



7-8 May 2022
Fourth Sunday of Easter—Year C



**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.

Entrance Antiphon: The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me. Alleluia

Communion Antiphon: The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

**Dear Parishioners
Today we celebrate the
Fourth Sunday of Easter**



In the [First Reading](#), Paul is preaching in Antioch, and things are not going well for him. His audience contradicts him and

shouts violent abuse at him. They find Paul's Christianity an affront to their own religion, which they do not want to give up. What would we expect Paul's response to be to these angry people in his audience? How about this?

Paul: "Oh, gosh! I see that I have offended you! I am so sorry! I want you to know that I do validate your point of view too. No doubt, we all believe in the same God! I wasn't for a moment trying to suggest that there is anything wrong about your religion! I do wish that you wouldn't call me names and shout at me when I am trying to talk to you, but it's OK if you feel you need to do so. I appreciate that I upset you, though I really didn't mean to do so."

All of us are headed for that cliff because of our post-Fall human nature.

But, of course, this is not what Paul says at all. *By rejecting my preaching*, he tells the angry people, *you condemn yourselves and show yourselves unworthy of eternal life*. This is a stern condemnation both of their religious views and of their rejection of Paul's preaching. What happened to meekness, to turning the other cheek, to love of your enemies?

Well, if your enemy is determined to walk off a cliff, what would you do? Validate his point of view and tell him that all paths near the cliffs are equally good? The only way to love your enemy in this case is to tell him vehemently that he will kill himself if he doesn't alter his path. There is no love for him in being meek or gentle when he is about to go over the edge. In fact, all of us are headed for that cliff because of our post-Fall human nature. We are all unworthy of eternal life. But Christ suffered and died to save us—not from a wrathful God, but from ourselves. Our path to God lies through Christ and his cross.

And so, Paul's line to his audience is as stern as it is because, in their abusive rejection of him, they are racing towards destruction. Telling them that they are doing so is the best loving thing Paul can do for them.

2. Happy Mothers Day

Mother's Day has been celebrated in Australia on the second Sunday of May since 1924. But Catholics



have been celebrating a sort of Mother's Day since the first few centuries of the Church. The fourth Sunday of Lent, or Laetare Sunday, traditionally was a time to return to your mother church (home parish) and leave an offering. Those who practiced this custom were said to have gone "a-mothering", and soon it became known as "Mothering Sunday." As the popularity of "Mothering Sunday" grew, it became a day when domestic servants were given leave to be with their families. The day became one of the few times a year where a grown family could gather, as working families often had conflicting schedules. Once the tradition became a day for family reunion, with a reference to mothers in the name, it naturally evolved to include all mothers within the celebration. For children, the long walk back home became a time for picking flowers for mum, and this would grow to the tradition of giving gifts of all sorts to mothers. In Catholic tradition, the month of May is dedicated to Mary. Chosen by God above all other women, Mary's faith and obedience paved the way for the Incarnation. Her example teaches us faith, obedience, humility and most of all, how to love. As St Thomas of Villanova said, "If in this world any creature ever loved God with whole heart, with whole soul, and with whole mind, she was the creature."

"From Mary we learn to surrender to God's will in all things. From Mary we learn to trust even when all hope seems gone.

From Mary we learn to love Christ her Son and the Son of God." (ST POPE JOHN PAUL II)

Happy Mothers' Day to all mothers (Culled from the Catholic Diocese of Wollongong)

3. May, the Month of Mary/Legion of Mary Membership

In this month of May, the Month of Mary, it would be good to do something special for Our Holy Mother. Mary can use us in her mission of bringing more people to her son Jesus Christ. Legion of Mary society is a good opportunity to do this and very nice if you can join. Legion of Mary society is open to all men and women providing you are a practicing Catholic. For more details, please contact the parish office or Joe Cilia.

4. 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.

5. 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.



6. Choir

We would like to extend our Choir groups at each mass. If you can sing, and would like to be part of our choir, please let the Parish office know. If you are talented enough to play an instrument, especially the piano, please let us know.



7. Children's Liturgy

Children's liturgy returns to the 5pm Saturday mass and the 9am Sunday mass beginning on the weekend of 14/15 May. Thanks to all the volunteers who will be helping in that ministry but we still need more volunteers. If you can assist, please contact the Parish office. It will run on a roster basis. This ministry requires a current safeguarding certificate and working with children check. A meeting will be organized soon.

8. 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.



9. Parish Project

You would perhaps have noticed the paints on our pews have been badly corroded by the wipes we use to clean them due to alcohol that is contained in the wipes. There is need to make the pews tidier by repainting them. We have also identified our parish billboard right on the corner of Edmondson and Eleventh Avenues as a project that can improve awareness to the increasing population moving into Austral community. We therefore seek your support by funding the project/s or how best we can source fund for the projects. Thanks to you for your generosity and suggestions.

12. CWF

The **Charitable Works Fund (CWF) May Appeal** will be



happening this weekend and we need your help! Your donations will help those most struggling this winter – single mothers facing homelessness, those struggling with mental health and our Aboriginal communities. You will also be building a culture of support and encouragement for our hospital and university chaplaincies, and our future priests at the Good Shepherd Seminary. Special envelopes are available at the parish. Alternatively, you can learn more and donate securely at www.ourfaithourworks.org/cwf. **Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.**

13. Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021

Christians in NSW are called to sponsor a paper petition in order to overturn the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021. The legalization of assisted suicide and euthanasia, as provided for in the bill, uproots and sets aside key long standing criminal law provisions in the state and the ancient medical principle of “First do no harm” that are directed at respecting and protecting human life. It would be great for you to consider signing the paper petition by putting in your signature and writing your name and address on the sheets of paper provided at the foyer. You need to be over the age of 18 to sign. Thank you for joining in rejecting the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021

14. Anointing of the Sick

Every third Saturday our Parish will hold an Anointing of the Sick service in the Church commencing at 10.30am. All are welcome. Our next service will be Saturday 21st May 2022.

15. 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. We have just bought a new Audio/Video electronic Mixer to replace the old one that became faulty due to mishandling. If you do not know how to operate them and you need any of it for your ministry, please contact us for a short training. Thanks for understanding.

16. Lector's Workshop/Refresher course

A lector's workshop will be held in our Church on Saturday 14th May 2022 at 11.30am to refresh our minds on the ministry of Lector. This workshop is important for all members as we want to maintain uniformity across all Masses in the way we proclaim the Word of God. The Workshop will not exceed 60mins. It is strongly encouraged that you attend and there will be commitment ceremony for all Lectors on our weekend Masses following the Workshop Thank you for volunteering in this ministry.

God Bless,

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

Fr Kene Onwukwe

Dates to Remember

Thursday 13th May 2022— Feast of Sts Nereus and Achilleus and Pancras

Friday 13th May 2022—Our Lady of Fatima

Saturday 14th May 2022—Feast of St Matthias

This week's edition of The Catholic Weekly Please place \$2.00 in the Poor box

- Families reveal real issues of the election
- Life Law: Is the US Supreme Court about to set the record straight?
- Men on the march
- New science backs Shroud
- Movie review: *Sonic the Hedgehog 2*
- Pacific Islanders celebrate



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

In your love and concern, please pray for:-

Recently Deceased:

Mary Vella, Father Moses Debono, Guido Pace, Fernando San Jose, Antoniette Teresa Grotto, Joe Vella, Silas Egwin, Josephine Camilleri, Lenette and Joe Gerardis, Nancy Chelliah, James Dimech

Anniversaries:

Maria Rosa Ameduri, Guiseppina Musso, John , Victoria, Joe Bonanno, Joe Pace Anna Luciani (Mazzulli), Giovanni Macerola, Regina Jasenko, August Naydek, Giovanna Fedele, Elisabetta Maiolo, Isidore Bianchi, Joseph Carra, Braulio San Jose, Felix San Jose, Eduardo San Jose, Eduardo San Jose Jr, Ernst and Ella Herrmann

Also for:

Jim, John and Carmen Gauci, Sharon Simone Ajkay, 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, Maria Luisa and Domencio Crestani, 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:

Doris and Joe Gauci, Fr Noel Short, 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

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.

Prayer for Mothers

Loving God, we thank you for all the mothers in the world. Bless them so that they may always give life and nourishment to their children through their firm faith, generous and selfless love, good example and constant concern for their bodily and spiritual health. Grant that we, their children, may honour them always with a spirit of profound love, respect and thanksgiving. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

Baptisms in the Parish Welcome to our Faith- Community



*Elizabeth Frances Tripodi
Daughter of Domenic and Demetra*

*Mila Stella & Mireya Gianna Cisterna
Daughters of Cristian and Natalie*

*Jacob Zayne Tesoriero
Son of Bartolo and Zena*

*Penelope Zantiras
Daughter of Nicholas & Maria*

*Levi Patrick Saville
Son of Benjamin and Keira*

Mothers' Day Dermot's Story

Dermot McCann forgot his lines in a Sunday school play. Luckily his mother was in the front row especially to prompt him.

She gestured and formed the words silently with her lips, but it did not help. Dermot's memory was completely blank. Finally, she leaned forward and whispered the cue, 'I am the light of the world.' Dermot beamed and with great feeling and a loud clear voice announced, 'My mother is the light of the world.'

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

