



**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:**  
admin@stanthonysaustral.org

**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@stapaustral.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.

**8-9 January 2022**  
**The Baptism of the Lord Year C**



**Entrance Antiphon:** After the Lord was baptized, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

**Responsorial Psalm:** .The Lord will bless his people with peace.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! The heavens were opened and the Father's voice was heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** Behold the One of whom John said: I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.

**Dear Parishioners,**  
**The Baptism of the Lord Year C**



When the Lord was baptized, a voice came from heaven saying “This is my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.” There could hardly be a more important message than this identification of Jesus, could there?

But why did this important message come through a voice from heaven? A voice from heaven can be heard only by those who are *there then*. What about everybody else? Surely it is important for all human beings to know that Jesus is God's beloved Son.

**God does not deal with people as faceless members of a collective.**

And the same sort of puzzle arises from the [First Reading](#). It says that the Messiah will open the eyes of the blind, and the Gospels testify that Christ really did so. But he opened the eyes of only a few blind people, those blind people who were *there then*. What about all the other blind people, in other places, in other times? Why didn't Jesus just heal all blindness everywhere with one impersonal command: let all the blind people of the world be healed?

And so here is one thing we can learn from these Readings. In the voice from heaven, in the miracles of Christ, *God shows that he is committed to the good of particularity.*

God does not send the news about the Messiah as an impersonal message directed impartially to all humankind. He identifies Jesus as his Son by a voice from heaven heard by particular people at a particular time. Similarly, Christ does not issue an impersonal decree about nameless blind people taken as a group. Christ heals some particular blind people who happened to be at a particular place at the particular time when Christ was also there.

So you might feel that you are just an unnoticed member of your company or an invisible one of the many ordinary people in your town. But where the Lord is concerned, you stand out as the particular person you are. God does not deal with people as faceless members of a collective. He calls, and he heals one particular person at a time, as each individual comes to him.

But then you yourself—not your Church or your group, but *you*—need to come to the Lord, to face him, to know him, to love him, and to let him heal you. Come as yourself, as you are, *here and now*.

## 2. Welcome to 2022

The year is still fairly new and we hope to start anew in Christ with changes in some of our areas of lives, plans and projects in order to have a better result. One thing that we would not like bring into 2022 is the Covid but it keeps following us. Some could not celebrate Christmas or the New Year Day the way they planned due to Covid outbreak among their family members. We would have also noticed that the present omicron variant is more contagious than the previous variant. Our thoughts and prayers are with all those who had to cancel their Christmas or New Year gatherings due to this

Our hope and prayer for 2022 is that we will experience the end of Covid pandemic this year. For the meantime, let us continue with our hygiene protocols and social distancing rules until it is finally over.

As you enter the church, please follow these protocols:

- Put on your masks (compulsory)
- 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.
- The church is subject to the 1.5 metre distance rule. Please ensure you and your family maintain a safe distance.
- If you do wish to congregate outside the church please do so safely and away from the main doors.

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.

## 3. The Catholic Weekly

Please note that The Catholic Weekly did not publish an edition this week.

## 4. 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.

## 5. 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.

## 6. Volunteers – We need your assistance

As we begin the year, we would like to start 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.

## 7. 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.

## 8. 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.

## 9. Ministries

A training session will be organized for Lectors and extra-Ordinary ministers of the Holy Eucharist. We ask that you consider being a member of these ministries for growth and evangelization of our parish life.

The training will be held in the church on:

Thursday 17 February 2022 at 7.30pm

If you would like to join in these ministries ring the parish office or send us email to indicate your interest.

Thank you to those who already volunteer in our Parish.



## 10. Safeguarding Workshops

It has been three years since we first commenced holding safeguarding workshops in line with Archdiocese rules. It is now time for a refresher for those who completed their courses in 2019. Our Parish Safeguarding Officer will soon release dates for workshops which will be held both day and night. For those who are interested in volunteering and are yet to complete this course, this will be a great time to get the course done as well. We will be in touch with dates soon. If you require any further details, please contact the Parish office.

*God Bless,*

**Fr Kene Onwukwe**

### *Dates to Remember*

Wednesday 13 January 2022—Saint Hilary of Poitiers, Bishop and Doctor



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

## **Baptisms in the Parish - Welcome to our Faith Community**

Ahviana Chanel Tunbridge  
Child of Joshua and Kyralee



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

**In your love and concern, please pray for:-**

### **Recently Deceased:**

Joseph Carra,

### **Anniversaries:**

Adolfo Steimbeisser , Anthony Ziccoli, Emma Marsili, Anthony Vella, Vincenzo Camera, Antonino Ieroianni, Charlie Vella.

### **Also for:**

Victor Vella and Leonard Hoven, Stephen Vella, 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:**

Michael Farrugia, 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, Charito San Jose, Flossy Lobo, Peter Domazet, Linda and Family; Romeo San Joe and Renato San Jose,

### **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](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.

