



**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@stanthonyausustral.org

Fr Kene

pp@stanthonyausustral.org

**Sacraments**

sacraments@stanthonyausustral.org

**Web Address:**

www.stanthonyausustral.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.

**5-6 March 2022  
First Sunday of Lent**



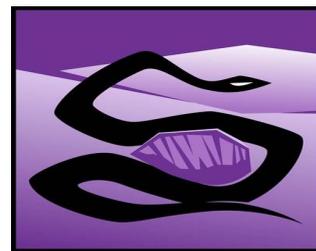
**Entrance Antiphon:** When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

**Communion Antiphon:** One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

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



In the [Gospel](#) Reading, Jesus has not eaten for forty days in the desert, and he feels the whole forty days' worth of hunger. That's a lot of hunger! At that point, Satan comes to him in the desert and urges him to turn stones into bread so that Jesus has something to eat.

**Jesus' rejection of Satan's urging gives us a pattern for our lives.**

Now there's nothing good about hunger, and there's nothing bad about bread. On the contrary, Jesus himself *commands* us to pray for bread daily.

And there is no question about the fact that Jesus has the power to provide bread for himself. He can turn water into wine, and he can stop being hungry by turning stones into bread. As far as that goes, Jesus himself tells us that if a son asks his father for bread, no good father will give him a stone. ([Lk.11:11](#)) So Jesus could get bread from stones just by asking his father, who is God and good, to give him bread.

Why doesn't Jesus do so? And what are we to make of the line with which Jesus refuses Satan's suggestion: people do not live by bread alone? If I suggest that you might like some ham, what sense does it make for you to tell me that people do not live by ham alone?

Notice, though, that that line does make sense if what you are telling me is that you are full. In another Gospel, Jesus says, "Man does not live by bread alone, *but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God*" ([Matthew 4:4](#)). Jesus himself is the Word of God, and he came into the desert filled with the Spirit of God ([Lk. 4:1](#)). Even though he is hungry after so long a fast, then, there is another sense in which he really is full.

Jesus' rejection of Satan's urging gives us a pattern for our lives too. In our suffering, when those things we think we need in order to live are denied us, we do not have to be desperate. When we are hungry for what we do not have because our Father God has not given it, we still have the Word of God, which comes into us and can fill us. Jesus, who is the stone—the cornerstone—of the Church, is our bread at the same time. And so we can be like him: full, even when, in the stony parts of our lives, we are hungry, too.

## **2. Update on Covid Protocols**

As you know, most COVID restrictions ended on February 25<sup>th</sup>. This does not mean that the virus is completely out of humans 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 permitted, and Holy Water fonts can be replenished but we shall keep using our Holy water electronic dispenser (not in use during Lent). 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 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 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 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**

Beginning next Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022 and continuing each Tuesday throughout the Lenten season at 5pm we will hold a Holy Hour Adoration before the 6pm mass. All are welcome.

## **5. Caritas Australia Ukraine Appeal**

The escalating violence in Ukraine is rapidly becoming a dire humanitarian crisis. In a matter of days, over half a million people have been forced from their homes and at least 400 civilians have lost their lives. Our long-standing partner, Caritas Ukraine, is on the ground, supporting people in need during this unfolding humanitarian crisis. Your urgent support today will help provide critical assistance including emergency shelter, food, clean water, transportation services, and psychological support to people affected by this crisis.

## **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 will commence during lent every Tuesday in the Parish Hall. The Lenten program begins Tuesday 1 March 2022 at 6.45pm. All are welcome.

## **8. Stations of the Cross**

Each Friday starting from 4 March after the 9am mass 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. Mercy and Healing Await: Lenten Companion 2022**

This is a free booklet which contains Gospel readings for the Sundays of Lent until Easter Sunday, and spiritual reflections on the Gospels by Dr Peter McGregor, Professor Renee Kohler-Ryan, Mother Hilda Scott, Fr James Baxter OP and others. It was designed for individual or group prayer, either in-person or online. Limited copies will be available at the back of the church but will be used for Friday's Stations of the Cross.

## **11. Support for Flood Victims**

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who have been affected by recent flooding. If you or you know anyone who have been affected by this and there is anything you think we can do to help, Please do not hesitate to contact us through the parish office.

## **12. 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.

### 13. Young People Prayer Group

A prayer group and workshop has been organized for young people, up to year 10, to support them in their faith, growth and in their friendship with God. It will be held once per month. The next session will be held on Saturday 12 March 2022 from 4pm – 5pm at St. Anthony's Parish Hall. Parents, please encourage your children to participate and RSVP the Parish office if you wish for your child to attend.

### 14. 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.

### 15. 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.

### 16. Palm Sunday and Easter Masses

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

### 17. 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 on 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-4wQ2DLRChYCWtjvTd3pRB8Ujrmi6AMtEAqjKpJS8Q/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdVd7U-4wQ2DLRChYCWtjvTd3pRB8Ujrmi6AMtEAqjKpJS8Q/viewform?usp=sf_link)

### 18. 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. The year Pope Francis has dedicated the year to Mary our mother in heaven for she is always there ready to listen to our needs. This year we invite all Parishioners to a special mass in our Parish where we consecrate ourselves to Mary our mother, asking her to take needs as we promise to be her faithful children. All are welcome.

### 19. Sign an E-Peition against Euthanasia Laws in NSW

Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP has asked Catholics to support an e-petition launched by Upper House MLC Greg Donnelly



opposing proposed euthanasia laws in NSW. A parliamentary committee has

recommended that the Legislative Council proceed with consideration of the bill. The unwillingness of the Committee to take a position on the bill means we need to fight even harder. To demonstrate your opposition to the proposed laws, please scan the QR Code and follow the link to sign the e-petition.

**God Bless,**

**Fr Kene Onwukwe**

### Dates to Remember

Monday 7 March 2022—Feast Day Sts Perpetua and Felicity

Tuesday 8 March 2022—Feast day St John of God

Wednesday 9 March 2022—Feast day St Frances of Rome

### The Catholic Weekly

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

- Stand by Ukraine
- Work in Wokeness: Discrimination Bill blocked
- Mark Shea: Your big Lenten opportunity
- Second class Catholics: It's official in NSW
- Movie review: *Abraham Lincoln*
- Why words matter: Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP

## 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, 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**

Maduka Augustine Owen Ezenwa  
Son of Ikenna and Sarah

And

Dion Ben Williams  
Son of Shane and Bernadette

And

Giulia Minnici  
Daughter of Roberto and Joanna

And

Gabriella Napoli  
Daughter of Joseph and Laura



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