



**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

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Fr Kene
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Sacraments
sacraments@stanthonysaustral.org

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Archdiocesan website:
www.sydney.catholic.org.au
Presbytery is closed on Mondays.

**St Anthony of Padua
Catholic College
School Principal:**

Mrs Lea De Angelis
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Sacramental Life

Celebration of the Eucharist:

Mass Schedule:

Saturday Vigils: 5pm
Sunday - 7.30am, 9am & 5pm
Masses: Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday and - Friday 9.00am

Reconciliation: Saturday
4.15pm—4.45pm

Baptisms:

Contact the Parish Office

Marriages:

By appointment at Presbytery

Anointing: 3rd Wednesday of
the month after the 9am mass.

Sick Calls: Any time - day/night.

Funeral Masses: In Co-operation
with Funeral Directors.

**26—27 November 2022
First Sunday of Advent**



Entrance Antiphon: To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

Responsorial Psalm: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

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



The first reading of the first Sunday of this liturgical year contains a vision of universal peace and an invitation to participate in that peace by fidelity to the word of God. This vision of the future describes the eschatological age of complete faithfulness to God and the peace and harmony among people that will flow from it. Although the peace depicted here can come only from God, people do in fact play a very important role in its advent. Because this eschatological age has not yet come in its fullness, this vision is a promise, and an invitation that will continue to be relevant to each succeeding generation. The responsorial psalm, a song of Zion, is an individual hymn of joy and praise of one who had the opportunity to go to the temple in Jerusalem. The city was built on Mount Zion, a hill that towered above much of the neighbouring low-lying terrain. This not only gave it a vantage point from which one could survey the surrounding territory, an important asset in case of possible attack, but its height enabled it to be seen from a distance, thus creating the impression of watchfulness and protection. Peace, as spoken of here, incorporates more than the absence of war or strife. It includes prosperity, well-being, and completeness. It is for this peace that the psalmist requests prayer. Paul speaks about the decisive time of fulfilment, the kairós, the period of transition from the present age of sin to the long-awaited age of fulfilment. He employs several images to characterise this division of time: 'this age' is like slumber, or night and darkness; 'the age to come' is like wakefulness, or day and light. The statement 'already but not yet' acknowledges that the age of fulfilment has already dawned, but it has not yet been brought to completion. The new life that Christians are called to live is characterised as putting on clothing – armour, because they face spiritual warfare. To 'put on the Lord Jesus Christ' means to become identified with him. The gospel reading is a lesson on the character of the parousía or future coming of the Son of Man. It addresses the sudden nature of this imminent time of fulfilment and of the need to be ready at all times for its dawning. In order to explain this, Jesus draws an analogy with one of the stories of ancient Jewish tradition, and then sketches two very ordinary experiences of life as demonstrations. He concludes with a kind of parable that teaches a lesson. All of these teaching devices follow the same twofold pattern: 1) the people had no idea of what was in store for them; 2) calamity befell them because they were unprepared. The message here is clear: 'Stay awake!' 'Be prepared!'

Author: Dianne Bergant CSA

2. First week of Advent Year A

I welcome you all to the New Year of the church's calendar with the first Sunday of Advent, Year A. In the season of Advent, we wait in hope and prayer for the coming of Jesus Christ at the end of time and for the celebration of Christmas. The birth of Jesus at Christmas reminds us about giving as God gives His son to be like us in all things. Let us think out how we can give of ourselves for the good of others. Whether it is giving of ourselves in praying for others, contributing to St. Vincent de Paul's appeal, or giving of our time to help those who need our assistance, we are contributing to the spirit of Christmas.

It also requires us to be clean of heart in welcoming Jesus being born not only in the world but also in our hearts. I wish you all a faith-filled Advent season and a joyous Christmas.

3. Christmas Pageant

Attention children of St Anthony's Parish! We would like to invite any child from 5 years and above to participate in the Christmas Pageant, to be presented at our Christmas Eve Vigil Mass (5.00 pm). Practice begins on **Thursday 1st December at 3.30pm** in the Church and then continues every Thursday until Christmas Eve. Bring along your smiles and talents to help make this Christmas extra special! If you have any questions, please see Veronica or Vanessa Casha, or contact the Parish office.

4. Thank you

Thank you to Faye Palamara and Pasqualina Cantanzariti who decorated the church with the Christmas tree and prepare our church for Advent season. It is much appreciated.

5. St Vincent De Paul

Our Parish will again hold a St Vincent De Paul Christmas Appeal with a box put under our Christmas Tree in the church. A list of items you may wish to donate to St Vincent De Paul is on our Bulletin board. Please leave any donated items under our Christmas tree no later than **Sunday 11th December 2022**, as all items will need to be picked up prior to Christmas for early distribution to those in need. Thank you for your generosity.



6. Christmas Confession

Christmas confession is as follows:

Date: Thursday 15 December 2022

Time: 6:30pm

This is an excellent opportunity to prepare for the Christmas celebration. You are invited.

7. Advent Program

The Advent Program has commenced with its first week. It is not too late to attend any week during the Advent season. This program helps you prepare ahead of time, with regard to listening and reflecting on the coming weekend's gospel reading, and with the opportunity to pray for those who need our prayers.

Time: 6:30 pm

Where: Cry room in the Church

All are welcome. Thank you to Roweena Richard for leading the program.

8. Christmas Mass Times

Saturday 24th December – 5.00 pm
Children's Mass

Saturday 24th December – 7.30 pm

Sunday 25th December – Midnight

Sunday 25th December – 9.00 am

If you would like to volunteer at any of the masses as an acolyte, Lector, or eucharistic minister, please contact the Parish Office. Please note those who have completed their working with children checks and safeguarding workshops will be considered. The children's mass at 5.00 pm will only require an acolyte and eucharistic minister. A roster will be drawn and shared to all volunteers prior to the masses.

9. Christmas Carols Picnic at St Anthony's

This year, Saint Anthony's will be holding a Christmas Carols Picnic on the grass area in front of the Church from **6:20-8:30 pm on Saturday 10th December**. All are invited to listen to some excellent music led by our Parish choirs and other parishioners while spending some time with your families and other parishioners. This is a FREE event, with ice cream and coffee available for purchase on the night. BYO dinner and a picnic blanket/chair. This is an alcohol free event. We look forward to seeing you there!

10. St Mary's Cathedral Lights

The Parish Council has organised transport for Parishioners to St Mary's Cathedral for the 'Lights of Christmas'. Last year's trip was great and we hope this year will be fabulous.

Date: Monday 12th December

Time: 5.00 pm – 9.30 pm

5.00 - Depart Austral from the Church carpark to the Cathedral. Please arrive by 4.45pm.

6.15 pm - Approximate arrival into the city where you are free to view the light show at your leisure and spend time at the Cathedral.

9.30 pm - Depart the City and return to Austral
Cost: \$22 per person, including children and pensioners

Please contact the Parish office for more information and to book your spot on the bus. Please note that to secure your seat on the bus, payment is required prior to this event. Thank you to those who have booked already.

11. RCIA

The program holds every Wednesday and lasts for about 90 mins for each session.

You can still join the program to learn about your faith or be in full communion with the Catholic church. The candidates' celebration and reception of sacraments will be during the Lenten season and Easter next year.

If you are still interested to join, please ring the parish office. Thanks to Wendy Tourle for accepting to lead in this program.

12. Parking

Please reserve the parking in the churchyard 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.

13. Anointing of the sick Mass

Please be reminded that this mass is celebrated every 3rd Wednesday of the month at 9 am Mass. Please join us for our next mass on Wednesday 21st December 2022.

14. Silence in the Church

Allow five minutes before Mass in the church to be a time of silence and quiet reflection in preparation for the celebration of the Eucharist. No group prayer at this time and, at all times, no noise in the church.

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 an 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. The 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 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.

God Bless,



Fr Kene Onwukwe

Events in the Parish

- *Every Thursday Legion of Mary after the 9am mass*
- *Every Monday (the last session for the year will be Monday 19th December 2022 then will recommence Monday 9th January 2023 at 10am) in St Anthony's Parish Hall a **Rosary Prayer group** is held at 10am. It begins with the chaplet of Divine Mercy followed by praying the decades of the Rosary in different languages. All are welcome.*
- *Third Wednesday of the month after the 9am mass **Anointing of the Sick**. The next service will be held on Wednesday 21st December 2022.*
- ***Young Children's Prayer Group** Every 2nd Saturday of the month. The next prayer group will be held on Saturday 10th December 2022 in the Parish Hall at 4pm All children are welcome*

Baptisms in the Parish
Welcome to our Faith
Community



- Ariana Mary Mushoul—Daughter of Ron and Jiaxian
- Sebastian Emilio Mardones—Son of David and Caterina
- Isaac Lloyd Standley - Son of Dean and Lisa
- Ogechi Immaculata Ugwuja—Daughter of Isreal and Ms Nwokolo

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

In your love and concern, please pray for:-

Recently Deceased: Carmela Bugeja , Quirino Bianco, Augusto Lisman, Michael Gauci, Raffaele Flavo

Anniversaries:

George Vello, Helen Argyle, William Christophers, Emmanuel Tabone, Joseph Jasenko, Franca and Rocco Romeo Antonio Chiappolone,

Also for:

Guisepppe Santarosa, Peter Domazet, Annunziata Zappacosta, James Dimech, Elena Gugitti, Antonio Trimarchi, Emanuel and Femia Gatt, Gesu (Jesi) Lustrì

We remember those who are sick in the community that the Lord will be their comforter and healer as we pray for: Anna Giordano, Claudio Ribeiro, Herbet Herrman, Marija Rados, Saint Lucia, Doris and Joe Gauci, Fr Noel Short, Shirley Farrell, Ken O'Leary, Paul Farnsworth, Michael Jasenko, Tomislav Juric, 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, Linda and Family; Romeo 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.

Dates to Remember

Wednesday 30th November 2022—Feast of St Andrew

Saturday 3rd December 2022 - St Francis Xavier—Optional Memorial

This Week's Edition of the Catholic Weekly—Please place \$2.00 in the Poor Box



- Theology of the Body. Christopher West heads to Sydney.
- NSW Floods: Refugees return the favour
- "I'll close them all". NT Bishop confronts government over schools
- The Shadow Bishops
- Knights and Dames: Ten Sydneysiders honoured
- Christmas at the Cathedral Lights



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Contact Teresa on **0415 123 807**
or at teresa@calarcolegal.com.au