

31 October/1 November 2020-Year A All Saints Day



Entrance Antiphon: Let us all rejoice in the Lord, as we celebrate the feast day in honour of all the Saints, at whose festival the Angels rejoice and praise the Son of God.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!

Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord.

Alleluia.

Communion Antiphon: Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

**Dear Parishioners,
We Celebrate All Saints Day**

1. Blood of the Lamb

In the First Reading, the writer says that in heaven he saw a great multitude of people, all wearing white robes. The text explains that these are the people who have washed their clothes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

This is an odd idea, isn't it? Anybody who does laundry can tell you that one of the hardest stains to get out is blood. Why would anybody think you could clean things with blood?

The answer is that it depends on what you are trying to clean. The Epistle to the Hebrews (Heb 9:14) says that the blood of Christ can cleanse a conscience from dead works.

Now, a thing that is dead just lies there without moving. Dead works are works that don't go anywhere. But where would works be going except where the person who does the works wants them to go?

So a dead work is a work that doesn't do what the person who does the work wanted to do. In Romans (Rom 7:15), Paul says, "I do not do what I want, but I do what I hate." Is there anyone who doesn't understand this problem? Examples of it are easy to come by. Here's one: You set out bravely to give up smoking, and day after day you smoke.

It's not hard to see why dead works stain a conscience. Whose conscience would not feel stained by endless daily failure to do what he himself wants to do?

This is what the blood of Christ cleanses us from. Scripture says that blood is the life of a thing (Deut 12:23). When we participate in the Eucharist, the blood of Christ comes into us; and so Christ's life comes into us too. What we could not do on our own—because our works are dead and our consciences are stained—the blood, the life, the Spirit of Christ can do in us.

When we are united with Christ through his body and blood in the Eucharist, our works live too through him. And if our works live, then our consciences are cleansed. And that is how the saints in heaven have made the dirty laundry of their lives white.

There is power in the precious blood of the Lamb!

ST ANTHONY'S PARISH CHURCH 105 ELEVENTH AVENUE AUSTRAL 2179

Pastor: Fr Kene Onwukwe
Administrator
Deacon Paul Naggar
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

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Presbytery is closed on Mondays.

St Anthony of Padua Catholic College

School Principal:

Mrs Lea De Angelis

Phone: 9606 8600

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Sacramental Life

Celebration of the Eucharist:

Mass Schedule:

Saturday Vigils: 4.30pm & 5.30pm
(Includes Children's Liturgy during
School Term)

Sunday - 7.30am & 9am

(Includes Children's Liturgy during
School Term)

Thursday- Communion Service
9am

Masses: Tuesday - 7.30am

Wednesday - 7.30am

Friday - 7.30am Mass

Reconciliation: Saturday

3.45 pm - 4.15 pm

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. Goodbye Cheryl, Welcome Natalie

This week we farewell Cheryl McKell from her role as our parish secretary. On behalf of the parish, I would like to thank Cheryl for her service. She has been in our parish for 7 years and has worked with Father Bob for 22 years. I would like to wish Cheryl and her family all the best in the future. She will be missed by everyone here at St Anthony's.

Still on the secretarial job, Natalie Valenzisi replaces Cheryl as the new parish secretary. Natalie is also the Parish Sacramental Coordinator. We wish her the best and every blessing in her new role.

3. All Souls Day-2 November

There will be a Mass this Monday 2 November for All Souls Day .

Mass Times are: 7.30am and 7.00pm.
Please contact the Parish Office to make bookings.

4. Remembrance Day Mass

As you may be aware, the month of November is the time we remember our loved ones who have died.

I therefore invite you all to join in our remembrance Mass for our family members who have died. We invite in a special way, the families whose members died in the last 12 months.

There will be time in the course of the Mass for us to light a candle and place it at a space to be provided in front of the Altar, in memory of our deceased relatives. Names of those buried from our parish and our loved ones buried from elsewhere who died in the last 12 months will be mentioned at the beginning of the Mass. Also bring their mementos.

This Mass will be held on Wednesday 11 November 2020 at 7pm (different from November 2 All Souls' Day Mass)

There will be no 7.30am Mass on Nov 11 due to the 7pm Remembrance Mass

For COVID-19 restrictions, if you would like to attend please contact the Parish Office by telephone or email to book (details above). While booking, families of deceased loved ones should include the name/s of their deceased members.

Regards,
Kene.

5. Change to Weekday Mass Times

Fr Kene will be changing weekday Mass times until the end of the year. New Mass times will be Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday at 7.30am Communion Service on Thursday at 9am.

6. November Envelopes

As we move to November, the month of the Holy Souls, we remember our deceased loved ones. There are November envelopes in the Planned Giving boxes and on the back table.

Please put the envelope with your offering and put in the collection plate or give to the priest,



7. Booking in for Mass

Due to families in Year 3 at the College booking in to attend weekend Mass as they begin their preparation for their First Holy Communion, parishioners are asked to ring Cheryl, the Parish Secretary, on Tuesday or Thursday when she is in the office to book a Mass.

All Parishioners are reminded that not booking may mean that I will not be able to admit you into the Church, if the Church has reached its maximum number. Please do not come to mass unless you have booked.

8. Columban Calendars

The Columban Calendar is a work of the Columban Fathers and is a fundraiser for their missions, especially in South America.

The Calendar has a page a month and a religious painting for each month.

It indicates Feast Days and Sundays. I recommend it to you. Please leave monies on the plate next to the calendars. Still only \$10.00.

9. Sacrament of Reconciliation

Some families have not returned due to illness or worries about COVID.

Again, I encourage those families to streamline Mass either from St Mary's Cathedral at 10.30am Sunday or Wollongong at 9.30am on Sundays. In this way the family or individual is giving time to God and their own spiritual life. But, TV Mass is not the answer to attending the community and joining in Sunday worship in hearing the Word of God and then, encountering Jesus in Eucharist.

If families or family members have become lazy due to being away from worship then, before receiving the Eucharist in good conscience they should go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation before receiving the Eucharist.

If families can go to work, go to school or go shopping, we can return to our faith and practise it!

May God Bless You

Fr Kene



CHURCH CLEANING ROSTER

2-7 November

Brianna, Raquel, Olivia

9-14 November

L Pecotich, M Gimellaro,
M De Vries, V Laferla



READERS ROSTER

31 October/ 1 November

Saturday Vigil: 5.30pm

Commentator: Maja Simat

Readers:

Maja Simat: 1st Reading

Teresa Calarco: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

Sunday: 7.30am

Commentator: Linda Katsibras

Readers:

Linda Katsibras: 1st Reading

Liz Habib: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

Sunday: 9am

Commentator: Tessie Christophers

Readers:

Tessie Christophers: 1st Reading

Nicole Hext: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

7-8 November (32nd Sunday)

Saturday Vigil: 5.30pm

Commentator: Sarah Casha

Readers:

Sarah Casha: 1st Reading

Vanessa Casha: 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: Frances Musso

Readers:

Frances Musso: 1st Reading

Faye Palamara: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist Roster

31 October/ 1 November

Saturday Vigil

Sarah Casha & Margaret De Vries



Sunday 7.30am

Virginia Romeo & Pasqualina Catanzariti

Sunday 9am

Faye Palamara & Karen Power

7-8 November

Saturday Vigil

Rose Crescini & Julie Dimech

Sunday 7.30am

Virginia Romeo & Pasqualina Catanzariti

Sunday 9am

Pam Ajkay & Frances Musso

ACOLYTES ROSTER

31 October/ 1 Nov

Saturday Vigil

Gerry Crescini

Sunday 7.30am

George Ajkay

Sunday 9am

Anthony Zanetic

7-8 November

Saturday Vigil

Gerry Crescini

Sunday 7.30am

George Ajkay

Sunday 9am

Anthony Zanetic

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

ON HOLD DUE TO COVID 19



NURSING HOME ROSTER

ON HOLD DUE TO COVID 19



POPE FRANCIS COLUMN



Jesus is not a distant God, and He cannot be. Incarnation revealed Him in a complete and humanly unthinkable way. Thus, inaugurating His mission, Jesus places Himself at the forefront of a people of penitents, as if He were responsible for opening a breach through which all of us, after Him, must have the courage to pass. But the road, the journey, is difficult; but He goes ahead, opening the way. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* explains that this is the newness of the fullness of time. It says: "His filial prayer, which the Father awaits from His children, is finally going to be lived out by the only Son in His humanity, with and for men" (no. 2599). Jesus prays with us. Let us keep this clear in our mind and in our heart: Jesus prays with us.

On that day, on the bank of the river Jordan, there is therefore all of humanity, with its unexpressed yearning for prayer. There is, above all, the population of sinners: those who thought they were not beloved by God, those who did not dare cross the threshold of the temple, those who did not pray because they did not consider themselves worthy. Jesus came for everyone, even for them, and He begins precisely by joining them. At the forefront.

The Gospel of Luke, in particular, highlights the climate of prayer in which the baptism of Jesus took place: "Now when all the people were baptised, and when Jesus also had been baptised and was praying, the heaven was opened" (3:21). By praying, Jesus opens the door to the heavens, and the Holy Spirit descends from that breach. And from on high a voice proclaims the wonderful truth: "Thou art my beloved Son; with thee I am well pleased" (v. 22). This simple phrase encloses an immense treasure; it enables us to intuit something of Jesus' ministry and of His heart, always turned to the Father. In the whirlwind of life and the world that will come to condemn him, even in the hardest and most sorrowful experiences He will have to endure, even when He experiences that he has no place to lay His head (see *Mt 8: 20*), even when hatred and persecution are unleashed around Him, Jesus is never without the refuge of a dwelling place: He dwells eternally in the Father.

This is the unique greatness of Jesus' prayer: the Holy Spirit takes possession of His person and the voice of the Father attests that He is the beloved, the Son in whom He fully reflects Himself. This prayer of Jesus, which on the banks of the river Jordan is totally personal – and will be thus for all His earthly life – in Pentecost becomes the grace of prayer for all those baptised in Christ. He Himself obtained for us this gift, and He invites us to pray as He prayed.

Therefore, if during an evening of prayer we feel sluggish and empty, if it seems to us that life has been completely useless, we must at that moment beg that Jesus' prayer also become our own. "I cannot pray today, I don't know what to do: I don't feel like it, I am unworthy... In that moment, may your prayer to Jesus be mine". And entrust yourself to Him, that He may pray for us. He in this moment is before the Father, praying for us, He is the intercessor; He shows the wounds to the Father, for us. Let us trust in this, it is great. We will then hear, if we are trustful, we will then hear a voice from heaven, louder than the voice rising from the depths of ourselves, and we will hear this voice whispering words of tenderness: "You are God's beloved, you are a son, you are the joy of the Father in heaven". Just for us, for each one of us, echoes the word of the Father: even if we were rejected by all, sinners of the worst kind. Jesus did not descend into the waters of the Jordan for Himself, but for all of us. It was the entire people of God who went to the Jordan to pray, to ask for forgiveness, to receive that baptism of penance. And as that theologian said, they approached the Jordan with a "bare soul and bare feet".

This is humility. It takes humility to pray. He opened the heavens, as Moses opened the waters of the Red Sea, so that we could all pass behind Him. Jesus gave us His own prayer, which is His loving dialogue with the Father. He gave it to us like a seed of the Trinity, which He wants to take root in our hearts. Let us welcome him! Let us welcome this gift, the gift of prayer. Always with Him. And we will not err. Thank you.



Catholic Weekly—Available \$2.00

- Gay civil unions. What's the score?
- Mary's statue isn't garbage for Joseph
- Why I became a Catholic: Chrissy's story
- Brenton the tradie loves live-streamed Mass
- Movie Reviews: The Trial of the Chicago 7
- The maleness of Jesus

Please put \$2 in the poor box

BAPTISMS AT ST ANTHONY'S

We welcomed into our Faith-Community
This last week

Victoria Vo
(Child of David & Sarah)

Alexander Avati
(Child of Antonio & Amy)



WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

In your love and concern, please pray for:-

Recently Deceased: Antonia Romeo.

Anniversaries: Abella Family, Maria Camilleri.

Also for: Franco Mosca, All 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, James Dimech, Jean Poles, Hanee Abe Rached, Rhodora Man-on, Anastacio Swing, Irene Norris, Natalie Biro, Cathy Zammit, Renzo Martignago, Joe Ferreri.



KID'S CORNER

Q. What did one wall say to the other wall?

A. I'll meet you at the corner.



Thank You All

This is my last Bulletin as I am retiring this week. I would like to thank the Parishioners here at St Anthony's for the friendships I have made while working here for the past 7 years.

I am now going to spend time with my darling Granchildren and have another 2 coming next year, so it's going to be exciting for my family.

I wish you all the best for the future as I know the Parish will be growing with all the new housing and the College will be expanding also.

Thank you all I will miss you.

God Bless, Cheryl.

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:

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

Safeguarding God's Children



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.