



ST ANTHONY OF PADUA CATHOLIC CHURCH

105 ELEVENTH AVE
AUSTRAL 2179

Pastor: Fr Kene Onwukwe
Administrator

Secretary: Natalie Valenzisi
House Manager: Teresa Rowland

Presbytery and Parish Office:
320 EDMONDSON AVENUE
AUSTRAL

Parish Office is open on:
Tuesday and Thursday

Phone: 9606 0206; **Fax:** 9606 0153

Email Address:

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Fr Kene

pp@stanthonysaustral.org

Sacraments

sacraments@stanthonysaustral.org

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@stapastral.catholic.edu.au

Sacramental Life

Celebration of the Eucharist:

Mass Schedule:

Saturday Vigils: 5pm

Sunday - 7.30am, 9am & 5pm

Masses: Tuesday—6pm

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

Sick Calls: Any time - day/night.

Funeral Masses: In Co-operation
with Funeral Directors.

25-26 December 2021

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph



Entrance Antiphon: The shepherds went in haste,
and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

Responsorial Psalm: Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in
his ways.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! May the peace of Christ rule in
your hearts, and the fullness of his message live within you. Alleluia

Communion Antiphon: Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived
among us.



**Dear Parishioners,
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and
Joseph**

In the [Gospel](#) Reading, when Mary finally finds her almost-adolescent son, she says to him, "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety." It is not hard to recognize her lines to him as a rebuke. She has been looking for him for three days!

Thinking more highly of your mother than is warranted is a sinless mistake if anything is.

But here the story has to bump up against doctrine. Scripture tells us that Jesus was like us in every way, except that he had no sin ([Heb. 4:15](#)). Anyone in doubt about the moral seriousness with which Scripture takes honoring one's parents should look again at the [First Reading](#). How is the doctrine that Jesus is without sin compatible with this story in the Gospel about his mother's having to search for him for three days?

The answer lies in the explanation Jesus gives his mother. He says to her, "Why were you looking for me? Didn't you know that I must be in my Father's house?"

So, Jesus thought that his mother understood his relation to God and his need to be in God's temple learning at this time. He was wrong, on this score, of course. But it's a kind of wrongness that shows something sweet in him, isn't it? He is attributing to his mother more knowledge, more understanding, than she has.

He is therefore not dishonoring her when he takes off for three days without a word to her. On the contrary, he is in fact honoring her by thinking of her as if she had Christ's own knowledge of his relation to his father.

It is true that I am showing a way in which Jesus in this story is guilty of no sin—but only by virtue of pointing out that he is guilty of a mistake. But the Scriptural line says that Jesus is like us in every respect except sin, and to err is human. Thinking more highly of your mother than is warranted is a sinless mistake if anything is.

Jesus is human enough to learn from his mistake, though. The story goes on to say that Jesus went home with his parents and was obedient to them. And so, the story finishes, Jesus advanced in wisdom as well as age. And that is a good way to age, isn't it?

2. We pray for God's blessings in 2022

It has been a turbulent year in 2021. The effects of COVID showed negatively in all walks of life – families not able catch up as wanted, homeschooling becoming norm of the day, many workers losing their jobs or had to work on reduced hours and pay rates. For our Catholic community, Covid has affected the number of participants on our pews on each weekend mass.

I invite you all to prayer on a New Year day that we may have a better 2022. As we thank God for the virtue and gift of patience in surviving 2021, we pray that the blessings of 2022 will reach our homes, families and friends. The New Year Mass will hold on Saturday January 1, 2022 at 9am in our parish church. Hope to see you all.

I wish to thank all the ministries who kept to their promise in supporting the parish in thick and thin. We hope to have you again in 2022 and others who would like to join in any of the ministries, please you are welcome.

Due to some concerns from the Military about travelling overseas, I have decided not travel again this time.

May we continue to pray for one another and encourage each other.

3. For the sake of clarity:

NSW Health has announced a further easing of restrictions on churches, effective from 15th December.

There will no longer be restrictions placed on attendance at Mass.

Face masks are no longer mandatory.

To attend Masses, no bookings are required at all the four masses. However, please follow these routines when you come to the church:

- Scan on the QR code on the pillars or on the doors at entrance to the church.
- Sanitize your hands with liquid alcohol on the walls on both sides at church foyer.
- Write your name on the sheets of paper provided on the table at church foyer.
- After mass, use the alcohol-soaked wipes to clean your pew and dispose the wipes on the refuse buckets at the church foyer.

Please, **DO NOT** leave the wipes on the pews or on any wooden surface as they corrode the woods and fade the paint on them. Also please stay at home if you feel unwell. Your safety and our Parish's safety are our priority.

4. St Mary's Cathedral Christmas Lights

Thank you to the Parish Council who organized the excursion to see the Christmas Lights at the Cathedral on Monday 20th December 2021. Forty-one parishioners attended a beautiful evening in the city. Thank you to Mrs Josie Trueba who coordinated the evening.



5. Rosters

Rosters for cleaning and reading for the next month have been drafted and emailed. Fr Kene will have hard copies with him should you require. Please ask for a copy. Thank you to everyone that assists in all areas of our Church.

6. Catholic Weekly and Messenger of St. Anthony

We have been contacted by the Senior Multi Media Journalist from the Sydney Archdiocese who wants to do a story for the Catholic Weekly and the Messenger Magazine. The Messenger of St Anthony Magazine is a national Catholic family magazine that is published in Rome and other countries over the world. The journalist would like our assistance regarding a story she would like to publish that involves our parish since St Anthony of Padua is our patron saint. If anyone has a story about St Anthony of Padua such as travelling to the statue of St Anthony of Padua or why St Anthony is special in their family. Please contact the Parish office for more details.

7. Volunteers – We need your assistance

As we are reaching the end of the year, we would like to begin drafting rosters for next year. However, we need more assistance in all ministries. If you are a young family moving into our Parish, this is a great opportunity for you and your family to start getting involved in our parish activities.

At the moment we are in need of counters, cleaners and anyone that can assist in church preparation for events. We ask that you consider volunteering in our growing Parish. At the back of the church is a volunteer sign-up sheet. Please write your name and which ministry you would love to volunteer your time for next year. To all the wonderful parishioners who already volunteer, could you please also indicate which ministry you will continue to assist with in the new year.

8. The Sacristy and Electricals

Our church Sacristy is too small to contain even a few numbers of people who must use it at a given time. Could I ask that if you do not have important need to go in there, especially when the priest, Acolytes and Altar servers (with their parent/s vesting them) are getting ready for Mass, please do not go in. Same goes for electronic gadgets and electricals in the church. They are sophisticatedly wired and a little misapplication can disrupt the whole system. If you do not know how to operate them and you need it for your ministry, please contact us for a short training. Thanks for understanding.

9. Parking

Please reserve the parking in the church yard for the elderly seniors who find it difficult to walk a long distance from their car to the church. You may use the street parking on Eleventh Avenue or the carpark between the church and the hall. You may drop off anyone but please reserve the green grass parking area for the seniors of the church.

10. Ministries

Thank you to those who already volunteer in our Parish. There may be something that may interest you within the parish such as becoming an acolyte or eucharistic Minister. Next year we hope to run training sessions for ministries such as altar services, acolytes, lectors and eucharistic ministers. If this is something that interests you, please email the parish secretary or perhaps chat with Fr Kene.

11. Christmas Masses

Thank you to all who assisted in all the Christmas masses. Thank you to the Casha family for the organizing the Christmas pageant, the choir led by Frances Musso and Veronica Casha, Faye Palamara for dressing up the church ready for Christmas, all the acolyte, lectors, eucharistic ministers, wardens and everyone else who assisted.

12. Bulletin

We will not be issuing a bulletin the weekend of 1 and 2 January 2022. Please be advised that the masses for that weekend will be as follows:

Saturday 1 January 9am - New year mass

Saturday 1 January 5pm—The Epiphany of the Lord

Sunday 2 January 7.30am, 9am and 5pm.—The Epiphany of the Lord

God Bless,



Fr Kene Onwukwe

Dates to Remember

Monday 27 December 2021—St John the Apostle

Tuesday 28 December 2021—The Holy Innocents

Sunday 2 January 2022—The Epiphany of the Lord

Facebook: www.facebook.com/St-Antony-of-Padua-Catholic-Church-Austral-584855168825581



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

In your love and concern, please pray for:-

Recently Deceased:

Pasquale Cantanzariti, Rodney Kelsey, Christine Cselka, Natalina Tallarico

Anniversaries:

Adolfo Steimbeisser , Anthony Ziccoli, Emma Marsili, Anthony Vella, Vincenzo Camera, Antonino Ieroianni, Emmanuel Musso, Rosalia Tobia, Maurice Flynn, Charlie Vella, Alfina Torrisi, Joan and Emanuel Aqulino, Carmelo Cilia, Grace Cilia, Syliva Farrugia, George Velso, Donald D'Souza, Maria Camilleri,

Also for:

Stephen Vella, Romeo San Joe and Renato San Jose, Members of the Pelli and Vartuli Families, Sebastiano, Euridice, and Domencio Crestani, The Agostino and Raso Families, Antonio Pisano, Vincenzo Simone, Michelina Inzitari, Carmelo and Anuizzata Vella, The Dimech Family, The Pace Family & The Bonanno Family, Paolo Politio, The Departed Members of the Legion of Mary, Deceased members of the Vella 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 Garzaniti, Rene D'Silva , Mrs Mary Vella, Lena Xerri, Anita and Anthony Zappia, Charito San Jose, Flossy Lobo, Peter Domazet, Linda and Family

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

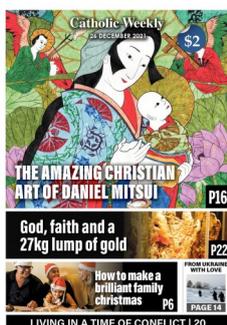
A Message from the Archdiocese of Sydney

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.

Baptisms in the Parish - Welcome to our Faith Community

Adriano Antonio Condino - Son of Anthony and Angela
Connie Anne Timpano - Daughter of Patrick and Catherine
Noah Domenic Broadribb—Son of Ryan and Monique
Valentino Michael Szyjan - Son of Damian and Joanne



**This week's Catholic Weekly
(please place \$2 in the poor box)**

- The amazing Christian art of Daniel Mitsui
- God, faith and a 27kg lump of gold
- How to make a brilliant family Christmas
- Living in a time of conflict
- From Ukraine with love