



## 13-14 February 2021 6th Sunday of Ordinary Time



**Entrance Antiphon:** Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

**Responsorial Psalm:** I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you will fill me with joy of salvation.

**Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia!** A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people, **Alleluia**

**Communion Antiphon:** They ate and had their fill and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

**Dear Parishioners,**

**Today we celebrate the  
6th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

In the **Gospel** Reading, Jesus reaches out to touch a leper; and, by touching him heals him.

Leprosy is a disease worth fearing. It disfigures and disables a person. The ancient world thought it could be transmitted by touch. For the sake of the health of the community, the law made lepers outcasts; but, even without the law, nobody wanted to touch a leper. The leper healed by Jesus must have lived without the touch of another human being for a long time.

**Leprosy is not the only thing that severely disfigures and disables a person.**

How welcome the touch of Jesus must have been to that leper! And how overjoyed he must have been when he found himself healed! Leprosy is not the only thing that severely disfigures and disables a person. Sin does so too. And the touch of Jesus that heals leprosy heals sin as well. That is why, at mass, we pray, "Only say the word, and my soul shall be healed." Forego touch, Lord! We would be so overjoyed if you just said the word! Your healing would be so welcome to us!

But we say those words at every mass, week after week, year after year. And still we struggle with our sins. Somewhere Nietzsche says, unkindly, about Christians, "They don't even look like the redeemed!" That is a painful accusation, isn't it? Why aren't we healed, by word or by touch, as the leper was? Why do we have to keep asking for the Lord's healing touch at every mass?

But think about it this way: how would Nietzsche know what the redeemed look like? For that matter, how would we? Why should we think that we are in a position to see the healing that the Lord does in our lives? Why would we think that we are in a position to judge how far we have come in conquering the sin in ourselves? The Lord tells us not to judge others (**Mt 7:1**). Why should we think we are able to judge ourselves?

So we do not have to see the effects of the healing touch of the Lord in order for it to do its work. The touch of the Word, for whose healing word we pray at every mass, does its healing deep within. Our job is to be open to that touch.

### **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 and Thursday

**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  
with Funeral Directors.

## 2. Covid—19 update

The following measures are effective from 12:01am Friday, 12 February for the Greater Sydney region including Wollongong, Central Coast and Blue Mountains:

1 person per 2 square metres will apply at all venues, except for gyms. Weddings and funerals will still be subject to a 300-person cap.

Masks will only be mandatory on public transport, but will strongly be encouraged in other indoor venues where social distancing is not possible.

### What this means for us:

We shall maintain a 2 square metre per person inside our church. It is not compulsory to wear mask. However, it is recommended and especially for the elderly.

## 3. Pastoral Parish Council

Thank you to those who attended the parish council meeting on Wednesday evening. There will be a commissining of Parish Council members at all the weekend masses of 20 and 21 February 2021.

## 4. Want to Become Catholic

Please register your interest by calling the parish office or send us an email at [stanthonysaustral@bigpond.com](mailto:stanthonysaustral@bigpond.com). We look forward to sharing Jesus Christ and His life with you.

You are asked to pray for Zoey Bugarija as she undergoes formation through RCIA to becoming a Catholic Christian. Zoey is of Christian background and now wants to join our Catholic community and share our Catholic faith.

## 5. Volunteers

Are you thinking of where you can be generous with your time? We have ministries that suit your offer. Come and join us in cleaning, counting and other ministries. Please call the parish office to discuss or volunteer.

## 6. Project Compassion

Project Compassion boxes are now available for collection.



## 7. Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday in the season of Lent after the 9.00 mass. You are welcome to join us reflect on Jesus' way for our salvation.

## 8. Booking for Mass

With the 2 square metre rule in place from Friday, there is no need to pre book for Mass. Sheets of paper are provided at the church entrance for you to write your name and contact details. Our priority is making our parish a covid-19 safe parish.

## 9. 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.



## 10. Reconciliation

The sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated for those children in year 3 or older. If you are interested in your child receiving this sacrament, please collect a form from the parish priest Father Kene after mass and fill out. You can give back the filled-out form to Fr Kene or submit to the Parish Office. Please contact our sacramental co-ordinator Natalie should you have any enquiries.

## 11. Lenten Program

This program will commence in the church on Tuesday 16th February at 7pm. Thank you to Wendy Tourle for leading the group. There are still spots available so please let the Parish office know if you would like to join.

## 12. Legion of Mary

Every Thursday after the 9am 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.

### 13. 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 in the church. February 2021 is now available.

### 14. Ash Wednesday

Due to covid-19 restrictions distribution of the ashes will be a little different this year. Instead of signing the ashes on our forehead, it will be sprinkled on our heads and you may close your eyes while this is taking place. The words used for signing of the ashes will be said once before the actual sprinkling of the ashes on each individual.

Ash Wednesday mass times are 9am, 5.30pm (liturgy) and 7pm. **Bookings are required for Ash Wednesday mass.**

### 15. Catechist

"You are never too young or too old to share your faith—Become a Catechist".

We are calling on any parishioners to consider becoming a Catechist. As Catechists we share our faith with students at Austral Public School. Training will be provided and support from fellow Catechists. Please consider being a volunteer and contact Father Kene.

### 16. Silence in the Church

Allow five minutes before Mass in the church 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. Information Session on the Ministry of Lectors (Readers)

A call is now being made to those interested in being readers at Liturgies in the church. Please let the parish office know if you are interested.

Training and information sessions will be held for the new members and incumbents at a later date.

### 18. Live Stream Masses

With covid rule changes now in place masses from 20 February will not be live streamed.

### 19. Preparation and Information evening for Baptism

There are few adjustments on how and when to conduct baptisms in our parish. The liturgy of Baptism is now conducted on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month at 10.30am in the parish church. Parents and godparents of those to be baptised are now required to attend a Baptism information evening prior to the actual date of their children's baptism. This will help to prepare them spiritually and physically for the first sacrament of their children.

### 20. Safeguarding Workshop

The safeguarding workshop will be postponed to a later date to be advised.

God Bless,



Fr Kene

### Dates to Remember

**Tuesday 16 February**  
**Ash Wednesday**

Lentern Program  
Mass 9.30am and 7pm  
Liturgy 5.30pm

**Friday 19 February**

Stations of the Cross  
After 9.00am mass

### 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](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org)

### CALARCO LEGAL

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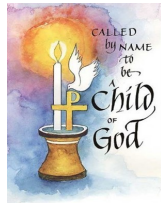
E: [teresa@calarcolegal.com.au](mailto:teresa@calarcolegal.com.au)



**CONGRATULATIONS ON THOSE WHO WERE WELCOMED INTO OUR FAITH-COMMUNITY**

Markangelo Oplanic  
(son of Kirstjan and Amale)

Alessia Lentini  
(daughter of Domenic and Laura)



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

- Chilling Victorian Law
- First woman to vote in Synod
- Tyburn sisters ensure serenity for all
- The Art of Spiritual War
- Movie review: *Greenland*
- Getting to know Catholic Social Teaching

**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.  
Mary, Mother of God: pray for us. All Saints: pray for us.

**Cleaning Roster - 15-22 February 2021**

V Casha, S Acrcuri, M Cvetko and M Misani



**The Marriage Kit - Online Seminar**

Join us for a six-week workshop series for married couples wanting a lasting, passionate relationship. This initiative is in partnership with the Catholic Diocese of Rockhampton.

**START DATE: MONDAY EVENING - 15 FEBRUARY**

**COURSE COST: \$25**

**FIND OUT MORE: [www.smartloving.org/rockhampton](http://www.smartloving.org/rockhampton)**



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

**In your love and concern, please pray for:-**

**Recently Deceased:** Archbishop Phillip Wilson, Fr Isidore Anantharaj and Arthur Hodson

**Anniversaries:** Carmello Vella, Annuzziata Vella, Vincenzo Caccamo, Mecolata Caccamo, Vincenzo Camera, Emilo Dicembre, Mariangela Dicembre and Lidia Pjanic, Edgardo B Ocampo, Teresa Bonnano, Sharon Ajkay,

**Also for:** Gerald Onwukwe All Souls of Purgatory, All Souls, Tresa Rappai, Sijo Jose, all special intensions,, Forgotten Souls, soul of Victor Vella, Maria Guiseppa Simone, Michael Sammut and Angelina Fetrin, George Anthony Velso

**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 Jasenko, 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