



St Anthony of Padua Parish Toongabbie

Established 1951

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

3rd May 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	Shanji ANTHONY	Gail GREENHILL
Malia NIKO	Fay ROBERTS	Kate MORTIMER
Mary PULIS	Sarah MARLIN	Lylette MATHIEU
Greg WALSH	Leina MARCUS	Simon SHURVILE
Maria VELLA	Carole O'HARA	Gerald O'CONNOR
Joan WRIGHT	Tanya AMBROSE	Ranjit CHELLAPPA
Sheila ASHBY	Carmel FERGUSON	Adrian NOCEVSKI
Mary CAUCHI	Aidon ALEXANDER	
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.

St Anthony's is now live streaming Sunday Mass

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

Facebook.com/StAnthonysToongabbie

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>

Shalom Media:

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

Recently Deceased



Please pray for the repose of the souls of Denise Price who recently passed away. We offer our condolences to her family.

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 contact the office on 9631 3316 or secretary@stanthonyschurch.org.au. A book of names will be compiled and offered up on the weekend of the 9/10 May 2020

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above everything and I want to receive you Sacramentally, at least come into my heart spiritually. I embrace You as being there already. I unite myself completely to You. Do not let me be parted from You

Amen.

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

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Account Number- 000586

Account Name- Toongabbie Catholic Church



WHEN YOU STILL GOTTA BAPTIZE BABIES AND MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING

ALTERA UPDATE



Best wishes to all our fellow parishioners...missing your company.

Here's a quick update from ALTERA during lockdown:

The Diocese is inviting us to sign a petition to the Government to support with financial support, Medicare, and adequate shelter everyone in need within the Australian community, regardless of their visa status, during the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes thousands of our brothers and sisters who are temporary visa holders, including people seeking asylum and protection, and who are suffering deeply and need our help.

You can sign the petition by clicking on this link <https://www.change.org/nooneleftbehind> or you can call or write to your local Federal Member of Parliament and ask them to support EVERYONE at this time.

We are also trying to support those who are working with refugees and asylum-seekers at this time. While there are many generous initiatives happening in the community, we suggest Jesuit Refugee Services or House of Welcome.

You can assist through donations of food, cash or, if you are able, volunteer your time to help pack and deliver food.

Jesuit Refugee Services

For food donations or to volunteer, call 9098 9336

For cash donations, call 9356 3888 or <https://www.jrs.org.au/donate-now/>

House of Welcome: call 9727 9290 or donate at:

<https://www.stfrancis.org.au/house-of-welcome/make-donation-house-welcome>

Finally, if **you** need some assistance, (eg, shopping) or would just like to talk to someone, there is a form on our parish website that can be filled in and we will coordinate some support:

<https://www.stanthonychurch.org.au/covid-19-resources/217-local-support>

If you don't have access to the website, please feel most welcome to call Anne on 0417 482 682 and she will put you in touch with someone who can assist.

If you are able to assist parishioners or community members who need such assistance, likewise give Anne a call.

It is great to "see" parishioners when we attend the streamed Masses. We look forward to seeing you face-to-face as soon as it is safe. Stay well.

MONTH OF MAY-DEVOTION TO MARY

Dear Friends,

May is a month specially dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is a time to renew our love for our heavenly mother and to seek her intercession for our families and for the world. Last week on 25th of April on the feast day of St Mark the Evangelist, Pope Francis has written a letter to all the faithful encouraging everyone to pray Rosary at home. Pope says, “the restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this “family” aspect, also from a spiritual point of view.” The Pope continues, “contemplating the face of Christ with the heart of Mary our Mother will make us even more united as a spiritual family and will help us overcome this time of trial.”

In our Virtual Parish Liturgy Committee meeting this week there arose various suggestions to express our devotion to Mary in this month of May. Like keeping the statue of Our Lady at our front windows at home or tying a blue ribbon at our front door. Another important suggestion was to promote praying Rosary individually and as a community. And I understand everyone will not be available to pray the rosary at the same time. The youth of our Parish will be taking initiative to pray Rosary as a community over ZOOM on every Saturday evening at 7.00 pm in the month of May. I invite all those who can join to be part of this wonderful and simple prayer. The details to access ZOOM will be published on our Parish website, Facebook page and Bulletin.

Pope Francis has also given two prayers to Our Lady to pray at the end of the rosary. He promises that he will be praying these two prayers in this month and will be joining us spiritually. So, dear friends together with our Blessed Mother let us pray for each other and for the world.

With Prayers,

Fr. Joby



Second Prayer to Our Lady by Pope Francis

“We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God”.

In the present tragic situation, when the whole world is prey to suffering and anxiety, we fly to you, Mother of God and our Mother, and seek refuge under your protection.

Virgin Mary, turn your merciful eyes towards us amid this coronavirus pandemic. Comfort those who are distraught and mourn their loved ones who have died, and at times are buried in a way that grieves them deeply. Be close to those who are concerned for their loved ones who are sick and who, in order to prevent the spread of the disease, cannot be close to them. Fill with hope those who are troubled by the uncertainty of the future and the consequences for the economy and employment.

Mother of God and our Mother pray for us to God, the Father of mercies, that this great suffering may end and that hope, and peace may dawn anew. Plead with your divine Son, as you did at Cana, so that the families of the sick and the victims be comforted, and their hearts be opened to confidence and trust.

Protect those doctors, nurses, health workers and volunteers who are on the frontline of this emergency and are risking their lives to save others. Support their heroic effort and grant them strength, generosity and continued health.

Be close to those who assist the sick night and day, and to priests who, in their pastoral concern and fidelity to the Gospel, are trying to help and support everyone.

Blessed Virgin, illumine the minds of men and women engaged in scientific research, that they may find effective solutions to overcome this virus.

Support national leaders, that with wisdom, solicitude and generosity they may come to the aid of those lacking the basic necessities of life and may devise social and economic solutions inspired by farsightedness and solidarity.

Mary Most Holy, stir our consciences, so that the enormous funds invested in developing and stockpiling arms will instead be spent on promoting effective research on how to prevent similar tragedies from occurring in the future.

Beloved Mother, help us realize that we are all members of one great family and to recognize the bond that unites us, so that, in a spirit of fraternity and solidarity, we can help to alleviate countless situations of poverty and need. Make us strong in faith, persevering in service, constant in prayer.

Mary, Consolation of the afflicted, embrace all your children in distress and pray that God will stretch out his all-powerful hand and free us from this terrible pandemic, so that life can serenely resume its normal course.

To you, who shine on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope, do we entrust ourselves, O Clement, O Loving, O Sweet Virgin Mary. Amen.

PRAYER SERVICE

Fourth 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.)

Loving God, you lead your faithful flock along the Good Shepherd's path. Help us to follow Jesus so that one day we may reach our eternal home and share in the joys of heaven. We make this prayer through Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Leader: Let us listen to God's Word.

First Reading *Acts 2:14. 36-41*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

God has made Jesus both Lord and Christ.

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.' Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 22:1-6. R. v.1

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit.

(R.)

2. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort.

(R.)

3. You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing.

(R.)

4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Pt 2:20-25

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

You had gone astray but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty. This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured, he made no threats, but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation See [Jn 10:14](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;

I know my sheep, and mine know me.

Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 10:1-10

Reader: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

I am the gate of the sheepfold.

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable, but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So, Jesus spoke to them again:

'I tell you most solemnly, I am the gate of the sheepfold. All others who have come are thieves and brigands; but the sheep took no notice of them. I am the gate. Anyone who enters through me will be safe: he will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Reflection

Jesus: Shepherd and Gate

To appreciate today's Gospel and the images it features, we have to understand something of shepherding practices in Palestine at the time of Jesus. In applying to himself the image of shepherd, Jesus presupposes the intimate knowledge that should exist between a shepherd and his sheep. Sheep from various flocks would be penned up at night in communal sheepfolds. At daybreak, shepherds would come to the gate, call, and gather their sheep to lead them out to pasture. While during the night the sheep were all mixed up together, the shepherd could rely on the fact that his sheep would recognise his voice, separate themselves from the rest, and willingly follow him through the gate of the sheepfold.

Jesus contrasts a 'good shepherd' like this with others who come only to steal, harass, and ultimately bring about the loss of sheep that do not belong to them. Jesus goes on to identify himself with the 'gate' of the sheepfold. This adds a fresh dimension. If the sheep are to flourish, they have to go out each morning and find pasture. Yet, if they do not return to the fold at night, they will be at risk. So daily they have to come and go through the gate. The gate is their means of access to both protection and growth.

As 'Gate' Jesus performs this function for the community. Through continual interaction with him in prayer and worship its members find life and growth. In this sense he 'has come that they may have life and have it to the full'. (v.10)

(Fr Brenden Byrne SJ, The Saving Word)

Prayers of the Faithful

Leader: My sisters and brothers, let us entrust to the God of the crucified and risen Jesus our own needs and those of all humanity.

Reader: For the Church, called to follow in the footsteps of the suffering Christ.

(pause) We pray to the Lord:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For all in the Church who shepherd and guide communities of faith.

(pause) We pray to the Lord:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

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

(pause) We pray to the Lord:

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) We pray to the Lord:

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) We pray to the Lord:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For exhausted healthcare workers. That they will 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) We pray to the Lord:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For countries where health infrastructure is limited. That they will be granted equipment and resources. We pray especially for generous sharing between nations during the coronavirus pandemic.

(pause) We pray to the Lord:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For the dead and for their families and loved ones

(pause) We pray to the Lord:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: God of peace, you strengthen the hearts of all believers. Hear our prayers and give us courage to follow Jesus Christ, our shepherd and friend, who lives and reigns with you for ever and 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, in this Easter season let us seek the life that you offer and may we live our lives to the full.

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.

JESUS SAYS:



I AM THE
G__D SHEPHERD

I KN_W EACH
_NE _F Y_U



Fill in the gaps with an O to find
out what Jesus said

THANK YOU JESUS

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