



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



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A

7TH DECEMBER 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 Chittilapilly Joy
Sacramental and SRE Co Ordinator
thesacraments@stanthonyschurch.org.au

Office Hours

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

After Hours Emergency 02 9631 6420

Hall Hire

Charlie 0499 557 995

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

Marian Prayer Group

Tuesday 10am St Enda's Room
(Marie: 0457 126 044)

Tamil Prayer Group

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

Piety Shop

Tuesday to Saturday 10.00am - 11.15am
Saturday after 5.30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 9.00am - 11.30am

If you wish to Support the parish Via Direct Deposit:

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

MASS ROSTER	This Week 6/7 December 2025			Next Week 13/14 December 2025		
	5.30pm	8.00am	10.00am	5.30pm	8.00am	10.00am
Senior Server	J. Ivan	M. Maclou	A. Winton	P. Vella	T. Peiris	A. Prabakaran
Commentator	M. D'Souza	A. Gomes	B. Ryan	M. D'Souza	E. Pasikale	B. Ryan
Reader 1	J. Buttigieg	O. Saldanha	M. Hili	M. Nakhoul	K. Wilson	J. Wharton
Reader 2	L D'vine	C. Molloy	M. Tan	A. Lahood	S. Benjamin	T. Sebastian
Data Projectionist	Mary		Geneva	Nicole		
Junior Server	B	D	G	A	C	E
Children's Liturgy			Rochelle/Stella			Stella/Sofie

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISH:

Edmond PAUL
Maria VELLA
Peter RANEE
Carole O'HARE
John GAUCI
Rene NEMORIN
Anthony AL HADDAD
Anna FERNANDES
Sarah MARLIN

Angelo ALEXANDER
Aidan ALEXANDER
Adrian NOCEVSKI
Tanya AMBROSE
Katherine S. SHEEHAN
Alexsis PETRUCELLI
Anith THURAIRATNAM
Maureen HANVEY
Rosa DI CRISTOFORO

Gabby ABBODD
Lyette MATHIEU
Teresa GALEA
Geraldine HALLIWELL
Mary CAMELLERI
Alan LUMLEY
Ajith SEEMAMPILLAI
Ranjith CHELLAPPA
Simon SHERVILLE

Emma NONEY
Joe (Joseph) BORG
Dennis KUNDER
Kate MORTIMER
Shanji ANTHONY
Cecilia FERRER
Joseph MACDERMID
Rita DAVID
Lesley MYERS

John TYNAN
Noe ISOTTEN
Sarah SHEEHAN
Jan SALMON
Colleen DAVAR

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 - December

December 14 Prisoners

Acknowledgement of the traditional custodians of this land

Our Parish is located on the traditional country of the Darug Nation. We acknowledge their cultural heritage, beliefs and continuing relationship with the land and waters. We pay respect to their Elders past and present and join with them in working to build a brighter future together.



Children's Christmas Nativity Play at St Anthony Parish - will be held at the Christmas Eve Family Mass at 6:00 pm Wednesday 24th December.

Parents/Guardians and the children must attend all rehearsals and the Christmas Eve Family mass.

- **Rehearsal 1** - Thursday 11 December from 6:30pm - 8:00pm. Roles will be allocated on the day on a first come first served basis.
- **Rehearsal 2** - Thursday 18 December from 6:30pm - 8:00pm. Will include costume fitting.
- **Final rehearsal**, with costume - Monday 22 December from 6.30pm to 7.30pm



Parish Christmas Carols - Our annual Parish Christmas Carols and BBQ will take place Saturday 13th December after the 5:30 pm Vigil Mass from 6:30 pm onwards.

If anyone would like to assist in the hospitality area, please contact Felicity Rodrigues - felicity.rodrigues@icloud.com or 0414 369 115



SVDP - Vinnies Christmas Tree is here!. We kindly ask the parishioners to take one or more tickets hanging on the tree to contribute Food or Presents for the Hamper drive. We are also collecting donations for our Vinnies Christmas Appeal. Delivery of hampers is scheduled for the 13th of December, so **we kindly request that all donations be returned to the Church by this Sunday, 7th December at the latest.** Thank you for your continuing support of Vinnies in the parish.



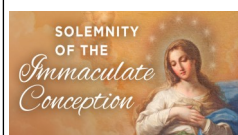
Working Bee - Our monthly clean up of the Church and surrounding grounds in preparation for Advent and Parish Christmas Carols will take place next Saturday, **13th December starting at 8am.** It would be greatly appreciated by Father Joby if many of you could spare an hour or two and join the crew and bring along your cleaning & any gardening equipment/tools that you feel will be helpful with the clean-up.



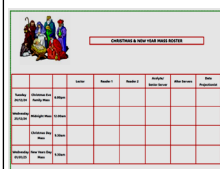
COLUMBAN ART CALENDAR

Columban Art Calendar 2026 - is now available for purchase at the Piety Stall, priced at \$11.00 each. Please purchase your copy before it runs out. We also have many Christmas items at very reasonable prices that can be purchased for gift giving this season.

Thank you! to everyone who donate last weekend to **Bishop's Christmas Appeal** - supporting Catholic Care Grief and Loss Counselling. **As a parish we collected \$1849.65.** If you haven't had a chance to donate, please use this QR code to donate online. Please give generously at parracatholic.org/appeal.



Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Mass will be celebrated on **Monday the 8th December** at 9.30am.



Christmas/New Year Liturgical Ministry Roster - if you would like to be part of the Liturgical Ministry during our Masses for Christmas and the New Year please write down your name on the roster sheet up in the sacristy.

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

St Anthony's Parish Vinnies need your help - Vinnies will be delivering hampers next Saturday, 13th December, at 9 am. We should be finished by 10:30 am. If you can help, please register using the QR Code below.



Migrant Jubilee Cross visits the Diocese of Parramatta -

To mark the end of the Jubilee Year, the Vatican's Migrant Jubilee Cross will be visiting several parishes in the Diocese of Parramatta from 5-11 January. For one week, the Diocese of Parramatta will come alive with celebrations that recognise the faith, gifts and resilience of migrant communities who have enriched our parishes, schools and communities. Bring your friends and family to experience the Migrant Jubilee Cross Pilgrimage at a parish near you. Learn more at parracatholic.org/migrant-jubilee-cross.



Advent Reflection - An Advent reflection will be hosted every Wednesday evenings at 7pm in St Enda's meeting room. All are welcome.

Congratulations !

To **Thendral Lencip** who received the sacrament of baptism on 30th November 2025

REFLECTION

Inaugurating a New Humanity

John proclaimed that the reign of God was 'at hand' as he immersed and plunged followers into the waters of the Jordan River. (His nickname was John the Immerser, or 'baptiser' in the Greek.) He used flowing water to symbolise the washing away of the past for those who repented so that they could be totally focused on the 'at hand' person who would inaugurate God's kingdom. In this passage, John does not identify the 'Someone'! But he realised that this 'Someone' would have divine power to affect the future by immersing, baptising, his followers with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

At this stage of Advent, we should be like John's disciples, filled with a sense of anticipation, looking forward to the coming towards us ('Advent' in Latin) of the One who can flood our minds and bodies with the Holy Spirit and can immerse our hearts in Divine Fire.

We could pause for a moment to thank God that, even though we are unworthy to carry His sandals, there is One who is coming towards us wanting to transform us with Divine Power.

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

PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

You can also support the parish by using the: **Tap & Go Machine**. The machine amount is variable, please use the screen to donate the amount you wish to give. It also accepts Apple Pay, Google Pay and Pay Wave.



All contributions go to the maintenance and development of the Parish as does the second collection at weekend Masses.

Planned Giving (Direct Debit or Credit Card) is also an option if you wish to do cashless donation to the parish, forms are available in the parish office.

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 11:1-10

He judges the poor with justice.

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse, a scion thrusts from his roots: on him the spirit of the Lord rests, a spirit of wisdom and insight, a spirit of counsel and power, a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. (The fear of the Lord is his breath.)

He does not judge by appearances, he gives no verdict on hearsay, but judges the wretched with integrity, and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land.

His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless, his sentences bring death to the wicked. Integrity is the loincloth round his waist, faithfulness the belt about his hips.

The wolf lives with the lamb, the panther lies down with the kid, calf and lion cub feed together with a little boy to lead them. The cow and the bear make friends, their young lie down together. The lion eats straw like the ox. The infant plays over the cobra's hole; into the viper's lair the young child puts his hand. They do no hurt, no harm, on all my holy mountain, for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters swell the sea. That day, the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples. It will be sought out by the nations and its home will be glorious.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17. R. CF. V.7

***(R.) Justice shall flourish in his time,
and fullness of peace for ever.***

1. O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement. ***(R.)***
2. In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to the earth's bounds. ***(R.)***
3. For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor. ***(R.)***
4. May his name be blessed for ever
and endure like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,
all nations bless his name. ***(R.)***

SECOND READING

Romans 15:4-9

Christ, the hope of all people.

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The

reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing your name.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 3:1-12

Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said:

A voice cries in the wilderness:

Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight.

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



St Anthony of Padua Parish,

Toongabbie

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E-mail: secretary@stanthonychurch.org.au

Website: www.stanthonychurch.org.au

ABN: 59143137350

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES 2025



Wednesday 24/12/25	Christmas Eve Family Mass (with Children's nativity play)	6.00pm
Thursday 25/12/25	Midnight Mass	12.00am
	Christmas Day Mass	9.30am
Thursday 01/01/25	New Years Day Mass (Mary, the Holy Mother of God)	9.30am



2nd Week of Advent

Candle Name : **Bethlehem Candle**

Candle Symbolizes : **FAITH**

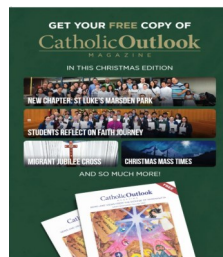
Reminds us : **Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem**

Lighting of Advent Wreath

Dear Jesus, you entered our world on Christmas as the Prince of Peace. This Advent, as we strive to become the best version of ourselves, fill us with a deep and abiding peace.

Help us share that peace with everyone we encounter, especially those who need it most.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord.
Amen.



Catholic Outlook - the Christmas Edition of the Catholic Outlook Magazine is now available at the foyer. Please take your free copy.

Make a straight path for the Lord

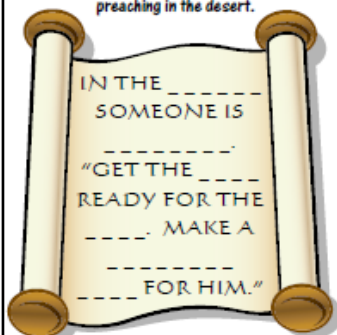


2nd Sunday of Advent, Year A

At each bend in the road write down something that you are sorry for doing.

Use the words below to complete Isaiah's prophecy which tells of John the Baptist preaching in the desert.

Draw a picture of John the Baptist from his description in the bible.



STRAIGHT ROAD
LORD SHOUTING PATH
DESERT

He wore clothes made from camel's hair.
He wore a leather strap around his waist.
He ate locusts and wild honey.



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

