

10/11 October 2020-Year A  
28th Sunday in Ordinary Time



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

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

**Email Address:**  
stanthonystraustral@bigpond.com

**Web Address:**  
www.stanthonystraustral.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 Vigils: 4.30pm & 5.30pm  
(Includes Children's Liturgy during  
School Term)

Sunday - 7.30am & 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**  
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.

**Entrance Antiphon:** If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with You is found forgiveness O God of Israel.

**Responsorial Psalm:** I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

**Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!**

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.  
**Alleluia.**

**Communion Antiphon:** The rich suffer want and go hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

**Dear Parishioners,**

**We Celebrate the Twenty Eighth Sunday of the Church Year.**

**1. Rich and Juicy**

The First Reading says that the Lord of hosts will provide a feast for his people, a feast of choice wines and rich and juicy food.

Rich food is the kind that our culture warns us against. Everything shouts at us that if we want to look good and be healthy, the one thing we should be sure to avoid is rich food. And what can we say about choice wines? They cost a lot of money, which could be better spent on other things; and nobody can exercise hard or work well who is full of choice wines.

**We are made by him to be fed till we are full with the very best.**

Furthermore, almost everybody is dieting or has been dieting. But we all know that even successful dieters fail in the long run. Often, a person diets just long enough to get rid of excess weight and then happily goes right back to his old habits of eating rich and juicy food. That's how diets fail. We seem pressed, then, to give up rich and juicy things forever. And it isn't just a matter of food. Work, marriage, children—all these things can give the same impression. Give unstintingly, labor ceaselessly; but, please, please, nothing rich and juicy! At least, not if you want to be healthy, attractive, and successful.

This is a grim and grinding picture of human life.

*But it is not the Lord's picture.* We are made by him to be fed till we are full with the very best, the most rich and juicy of all. The Lord himself will provide it for us in heaven, in the wedding supper of the Lamb.

But, in this life too, the Lord feeds us with the best—and that is himself, in the bread and wine of the Eucharist. There is no choicer wine or richer food.

And so, as the First Reading shows us, we are not commanded to a life of grimness. We are called to feasting with joy.

## 2. 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.



## 3. 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.

**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.**

## 4. Pope Francis Encyclical: Fratelli Tutti

As mentioned at the Masses, last weekend, I have captured a short summary of the Pope's encyclical and it appears elsewhere in the bulletin.

## 5. 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 Woolongong 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!



## 6. Sacrament of Confirmation

On Friday, one of my last things was to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation with three young people who weekly attend the Sunday 7.30am Mass with their parents.

As we know, due to COVID, the Sacrament of Confirmation was suspended. However, once Churches opened up the Archbishop gave jurisdiction to the Parish Priest of each Parish to celebrate the Sacrament, if required.

Mark and Heidi O'Neill approached me regarding the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation for their three high school students, Patrick, Lily and Erin. Mark and Patrick read at the 7.30am Mass and the girls would bring up the offertory gifts, pre-COVID. So, after careful preparation, we celebrated the Sacrament with their parents and family members on Friday afternoon within Mass.

I pray that the Holy Spirit will guide their lives into a blessed future.

## 7. Goodbye and I Hope to See You Again

This is my last weekend as we celebrate Eucharist together as the St Anthony of Padua Catholic Community.

It has been a wonderful 6 years and 10 months and 12 days with this community. I'm sure this year would have been great too, except for COVID-19, but it has taught us many things as Pope Francis gently expounds in his latest encyclical "Fratelli Tutti."

Families are more together, we have thought about our extended family and neighbour and checked up on those we haven't spoken to for a while. I thank all groups in the parish for their support and I pray that you will give Fr Kene when he arrives on Thursday, your support and encouragement as you have given me. Again, as I said, a few weeks ago when I let you know I was moving I thanked Lea De Angelis and the College Staff for their friendship and support. But, most especially I thank Cheryl and Catherine for their friendship over more than 20 years together with their families.

Again, I just say them "thank you!"

May the Lord continue to build up the St Anthony of Padua in faith and love and that it will be a "light on the hilltop" calling those families moving into the parish to belong to this faith community.

May God Bless You

Fr Bob



**PARISHIONERS PLEASE NOTE:**

**There is a Farewell Card on the table at the back of the Church for parishioners to sign and say goodbye to Fr Bob.**

Dear Parishioners,

As you are aware Father Bob will be leaving our parish as he embarks on his next adventure at Domus Australia in Italy. As the former Chairman of the ex-Parish Council I would like to take this opportunity to thank Father Bob for his service to our community at Austral. The Saint Anthony of Padua community has grown and witnessed a new school during Father Bob's appointment as our parish priest. It is unfortunate that we cannot celebrate Father Bob's care and commitment to our parish due to COVID-19, however we have set up a "Wishing Well" Box at the entry of the church for all parishioners who would like to show their gratitude to Father Bob for his servitude, care and leadership of faith. Father Bob's last masses will be the weekend of 10-11 October 2020.

Thank you Father Bob.

Kind regards

Anthony Zanetic



## FAREWELL FR BOB

We have known Fr Bob for the past 22 years, and in that time he has become family to us. He has watched our children grow from small children to men, has been there for weddings and Baptisms, and all the special occasions in our lives.

We were welcomed into his family also.

He's been there for the good and the bad, celebrated mum and dad's lives with us, and mourned with us. We are very sad to see him go, but wish him every happiness for his time in Rome, where he will be a great asset.

### **A big thank you Boss.**

Thank you for the laughter, your love and understanding, and your support over the years, but the most invaluable asset we have from you is the gift of your friendship. We will miss you but we wish you the best for your time in Rome.

With much love, Cheryl, Catherine and their families.

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### **"How can we thank God enough for you, in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you?"**

A few short weeks ago, we didn't envisage that we would be saying goodbye to Fr Bob so soon, so I suppose it still seems a little surreal that it has all happened so quickly – even though we were ready for it to happen earlier in the year.

Fr Bob, for the past 6 ½ years you have ministered to the parish of St Anthony's. You have served our community faithfully, shepherding your flock and helping us see how faith in our loving and merciful God provides us with clear directions and values for our day-to-day lives. You have helped us see the multitude of ways that we can make a difference in our world.

You were appointed here to Austral because you were known as "Bob the Builder" – having had leadership over a number of large building projects including the establishment of St Catherine of Siena Primary School at Prestons. You were chosen to be here, so that St Anthony of Padua Catholic College could be created.

I wrote in this week's newsletter, that for most of the children in our school, Fr Bob is the only Parish Priest they have ever known. They are delighted when they see him at the Church or in our classrooms. They love being able to answer his questions at Mass, even though sometimes even the Principal isn't sure what the correct answer is! How lucky we are to have been blessed with the gift of Fr Bob!

We will miss how he always found time to stop for a few words with this child or that, a parent with a toddler, or more lengthy conversations with staff members over a cup of coffee in the staffroom. But most of all, we will miss the way he has shared his great faith with us and how he has taught us the joys, the satisfaction and the grace we receive by being active members of the family of God.

Fr Bob, you will always be in our hearts here at STAP, and we know that the many visitors to Domus Australia in Rome will love having you minister to them in your special, down-to-earth way.

Fr Bob, we love you and we thank God for you. We are richer for having had you as our pastor and spiritual guide and we pray that you will continue to be blessed in your ministry of God's service.

**Lea De Angelis College Principal**



## Catholic Weekly—Available \$2.00

- Aussie money trail allegation
- “Nobel Prize” for Notre Dame academic
- Teen Saint in a tracksuit
- Mystery, murder and faith
- Movie Reviews: Ithe Girl on the Bridge
- French actor a real man of faith

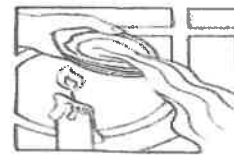
**Please put \$2 in the poor box**

## BAPTISMS AT ST ANTHONY’S

We welcomed into our Faith-Community  
This last week

Mannon Ryan McKell  
(Child of Ryan & Tracey)

Romeo & Rocco Novella  
(Children of Giovanni & Amanda)



## WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

In your love and concern, please pray for:-

**Recently Deceased:** Antonia Romeo.

**Anniversaries:** Pauline Abela, Maria Louisa Corolla.

**Also for:** Georgina and Albert Muscat, Charlie Vella, Dec'd Members of the Bushttil Family, Special Intention..

**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 toilet say to the other?

**A.** You look a bit flushed.



## CHURCH CLEANING ROSTER

### 12-17 October

S Mercieca, M Farrugia,  
T Gimellaro, K Puric

### 19-24 October

V Casha, S Arcuri,  
M Masini, M Cvetko



## READERS ROSTER

### 10/11 October

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

Commentator: Veronica Casha

Readers:

Veronica Casha: 1st Reading

Margaret De Vries: 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

### 17/18 October (29th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

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

Commentator: Julie Dimech

Readers:

Julie Dimech: 1st Reading

Rita Moro: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

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

Commentator: Wendy Tourle

Readers:

Wendy Tourle: 1st Reading

Wendy Tourle: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful

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

Commentator: Volunteer

Readers:

Volunteer: 1st Reading

Volunteer: 2nd Reading & Prayers of Faithful



## Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist Roster

### 10/11 October

#### **Saturday Vigil**

Rose Crescini & Margaret de Vries

#### **Sunday 7.30am**

Virginia Romeo & Pasqualina Catanzariti

#### **Sunday 9am**

Pam Ajkay & Frances Musso

### 17/18 October

#### **Saturday Vigil**

Julie Dimech & Victoria Bugeja

#### **Sunday 7.30am**

Virginia Romeo & Pasqualina Catanzariti

#### **Sunday 9am**

Faye Palamara & Karen Power

## ACOLYTES ROSTER

### 10/11 October

#### **Saturday Vigil**

Gerry Crescini

#### **Sunday 7.30am**

George Ajkay

#### **Sunday 9am**

Anthony Zanetic

### 17/18 October

#### **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

### September

**TBA**

### October

**TBA**





## POPE FRANCIS COLUMN



### Pope Francis and his new encyclical on human fraternity: "Fratelli tutti."

It was not hard to imagine the new papal encyclical on fraternity and social friendship would provoke criticism in certain quarters. Pope Francis released "Fratelli tutti" on October 4 and some have begun to accuse him of interfering in politics and the economic sphere, being naïve about human nature and overreaching his authority as a religious figure.

Such critics are correct if one defines religious authority narrowly. In fact, the Pope is guilty on all counts. And yet, and yet...Appealing to our better selves it can be all of these things, yet be absolutely necessary at this moment in the history of our planet. Pope Francis has issued a "cri de Coeur" to all people of good will. It is a call to our better selves, an astute reading of the "signs of the times", and a reminder that simple virtues like love, compassion, kindness and openness to the stranger are essential ingredients to the healing of our common woes. One thing Fratelli tutti is not: a religious tract.

Its theology is simple and universal, certainly not unique to Catholicism. The parable of the Good Samaritan (Matthew 25) and the Golden Rule are the staples of basic Christian moral teaching form the foundation for his appeal. Francis also finds common cause with other faith traditions -- with references to Mahatma Gandhi, Rabbi Hillel and Grand Imam Ahmad Al-Tayyeb -- to underline the universal reach of his message. The 83-year-old pope is ideally suited to issue this call to conscience. A religious leader? Yes. But even more than that, he remains one of the world's leading moral figures in a world sorely in need of them. He is acutely aware of his own failings and those of the Catholic Church, but willing to accept the mantle of what Henri Nouwen called the "wounded healer". This humility permeates the text, giving it a much-needed authenticity and compassion for the brokenness of others. The encyclical's prose is simple, yet profound. It is accessible to believers of all traditions, as well as to non-believers. It is also rich.

For every observation that touched me, there are probably ten others I don't have room to mention. A troubled world hit by pandemic like many encyclicals, Fratelli tutti begins with a critique of current events. Global conflict, natural disasters flowing from climate change, the growing fear and loathing of immigrants, and the rise of right-wing populism. Francis sees the COVID-19 pandemic as a crucible that has accelerated these existing trends, bringing out both the worst and, in some cases, the best in our nature. "The pain, uncertainty and fear, and the realization of our own limitations, brought on by the pandemic have only made it all the more urgent that we rethink our styles of life, our relationships, the organization of our societies and, above all, the meaning of our existence," he writes. The current economy, with its foundation in liberal individualism, comes in for scathing criticism as the source of many of the above crises. With radical self-interest at its core, global liberal economics strives to homogenize differences between peoples and countries, while concentrating economic power into fewer and fewer hands. Reclaiming the true sense of populism followers of papal encyclicals will be familiar with this critique.

It was a strong theme in the writings of St. Pope John Paul II and has been a common characteristic of Francis' many statements. In Fratelli tutti, he reassembles many of his past concerns into a tightly woven diagnosis of our current struggles. But it would be a mistake to dismiss this encyclical as familiar territory. The pope makes some crucial distinctions that require attention. The term "populism" has been hijacked, he says, to refer mainly to rising grassroots movements against immigrants, those with other skin colours or the ill-defined "elites". But true populism has, throughout history, often been the source of improvements in society such as human rights gains or the battle against poverty.



But Francis notes that too often today demagogues exploit popular fear for their own purposes. He does not name names, but it is not difficult to come up with a short list. It's not enough to merely invoke God and the pope does not ignore the potential for evil to be done in the name of religion. He reminds us that in the story of the Good Samaritan, the first two people to pass by the wounded victim of robbery and assault were religious leaders. "It shows that belief in God and the worship of God are not enough to ensure that we are actually living in a way pleasing to God," he says. Francis's foray into politics is a broad-brush approach. He isn't talking about partisan fighting or the cut and thrust of electoral campaigns. But he is not afraid to use the word. Neither is he afraid to apply Catholic social teaching to how societies work together for the common good. In place of competitive politics, with its winners and losers, he offers a "politics of love." "At first, this sounds incredibly naïve. But he argues there really is no other choice if we, as brothers and sisters together on this planet, are not to descend into despair and self-destruction. Forgiving, remembering and breaking the circle of violence He refers in passing to the many ways people have been oppressed and victimized, arguing that there needs to be true justice, yet also through a process that leads to reconciliation and forgiveness. "This does not mean impunity" for the perpetrators or simply "forgiving and forgetting", he notes. "Those who truly forgive do not forget. Instead, they choose not to yield to the same destructive forces that cause them so much suffering. They break the vicious circle; they halt the advance of the forces of destruction," Francis writes. In everything, he finds his reflection on God's infinite love for humanity. In doing so, he makes a profound case for the good that organized religion has done and can continue to do in society. "We are convinced that 'when, in the name of an ideology, there is an attempt to remove God from a society, that society ends up adoring idols, and very soon men and women lose their way, their dignity is trampled and their rights violated'," he says, quoting his own words to religious leaders gathered in Albania in 2014.

In a nod to the desert mystic Blessed Charles de Foucauld, Francis reminds us that true surrender to God comes in identifying fully with the poor and abandoned — "...only by identifying with the least did he come at last to be the brother of all. May God inspire that dream in each one of us." Joseph Sinasac is publishing director of Novalis Publishing in Toronto (Canada).