



19 April 2020-Year A Second Sunday of Easter



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.

First Reading: A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles 2:42-47

Responsorial Psalm: Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, His love is everlasting.

Second Reading: A Reading from the first letter of St Peter 1:3-9

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in Me, Thomas because you have seen Me; happy those who have not seen but still believe!

Alleluia!

Gospel: The Gospel of John 20:19-31

Dear Parishioners,

We celebrate Second Sunday of Easter or Divine Mercy Sunday

1. Hope and Exultation

The second of the two epistles given as readings for this Sunday, 1 Peter, says that by the resurrection of Christ we are reborn into a living hope. But what is hope? By faith a person believes in Christ, and by charity a person loves Christ. What is left for hope to do, once faith and charity have done their work?

In the expectation of that triumphant loveliness, we can wait for that day with joy.

The reading from Acts says that after the resurrection the disciples ate their meals with exultation. That is not how we normally eat our meals, is it? When we eat, we are often anxious or sad. We worry about our weight, the healthiness of our food, the eating habits of our children, the cost of the meal, the unfriendliness of those around the table, or any of the many other things that are part of the stress of our days. What could possibly bring a person to eat his dinner with exultation?

But consider this. How would dinner go for a person who learned that he had won the lottery? Before the lottery check has come, of course, he has no more money than he did before he won the lottery. At the time of his dinner, while he is still waiting for the check, he is as poor as he always was. But he has won the lottery! And the check is in the mail. In the expectation of that check, he will certainly eat his dinner in exultation. In the midst of our poverty, our lack of holiness, our lack of loveliness, we are promised that when the Lord comes to meet us, we will be like him (1 John 3:2). Then we will have our heart's desires, and we will be so lovely in the Lord that we will think we are dreaming (Ps 126:1). That day is one we still have to wait for. But we wait for it believing that the triumph won for us through Christ's passion and death, brought home to us in Christ's resurrection, that triumph is in the mail to us. We will think we must be dreaming then because the loveliness brought to us through Christ's suffering and rising is so much greater than we could ever have imagined. **In the expectation of that triumphant loveliness, we can wait for that day with joy.**

And that waiting with joy is what hope is. Who would not exult in it?

2. Divine Mercy Sunday

The focus of Divine Mercy is the merciful love of God through His Son Jesus Christ. Pope St John Paul II referred to this when he said:



"Apart from the mercy of God there is no other source of hope to humankind. We need God's divine mercy, at present. The Divine Mercy devotion has three main themes namely to ask for and obtain the mercy of God, to trust in Christ's abundant mercy and finally to show mercy to others and to act as a conduit for God's mercy towards them.

One of the mantra's to pray is: "Jesus, I trust in You." It could be part of our prayer life during these days of living at home and praying that God will deliver us from this pandemic.

3. Easter Joy

As I said in last week's bulletin that it "is a different Easter 2020." No crowds at ceremonies in the Church, no people wandering the street, not much traffic on the road and many celebrated Easter in front of our TV's as ceremonies from Good Friday and Easter Sunday were broadcast.

This Easter and for much of 2020, we are being forced to "holiday at home" and "stay home."

Families are spending more time together and couples are giving of themselves more and hopefully, communicating more. Parents are involved with their children more, either in school work or playing Monopoly or working out a 1000 piece jigsaw puzzle. God must be sending us a message through this virus, perhaps??

Our politicians and media outlets talk about "when things get back to normal."

But, what will NORMAL be or look like?

Hopefully, not like the past year or past 100 years!

Due to this pandemic we are putting homeless in hotels so they won't catch the virus, we are delivering care and food packages to the elderly and the vulnerable. We are spending time in prayer as a family and individually. Maybe, for some a new experience that we are now enjoying.

If what has come out of this crisis it maybe what Channel 7 says: "We are all in it together."

So, as we move through to the other side of this pandemic, as we think about life after COVID-19, can we all do better and hope and yes, believe that we can all do better.

Be better in our families, better to one another, better to our neighbour and more faithful to our God who died on Good Friday but rose on Easter Sunday, so that we may have life with Him.

"Jesus, I trust in You."

**Our Lady of Lourdes, pray for us.
St Anthony of Padua, pray for us.**

4. ANZAC Day

As we know, ANZAC Day, will be a different experience this year.

ANZAC Day is on Saturday 25 April and (if possible) we are being asked to stand out at our front gate at 6am and remember our fallen.

Men like Ernest "Rusty" Rust who was buried last Monday fortnight and will not be at this ANZAC Day Service at Tobruk Village this year.

"Lest, We Forget"



5. Easter Water

A good many parishioners did the drive through on Easter Sunday morning to obtain bottles of the Easter Water and prayer to pray as a family at home and bless both family and home.

This is one of the by-products of our "stay-at-home" is that families are using this to connect spiritually with the Lord as a family and to enter into the liturgies of Easter spiritually together watching it on TV.

May we come out stronger in our faith and love for the Lord and each other. Those who came for the Easter Water and prayer donated \$820. Thank You.



6. Thank You

My thanks to the parishioner who dropped in the box of fresh vegetables, and sorry I missed you. But, thank you.

Thank you to those Parishioners supporting the parish and myself with their online donations. They are needed and much appreciated.

God Bless and Stay Safe

Fr. Bob

Fr Bob



POPE FRANCIS COLUMN



General Audience Full Text: 'Blessed are the Peacemakers'

Two Definitions of Peace: APRIL 15, 2020

This morning's General Audience was held at 9:30 am from the Library of the Apostolic Vatican Palace.

Dear Brothers and Sisters, good morning!

Today's catechesis is dedicated to the seventh Beatitude, that of the "peacemakers," who are proclaimed sons of God. I rejoice that it happens immediately after Easter, because the peace of Christ is the fruit of his Death and Resurrection, as we heard in the Letter of Saint Paul.

To understand this Beatitude it's necessary to explain the meaning of the word "peace," which can be misunderstood or sometimes trivialized. We must orient ourselves between two ideas of peace: the first is the biblical, where the beautiful word shalom appears, which expresses abundance, prosperity, and wellbeing. When in Hebrew one wishes shalom, one wishes a good life, full, prosperous but also in keeping with truth and justice, which will have fulfillment in the Messiah, Prince of Peace (Cf. Isaiah 9:6; Micah 5:4-5).

There is, then, the other meaning, more widespread, of the word "peace," which is understood as a sort of inner tranquillity: I am tranquil, I am in peace. This is a modern idea, psychological and more suggestive. One thinks commonly that peace is quiet, harmony and internal balance. This meaning of the word "peace" is incomplete and can't be absolutized, because in life restlessness can be an important moment of growth. Often it's the Lord Himself who sows restlessness in us, to go to encounter Him, to meet Him. In this sense, it's an important moment of growth; whereas, it can happen that interior tranquillity corresponds to a domesticated conscience and not to a true spiritual redemption. Many times the Lord must be a "sign of contradiction" (Cf. Luke 2:43-35), shaking our false securities, to lead us to salvation. And in that moment it seems there is no peace but it is the Lord who puts us on this way, to arrive at the peace that He Himself will give us.

At this point we must remember that the Lord understands His peace as different from human <peace>, from that of the world, when He says: "Peace I leave you; my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you" (John 14:27). Jesus' peace is another peace, different from worldly peace. We ask ourselves: how does the world give peace? If we think of warlike conflicts — wars normally end in two ways: either the defeat of one of the sides or with peace treaties. We can only hope and pray that this second way is always entered into; however, we must consider that history is an infinite series of peace treaties refuted by successive wars, or by the metamorphosis of those same wars in other ways and in other places. In our time also, a piecemeal war is being fought on more scenarios and in different ways. [1] We must at least suspect that in the framework of a globalization made up especially of economic and financial interests, the "peace" of some corresponds to the "war" of others. And this isn't Christ's peace! Instead, how does the Lord Jesus give His peace? We heard Saint Paul say that the peace of Christ is "to make of two, one" (Cf. Ephesians 2:14), to cancel enmity and reconcile. And the way to fulfill this work of peace is His body. In fact, He reconciles all things and puts peace with the Blood of His Cross, as the same Apostle says elsewhere (Cf. Colossians 1:20). And here I ask myself, we can all ask ourselves: who are, then, the "peacemakers"? The seventh Beatitude is the most active, explicitly operative. The verbal expression is analogous to that used in the first verse of the Bible for creation and it indicates initiative and laboriousness. By its nature love is creative — love is always creative — and seeks reconciliation at all cost. Those are called sons of God who have learned the art of peace and exercise it; they know that there is no reconciliation without giving one's life, and that peace is always sought no matter what. Don't forget this! It's sought thus. This isn't an autonomous work, fruit of one's own capabilities; it's a manifestation of grace received from Christ, who is our peace, who has rendered us sons of God.

True shalom and true interior balance flow from Christ's peace, which comes from His Cross and generates a new humanity, embodied in an infinite array of men and women Saints, inventive, creative, who always thought of new ways to love —, the men and women Saints that make peace. This life of sons of God, which by the Blood of Christ our brothers seek and discover, is true happiness. Blessed are those that go on this way.

And again, happy Easter to all, in the peace of Christ





PROJECT COMPASSION

GO FURTHER TOGETHER

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING PROJECT COMPASSION 2020

COVID-19 is affecting all of us. In these challenging times, your kindness and solidarity can make a world of difference to the lives of the most vulnerable. Your support is life saving.

DO YOU HAVE PC BOXES AND CASH TO HAND IN?

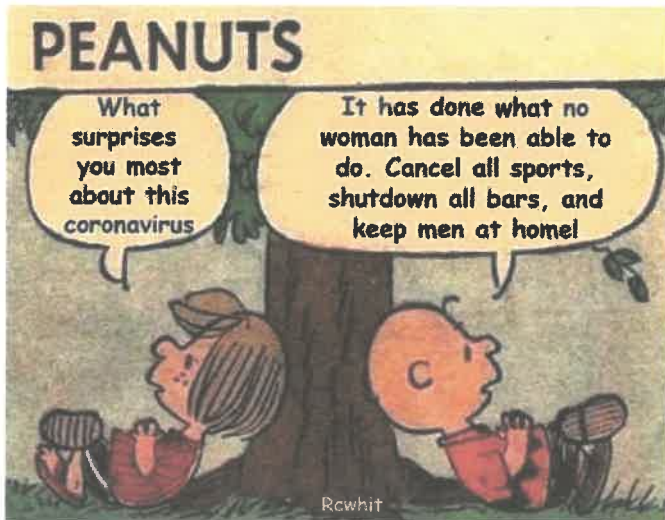
We know that many of you may not be able to hand in your PC Boxes, or cash, to parishes or schools at this time.

Did you know that you can go online at "lent.caritas.org.au" and securely donate with your credit card, or you can send a cheque to Caritas Australia, GPO Box 9830 Sydney NSW 2001.

Alternatively, if you require assistance with your PC Box or cash, please call our friendly team on 1800 024 413.

JUST A FEW FUNNIES TO HELP KEEP US SANE

The Hills are closed



WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

In your love and concern, please pray for:-

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries: Salvatore Emmi, Jason Loader, Domenico Campisi

Also for: Charlie Vella, Josef Sukkar, Antaneus Sukkar, Farieda Sukkar.

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 Jassenko, Tomislav Juric, James Dimech, Jean Poles, Margarita Vartuli.

Remember man
that you are
dust and into
dust you shall
return.

Livestreaming of Parish Masses

The Archdiocese of Sydney is regularly updating its website and social media platforms with the latest information on parishes that are offering their Masses online for parishioners to watch. Please contact Michael Kenny via email to share any of these updates that can be posted online- Email:

michael.kenny@sydneycatholic.org

Viewing numbers across the archdiocese with those streaming Masses are continuing to increase which is great. More than one million people across the country watched the Good Friday and Easter Sunday services live from St Mary's Cathedral last weekend on Channel 7.

The Passion of Our Lord on Good Friday reached 545,000 broadcast viewers with an additional 86,000 live-streaming and social media viewers reaching a total audience of 631,000, 42.4 per cent of the available audience. The Easter Sunday 10.30am Mass reached a whopping 568,000 broadcast viewers with a further 113,000 live-streaming and social media viewers reaching a total of 681,000 viewers – attracting a 46.3 per cent audience share.

Overwhelmingly, the audiences were highest in the Sydney metropolitan area, followed by NSW, the ACT, Western Australia and Queensland.

CALARCO LEGAL

Introducing your local lawyer – let us help you!
We offer fixed fees from the start – no surprises, we keep things simple and we put YOU first.



Our services:

Conveyancing, leases, wills and estate documents, probate and estate administration.

Please contact Teresa Calarco for more information:

Ph: 0415 123 807

E: teresa@calarcolegal.com.au

KID'S CORNER

Q. Why did the man run around his bed?

A. Because he was trying to catch up on his sleep.



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.

READ THE DIGITAL EDITION OF THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

The Catholic Weekly has temporarily transitioned to a digital presence only due to the government's decision to close all Churches during the COVID-19 pandemic.

I am pleased to inform you that has been adapted extremely well and they are continuing to produce the paper in a **digital form** making it available to everyone online at www.catholicweekly.com.au

What is a digital edition?

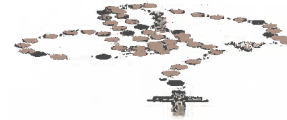
It is the current paper delivered on our website and which is formatted identically to the print edition.

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



We continue to need your support

We understand the difficulty some families are facing, however if you are able to continue your support of the parish this would be greatly appreciated as we still have much work to continue within our community and Church at this time, especially with those in need and the vulnerable of society.

Perhaps you might consider replacing the envelope contributions with a new direct debit at this time- either weekly, monthly or as a once only. Please contact our office and speak to Cheryl. Any assistance parishioners can give during the shut-down of the Church will be greatly appreciated.

We thank you for your support of the Church and your Faith Community.

Direct Debit:

Account Name: St Anthony's Austral Church Account

BSB: 062 784

Account No: 0492 5002



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

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.