



St Anthony of Padua Parish Toongabbie

Established 1951

27 Aurelia Street, Toongabbie. P.O. Box 23 Toongabbie 2146

19th April 2020

* Office Tel: 9631 3316

* Emergency 9631 6420

Website: www.stanthonyschurch.org.au

email: secretary@stanthonyschurch.org.au

Parish Mission Statement

We, the Church of St Anthony of Padua, are called to a greater realisation of the Kingdom of God and to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ

Parish Staff:

Fr Joby Kadambattu MS Parish Priest
FrJoby@stanthonyschurch.org.au

Mrs Luisa Luccitti Parish Secretary
secretary@stanthonyschurch.org.au

Miss Kristin Borg Sacramental / SRE
thesacraments@stanthonyschurch.org.au

St Anthony's School: Phone: 8843 4600

School Principal: *Linda Ducksbury*

Office Hours

The Parish Office is currently closed to all visitors. Please call 9631 3316 for all enquiries.

For emergencies please call

Fr Joby on 9631 6420.

Mass Times:

All Masses have been cancelled so that we can do our part to help curb the spread of COVID 19. The Church and all Church buildings are currently closed and all Catholics within the Diocese of Parramatta have been dispensed from their Sunday Mass obligation from March 20th 2020 until further notice. We encourage you to undertake your own devotion at home during this time.

All Church rosters are suspended for the foreseeable future and the Church Hall, meeting rooms, chapel and Church building are closed until further notice. If you have keys, please drop them to the Parish Office for safekeeping.

The Parish Sacramental Program has been suspended.

St Vincent De Paul is here to help. If you need assistance call 8861 9777

SICK IN THE PARISH:

Malia EKA	Joan WRIGHT	Gail GREENHILL
Malia NIKO	Fay ROBERTS	Kate MORTIMER
Mary PULIS	Sarah MARLIN	Lylette MATHIEU
Greg WALSH	Leina MARCUS	Simon SHURVILLE
Maria VELLA	Carole O'HARA	Gerald O'CONNOR
Denise PRICE	Tanya AMBROSE	Ranjit CHELLAPPA
Sheila ASHBY	Carmel FERGUSON	Adrian NOCEVSKI
Mary CAUCHI	Aidon ALEXANDER	Shanji ANTHONY
Cecilia FERRER	Joseph MAC DERMID	
Gabby ABBOUD	Anthony AL-HADDAD	
Aninth THURAIRATNAM		

Please advise the office if you know of anyone on the sick list whose name could be removed.

ROSARY IN THE HOME

Rosary in the home has been suspended. Please continue to pray the rosary within your own house.

We will be Live streaming our Sunday Mass from our Parish at 10am in our Parish Facebook page. You all are welcome to join.



Pope Francis' Prayer to Mary

during the coronavirus pandemic

O Mary,

you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, health of the sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm.

You, salvation of all people, know what we need, and are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Amen

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Divine Mercy Sunday

On the second Sunday of Easter of the Jubilee year 2000, at the Mass for the canonization of St Faustina who is venerated now as the Apostle of Divine Mercy, Pope John Paul II proclaimed to the world that from now on throughout the Church this Sunday will be called Divine Mercy Sunday. Fourteen years later on Divine mercy Sunday Pope John Paul II was canonized as a saint. In 2015 on the Divine mercy Sunday Pope Francis published the Bull of Induction of an Extra Ordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy and churches all over the world had a lot of celebrations for the Jubilee Year. This year in 2020 we are here to celebrate another Divine Mercy Sunday. I feel the world is really in need of God's mercy in this present crisis that we all go through.

Our Gospel passage for this Sunday from John begins this way, "In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews". Our situation today is very much similar. The doors of our houses, states and nations are closed not for fear of the Jews but for the fear of Corona Virus. Like apostle Thomas we miss the presence of our risen Lord. Like Thomas we are waiting for God's touch, we are waiting for signs. But dear friends through our second reading of today St Peter assures us "through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time". So, it's important that we don't lose our faith in this crisis. But how can we grow in faith when our situations are not favourable in many ways. Our first reading from the Acts of the Apostles shows us how the early Christian Community kept their faith in hard times. They grew in faith by their acts of mercy, by their love and sharing, by their breaking of bread at houses.

Dear friends on this Divine Mercy Sunday the Risen Lord comes to our closed homes to strengthen our faith with His Divine touch so that we may celebrate God's Mercy with one another.

We will be Live streaming our Sunday Mass from our Parish at 10am in our Parish Facebook page. You all are welcome to join.

Have a Blessed Sunday,

Fr Joby Kadambattu



PRAYER SERVICE

Second Sunday of Easter Year A (Extracted from Liturgy Help)

Sign of the Cross

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Penitential Act

Leader:

The Lord is rich in mercy and kindness. Let us prepare ourselves to hear God's Word and praise the Lord Jesus Christ. (All pause for silent prayer.)

Lord Jesus, you are our saviour and brother: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Christ Jesus, you breathe your spirit of life in us: Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you offer us the gift of peace: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Leader:

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

Opening Prayer

Leader: Let us pray.

(All pause for silent prayer)

Eternal God, we are your children who have been baptised in Jesus and born again in the Spirit. In these days of Easter joy stir up our hearts and increase our faith in you. We make this prayer through Jesus Christ, your Son, with the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Leader: Let us listen to God's Word.

First Reading [Acts 2:42-47](#)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The faithful lived together and owned everything in common. The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers. The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone. The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed. They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

The word of the Lord.

All reply: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

[Ps 117:2-4. 13-15. 22-24. R. v.1](#)

(R.) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

or

(R.) Alleluia.

1. Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.' Let the sons of Aaron say: 'His love has no end.' Let those who fear the Lord say: 'His love has no end.'

(R.)

2. I was thrust, thrust down and falling but the Lord was my helper. The Lord is my strength and my song; he was my saviour. There are shouts of joy and victory in the tents of the just.

(R.)

3. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad.

(R.)

Second Reading [1 Pt 1:3-9](#)

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

He has given us a new birth as his children, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead.

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

The word of the Lord.

All reply: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

[Jn 20:29](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Alleluia!

Gospel

Reader: From the holy Gospel according to John [Jn 20:19-31](#)

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

After eight days Jesus came in and stood among them.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.

'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven;

for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Reflection on the Word

Because the focus of this week's gospel passage is usually placed on poor old doubting Thomas, we sometimes overlook the way the passage begins. The disciples are huddled in a room, 'for fear of the Jews'. Just a couple of weeks earlier they had been on top of the world. Jesus was enormously popular with the people, and the disciples, by association, were caught up in that affection. Their man, the one they had chosen to follow, was making waves and stirring the authorities – thumbing his nose at the rules. This, of course, made the disciples feel good to be around Jesus. However, in the space of just a few short days, their world had turned upside down. They'd gone from riding the crest of a wave to being utterly dumped! They were cowering in a closed up room, afraid for their lives in case those who handed Jesus over for death came for them as well. They'd already had an experience of the resurrected Jesus yet they were still hiding and afraid. Into this fear and uncertainty steps Jesus who says, 'Peace be with you'. It is a reminder of Jesus calming the storm out on the lake – in the midst of turmoil and anxiety he brings peace and calm.

Thomas has received a pretty bad rap for the last 2000 years, forever labelled as 'Doubting Thomas' because he wasn't prepared to take someone else's word for the fact that Jesus had risen. However, despite his demand for evidence, once Jesus is before him, he abandons all his thoughts about placing his fingers in the wounds and proclaims, 'My Lord and my God!' This is an absolutely extraordinary statement of faith. For the very first time, someone recognises Jesus, not as Messiah, prophet or Lord, but as God.

Prayer of the Faithful

(After a period of silence, the leader introduces the prayer of the faithful.)

Leader: God calls us to respond in faith to the risen Lord. Let us bring our needs and those of the world before the God of all.

Reader: For the Church, that it be a visible sign of Christ's presence.

(pause) Lord, hear us

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For the Pope, may he find strength in your love.

(pause) Lord, hear us

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For peace on earth, that nations will put aside division and hate and seek peace.

(pause) Lord, hear us

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For Catholics around the world, may they experience the strength of their faith community when gathered worship is not possible.

(pause) Lord, hear us

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For people who are isolated, that they will be filled with the comfort of Christ the risen saviour. We pray especially for those experiencing isolation during the coronavirus restrictions.

(pause) Lord, hear us

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For those living with the fear of disease, that they will find a sense of calm and shelter in Christ. We especially pray for people who are sick from the coronavirus.

(pause) Lord, hear us

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For exhausted healthcare workers, may they be given patience and determination to mirror Christ's compassion in their ministry of healing. We pray especially for those at the forefront of the Coronavirus outbreak.

(pause) Lord, hear us

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For those who have died, including N....., that they will live forever with the risen Christ.

(pause) Lord, hear us

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Lord God, you breathe your Spirit on your people and strengthen the hearts of believers. Hear our prayers which we make in the name of Christ Jesus, who is Lord for ever.

All: Amen.

Sign of Peace

Leader: Let us seal our prayer with a gesture of unity and reconciliation and offer each other a sign of peace.

(All exchange a sign of peace.)

The Lord's Prayer

Leader:

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All:

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name;

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,

now and forever.

Amen.

Closing Prayer

Leader:

Lord Jesus, filled with your love and joy help us to become more like you. In your name we pray.

All: Amen.

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Online Resources

For updates from Parramatta Diocese- www.parracatholic.org/covid19

For Liturgy and Prayers- www.liturgyhelp.com/aus/parra/pray

Live Streaming Mass online

Archdiocese of Sydney: <https://www.stmaryscathedral.org.au>

Archdiocese of Melbourne: <https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass>

Shalom Media: <https://shalomworld.org/specialevent/daily-mass>

Planned Giving

Thank you to all those who have contributed to the Parish Planned Giving Program by using direct debit. Your contributions help to maintain our church building and pay our bills.

For those who would like to contribute via direct debit:

Please add a reference of donation (e.g.: PG..... your envelope number)

Our Parish Bank Details

Direct Deposit

BSB- 067 950

Account Number- 000586

Account Name- Toongabbie Catholic Church

Warm Regards

Fr Joby

Mass Intentions

Although we as a Parish are unable to physically attend Mass at the moment, Fr Joby is saying Mass daily. All Mass intentions that have been received prior to the COVID-19 restrictions issued by government. are still being said. If you would an intention said during this time of Isolation please call the office or send an email to secretary@stanthonyschurch.org.au

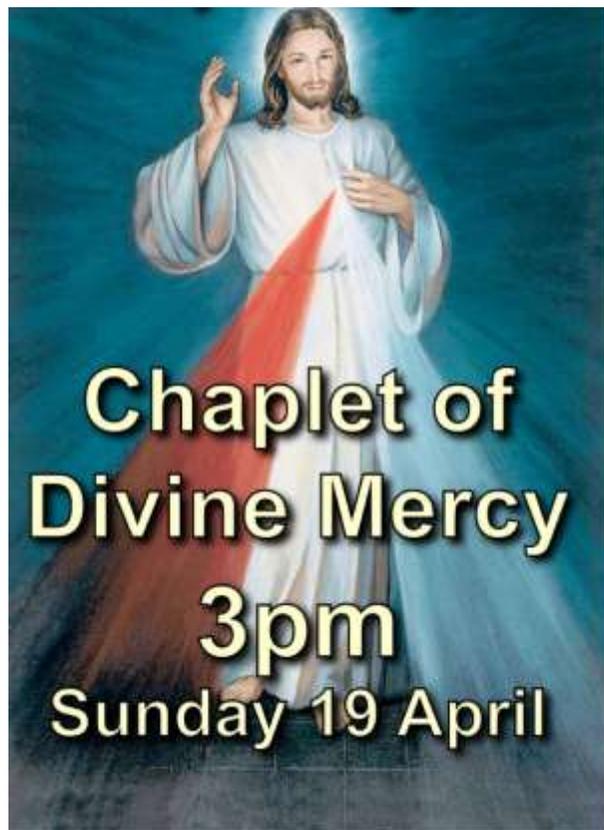
Mothers Day Mass Intentions.

If you would like to have a Mass offered for your Mother on Mother's day please call the office on 9631 3316 or email secretary@stanthonyschurch.org.au. A book of names will be compiled and offered up on the weekend of the 9/10 May 2020



St Anthony's 10am Mass Live Streamed

We will be Live streaming our Sunday Mass from our Parish at 10am in our Parish Facebook page this weekend. You all are welcome to join.



Chaplet of Divine Mercy

The Youth of St Anthony's will be leading prayer via livestream on the parish facebook page. They will be praying the Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 3pm on Sunday 19 April.

facebook.com/StanthonysToonabbie

SEEING JESUS AGAIN

The Disciples were locked up behind closed doors.

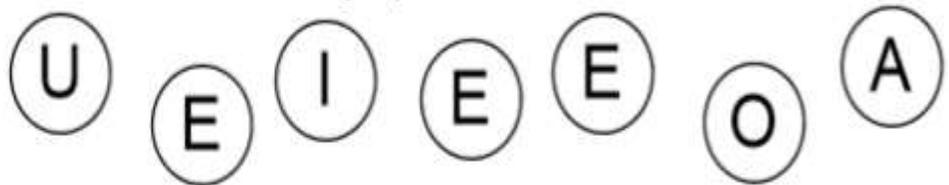
Then ... Jesus appeared.

THEY WERE SO HAPPY TO SEE HIM AGAIN.



P _ _ _ C _ _ B _ _
W _ _ TH Y _ _ _

Put these vowels in the right places to find out what Jesus said.



One of the disciples did not believe it was Jesus.

Put the letters in the right place to reveal his name.

