



**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.

**25-26 February 2023
First Sunday of Lent Year A**



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 merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

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.



**Project
Compassion**



After losing her father when she was just 10-years-old, Laxmi was at risk of falling further into extreme poverty. But with the support of our partner Caritas Nepal, Laxmi joined a child's club, became a leader in her school and is now a mentor to other children in her village.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2023.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow ***For All Future Generations.***



You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes/envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413.

Reflection:

Jesus was offered three shortcuts for his ministry. Firstly, exceptional powers to satisfy his own needs (bread out of stones). Secondly, when he needed to take risks, angels to keep him safe. Thirdly, when he wanted to change the world, absolute political power.

These were the Temptations of Christ, but also for us. If you or I are tempted to sin, we will find the marks of this threefold pattern. We want the whole world to change to satisfy us, or we want to take stupid risks and come out unscathed, or we want to exercise total power over others.

How can we try to follow Jesus without the shortcuts of the fantasy world which the Devil may offer? Note that Jesus resisted each temptation with: 'It is written'. The forty days of Lent are a perfect opportunity to read what 'is written' in the Gospels about the episodes and pattern of the life of Jesus Christ.



1. Saturday Morning Mass

On **Saturday March 4th** our parish will begin to have Confession, Adoration and Mass on every **first Saturday of the month.**

9.00am Adoration

9.30am Confessions begin

10.00am Mass

Christians have always honoured the Blessed Virgin on Saturday because of her constant faith in Jesus on that first Holy Saturday before the Resurrection.

At Fatima, five first Saturdays of reparation were requested by Our Lady to atone for the five ways in which people offend the Immaculate Heart of Mary:

1. Attacks upon Mary's Immaculate Conception
2. Attacks against her Perpetual Virginity
3. Attacks upon her Divine Maternity
4. For those who try to publicly implant in children's hearts indifference, contempt and even hatred of this Immaculate Mother
5. For those who insult her directly in her sacred images.

The First Saturday devotion focuses on the nucleus of our Catholic faith: Confession, Adoration, Rosary and the Eucharist.

Our Lady promised to help at the hour of death, with the graces needed for salvation whoever on the First Saturday of five consecutive months shall:

1. Go to the Sacrament of Confession
If you cannot go to Confession on the first Saturday itself, you may go anytime up to eight days before or after the first Saturday;
2. Receive Holy Communion (in the state of grace);
3. Recite five decades of the Rosary;
4. Keep Our Lady company for fifteen minutes while meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary;
5. Do all of these with the intention of making reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary;
5. Do all of the above every first Saturday for five consecutive months.

Everyone is most welcome to attend Adoration, Confession and Mass even if you are not completing the five consecutive Saturday devotion.

2. Stations of the Cross

Each week during our Lenten season, commencing Friday 24th February 2023, we will pray the Stations of the Cross at 10.00am and 7.30pm. All are welcome.

3. Reconciliation

Our Parish has commenced its Sacrament of First Reconciliation Program with commitment ceremonies in this weekend's Masses. Please remember all our candidates and their families as they prepare for their first penance.

4. 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. **Please do not drive through the Portico following any of the masses.**

5. Candelabra Offering

New candle stands arrived this week which have now been placed near the statues of Our Lady and St Anthony at the back of the church. Please take note of the following safety protocols when lighting a candle:

Please place your candle on any of the available cylinders on the stand. Do not place a candle on top of a candle that is still burning.

Use the lighter located on the side of the stand to light up your candle.

Do not attempt to light your candle from an existing lit candle. This is quite dangerous.

Children are more than welcome to light a candle but must be accompanied by an adult.

Please do not blow out any of the candles. They are safe to leave burning.

Events in the Parish

- Every Thursday **Legion of Mary** after the 9am mass
- Every Monday at 10am in St Anthony's Parish Hall a **Rosary Prayer Group** It begins with the chaplet of Divine Mercy followed by praying the decades of the Rosary in different languages. All are welcome.
- **Young Children's Prayer Group** Every 2nd Saturday of the month. The next prayer group will be held on **Saturday 11th March 2023** in the Parish Hall at 4pm All children are welcome



LENTEN PENANCE

In this season of Lent, we seek to experience the mercy of God the Father, and to practice it in our daily lives. But first we must experience *our need for mercy*, that is, our brokenness and, indeed, our sinfulness, insofar as we have failed to love God above all, and to love our fellow men and women as ourselves. This is why the Church's Canon Law reaffirms the obligation to do penance – to interrupt the usual comforts of life, to rediscover in prayer the merciful love of God, and to practice charity and justice towards those in need. The special times of penance are all Fridays throughout the year and the season of Lent.

We recall that St John the Baptist prepared for the coming of the Lord by “preaching a baptism of repentance”. Jesus began his ministry with the exhortation: “Repent and believe the Gospel” (Mk 1:15). Repentance means the rejection of sin. It implies conversion to, and reconciliation with, God. Prayer, self-denial, and works of charity are the concrete expressions of repentance. Each of these identifies us more closely with our Saviour. By penance we make satisfaction for our sins, and take real steps in the renewal of our lives. Repentance and conversion are central, on-going, and even daily practices of Christian living.

In nominating special times of penance, the Church encourages and promotes in all of us the *habit* of penance. Furthermore, observance of these special times by all Catholics throughout the universal Church emphasises what we call “the social dimension of sin”. The sin of the individual member always in some measure infects the whole body. Therefore during Lent and on every Friday throughout the year, we do penance, not only on our own account, but also in the name of the Church and of the world. We must take very seriously our penitential obligations and be sure to carry them out. The Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference has not restricted our penance to fast and abstinence; in all cases, it has left room for our own responsible choice. We should carefully select the form of penance that we consider most appropriate for our own circumstances and growth in the Christian life.

DAYS OF PENANCE

1. Abstinence from meat, and fasting, *must* be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. All who have completed their eighteenth year and have not yet begun their sixtieth year are bound to fast. All who have completed their fourteenth year are bound to abstain.
2. On all other Fridays of the year including the Fridays of Lent, the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled by performing any one of the following:
 - (a) prayer – for example, Mass attendance; family prayer; a visit to a church or chapel; reading the Bible; making the Stations of the Cross; praying the rosary.
 - (b) self-denial – for example, not eating meat; not eating sweets or dessert; giving up entertainment to spend time with the family; limiting food and drink so as to give to the poor of one's own country; limiting use of social media, smart phones or television.
 - (c) helping others – for example, special attention to someone who is poor, sick, elderly, lonely or overburdened.

LENT LASTS FROM ASH WEDNESDAY (22nd FEBRUARY) TO THE MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER (6th APRIL). ON GOOD FRIDAY AND, IF POSSIBLE, ALSO ON HOLY SATURDAY UNTIL THE EASTER VIGIL, THE EASTER FAST IS OBSERVED.

PASCHAL PRECEPT

Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This is to be done between Ash Wednesday, 22nd February, and Trinity Sunday, 4th June, 2023 unless for a good reason it is done at another time during the year. All the faithful are obliged to confess their grave sins at least once a year.

St. Mary's Cathedral
SYDNEY
22nd February 2023

+ 
ARCHBISHOP OF SYDNEY

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

In your love and concern, please pray for:-

Recently Deceased: Joe Privitera, Vincent Vella, Carmen Muscat, Angie Casha

Anniversaries:

James Dimech, Alfredo Pjanic, Ignatius Bartolo, Frank, Connie, Emanuel, Femia and Mary Grace Gatt, Rocco Pelle, Joseph Szafranski, Antonio Pisano, Constantina Cascio, Ermes(Amos) Valleri, Giuseppe Catanea, Vincenzo Camera, Antonio Armando Dicembre, Emilio Dicembre, Marianglea Pelle, Theresa Bonanno, Ferdinando Grotto, Sharon Ajkay, Ben Xerri, Maria Caterina Siciliano, Maria Giuseppa Simone

Also for:

Alyssa Abella who recently graduated, Edgardo Ocampo, Luciana Abella, Deceased members of the Szafranski families, Michael Sammut, Christine Grixti and Joesephine Casha, Gesu (Jesi) Lustrì, 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, Haneer 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.

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

- Bumper Year: Seventeen enter Sydneys' Seminary
- SPECIAL FEATURE: Neighbours in need: Project Compassion in East Timor
- Misunderstanding the rise of the Nones
- The false God of Gluttony
- Welcome to Australia. New pathway for refugees
- In a dark hour. Bishops who inspire.



Baptisms in th Parish—Welcome to our Faith Community



Joseph Roy Xerri
Son of Justin and Josephine

Carmelo Simone
Son of Nathan and Carla

Dates to Remember

Monday 27th February 2023—St Gregory of Narek—Optional Memorial

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

