish society at that time.

Jesus has sent his disciples off for food, and he is sitting at a well when she comes to draw water. There is every reason why he shouldn't talk to her at all.

What Jew or Samaritan would want to invite her to lunch?

First, she is a woman. It is only the disciples' awe of Jesus that keeps them from asking him what he thought he was doing when they return and find him talking to her without even a chaperone by her.

Secondly, she is a Samaritan. As she herself points out to him, Jews don't talk to Samaritans. Samaritans are self-made outcasts from the Jewish point of view, and self-respecting Jews stay away from them.

And, thirdly, this Samaritan has the sort of history that makes women pariahs even in their home communities. Jesus knows her status, and he lets her know he does. She has had five husbands—*five husbands!*—and she is currently living with a man to whom she is not married. Even by the lax standards of our own day, this sort of history would make people look askance at her. In her village she is undoubtedly a shamed person.

So, take it all and all, she's a worthless person, isn't she? What Jew or Samaritan would want to invite her to lunch?

But, you might be thinking, the saviour of the world could certainly spare a crumb even for a shamed Samaritan woman. He could preach to her that her sins are forgiven, you might be supposing, or he could offer her some other kind of pastoral help.

But he doesn't, does he? No, he asks *her* to help *him*. He opens the conversation with her by asking her to give him a drink.

And then look at how this story ends: she brings belief in Jesus to her village, and the villagers come to Jesus because of her.

She isn't worthless then, is she? No, then she takes her rightful place among the apostles. The evangelization of her village is *her* accomplishment.

And so when Jesus asks her to care for him, he starts a process that brings her from being worthless to being the apostle to her village.

The remedy of love for human worthlessness is modeled for us here, isn't it?

2. Ride-On Lawn mower

As mentioned previously, John Bonanno has looked after the Church and Presbytery lawns for years. We owe him a debt of gratitude for his work. Unfortunately, he is not able to continue. Joe Vella has helped out when he has been able and I thank him too. However, with the rain recently, I had to hire "Jim's Lawnmowing Service" to do the lawns and the presbytery area was \$400. He told me it would have been \$600 (he gave the parish a discount!)

Has any parishioner a ride-on lawnmower that they no longer want due to them moving to smaller property?

The parish is in need of a second hand mower.

Does anyone know anyone? Let me know if you do!

Thank you.



3. Liturgy Committee Meeting

A reminder that the Liturgy Committee will meet on Monday at 7.30pm in the presbytery.

The meeting is to finalise our Easter Liturgies.

4. Coronavirus

For those who were not at St Anthony's last week: I am sorry to inform all parishioners that I have had an email from the Bishop's Conference regarding the following and I have to take the following actions within the weekend and weekday liturgies due to the continuing health concerns of the Coronavirus.

1. The offering of the Precious Blood at our Eucharist will cease due to the health concerns. Apparently, at last Sunday's 9am Mass the priest and acolyte had to consume both chalices as parishioners only received the Body of Christ (the Host). The faithful should be reminded that Christ is fully present under either species.

2. We have been asked that all parishioners receive Holy Communion in the hand so that the Minister is not in contact with saliva in the mouth. All Ministers of Holy Communion should take particular care to wash their hands before and after distributing. Appropriate means should be made available.

3. Parishes and other settings where liturgies are celebrated should make alcohol-based gels or rubs (or like products) available near entrances. Gels will be available as we enter the Church, and Parishioners are invited to use them.

4. The offering of the "sign of peace" by the handshake has stopped. NSW Health advises against the shaking of hands because of the virus. At the "sign of peace" can we just turn to the person next to us or behind or in front and greet them with a "wave", "smile" or "a nod".

5. The NSW Health Minister this past week has reminded us of the regular washing of our hands and the use of "Hand Sanitiser". I ask all Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist to use the "Hand Sanitiser" as they come up to the altar. As the old saying goes: Cleanliness is next to Godliness.

5. Easter Ceremonies

As we prepare for the Easter Ceremonies, we need assistance from you, the parishioners.

I am also seeking our youth and young people to assist in the Good Friday afternoon liturgical action by acting out the Lord's Passion (please note this is not a speaking role).

Sheets for the various liturgies are available on the table at the back of the Church.

Please assist by being involved.

6. Stations of the Cross-Friday 9.30-10am

During Lent, the Church invites us to attend the Stations of the Cross as a preparation for Holy Week and to enter more deeply and spiritually into the passion, death and resurrection of our Saviour. Friday after 9am Mass beginning at 9.30am. All Welcome.

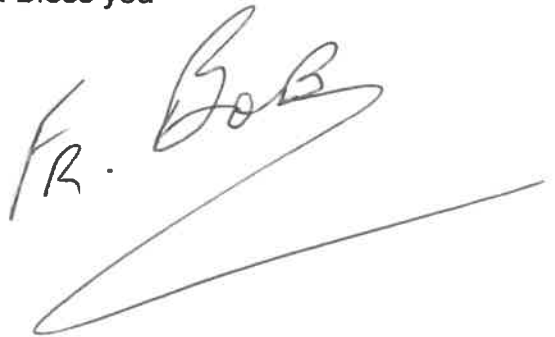
7. Vinnies Bushfire Appeal

Thank you for your donation to the Vinnies NSW Bushfire Appeal.

Our Donation was \$745.00.

Well done.

May God Bless you



Fr Bob



CHURCH CLEANING ROSTER

16-21 March

L Simat, Y Refalo

23-28 March

S Mercieca, M Farrugia,
T Gimellaro, M Camilleri



READERS ROSTER

14/15 March

Saturday Vigil: 5.30pm

Commentator: Veronica Casha

Readers:

Veronica Casha: 1st Reading

Vanessa Casha: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

Sunday: 7.30am

Commentator: Anne Violi

Readers:

Anne Violi: 1st Reading

Wendy Tourle: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

Sunday: 9am

Commentator: Frances Musso

Readers:

Frances Musso: 1st Reading

Nicole Hext: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

21/22 March (4th Sunday of Lent)

Saturday Vigil: 5.30pm

Commentator: Teresa Calarco

Readers:

Teresa Calarco: 1st Reading

Rita Moro: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

Sunday: 7.30am

Commentator: Mark O'Neill

Readers:

Mark O'Neill: 1st Reading

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

Sunday: 9am

Commentator: Mica Pace

Readers:

Mica Pace: 1st Reading

Faye Palamara: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful



Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist Roster

14/15 March

Saturday Vigil

David Casha & Margaret De Vries



Sunday 7.30am

Virginia Romeo & Pasqualina Catanzariti

Sunday 9am

Faye Palamara & Frances Musso

21/22 March

Saturday Vigil

Veronica & Sarah Casha

Sunday 7.30am

Virginia Romeo & Pasqualina Catanzariti

Sunday 9am

Karen Power & Volunteer

ACOLYTES ROSTER

14/15 March

Saturday Vigil

Gerry Crescini

Sunday 7.30am

George Ajkay

Sunday 9am

Anthony Zanetic

21/22 March

Saturday Vigil

Gerry Crescini

Sunday 7.30am

George Ajkay

Sunday 9am

Anthony Zanetic

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

14 March

Sylvia Mercieca & Lily Camilleri



21 March

Pauline Vassallo & Melinda Cansino

9am Sunday

Nicole Hext & Michelle Falzon

NURSING HOME ROSTER

22 March

Faye & Frances

27 March

Mass



POPE FRANCIS COLUMN



Pope tells priests to 'get out' and visit the sick

Pope Francis celebrates Mass at the Casa Santa Marta in the Vatican yesterday (Vatican News screenshot)

Pope Francis celebrates Mass at the Casa Santa Marta in the Vatican yesterday (Vatican News screenshot)

As Italy promotes an aggressive “stay at home” campaign to combat the spread of the coronavirus, Pope Francis has urged priests to “get out” to bring comfort to the sick. Source: Crux.

“May priests have the courage to get out,” the Pope said during his morning Mass yesterday, “going to the sick to bring them the comfort of God, [and] to bring them the Eucharist” as well as to show solidarity with health workers scrambling to combat the COVID-19 epidemic.

The Pope’s words came the morning after Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte announced sweeping new measures to combat the spread of the virus, including placing the entire country under a strict travel ban, with movements between regions limited to reasons of work or family and health care emergencies. Museums, theatres, cinemas, gyms and public pools, as well as all schools and universities, are closed until at least April 3, and restaurants and bars have been ordered to close at 6pm every day.

As part of the restrictions on public assemblies, Italy’s Catholic bishops have suspended all public Masses, weddings and funerals until at least April 3. Those restrictions, however, do not prevent priests from making private calls upon individual persons, providing the usual precautions are taken, including maintaining a metre of distance from other persons and avoiding unnecessary physical contact.

In his homily, Pope Francis warned against the spiritual temptation of vanity, saying it causes a sinner to “close in upon himself” and to “hide himself,” rather than “bringing his sins to God”. Vanity, the Pope warned, is “poisonous,” using the example of the Gospel description of “doctors of the law” to suggest it leads to a “hard heart”.

The Pope’s Mass was livestreamed on the Vatican News web site and the Vatican’s YouTube channel. It was celebrated before a small congregation of mostly religious sisters and laity who work in the Casa Santa Marta, the Vatican residence where Pope Francis lives.

His General Audience today will be livestreamed from the library of the papal apartments in the Vatican’s Apostolic Palace.





FAREWELL TO FR BOB



The Collection Box for Fr Bob is available on the table at the back of the Church.

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 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:

Anniversaries:

Also for: 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, Marie Gough, Michael Jasenko, Tomislav Juric, Ernest Rust, James Dimech, Jean Poles, Margarita Vartuli.

Catholic Weekly—Available \$2.00

- Grandmother's inhumane death
- Don't panic: Prudent coronavirus measures
- Suffering for victims: Priest's choice
- Anti-porn petition goes viral
- Movie Reviews: Emma
- Don't wed the faithless

Please put \$2 in the poor box

Men's Lenten Retreat Day Notre Dame Broadway

On Saturday, April 4 from 9am to 4:00pm. The day will include Mass, time for reflection and reconciliation, and will be guided by Fr Edmond Travers msc. Lunch and morning tea included.

The retreat will take place at The University of Notre Dame Australia on Broadway campus.

Event is free, registration essential: sydney.chaplaincy@nd.edu.au or (02) 8204 4189 or Trybooking.com/BIJFM

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. Why can't you give Elsa a balloon?

A. Because she will let it go.





Trying for a baby?
Having trouble conceiving?

There -is a real alternative to IVF – **Billings LIFE**
Ring for a friendly chat on 1800 335 860 or 03
9802 2022 Website: www.billings.life

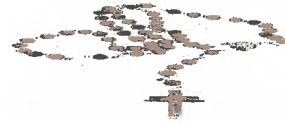
If you have been trying to have a baby without success, our tutors can provide essential information, which will give you the best chance to achieve your pregnancy naturally.

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



Behind the scenes at Lewisham for Night Patrol

This is a wonderful outreach opportunity for parents and parishioners. You have an opportunity once a term to travel to Lewisham as a group to assist between 10am-1pm we can grab a bite to eat at a local cafe or on our way back to school for pick up time. Lewisham is a larger centre than Liverpool and provides food for the Sydney van services. Activities we will be undertake on the day could include:

- Preparing sandwiches
- Cleaning of our vehicles (inside and out)
- Preparation of toiletry gift packs for those experiencing homelessness
- Sorting of donations
- The preparation of a salad or soup
- General cleaning and sorting.

We need a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 8 people to assist each day and unfortunately because space is limited at the centre no toddlers are permitted. If you are interested in attending any of these days please email me at veronica.leva@syd.catholic.edu.au

We made four trips to Lewisham last year and I have booked four more for this year.

- Tuesday 9 June
- Tuesday 1 September
- Friday 27 November

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.

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 2 April 7-9.30pm

All sessions will be held in the Parish Hall.

Tea/Coffee will be available during the session.



NEW Child Protection Reporting Obligations

On 1 March 2020 amendments to the *Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998* will commence to expand mandatory reporter groups. These amendments are part of the NSW Government's response to recommendations made by the Royal Commission. Mandatory reporting is a legislative requirement to make a report to certain government authorities, in NSW, mandatory reporting is primarily regulated by sections 27 and 27A of the *Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998*. Mandatory reporter groups in NSW will be expanded to include:

- Persons in religious ministry or persons providing religion-based activities to children (e.g. minister of religion, priest, deacon, pastor, rabbi, religious brother or sister)
- Registered psychologists providing a professional service as a psychologist.

What does this mean for the Archdiocese of Sydney?

This means that any of our **clergy, deacons, religious brothers and religious sisters** are legally required to make a report when they have reasonable grounds to suspect that a child is at risk of significant harm. It also means that **volunteers and paid employees in Agencies and Parishes of the Archdiocese** who provide activities to children such as Children's Liturgy, Youth Ministry groups, Sacramental programs are also legally required to make a report when they have reasonable grounds to suspect that a child is at risk of significant harm. A reporter has a duty to report, as soon as practicable, the name or a description of the child and the grounds for suspecting that the child is at risk of significant harm.

What is Risk of Significant Harm?

Risk of significant harm is any one or more of the following circumstances

- a) the child's or young person's basic physical or psychological needs are not being met or are at risk of not being met,
- b) the parents or other caregivers have not arranged and are unable or unwilling to arrange for the child or young person to receive necessary medical care
- c) the child or young person has been, or is at risk of being, physically or sexually abused or ill-treated
- d) the child or young person is living in a household where there have been incidents of domestic violence and, as a consequence, the child or young person is at risk of serious physical or psychological harm,
- e) a parent or other caregiver has behaved in such a way towards the child or young person that the child or young person has suffered or is at risk of suffering serious psychological harm.

How to make a report?

Before making a report to the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ), please contact the Safeguarding Office on **9390 5810**. The Safeguarding Office will help you determine whether the report needs to be made directly to the DCJ or another government authority. Reports to the DCJ are made by calling the NSW Child Protection Helpline on 132 111.

Further information

The Safeguarding Office will be providing further information and training about Reporting Obligations.