



**ST ANTHONY OF  
PADUA  
CATHOLIC  
CHURCH**  
**105 ELEVENTH AVE  
AUSTRAL 2179**

**Pastor:** Fr Ronnie Maree  
*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 Addresses:**  
admin@stanthonysaustral.org  
**Fr Ronnie**  
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, 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.

**14-15 January 2023**  
**Second Sunday in Ordinary Time A**



**Entrance Antiphon:** All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!

**Responsorial Psalm:** Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us. He enabled those who accepted him to become the children of God. Alleluia!

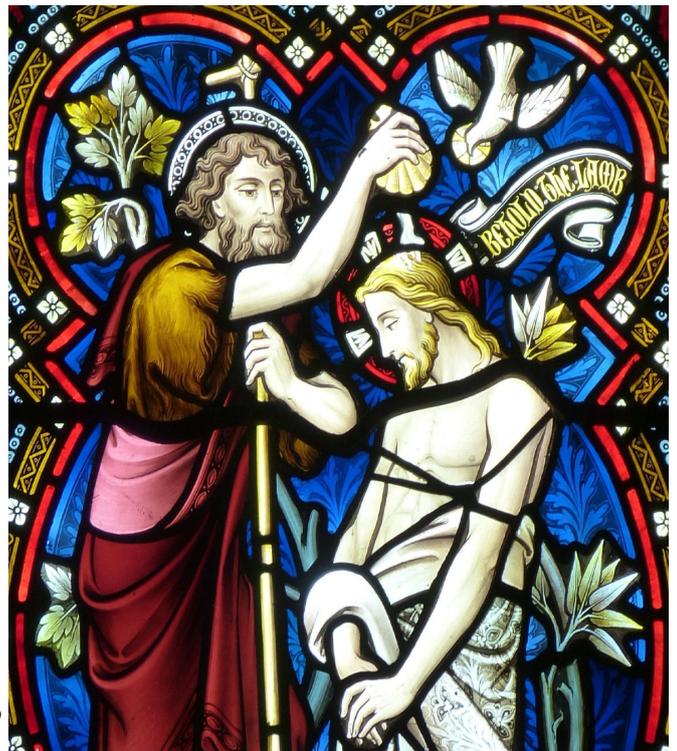
**Communion Antiphon:** You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

**Reflection:**

At the best of times, a person may be God's servant; he may come to do God's will, as the Psalmist says. But how rare those times are! Who, without blushing, could describe himself as having a life devoted to doing God's will?

Somewhere Nietzsche said derisively about Christians that they don't even look like the redeemed. But what are the redeemed supposed to look like? What is it to be God's true servant, to manifest the glory of God?

It isn't a matter of being on top of the world. It isn't a matter of having nothing to be sad about either. The [First Reading](#) jumps from verse 3 to verse 5 in the text of Isaiah. But verse 4 is the voice of the Messiah, and it says, "I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing. ..." It continues with what is in effect the answer to the question raised by Nietzsche's scornful claim about Christians. My God is my strength, the voice of the Messiah says. Those who are the true servants of the Lord are those who find their strength in God. So Nietzsche was just wrong about the redeemed of the Lord. The redeemed of the Lord aren't those who look glorious in strength or in any other way either. The true servants of the Lord are those who find their strength, their loveliness, in the Lord. They are glorious in the sight of the Lord.



*Author: Eleonore Stump*

# DEATH OF HIS EMINENCE GEORGE CARDINAL PELL

## *A Statement from the Catholic Archbishop of Sydney, Most Rev. Anthony Fisher OP*

Today we have lost a Cardinal of the Church, a former Archbishop of Sydney, a fine priest, a good Christian soul.

The Church in Australia and around the world is deeply saddened at the sudden passing of Cardinal George Pell, the former Archbishop of Sydney and of Melbourne.

Cardinal Pell's episcopal motto was 'Be Not Afraid' and through good days and bad, he lived up to these words as a man of courage and with a big heart, who trusted in divine providence.

He fearlessly proclaimed the Gospel and worked to explain the teachings of the Church. He spoke truth as he found it, however difficult or unpopular. He was also a man of prayer, of deep Christian faith and a loving shepherd to his flock in parishes, schools, hospitals and throughout his dioceses.

I was in Rome last week for the funeral of another great churchman and close friend of Cardinal Pell, Pope Benedict XVI. The Cardinal and I did not know it would be the last time we would see each other in this life, but he was in good spirits and his regular, witty self, and I am thankful that we shared this time together.

Cardinal Pell was a proud Australian who loved this country and its people and he was awarded a Companion of the Order of Australia in 2005.

The Archdiocese of Sydney thrived under his leadership. He saw great promise in youth, and his vision in bringing World Youth Day 2008 to Sydney saw a whole generation of young Catholics respond to Christ's call. Our community as a whole was uplifted by this colossal event and moved by the testimony it offered.

His Eminence was an author of books and a regular newspaper columnist, a lecturer and leader in Catholic education, and a scholar in his own right. He served the broader Church as a member of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, the Vox Clara Commission, the Pontifical Council for the Family and the Congregation of Bishops.

As Prefect for the Secretariat of the Economy, member of Pope Francis' Council of Cardinal Advisors and one of the highest-ranking church officials in the world, the Cardinal's work for openness in Church affairs was hugely important.

His final years were marked by his wrongful conviction and imprisonment, but he bore this with grace and goodwill and gave us all an example of how to accept suffering with dignity and peace. His words of reconciliation with his detractors and concern for survivors increased in authenticity as he steadfastly and successfully maintained his innocence.

He will be remembered as a courageous leader who inspired so many clergy and lay faithful around the world to proclaim Christ crucified, risen and with us still.



### **3. Catechist Sunday**

Our Parish will celebrate Catechist Sunday on 5 February 2023. This is an opportunity to acknowledge and thank our catechists for their work in our Public Schools. If you are thinking of volunteering one hour per week to spread the word to our children from non-Catholic schools please contact the Parish office for further information.

#### 4. Catholic Charismatic Renewal

A two day weekend retreat has been organised by the Catholic Charismatic Team

Dates: Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

Topic: Abiding in the Vine

This retreat is a time to come away and to abide in the presence of the Lord, a time to go deeper in Him, to be strengthened, renewed and empowered. There will be Praise and Worship, talks, reflection times, Mass, Adoration, Reconciliation, ministry and fellowship with one another. Don't miss this opportunity to have time out with Jesus.

If you are interested contact the Parish office.

#### 5. House Blessings

The weeks following the Feast of the Epiphany have for centuries in our Catholic faith been a traditional time for the blessing of our homes. There is special Holy Water blessed specifically for this feast as well as chalk. The water is used to bless the house and the chalk is used to "chalk the door". This involves writing the letters C, M and B and the numbers of the year, for example 2023, at the top of the front door with chalk. The letters stand for the names of the three Magi: Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. They also represent the Latin blessing *Christus mansionem benedicat*, which means "May Christ bless this house."

I (Fr Ronnie) will be available to bless any parishioners' homes in the weeks following the Feast of the Epiphany on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January. It will also be a great opportunity for me to get to know the parish more and more and hear from you about our parish community.

If you would like to have your home blessed, please contact the parish office or send me an email at [pp@stanthonystral.org](mailto:pp@stanthonystral.org). Thank you to those who have contacted us already. We will be in touch during the week to confirm and time and day.

#### 6. Volunteers

Our Parish is always looking for volunteers. If you can assist in anyway from lectors, preparing the church for events, joining the choir, becoming an acolyte or assisting general maintenance such as mowing lawns please contact the Parish Office.

#### 7. 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.

#### 8. 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.

God Bless,



Fr Ronnie Maree

#### Events in the Parish

- *Every Thursday Legion of Mary after the 9am mass*
- *Every Monday from 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 18th January 2023*
- ***Young Children's Prayer Group** Every 2nd Saturday of the month. The next prayer group will be held on **Saturday 11th February 2023** in the Parish Hall at 4pm All children are welcome*

#### Dates to Remember

Tuesday 17th January 2023—St Anthony, Abbot—optional memorial

Saturday 21st January 2023—St Agnes, optional memorial

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

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

**Recently Deceased:** Johny Bezzino, Raffaele Bagnaro, Agostino Cardillo

**Anniversaries:**

Theresa Bonanno, Ferdinando Grotto, Sharon Ajkay, Anka and Frank Banicevic, Maria Caterina Siciliano, Mary Agostino, Maria Giuseppa Simone, Joe Fiorenza, Charlie Vella, Veronica Sese

**Also for:**

Deceased members of the Pisano and Maiolo Families, Michael Gauci, James Dimech, Femia Gatt, and Gesu (Jesi) Lustri, Salvatore Santarosa, Giuseppe Santarosa

**We remember those who are sick in the community that the Lord will be their comforter and healer as we pray for:** 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, 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, 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](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.

***This Week's Edition of the Catholic Weekly— Thank you for you supporting this publication. Please place \$2.00 in the Poor Box***

This week's edition includes a special commemorative magazine featuring articles by Archbishop Fisher and Catholic Weekly contributors such as the late Cardinal George Pell - and others - reflecting on their association with and memories of our beloved pope emeritus and his significance in the life of the modern Church.



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