

27-28 February 2021 2nd 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:

admin@stanthonystraustral.org

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)

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: Of you my heart has spoken, Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

Responsorial Psalm: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! **Alleluia**

Communion Antiphon: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

Dear Parishioners,

**Today we celebrate the
2nd Sunday of Lent**

In the **First Reading**, Abraham offers his beloved son as a sacrifice to God. The **Gospel** Reading identifies Jesus as God's beloved Son. The two readings together remind us that God offers his beloved Son as our sacrifice to God. Christ, our Passover lamb, is sacrificed for us. (**1 Cor. 5:7**).

Who would not want to be as lovely a soul as Kolbe was?

And so the First Reading and the Gospel invite us to reflect on sacrifice. What is a sacrifice? And why would God want one, from Abraham or from us through Christ?

The first thing to see is that a sacrifice is a peculiar kind of gift. In the case of ordinary gifts, which aren't sacrifices, the person who *gets* the gift is the one who benefits from the gift-giving. That person has the thing given; and if that thing was good enough to give, it is a good thing to get too. So the gift-receiver is the primary beneficiary of ordinary gift-giving.

But a sacrifice is a different kind of gift. When one person gives something as a sacrifice, however great his gift is, in the giving of it he himself receives something of very great value. In sacrifice the gift-giver is the primary beneficiary of gift-giving.

To see this point, consider Maximilian Kolbe, who sacrificed his life for Franciszek Gajowniczek at Auschwitz. The Nazis had randomly selected 10 prisoners to die, and Franciszek Gajowniczek was one of them. When he was picked, he cried out, "Oh, my poor wife! My poor children! I will never see them again!" But Maximilian Kolbe stepped forward and offered to take Franciszek's place. Kolbe knew that the selected prisoners would be slowly starved to death in a dark and airless bunker. But Kolbe offered his life for that of his fellow prisoner anyway. Witnesses reported afterwards that Kolbe prayed and sang hymns until the end when his voice failed.

In his sacrifice, Kolbe became a person in whom the beauty of love shone so brightly that his story now illumines all who hear about it. He gave his life to give life to Franciszek, but he himself received far more than he gave. Who would not want to be as lovely a soul as Kolbe was?

And so God, who lacks for nothing, is glad to have the gift of our sacrifices, not because he gets something great from them, but because we do.

2. Details

Please note that our email address has changed. The Parish email is

admin@stanthonysaustral.org

3. Covid Update

Australia's COVID-19 vaccine was out over the week and will become available in phases. Priority groups have been identified using public health, medical and epidemiological evidence. It is the hope of the Australian Government to have as many people vaccinated as possible in 2021. Identified priority groups will get the first available safe and effective doses of vaccines. More people will have access to a vaccine as more doses become available throughout 2021. The phases range from 1a-3:

1a: Quarantine, border and front-line health care workers

1b: Elderly adults (70 and above) and adults with an underlying medical condition; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people (55 and above).

2a: Adults (50 -69); and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people (18-54).

2b: Remaining adults and others unvaccinated from previous phases

3: Those less than 16 if recommended.
We hope this helps you get vaccinated at your appropriate time.

4. Holy Week

Volunteers are needed for the Holy Week celebrations. We need the readers, acolyte, altar servers, those whose feet will be washed, ministers of Holy Communion, those to carry the cross, etc. I know some will be away but could you indicate on the sheets of paper provided on the table at the foyer if you are available and would like to help. A liturgy committee meeting will be held on Tuesday 9th March 2021 at 7pm in the parish office.

5. Pastoral Parish Council

The first Parish Council meeting will be held Thursday 4th March 2021 at 7pm in the Parish Office. We ask for your prayers

6. Project Compassion

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

7. Want to Become Catholic

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

8. Lenten Program

The lenten program 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 the church at 7pm. Thank you to Wendy Tourle for leading the group.

9. 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.

10. 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.

11. 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.

12. 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. Catechist

This weekend we celebrate Catechist's Week in our parish. Thank you to our volunteer parishioners who volunteer each week sharing our faith to students at Austral Public School students. **"You are never too young or too old to share your faith— Become a Catechist"**. Please consider being a volunteer and contact Father Kene. Catechists are available after each mass this weekend to answer any questions if you are interested in volunteering in this rewarding role. We ask that you keep our catechists in your prayers as they begin their classes.

14. 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.

15. Information Session on the Ministry of Lectors (Readers)

A call is now being made for new members interested in being readers (lectors) at liturgies in the church. You are invited to attend a formation session held on Saturday 6 March at 2:00pm in the Church. We encourage all new and current readers to attend.

16. Volunteer 2021

A roster plan on a month by month basis for all volunteer jobs has been set up. A roster will be emailed at the beginning of the month. Printed copies are also available in the church.

17. 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.

18. 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.

Counselling and Psychotherapy

Do you need to speak to someone, do you need counselling or support for relief from:

- Emotional disturbances such as depression, anxiety, and stress.
- A history of failing relationships
- Difficulty in forming new relationships.
- Trauma, grief, or life crisis.
- Fear or phobias.
- Loss of meaning.

Please contact Kylie Cullen on 0403 453 620 or by email at kyliecullen@gmail.com

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

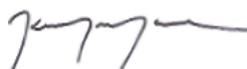
Wednesday 3 March 2021

Reconciliation Meeting

Thursday 4 March 2021

Parish Council 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.

Cleaning Roster - 1-6 March 2021

S Mercieca, M Farrugia, T Gimellaro, K Puric



Congratulations to our new members of Of Faith-Community

Valentina Delaura-Anne Vella
(daughter of Anthony and Kayla)

&

Toretto Giuseppe Gullo
(son of Joseph and Sonyka)



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.

2021 National Count of Attendance at Mass and Sunday Assemblies The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference have announced that 2021 National Count of Attendance (Mass Count) will take place over the first four weekends in May (1 – 23 May 2021). This exercise will be performed in all our four weekend Masses and the data submitted online.

Open Days at Eileen's Place Our Lady's Nurses for the Poor is hosting a monthly Open Day, throughout 2021, the centenary of the death of Servant of God, Eileen O'Connor, inviting pilgrims to Eileen's tomb at Dudley Street in Coogee. The next open day is Sunday 7 March, with two sessions from 10:30am-12pm and 12:30pm-2pm. Registrations are available online: <https://eileenconnor.com.au/open-days>

CatholicCare Sydney Hiring Community Support Workers

CatholicCare Sydney is seeking Greek or Italian speakers to join the team as Community Support Workers. For more information please call 13 18 19.

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

- Called by Him: Aussies ask to enter the Church in Sydney
- 'Don't bother with the disabled': Fury at COVID protocols
- The Year of Revolution: Looking back at 1968
- 200th Birthday: Catholic Education celebrates
- Movie review: *Minari*
- Lent with Mark Shea
- **Article on Father Bob in Rome**

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Calarco for more
information:
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E:
teresa@calarcolegal.com.au



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, Nelly Ma and Francesco Nasso

Anniversaries: Lidia Pjanic, Edgardo B Ocampo, Teresa Bonnano, Sharon Ajkay, Teresa Brassil, Alfredo Pjanic and Ross Cavallaro

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

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,