



**ST ANTHONY OF  
PADUA CATHOLIC  
CHURCH**  
**105 ELEVENTH AVE  
AUSTRAL 2179**

**Pastor:** Fr Kene Onwukwe  
*Administrator*

**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@stanthonyaustral.org

**Fr Kene**

pp@stanthonyaustral.org

**Sacraments**

sacraments@stanthonyaustral.org

**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: 5pm

Sunday - 7.30am, 9am & 5pm

Masses: Tuesday, Wednesday,

Thursday and - Friday 9.00am

**Reconciliation: Saturday**

4.15pm—4.45pm

**Baptisms & Marriages:**

By appointment at Presbytery

**Anointing: Every 2 months - check  
bulletin for dates**

**4-5 September 2021  
Twenty-Third Sunday in  
Ordinary Time Year B**



**Entrance Antiphon:** You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Praise the Lord, my soul!

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

**Dear Parishioners,**

**Today we celebrate the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B**

In the [Gospel](#) Reading, Jesus does a miracle: a man who was deaf and impaired in speech becomes able to hear and to speak plainly. But the way in which Jesus performs the miracle seems undignified or even silly. Jesus puts his fingers in the man's ears and his spit on the man's tongue. *Before* the man's ears are opened to hear, Jesus looks up to heaven, he groans, and he says "Be opened!" What happened to the elegant kind of miracle where Jesus just says a word and a person is healed? Why this show, which looks embarrassing for Jesus?

The answer lies in the question. What Jesus does is literally a silent show. It has to be. Jesus is trying to communicate with someone who can't hear. In other cases, before Jesus does a miracle, Jesus talks to the person for whom the miracle will be done. In this case, he does charades.

His charade begins by letting the deaf man know that Jesus is putting a part of himself into the deaf man—his fingers into the deaf man's ears, his spit into the deaf man's mouth. By this means, Jesus invites the deaf man to accept Jesus into himself—literally. And then Jesus looks up to heaven to show the deaf man the source of Jesus' power. It doesn't come from some magic in Jesus' fingers or spittle. It comes from God, whose power is in Jesus, who is in the deaf man, by means of this charade

Even the groaning and the speech of Jesus to the deaf man make sense if we think of them in this way. First, the deaf man sees Jesus open his mouth to make the inarticulate sound of groaning. This deaf man doesn't speak, but even those made mute by deafness can groan. In groaning, Jesus joins the deaf man, who can see Jesus groaning even if he can't hear him.

And then the deaf man sees Jesus speaking an articulate word *to him*, to the man who cannot hear. In doing this, Jesus is inviting the deaf man to trust in Jesus, to choose to accept the miracle—to choose to *hear* the word that Jesus speaks to him.

And so Jesus humbles himself to share the limitations of this one deaf man. By undignified dumb show, the love of the Lord heals the deaf man's soul as well as his ears. Let us be humble enough to hear the love of the Lord in this story.

## **2. Happy Fathers Day**

On the first Sunday of September, many Australians observe the day as Fathers Day. On behalf of St. Anthony's Parish, I wish to remember our dear fathers and those taking the part of fathers in our lives.

We have all had it tough so far this year. The demands of Corona virus has caused more anxiety and frustration among families who could not go out to meet with their relatives. Some have lost their job and could no longer go out for work because of the lockdown. And many have to homeschool their children.

This year's Fathers Day is to let you know that our thoughts are with you. We appreciate and acknowledge your fatherly care and support to the parish and to your family.

We remember grandfathers, step-fathers, fathers in-law, foster fathers and family friends who are like fathers to us. We also remember all the fathers who have been called to eternity.

God bless you all.

## **3. Drive-through Holy Communion**

Some parishioners have suggested if we could do drive-through Holy communion. This is not supported by the government and as a church, we follow the guidelines of the government where we operate. In extreme cases or in danger of death, a priest (in his discretion) might travel to parishioners for pastoral visit. Please ring the office or send an email when this is the case. Our main priority is ensure safety of all.

## **4. Catholic Weekly**

For those of you who are missing the edition of The Catholic Weekly please note a digital version can be obtained by visiting their website on

[www.catholicweekly.com.au](http://www.catholicweekly.com.au)

## **5. COVID-19 update—the current rules**

The extension means that our church is still closed for public worship. We will continue to livestream our 5pm Saturday vigil mass and our 9.00am Sunday mass through our Parish Facebook account: [www.facebook.com/St-Anthony-of-Padua-Catholic-Church-Austral-584855168825581](https://www.facebook.com/St-Anthony-of-Padua-Catholic-Church-Austral-584855168825581). We will keep you updated of any further advice received from the Government. In the meantime, please keep safe.

## **6. Planned Giving Envelopes**

The new financial year planned giving envelopes have been placed at the back of the church for pick up. If you have not picked yours, please ring the parish office or send an email so we can arrange a pick up for you. If you are interested in joining our Planned Giving, please contact the Parish Office. All donations through the Planned Giving program are tax deductible. Thanks for your generosity throughout this financial year. This year we have facilities for credit card payments on the back of the planned giving envelope.

## **7. Office Hours**

The office is closed and all administration work is undertaken off site in accordance with Archdiocesan instructions. If you require any assistance, please continue to email our office or call and leave a message on the answering machine. We will get back to you soon as we can.

## **8. Mass Intentions**

We are still accepting all mass intentions for each weekend mass. Please email the office at [admin@stanthonyaustral.org](mailto:admin@stanthonyaustral.org) if you have an intention. The secretary will return your email to confirm details.

## **9. Safeguarding Workshop**

With further lockdowns this might be a great time to complete your Safeguarding course online. If you are interested in completing your safeguarding certificate online, please email us and we will forward you a link for the online course.

## **10. Church Donations**

With the lockdown now in place for a little longer if you would like to set up direct deposits to the church straight from your bank account, please let us know. You can make a donation at any time and if you are part of the Planned Giving list just use your Planned Giving Number as a reference. Direct Debit donations are 30% tax deductible. Please call the office or email [admin@stanthonyaustral.org](mailto:admin@stanthonyaustral.org) if you would like to make a payment via credit card, please contact the Parish office who can process the payments on your behalf. Thank you for your generosity

## 11. Working with Children Check

It is important that you update your Working with Children Check (WWCC) once it has expired. Once you have your new Working with Children Check please send a copy to the Parish Office so we can update our records. Please note it is a requirement by the Sydney Archdiocese that certain ministers, volunteers or paid employee position held in our Parish have their current Working with Children number on our records.

This week we have been advised of several changes on the Working with Children Checks and safeguarding workshops by Head Office. Our template requires the following information to be added. Could we ask you to email the following so our records are up to date.

- Date of Birth
- Date of Commencement of Ministry (a rough estimate is fine)
- Ministry undertaken

### Those who need WWCC are:

Parish Secretaries  
Youth Ministers, Workers or Leaders  
Pastoral Associates  
Sacramental Coordinators  
Sacramental Group Leaders  
Catechists in State Schools  
Children's Liturgy Coordinators  
Children's Choir Ministry Leaders  
Acolytes and Senior Altar Servers  
Ministers of the Word/Readers/Lectors  
Parish Collectors (AKA Wardens)

### Parish roles that **DO NOT** require a WWCC

Cleaners  
Gardners  
Choir members  
Musicians (where children are not involved)  
Finance Committee  
Parish Pastoral Council  
Counters  
Audio Visual Coordinators  
Piety Stall  
Flower Arranger  
Offertory  
Hospitality Workers  
Ministers of the Homebound  
Welcoming/greeting Ministry  
St Vincent de Paul

Please contact the Parish office by email if or leave a message on the answering machine if you like any further information. All information is kept private and confidential.

Thank you to all the volunteers in the Parish.

## 12. Confirmation

The sacrament of confirmation has now been postponed. A new date will be advised in due course. In the meantime please let us know if you wish for your child your child to complete this sacrament by emailing us at [sacraments@stanthonyaustral.org](mailto:sacraments@stanthonyaustral.org) so an application form can be sent to you Thank you to those who have made enquiries thus far.

## 13. Rosary Prayer Group via Zoom

Each week we will be holding a Rosary prayer group via zoom for all Parishioners. This will be held each Thursday at 5.30pm.

Zoom links:

[https://us05web.zoom.us/j/87979047248?](https://us05web.zoom.us/j/87979047248?pwd=NTFoR005OHJnY28yWm1sSmViaENuUT09)  
[pwd=NTFoR005OHJnY28yWm1sSmViaENuUT09](https://us05web.zoom.us/j/87979047248?pwd=NTFoR005OHJnY28yWm1sSmViaENuUT09)

Meeting ID: 879 7904 7248

Passcode: 90pfig

## 14. Catholic Charismatic Renewal

During our Covid 19 lockdown we can gather together online via zoom to praise God and to listen to teachings. We would like to draw your attention to and invite you to participate in a continuation of our Power Gathering meetings and also to a weekly Charismatic Prayer meeting conducted by the Community of the Risen Lord (CRL). As you may be aware the NSW Catholic Charismatic Renewal (NSWCCR) and the CRL have close links and continue to work together on outreaches and events. CSL Coordinator Dr Suni Fernando is also a member of the NSWCCR Service Team.

**CRL Weekly Praise and Worship meeting – Every Friday Evening – commencing 7.30pm and finishing at 9.30pm (Rosary starts at 7.10pm)**

All welcome to join for a live message from CRL Founder, Lalith Perera, followed by live Worship and Adoration at the same time each week.

Click Zoom Link to join:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86822744315>

• ID:868 2274 4315\*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86822744315>

\* ID:868 2274 4315\*

## 15. Child Protection Week – 6 – 12 September 2021

This year, the Archdiocese will be celebrating Child Protection Week beginning Monday, 6 September and ending on Sunday, 12 September which Archdiocese has named “Safeguarding Sunday”. Our Parish Safeguarding Officer Natasha Steimbesser will be holding a zoom session for parents with their children to talk about Child Protection. Fr Kene will open the session with an opening prayer and short reflection on the day’s gospel. This will take place next Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September at 4.30pm. Please register your interest with the Parish Secretary by emailing us on [admin@stanthonyaustral.org](mailto:admin@stanthonyaustral.org). We will forward a zoom link closer to the date. This will be a great opportunity for the children to chat with Natasha on matters such as:

- Feeling Safe
- A Guide to Better Understanding Wellbeing for Young People
- Children and Young People’s Participation in Catholic Communities

Please keep your eyes out for Child Protection Week posts on the Parish and Archdiocese Social Media Pages, feel free to share those posts on your own social media pages.



## 16. Assisting Live Stream Masses

For those assisting in live stream masses can you please ensure that you check in using the QR code that is placed on the window prior to entering the Church. Your time in assisting is greatly appreciated.

## 17. Volunteer in Australia and Overseas - The Cagliero Project, Salesians of Don Bosco

We are seeking long term (6-12 month) volunteers for January 2022 to work with young people in our Salesian communities in Australia. When it is possible and safe to do so, we will recommence sending volunteers to work with disadvantaged young people in Salesian communities in Samoa, Cambodia, Timor Leste & the Solomon Islands. Applications close October 30th. Send us an inquiry - [www.cagliero.org.au](http://www.cagliero.org.au)

## 18. Humanitarian crises unfolding in Afghanistan and Lebanon

As the situations in **Afghanistan** and **Lebanon** deteriorate, you can help to support families caught up in the crises.

In **Afghanistan**, people have been forced from their homes, with half of the population in urgent need of food, water, shelter and protection.

In **Lebanon**, the country is running out of power, water, fuel, medicine and food. Even hospitals are facing massive fuel shortages and will soon have to turn off the lights.

**Please donate to Caritas Australia so that we are able to respond to crises like these and others across the world.**

Visit [caritas.org.au/lebanon](http://caritas.org.au/lebanon) or [www.caritas.org.au/afghanistan](http://www.caritas.org.au/afghanistan) or call 1800 024 413 toll free to provide much needed support.

God Bless,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fr Kene Onwukwe".

Fr Kene Onwukwe

## Dates to Remember

Wednesday 8 September—The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary



**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/St-Anthony-of-Padua-Catholic-Church-Austral-584855168825581](https://www.facebook.com/St-Anthony-of-Padua-Catholic-Church-Austral-584855168825581)

## 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*

## WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED OR ARE IN NEED

### OUR PRAYERS

In your love and concern, please pray for:-

#### **Recently Deceased:**

John Argyle, Fr John Neill OP , Fr Romuald Josko, Melvin Corpuz, Mary Lyons, Anthony Cantanzariti, Grace Cilia, Raffaella Cicino

#### **Anniversaries:**

Giuseppina Carbone, Vera and Angelina Najdek, Lucija Beuk, Gerald Onwukwe, Mary Low, Carmel Ferraro, Marc Arcuri, Caterina Vocisano,

#### **Also for:**

Antonio Pisano, The Dimech Family, The Pace Family & The Bonanno Family, Paolo Politio

**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, Hane Abe Rached, Rhodora Manon, Anastacio Swing, Irene Norris, Natalie Biro, Carmela Garzaniti, Rene D'Silva , Mrs Mary Vella, Lena Xerri, Anita and Anthony Zappia, Charito San Jose, Flossy Lobo, Peter Domazet, Linda and Family

#### **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)** 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.



## **Happy Father's Day**

Blessing Prayer for Father's Day

*by Greg Sunter*

God of Kindness and Compassion,  
we are your children and you are Father to us all.  
We give honour and thanks to those who reflect your  
fatherly example:

those who are dads and grandads;  
step-dads, foster dads, godfathers and fathers-in-  
law;

those who are coaches, leaders and mentors;  
and those who are elders and wisdom-men of our  
communities.

We look to these men for strength of body and  
strength of character.

We look to them to pass on skills and pass on stories.

We look to them to protect and provide.

We look to them for care and compassion.

We look to them to be co-creators and stewards of  
the world.

For all those who embrace their role as father, we  
give thanks.

For those who struggle with being fathers, give them  
strength.

For those who are distanced from their children, give  
them comfort.

For those who have passed from this world, give  
them peace.

Bless these men that we call father.

Bless them in their strength and in their weakness.

Bless them in their joy and in their sorrow.

Bless them in their work and in their play.

And bless them, Father, for being fathers.

We make this prayer through the one who taught us  
to call you Our Father:

Your Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name;

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil. Amen.