



20-21 February 2021 1st Sunday of Lent



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:
stanthonyaustral@bigpond.com

Web Address:
www.stanthonyaustral.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.

Entrance Antiphon: When he calls on me, I will answer
him: I will deliver him and give me glory, I will grant him
length of days

Responsorial Psalm: Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to
those who keep your covenant.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise to you, Lord Jesus
Christ, king of endless glory! No one lives on bread alone, but on
every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, Lord
Jesus Christ, King of endless glory! **Alleluia**

Communion Antiphon: One does not live on bread alone, but by
every word that come forth from the mouth of God.

Dear Parishioners,

**Today we celebrate the
1st Sunday of Lent**

First Reading, God gives Noah the rainbow as a reassuring sign of
God's goodness: he will never again do what he has just done. God
will never again destroy everything with a flood.

The morally sick and destructive population of the old world dies in God's flood

But why isn't it bad enough that God did it once? God brought it about
that every human being, except for Noah and his small family, died by
drowning in one great natural catastrophe. Where is the goodness of
God in the story of the flood? Well, here is one way to think about
God's action.

Consider the medical treatment for certain fatal cancers. For those
deadly diseases, doctors can try to save the patient with an
autologous bone marrow transplant. The doctor takes bone marrow
from the patient and hunts for any cells that are not cancerous. He
saves those healthy cells, but he kills the cancerous ones. Then he
clones the healthy cells and puts them back into the patient. By this
painful measure, there is a chance that the doctor can save the life of
his patient.

In the story of the flood, God tries the analogue of this same
procedure on the human race, doomed to die because of sin. God
takes a few morally healthy human beings and puts them into a new
world, to reproduce there. The morally sick and destructive population
of the old world dies in God's flood.

But, you might think, what dies in the treatment for cancer is only
cells. What died in the flood is human beings!

True, but notice this other difference between the medical treatment
and the flood. In the flood, the selection between the sick and the
healthy people is made by the people themselves. Those who aren't
on Noah's boat don't want to be on it. To get on the boat, they would
have to acknowledge their sins and accept God's means to safety. If
they repented they would be among the healthy, the righteous invited
on the boat. But this is what they refuse to do.

The boat is there for those who don't refuse it. And, as
the **Gospel** reading makes plain, that boat is always there, in Christ,
who saves all those who do not reject him.

And so the rainbow *is* a sign of the goodness of God, who calls
everyone to salvation

2. Covid—19 update

There is a 1 person per 2 square metre rule which applies to 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

Congratulations to the newly nominated Parish Council members of our Church. Please join in praying for them as they offer themselves in service to our parish for the term of two years.

4. Want to Become Catholic

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

5. Volunteers

Do you have some time to support our parish? We have ministries where you can help. Come and join us in cleaning, counting and in other ministries. Please call the parish office to discuss or volunteer.

6. Project Compassion

Project Compassion boxes are now available in the church foyer for collection. Thank you for your generosity.

7. Lenten Program

Thank you to those who attended the first week of the lenten program. This is a wonderful way to pray, know and reflect on the gospel with inputs from different participants. New members are most welcome to join. They are held every Tuesday during lent in the church at 7pm. Thank you to Wendy Tourle for leading the group.

8. Stations of the Cross

The way of the Cross is the Way for our Salvation. The Stations of the Cross are held every Friday during the season of Lent after the 9.00am mass. Please join us.

9. Booking for Mass

With the 2 square metre rule in place, 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.

10. 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.



11. 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 table at the church foyer 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. Could all forms please be returned prior to the 3 March 2021 meeting. For can be be emailed at sacaraments@stanthonysaustral.org

13. Safeguarding Workshop

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

14. 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.

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. Transportation Assistance Request

Some of the elderly in the parish need assistance in transportation to and from mass either on a Sunday or a weekday mass. If there is anyone in the parish who could help please contact the parish office who can pass on details. Most of the elderly do not live far from the church so there will be little inconvenience involved.

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 1st and 3rd 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. Please call the parish office on time if you wish to book a baptism.

20. Hand Sanitizer

Please feel free to pick the liquid hand sanitizer on the table at the foyer. We welcome a gold coin donation for parish upkeep. Thanks to George Ajkay for making them available.



EVENTS IN THE PARISH

Lenten Program: Every Tuesday during the Lenten season at 7pm in the church cry room.

Legion of Mary Prayer Group: Every Thursday after the 9am Mass in the parish church cry room.

Stations of the Cross: Every Friday during the Lenten season after 9am mass.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday 22 February: The Chair of St Peter
Tuesday 23 February: Catechists Safeguarding
course and meeting

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.

CALARCO LEGAL

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Please contact Teresa Calarco for more information:

Ph: 0415 123 807

E: teresa@calarcolegal.com.au



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEW MEMBERS OF OUR FATH COMMUNITY

Lucas Pino Mamone
(son of Kevin and Teresa)
&
Zachariah Mario Micallef
(son of Graham and Amanda)



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 - 22-28 February 2021

M Patolo, Julianna, Lila and Beka

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

- Nobel nominee: Priest of the rubbish dumps up for prestigious award
- Happier than ever: Couple celebrates 70 years of love
- Maronite seminary opens
- Let's go into the desert: Lenten series begins
- Movie review: *The Little Things*
- The Church & politics

Can you picture yourself being a foster carer?

Family Spirit are looking for compassionate people who can provide security and comfort to children in need.

To learn more about becoming a carer register for our next online information session on

**Wednesday, 24th February 2021,
12.30pm-1.30pm.**

**To register call
FAMILY SPIRIT 131819
FamilySpirit.org**



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

In your love and concern, please pray for:-

Recently Deceased: Arthur Hodson, Maria Romano, Ronald Niche and Nelly Ma

Anniversaries: Lidia Pjanic, Edgardo B Ocampo, Teresa Bonnano, Sharon Ajkay

Also for: Maria Guiseppa Simone, Michael Sammut, Angelina Fetrin, George Anthony Velso and Luigi Fabiano

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 (please let us know if you no longer are required on this list)