



St Anthony of Padua Parish Toongabbie

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

* Office Tel: 9631 3316 * Emergency 9631 6420 *

Website: www.stanthonyschurch.org.au



24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

14TH SEPTEMBER 2025

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

Rev. Deacon Charles Hyson
charles.hyson@parracatholic.org

Mrs Shanika Joseph
Parish Secretary
secretary@stanthonyschurch.org.au

Mrs. Jini Chiittilapilly Joy
Sacramental and SRE Co Ordinator
thesacraments@stanthonyschurch.org.au

Hall Hire Charlie 0499 557 995

Office Hours

Monday and Wednesday 9am- 3pm
Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9am - 4pm

After Hours Emergency : 02 9631 6420

St Anthony's School

School Principal: Patricia Reilly
Phone: 8843 4600

St Anthonys Youth

Insta ID : stay_toongabbie1508
email: stanthonyyouthtoongabbie@gmail.com

Mass Times

Saturday 5:30pm Vigil
Sunday 8.00am, 10.00am
Tuesday 7.00pm
Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat 9.30am

Malayalam Mass 5pm every 4th Sunday

Baptisms & Weddings:

By arrangement.
Ring parish office for more information

Reconciliation:

Saturday 4.45pm to 5.15pm or by arrangement

Rosary:

Wednesday to Saturday – 9am

Exposition

Friday 10am to 11am

Mass & Novena to St Anthony

Tuesday - 7pm

Legion of Mary - Weekly Meetings

Monday 6.45pm Marian Room
(Eppy: 0411 123 318)

Tuesday 11am St Enda's Room
(Marie: 0457 126 044)

Tamil Prayer Group

Friday 8.00pm St Enda's Room
(Tarcisius: 0423 699 146)

If you wish to Support the parish Via Direct Deposit:

BSB - 067 950
Account Number - 0000 0586
AC Name -Toongabbie Catholic

MASS ROSTER	This Week 13/14 September 2025			Next Week 20/21 September 2025		
	5.30pm	8.00am	10.00am	5.30pm	8.00am	10.00am
Senior Server	J. Ivan	T. Dalmati	A. Winton	P. Vella	T. Peiris	A. Prabakaran
Commentator	M. D'Souza	C. Molloy	T. Sebastian	V. Adams		F. Rodrigues
Reader 1			P. Lim	M. Mathavan	C. Bugeja	S. Cullen
Reader 2	A. Lahood	K. Wilson	J. Thomas	C. Laurie	H. Menezes	C. Pereira
Data Projectionist	Mary		Sofie	Nicole		Jedd
Junior Server	B	D	G	A	C	E
Children's Liturgy			Rochelle/Stella			Felice/Sofie

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISH:

Edmond PAUL	Fay ROBERTS	Anith THURAIRATNAM	Alan LUMLEY	Shanji ANTHONY	Jan SALMON
Maria VELLA	Sarah MARLIN	Maureen HANVEY	Ajith SEEMAMPILLAI	Cecilia FERRER	
Peter RANEE	Angelo ALEXANDER	Rosa DI CHRISTOFORO	Ranjith CHELLAPPA	Joseph MACDERMID	
Carole O'HARE	Aidan ALEXANDER	Gabby ABBOD	Simon SHERVILLE	Rita DAVID	
John GAUCI	Adrian NOCEVSKI	Lyllette MATHIEU	Emma NONEY	Lesley MYERS	
Rene NEMORIN	Tanya AMBROSE	Teresa GALEA	Joe (Joseph) BORG	John TYNAN	
Anthony AL HADDAD	Katherine S. SHEEHAN	Geraldine HALLIWELL	Dennis KUNDER	Noe & Teresa ISOTTEN	
Anna FERNANDES	Alexsis PETRUCCELLI	Mary CAMELLERI	Kate MORTIMER	Sarah SHEEHAN	

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

Jubilee 2025 Pilgrims of Hope Calendar - July to October

September 14-15 Consolation	October 4-5 Missions	October 11-12 Marian Spirituality
September 20-21 Workers of Justice	October 4-5 Migrants	October 18-19 Missionary World
September 26-28 Catechists	October 8-9 Consecrated Life	October 28-November 2 World of Education

Acknowledgement of the traditional custodians of this land

We acknowledge the Tugagal Clan of the Darug Nation. We welcome and appreciate their continuing contribution to the development of this region. At the same time, we welcome and celebrate the cultures of many other people, who have come from distant shores and who now call Australia "home".



Thank you! To our wonderful youth group and helpers who organised a lovely tea and Barbeque for all the Father's last weekend.

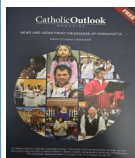
Thank you! To all the volunteers who joined our working Bee this Saturday morning and helped clean the church and the grounds.



Wedding Anniversary Blessings - If your wedding anniversary falls in September and you would like a blessing during the weekend Mass on 20th/21st September, please contact the parish office by Wednesday 17th September.



Youth News - Next gathering 27th September, after 5.30pm Vigil mass.



Catholic Outlook - Free copies of the Catholic Outlook Magazine is now available in the foyer and courtyard. Please take one. Please read the article on our Parish Altar Serving Ministry in this edition.

Register now for the Australian Catholic Youth Festival

- The Diocese of Parramatta will be joining the Church in Australia at the Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) in Melbourne from **30 November to 3 December 2025!** Join thousands of young Catholics from across Australia for an unforgettable festival featuring inspiring guest speakers, artists, and musicians. Registrations are open for young people aged 18-25. Over 25? Consider becoming a small group leader! For more details and to register, see parracatholic.org/connect/acyf or email qwayne.guevara@parracatholic.org

Diocesan Season of Creation Mass: 20 September - St Patrick's Cathedral and the Diocesan Laudato Si' Action Team invite you to the annual Season of Creation Mass with Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv. The entire universe speaks of God's love (Pope Francis) and all of creation praises our God (Psalm 148). Let us join in this praise and in Jesus' own mission to care for creation (Pope Leo) on Saturday 20 September 2025, 10am, St Patrick's Cathedral, 1 Marist Pl, Parramatta. Morning tea will be served in the Cloister Hall after Mass.

Mass for Musicians: 24 September - In this Jubilee Year of Hope, we invite all those involved in Music Ministry across the Diocese to join us for our Mass for Musicians. Join us on 24 September, 7:30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. We ask that you arrive at 7pm and are seated by 7:15pm. To register your attendance and the number of guests you are bringing, please RSVP via our website by Friday 19 September. If you are unable to register via the form, please contact ofw@parracatholic.org or call 0460 037 795.

Registrations now open Diocesan Retreat Opportunities

- The diocese is hosting three retreat opportunities for adults of all ages to engage more with this Jubilee Year of Hope. Take a step away from your usual routine to experience a diocesan retreat – a sacred space for prayer, reflection, renewal and encounter with God. Registrations are now open. For more details and to register, see the three options of retreats below: **15 November:** <https://parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-retreat-15-november/>

Volunteer Communicators Network - Are you savvy with a camera, writing or social media? We want to hear from you! Share your interest with us to support our storytelling in Catholic Outlook, our websites and social media. Name/contact details are required: parracatholic.org/communicators

Readers/Commentators needed for Saturday 5.30pm Vigil Mass

- If you regularly attend Mass and are interested in joining our rostered group for the vigil Mass on Saturdays, please contact the parish office as soon as possible. You will receive training and be included in the roster from October 2025

Congratulations !

To the following children who received the sacrament of baptism on 7th September 2025

Sam Anthony Mazloumi
Niyah May Farol

Noël! Noël! at St Patrick's Cathedral - General tickets are now available for the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra's much-loved Noël! Noël! concert at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Join us for an unforgettable evening of festive music in our beautiful church on Tuesday 16 December, 7.30pm. Tickets will sell quickly, so grab yours today by visiting <https://www.brandenburg.com.au/live-concerts/events/noel-noel-2025/>

Sacraments at St Anthony of Padua

The dates for Confirmation are up on the notice boards. **Attendance at enquiry evening is mandatory.** Any questions, please email Jini Joy at thesacraments@stanthonyschurch.org.au

CONFIRMATION 2025

Year 5 and above (up to 15 years old)

ENQUIRY

Wednesday 15 October - 7:00 PM

COMMITMENT AND SIGN-UP MASS

Saturday 18 October - 5:30 PM mass; OR
Sunday 19 October - 10:00 AM mass

PARENT & CHILD LESSON ONE

Saturday 25 October - 4:15 PM; OR
Sunday 26 October - 8:45 AM

PARENT & CHILD LESSON TWO

Saturday 01 November - 4:15 PM; OR
Sunday 02 November - 8:45 AM

PARENT & CHILD LESSON THREE

Saturday 08 November - 4:15 PM; OR
Sunday 09 November - 8:45 AM

PARENT & CHILD LESSON FOUR

Saturday 15 November - 4:15 PM; OR
Sunday 16 November - 8:45 AM

RECONCILIATION and REHEARSAL

Wednesday 19 November - 7:00pm
Light Supper afterwards (optional)

CONFIRMATION CEREMONY

Sunday 23 November - 12:00 NOON

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

FIRST READING

NUMBERS 21:4-9

When those that were afflicted looked upon it, they were healed.

On the way through the wilderness, the Israelites lost patience. They spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt to die in this wilderness? For there is neither bread nor water here; we are sick of this unsatisfying food.'

At this God sent fiery serpents among the people; their bite brought death to many in Israel. The people came and said to Moses, 'We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you. Intercede for us with the Lord to save us from these serpents.' Moses interceded for the people, and the Lord answered him, 'Make a fiery serpent and put it on a standard. If anyone is bitten and looks at it, he shall live.' So Moses fashioned a bronze serpent which he put on a standard, and if anyone was bitten by a serpent, he looked at the bronze serpent and lived.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PS 77:1-2. 34-38. R. v.7

(R.) Do not forget the works of the Lord!

1. Give heed, my people, to my teaching;
turn your ear to the words of my mouth.
I will open my mouth in a parable
and reveal hidden lessons of the past. ***(R.)***
2. When he slew them then they would seek him,
return and seek him in earnest.
They would remember that God was their rock,
God the Most High their redeemer. ***(R.)***
3. But the words they spoke were mere flattery;
they lied to him with their lips.
For their hearts were not truly with him;
they were not faithful to his covenant. ***(R.)***
4. Yet he who is full of compassion
forgave their sin and spared them.
So often he held back his anger
when he might have stirred up his rage. ***(R.)***

SECOND READING

Philippians 2:6-11

He humbled himself, therefore God had exalted him.

The state of Jesus was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross.

But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,
because by your cross you have redeemed the world.
Alleluia!



GOSPEL

JOHN 3:13-17

The Son of Man must be lifted up.

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'No one has gone up to heaven except the one who came down from heaven, the Son of Man who is in heaven; and the Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.

Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life.

For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

REFLECTION

The Triumph of the Cross

What other religion would have as its central symbol two rough hewn planks of wood fashioned into an instrument of torture on which our Founder, Jesus of Nazareth, was cruelly done to death?

And yet, today, we speak of 'The Triumph of the Cross'. Where is the triumph?

Let us rid ourselves of one terrible answer: that our heavenly Father willed that Jesus Christ should suffer that tortured death. What sort of cruel despot would I be called on to worship if that were the case?

What his Heavenly Father willed was that Jesus Christ should remain steadfast in the face of adversity, should remain true to his mission to teach and embody the mercy, the forgiveness, the all-inclusive love of God for every human being.

When Jesus persevered (not my will but thine be done), the Cross was the inevitable result. Death appeared to have won the battle to ensure a death dominated world.

But three days later, our Lord appeared to St Thomas bearing the marks of the wounds of the Cross but now indelibly imprinted on his resurrection body.

That is victory, that is triumph. A victory and a triumph in which we are all called to share.

© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com
(Extract from Liturgy Help.com)

LET US CARE FOR OUR SPIRITUAL FATHERS, JUST AS THEY CARE FOR US

Through a lifetime of loving service, our priests lead us ever closer to God in communion. As we celebrate the paternal figures in our families this Father's Day, we also honour our priests' constant nurturing presence and the spiritual guidance they offer those in their care.

BISHOP'S FATHER'S DAY APPEAL



Bishop's Father's Day Appeal – This Father's Day, as we thank the father figures in our lives, let's also honour our spiritual fathers — the priests who nurture our faith. Even after stepping back from administration, they continue to serve in faithful ways: offering sacraments, celebrating Masses, hearing confessions, assisting at services, and serving as chaplains in aged care. Your generosity helps ensure our ageing priests receive the care, comfort, and dignity they deserve in this next chapter of their lives. Please give generously at parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal or scan the QR code. Thank you.

The Son of Man must be lifted up

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

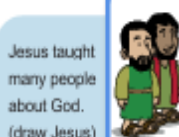
God loves us so much he sent Jesus to help us and save us.
What are some things you can do to help those who you love?



Fill in the missing words and pictures.



God sent his
only ---
to save us.



Jesus taught
many people
about God.
(draw Jesus)



COMPLETE THE TEXT MAZE

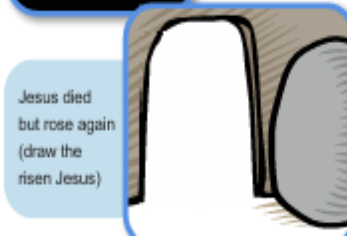
"God did not send the Son to condemn the world,
but in order that the world might be saved through him."

START **G** O H H I **M** FINISH

L	D	H	H	E	E
Y	D	U	G	U	O
D	I	R	O	H	R
N	N	H	D	T	H
D	F	M	O	T	T
S	E	H	E	B	S
O	L	T	D	N	E
N	L	O	N	D	E
T	O	C	O	N	D
F	S	E	X	E	S
N	M	I	R	T	T
T	E	C	A	A	C
H	W	R	T	H	R
E	W	U	R	X	U
L	O	K	E	D	A
L	R	L	D	R	L
D	U	R	S	O	F
B	U	T	I	N	T
L	D	B	Y	R	G



Jesus was
sentenced to
death and nailed
to a _____



Jesus died
but rose again
(draw the
risen Jesus)

Jubilee Prayer by Pope Francis



Father in heaven,
may the *faith* you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of *charity* enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed *hope*
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators
of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within
both humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.
May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.
To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen

