



23-24 January 2021 3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time



ST ANTHONY'S PARISH CHURCH 105 ELEVENTH AVENUE AUSTRAL 2179

Pastor: Fr Kene Onwukwe
Administrator

Deacon Paul Naggar

Secretary: Natalie Valenzisi

House Manager: Quyen Phan

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 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 - 9.00am

Wednesday - 9.00am

Friday - 9.00am 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

Entrance Antiphon: O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place.

Responsorial Psalm: Teach me your ways, O Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The Kingdom of God is near; believe the Good news!, **Alleluia.**

Communion Antiphon: Look toward the Lord and be radiant: let your faces not be abashed.

Dear Parishioners,

**Today we celebrate the
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

The **First Reading** poses a puzzle that has bedeviled philosophers and theologians.

God tells Jonah to tell the people of Nineveh this line from the Lord: *Forty days more and Nineveh shall be destroyed.*

When God intervenes dramatically in your life, he puts your whole life immediately at a major cross-road.

God is announcing his own intention here, and God does not lie.

Furthermore, the people of Nineveh believe this line to be true. That is why they fast and repent. And God is pleased with them for doing so. BUT here is the problem: the line seems to be false. At any rate, forty days after Jonah's announcement, the city is still standing. And so here is the puzzle: could God say a lie and approve people for believing a line that is false? Philosophers and theologians have had a lot to say about this puzzle. But here is a simple thought.

When God intervenes dramatically in your life, he puts your whole life immediately at a major cross-road. You can either ignore him and continue stubbornly with your old life, as if God didn't really matter, or didn't really care what you did, or maybe didn't really exist at all. Or you can open yourself to God. You can respond to him with trust and a willingness to obey. But if you do this, you will be leaving your old life aside, for a new life that might well have been unimaginable to you beforehand. You won't be who you were before. You will be a new person, in him and for him.

The people of Nineveh respond to God's call in this second way. When they hear God's voice through Jonah and repent, their whole lives change. Because they repent, they become very different people from the people they had been. And so the whole city becomes a very different city from the one it had been.

There are, then, *two* ways in which the Lord's line can be true. Nineveh can be destroyed either because God destroys the city or because the people cease to be the Nineveh that they were. Either way, the old Nineveh will no longer exist.

And so God's line is never false. The people of Nineveh make it true in the best way by believing it to be true. When they respond with repentance, with trust and obedience, they cease to be what they were. And then, in that best way, Nineveh is destroyed.

2. Covid -- 19 update

In keeping with NSW Health directives, anyone attending a church now must wear a face mask. Children under the age of 12 are exempt from this rule, but are encouraged to wear face masks where practicable. NSW Health can impose a \$200 fine on each individual failing to abide by this rule. Up to 75 people can attend Masses in our church as well as other ceremonies including funerals, baptisms and weddings, providing a four-square metre rule is observed. For more information, visit: <https://www.sydneycatholic.org/coronavirus-frequently-asked-questions>.

3. Masks

Service NSW has a helpful webpage which answers most questions about masks and other precautions. Go to: [Restrictions for Greater Sydney, Central Coast and Wollongong | NSW Government](#). When must we wear mask? Everyone should wear a mask when they are indoors (inside the church) with people other than those they live with. The government Health Order allows that masks may be removed for a variety of reasons including when this is essential to carrying out one's responsibilities. So readers and deacons should remove their masks only and when actually proclaiming the Word or leading prayers. At weddings, bride and groom may remove masks when exchanging vows, signing the register, etc. Whenever masks are removed, clear social distancing is essential. Check also the link for exemptions from wearing masks such as those with mental or physical illness or disability that makes wearing of masks unsuitable. But you may need to have your exemption from wearing mask granted by Service NSW. However, we ask that if you are not feeling too well or have been in contact with anyone from the hotspot areas please refrain from attending mass until you feel better. For further information please contact the parish.

4. Thinking About Priesthood?

A Seminary Open Day will be held at on Sunday 14 February 2021 at the Good Shepherd Seminary, 52-58 Abbotsford Road, Homebush starting with Morning Prayer at 9 am and a public Mass at 10:00 am. The day will include prayer, conversations with seminarians and priests, talks with information about the studies required of men training for the priesthood and a guided tour around the Seminary. Brunch will be provided. For registration or more information visit us at vocationcentre.org.au or contact us at the Vocation Centre on 02 9307 8424 or email vocations@sydneycatholic.org. Please RSVP by Friday 5 February 2021

5. Pastoral Parish Council

Thanks to those who have responded to the Nomination forms for Pastoral Parish Council. The nominees will be invited for an information evening TBA. There is still room for more nominees. Feel free to nominate yourself or someone else.

6. Booking for Mass

Our Parish is still booking masses. Sheets of paper are provided at the church entrance for you to write down your name and contact details. With the list, your names will appear every weekend except if you have indicated otherwise either by calling or emailing the parish office. If you do not turn up to mass and your name is on the list, your name will be taken off the following week if no notice has been given. Our priority is making our parish a covid-19 safe parish. Please note that it is important to book. The office is closed on Fridays so all bookings must be made by Thursday afternoon. Thank you for your understanding.

7. Acolyte Training

Thank you to Gerry Crescini for organising the training of new acolytes to our Parish. Installation is TBD.

8. Direct Debit via Giving Point Tap

Due to the COVID virus, the Archdiocese has asked that parishes include a Donation Point Tap device for use by parishioners who are not carrying cash. Many young families do not carry much cash nowadays, but use credit cards and so, this is a further reason to introduce "The Donation Point Tap." The device is set at \$5.00, so that the \$5 will be allocated to the Collections. If parishioners wish to give above this amount they either "tap again" or use the collection plate as it passes by. Parishioners wishing to claim a Tax Deduction for their giving will need to take up a set of Parish Envelopes and support the community through the envelope system.

9. Counters

Thanks to Wendy Tourle, Joe Camilleri and Teresa Gimellaro and Frances Musso who have volunteered as counters. If you missed out on the meeting but you would like to volunteer please let the parish office know. We would love to see some more volunteers.



10. Want to become Catholic

Please register your interest by calling the parish office or send us an email. We look forward to sharing Jesus Christ and His life with you.

11. Legion of Mary

Every Thursday after the 9.00am Mass we will meet in the parish church cry room to pray the (rosary) together. We will share our stories and we learn our faith and how to share it with others by word and example. Thank you and God Bless.

12. Prayers of the Spiritual Communion and during the Pandemic

Let us join in praying for our members who can't gather with us for the weekend Eucharist due to the pandemic and for the prevention of the spread. Prayers are on the bulletin.

13. Temporary Closure and detour at Eleventh Avenue from 18 Dec to 26 Feb

Due to construction works to the existing Eleventh Avenue and drainage works in front of St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School, access to Eleventh Avenue including the church, hall and St. Anthony of Padua Catholic College will be via Edmondson Avenue. ***This has been extended by one month.***

14. Extension of 40km/h school zone

Transport department of NSW government have extended the 40km/h school zone around St. Anthony of Padua Catholic College, Austral. From 22 January, the school zone has been extended from the current Eleventh Avenue to Fourth Avenue, Tenth Avenue and Landaise Road. Please drive carefully.

15. 2021 Volunteers

A roster plan on a month by month basis for all the volunteer jobs in the church has been set up. The roster will be emailed at the beginning of the month. Printed copies will also be available in the presbytery. Could everyone please fill in the form or call the Parish Office if you wish to volunteer. Even though you are a volunteer already I ask that everyone still fills in the form. Further please note that all volunteers need a valid Working with Children Check and are required to attend a Safe Guarding Workshop with our safeguarding Officer Natasha Steimbessier.



16. Silence in the Church

Allow five minutes before Mass in the parish to be a time of silence and quiet reflection in preparation for the celebration of the Eucharist. No group prayer at this time and, at all times, no noise in the church.

17. QR Code

The government now requires all businesses (including churches) to use the Service NSW QR Code. If you have a smart phone with data, take a picture of the QR Code which is pasted on the entrance to the church window and follow the link as required. You can also download the Service NSW App.

18. St Anthony of Padua, Facebook

Please join us on our Facebook page @St Anthony of Padua Catholic Church Austral. Stream Mass will be now only on Sunday at 7.30am

19. Memorial Mass

Father Kene will celebrate a memorial mass within the normal Friday mass at 9am on 29th January 2021 which is the day of his brother's burial. You are welcome to join in praying for his brother's repose.

God Bless,

Fr Kene

A Message from the Archdiocese of Sydney

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with the 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.

Dates to Remember

Monday 25 January

Tuesday 26 January

Wednesday 27 January

Friday 29 January

Conversion of St Paul
Australia Day

St Thomas of Aquinas
Memorial Mass for Gerald
Onwukwe
(Father Kene's brother)

Catholic Weekly—Available
Please put \$2.00 in the poor box.

- Vatican funds questions linger on
- The disaster unleashed by the Pill
- Is this the ring Joseph gave Mary?
- Stranded Belgian family opts for a life Down Under
- Netflix review: *Cobra Kai*
- Try a little Sacramental Time

**BAPTISMS AT
ST ANTHONY OF PADUA,
AUSTRAL**

We welcomed into our Faith-Community
last weekend

Estella Tang Pham
(daughter of Duc Huy Pham and
Hue Man Tang)



The Ascension Prayer Community Invites You

You are invited for an evening of Praise and Worship, teaching/scripture reflections; and group discussions followed by fellowship.

Where: Meeting room at St John the Baptist Parish
45 Mount Street, Bonnyrigg Heights, NSW, 2177

Time: 7.10pm

Contact: Susan Ph: 9607 5137 or 0415 342 672

The Paduans Prayer during the Pandemic

Merciful God of hope and life,

during this time of pandemic,

May we hold to attitudes and behaviours

that profess our faith in Jesus Christ,

May we act with care and responsibility to keep our community safe,

May we be beacons of hope to those feeling overwhelmed and fearful.

Heal those who are infected by the virus,

Guide healthcare professionals and researchers in their work,

Inspire politicians, business and community leaders by your wisdom,

Bring those who have died to yourself and comfort their loved ones.

We make this prayer through Our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.



WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED OR ARE IN NEED OUR PRAYERS

In your love and concern, please pray for:-

Recently Deceased: Antonia Romeo, Sylvia Wells, George Velso, Alfina Torrisi , Geyta Bugeya , Baby Romy, Archbishop Phillip Wilson, Fr Isidore Anantharaj

Anniversaries: Charlie Vella, Adolfo Steimbeisser, Anka Banicevic, Frano Banicevic, Kristie Scibilia, Agata Emmi, Vince Camilleri, Carmello Vella, Annuzziata Vella, Vincenzo Caccamo, Mecolata Caccamo, Vincenzo Camera, Emilo Dicembre and Mariangela Dicembre

Also for: Gerald Onwukwe, Franco Mosca, Guiseppe Catenea, All Souls of Purgatory, All Souls, Tresa Rappai, Sijo Jose, all special intensions, all members of the Gauci and Vella Families and Forgotten 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, Michael Jassenko, Tomislav Juric, James Dimech, Jean Poles, Hanee Abe Rached, Rhodora Manon, Anastacio Swing, Irene Norris, Natalie Biro, Carmela Garzanti, Renzo Martignago, Renee D'Silva , Mrs Mary Vella, Jocelyn Baclor