

## 12-13 March 2022 Second Sunday of Lent



**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:** The Lord is my light and my salvation.

**Gospel Acclamation:** 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!

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

**Dear Parishioners,**  
Today we celebrate the **Second Sunday of Lent**



In the [First Reading](#), God promised Abraham that his descendants would be innumerable, and Abraham trusted him and believed the promise. God counted that trust as an act of righteousness on Abraham's part. Then God promised to give Abraham the land around him. In response, Abraham asked, "How am I to know that I will possess it?" That doesn't sound like a trusting response, does it? If you promised me that you would give me some CDs, and I said, "How do I know that you will give them to me?" you would be insulted, wouldn't you? **What is the point of God's making the promise of the land in the first place?** If you were actually willing to honor my question, then you might try to allay my skepticism in some way. But here is what God did. He had Abraham sacrifice some animals, and then he sent Abraham a terrifying darkness and a vision of fire over the sacrifice. While Abraham was having that vision, God reiterated his promise to Abraham and developed it: God promised to give Abraham the land and told Abraham that his descendants would live in it. How is this response supposed to allay Abraham's skepticism? It consists just in a repetition of the original promise together with some fireworks—a fearful darkness and a display of power over Abraham's sacrifice. It is as if in answer to my skepticism about your promise of CDs, you were to say to me, "I promise you that you will really get them! And I am powerful enough to make things happen." But what was in doubt was my reliability to keep my promises, not my power to do so. God's response to Abraham's doubt is like this. Even with the fireworks in the vision, it still requires Abraham to trust God in just the way he wasn't willing to do when he asked, "How do I know that you will give them to me?" What is the point of God's response then? In fact, what is the point of God's making the promise of the land in the first place? If God wants Abraham to have this land, why doesn't God just give it to him *now*? The answer to all the questions is implicit in the answer to that last question. God wasn't trying to be Abraham's real estate agent. He was trying to develop a relationship with Abraham. But that relationship required trust in God on Abraham's part. And trust in God came hard to Abraham. No sooner had he managed it, and gotten credit with God for it, then he lost it again, as the story makes clear. Notice, though, how precious Abraham's trust was to God when Abraham finally did manage it: God counted it for righteousness. When we lament our sins and long for the righteousness God has promised his people, this is a good story to remember.

### **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;

**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.

## 2. Update on Covid Protocols

As you know, most COVID restrictions has been lifted. This does not mean the virus is completely out of human space but that we should take a reasonable care to avoid infection such as keeping some physical distancing in enclosed spaces, staying home if we are ill or symptomatic and by maintaining a good hygiene while in the church and other places. Please note that while wearing of masks are no longer mandatory for liturgical and parochial gatherings, they are still recommended. However, they are required for hospital visitation, aged care visitation, home visitation of the sick and some school settings.

Choirs and congregational singing are now permitted, and Holy Water fonts can be replenished but we shall keep using our Holy water electronic dispenser (removed during Lenten season). The Registration sheets and QR Codes are now removed as they are no longer supported by the NSW Health. But our liquid sanitizer and wipes are still provided for cleaning our hands and pews. Unfortunately, it would not be prudent at this stage to resume the shaking of hands at the 'Sign of Peace' and reception of Holy Communion from the Chalice during Mass.

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. We have bucket/s at the foyer where you are to dispose them after use. Your safety and our Parishioners' safety are our priority.

## 3. 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.

## 4. Holy Hour Adoration

On Tuesdays throughout the Lenten season at 5pm we will hold a Holy Hour Adoration before the 6pm mass. All are welcome.

## 5. St. Anthony's Feast Day

The feast of St Anthony of Padua is 13th June 2022. To celebrate, the Parishioners will again mark the feast with a mass, lunch and entertainment on Sunday 19th June 2022 in the parish grounds. To co-ordinate and organize such an event, we will need to set up a committee. If you think you can assist or for further details, please contact the Parish office. In the meantime, if you are a business and willing to donate items for raffles, or have a stall you would like to set up please contact us. We look forward to celebrating this Parish event with all parishioners and visitors to our Parish.

## 6. Easter Confession

We will be holding an Easter confession liturgy on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 7pm in the church. All are welcome

## 7. Lenten Program

Thank you to Wendy Tourle who will lead our Parish Lenten Program this year. The program holds every Tuesday during Lent in the Parish Hall at 6.45pm. All are welcome.

## 8. Stations of the Cross

Every Friday after the 9am mass during the Lenten season, we will be holding Stations of the Cross in the Church. All are welcome.

## 9. Reconciliation – First Confession

The reconciliation program has now commenced for the children in our Parish. Please pray for the candidates and their families as they prepare for this sacrament.

## 10. Want to become Catholic through RCIA Program

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

## 11. Diocese of Lismore 2022 Flood Appeal

To donate in Australia, please transfer funds to the account below:

BSB: 037-889

Account number: 1061 5829

Name: DOL Flood Appeal

To donate from other countries please use this

PayPal link: [https://www.paypal.com/donate/?](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=DDS9CFAWSPLYN)

[hosted\\_button\\_id=DDS9CFAWSPLYN](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=DDS9CFAWSPLYN) This link can

also be used within Australia. Please note that donations to the Diocese of Lismore Flood Appeal are **NOT** tax deductible. For enquiries, please email [appeals@lismore.catholic.org.au](mailto:appeals@lismore.catholic.org.au)

## 12. Project Compassion

The church Lenten season has now begun. The church encourages us during this season to practice our faith through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Through the Archdiocesan initiative called Project Compassion, our parish community have supported peoples of the world who are suffering. And this year's 'Thank You For All Future Generations' is a good opportunity to help in preserving and conserving our world and all in it (Ps 24:1). Please consider contributing to Project Compassion by taking a box. They will be at the back of the church. Thank you for donations in assisting with this program.

## 13. Safeguarding Workshops and Refreshers

If you are yet to complete a safeguarding course and need to complete one, please contact the Parish Office. The courses are now offered online. If you would prefer a face-to-face workshop, please also let the Parish office know. Once we are able to gather a group, we will set up a date for a workshop. You must have a safeguarding certificate to assist in some ministries in the Church. However if you only need to complete a refresher course, please contact the Parish office for an online link. Once you have completed your course please send through the certificate issued for our records.

## 14. Volunteers for Palm Sunday and Easter Masses

At the back of the church we have sign in sheets available for all those who would like to assist in any of the Palm Sunday and Easter masses. Please feel free to volunteer.

## 15. Stations of the Cross—Good Friday

All parishioners aged 12 and up are invited to participate in the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday at 10am. Volunteers are required for actors and readers. All volunteers must be available for practices on Tuesdays at 4pm, beginning 15th March in the Church. Please write your name on the sign up sheet at the back of the Church or fill in the Google Form: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdVd7U-4wQ2DLRChYCWtjvTd3pRB8Ujrmi6AMtEAqiKpJS8Q/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdVd7U-4wQ2DLRChYCWtjvTd3pRB8Ujrmi6AMtEAqiKpJS8Q/viewform?usp=sf_link)  
If you have any questions, please see Veronica Casha or contact the Parish Office.

## 16. Legion of Mary, Acies Ceremony

On Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 9.30am we will celebrate The Solemnity of the feast of St Joseph. Last year, Pope Francis dedicated the year to St Joseph and asked all Catholics to turn to St Joseph in our many needs. This year, he dedicated it to Mary our mother in heaven. We invite all Parishioners to a special mass in our Parish where we consecrate ourselves to Mary our mother, asking her to take care of our needs as we promise to be her faithful children. All are welcome.

## 17. Home Care for Seniors



Illy Tohi, Disability Services and David Fleming Home Care will present at St Anthony of Padua Austral about support available for people with a disability and a separate presentation for seniors who may need some extra help around the home. Both Illy and David come with years of experience, expertise, and good humour, to deliver some very practical and useful information directly to you. There will be time to answer your questions, and if you know anyone else who may be interested but does not normally attend the parish, we welcome you to bring them along.

Home Care Services presentation – Wednesday  
**16 March after 9am Mass**

**Where: At the Portico of the church**

As the social services agency of the Archdiocese of Sydney, CatholicCare has been supporting individuals, families, and communities for over 80 years. If you or someone you know needs support with ageing, disability, relationships, parenting or mental health, please visit [catholiccare.org](http://catholiccare.org) or call CCareline on 13 18 19

**God Bless,**

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

**Fr Kene Onwukwe**

### **Dates to Remember**

*Thursday 17 March 2022—Feast of St Patrick*  
*Saturday 19 March 2022—St Joseph, Spouse of of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

### **The Catholic Weekly**

**Please place \$2.00 in the Poor Box**

- A Battle for the Soul of Humanity: Rallying behind Ukraine
- Diocese of Lismore launches Flood Appeal
- Jack Berne's inspiring campaign for farmers
- A modern St Paul: Fr Jacques Philippe comes to Sydney
- Movie review: *Help*
- Book review: Les Murray's Last Word

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

In your love and concern, please pray for:-

### **Recently Deceased:**

James Dimech, Alfred Casha, Constantina Cascio, Carmela Luppino, Dicembre Antonio Armando, Con Kontista, Lola Delicata, Giuseppe Fiorenza

### **Anniversaries:**

Francesco Nasso, Tessie Bonanno Angela Dimarco, Alfredo Pjanic, Joseph Szafranski, Edgardo B Ocampo, Silvester Oros, Angela Revine, Anka and Frano Banicevic, Maria Giuseppa Simone, Mary Agostino, Ben and Catarina Xerri

### **Also for:**

The Morton, Clark, Drabble, King, Roberts, Tobia and Musso Families, Carmelo and Anunziata Vella, Christina and Joseph Grixti, Victor Vella, Leonard Hoven, Stephen Vella, Members of the Pelli and Vartuli Families, Sebastiano, Euridice, and Domencio Crestani, The Agostino and Raso Families, The Dimech Family, The Pace Family & The Bonanno Family, 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:**

Ann Cook, Ian & Shirley Farrell, Ken O'Leary, Paul Farnsworth, Michael Jasenko, Tomislav Juric, Jean Poles, Hane 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.

## **CALARCO LEGAL**

*Serving the community*

- **Conveyancing – buying and selling property**
- **Wills and Estate**
- **Powers of Attorney & Guardianships**
- **Leasing**

Contact Teresa on **0415 123 807**  
or at **[teresa@calarcolegal.com.au](mailto:teresa@calarcolegal.com.au)**

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



Avalee Dania Smith  
Daughter of Ben and Keilee

And

Kaiya Ivy Alipalo  
Daughter of Robert and Olivia

And

Sophia Rose Zammit  
Daughter of Richard and Thipawan

And

Emilia Luca Bacci  
Daughter of Adriano and Sandra

And

Michael David Perco  
Son of David and Maria



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