



6-7 February 2021 5th 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 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.

Entrance Antiphon: O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.

Responsorial Psalm: Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! All people in darkness have seen a great light: a radiant dawn shines on those lost in death
Alleluia.

Communion Antiphon: Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.

Dear Parishioners,

**Today we celebrate the
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

In the Gospel Reading, when Jesus comes to Peter's house, he finds that Peter's mother-in-law is sick, and he heals her. And then look what happens. The whole town hears of her healing and they rush all their sick to Peter's house. The house is surrounded, and so is Jesus. Now, all of a sudden, Jesus seems to have become a one-man hospital.

What is needed for the Lord's service is prayer first.

He is so besieged that he can't even pray in the house. He has to head out secretly into the countryside in the dark of early morning. When his absence is detected, his disciples go looking for him. "Hey," they say when they find him, "Everybody is looking for you"! They seem to think that his urgent-care clinic should be open at all hours. Now, of course, it is a good work to heal the sick. And, of course, those who love the sick are right to want them healed. And yet how absurd it is to suppose that prayer should take second-place to work, no matter what the work is! And how sadly and understandably absurd it is to suppose that the mission of Jesus is to be a Doctor Without Borders.

So maybe it isn't hard to figure out what Jesus was praying about in the early morning in the countryside.

Each healing Jesus does is a good thing. But good things can actually get in the way of serving God well. To serve God well, a person has to do not just any good things that others want him to do. He has to do those good things that God has called him to do. It may take prayer to figure out which good things to turn down.

Jesus' disciples feel that Jesus needs to hurry back to Peter's village to keep practicing medicine. What Jesus tells them, after his prayer, is that he is leaving Peter's village to continue his ministry—not of medicine but of preaching—in other towns. Preaching is the purpose for which he came.

What is needed to serve God well, then, is not endless good things that other people want from you. What is needed for the Lord's service is prayer first. And after that comes fidelity to just those few good things that fulfill that particular purpose to which the Lord has called you.

2. Covid -- 19 update

The NSW Government has announced a further easing of COVID-19 restrictions on churches, It does not necessarily affect our status quo in this church.

Places of worship will be allowed to have one person per four-square-metres with no maximum cap. This change only affects St Mary's Cathedral and a few larger churches that are larger than 1,200m2.

Masks are still compulsory at places of worship and NSW Health can impose a \$200 fine on each individual failing to abide by this rule.

QR codes are compulsory for churches to ensure there is a record kept for all attendees. However, those unable to use a QR code, write your name on the sheet provided. Whether you use QR code or not, please ensure to write your name and contact details on the sheet at the foyer.

3. 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 9am 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.

4. Pastoral Parish Council

The nominees of the Pastoral Parish Council are invited for an information evening in the church on Wednesday 10th February 2021 at 7pm. This is only an information evening on all guidelines. Parishioners yet to decide if the ministry is for them are also invited as the presentations will assist you in your discernment.

5. 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.

6. Booking for Mass

Call the parish office on Tuesdays and Thursdays to book. Sheets of paper are provided at the church entrance for you to mark off or 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. 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.

8. Volunteers

Are you considering where you can be generous with your time? We have ministries that suit your offer. We are still in need of volunteers for cleaning and counters. Please call the parish office if you would like to discuss or volunteer.

9. 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.

10. Lenten Program

As the lenten season approaches we will begin a Lenten Program. Day and Time to be advised. Please contact the Parish office if you are interested.

11. 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.

12. 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.

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 available in the parish office 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. Ministers who are helping will have training in this.

Ash Wednesday mass bookings will open up next Tuesday 9 February 2021.
Mass times are 9am, 5.30pm (liturgy) and 7pm.

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. St Anthony of Padua, Facebook

Please join us on our Facebook page @St Anthony of Padua Catholic Church Austral. The Saturday 4.30pm mass and the 7.30am Sunday mass will be livestreamed.

18. Refresher and Training for Lectors

For the Lectors and those who are interested to join, a refresher, training has been organised. Look out for the date and time TBD.

19. Safeguarding Workshop

A Workshop date has been sent for Thursday 18th February 2021 at 9.30am.

Could you please contact the parish office if you would like to attend. Alternatively an online course is also offered. The Parish Office can also pass on details. It is important to complete a safe guarding course if you would like to volunteer in the parish.

God Bless,



Fr Kene

Dates to Remember

Wednesday 10 February St Scholastica - virgin

7pm
Parish Council Meeting
In the Church



Supporting Parents as the School Year Begins

Parent Line is a service operated by CatholicCare. It is Australia wide for all parents, carers and guardians of children and young people.

With the school year resuming after such a tough year for parents in 2020 – it's good to know that parents can call the Parent Line for advice for anything related to parenting and caring for children and young people.

Festival of Beauty, St Peter's Surry Hills: 31 January-21 February

St Peter's parish in Surry Hills is hosting a Festival of Beauty, celebrating the relationship between God and Beauty which is such a crucial means of Evangelization. Leading theologians, architects and musicians will lead four talks across four Sundays, each exploring aspects of beauty in our Catholic tradition, whether in art, music, liturgy or architecture. Places are limited due to COVID-19 restrictions. For more information and to register online, visit the Parish website- www.stpeterssurryhills.org.au

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.*



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

- Sydney farewells beloved Fr Isidore
- Law aims to protect NSW students
- Forgiveness the fruit of tragedy
- Curbing online Catholics
- Movie review: *The Dig*
- Awful liturgical music

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

In your love and concern, please pray for:-

Recently Deceased: Alfina Torrisi , Geyta Bugeya , Baby Romy, 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

Also for: Gerald Onwukwe, Franco Mosca, Guiseppa 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, soul of Victor Vella, Maria Guiseppa Simone, Michael Sammut and Angelina Fetrin

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