



St Anthony of Padua Parish Toongabbie

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

* Office Tel: 9631 3316 * Emergency 9631 6420 *

Website: www.stanthonychurch.org.au



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A

14TH 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@stonthonychurch.org.au

Rev. Deacon Charles Hyson

charles.hyson@parracatholic.org

Mrs Shanika Joseph

Parish Secretary

secretary@stonthonychurch.org.au

Mrs. Jini Chittilapilly Joy

Sacramental and SRE Co Ordinator

thesacraments@stonthonychurch.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 Anthony's Youth

Insta ID : stay_toongabbie1508

email: st Anthonyyouthtoongabbie@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 13/14 December 2025

Next Week 20/21 December 2025

	5.30pm	8.00am	10.00am	5.30pm	8.00am	10.00am
Senior Server	P. Vella	T. Dalmati	A. Prabaharan	F. Le Clerc	T. Dalmati	K. Steele
Commentator	M. Mathavan	E. Pasikale	B. Ryan	M. D'Souza	C. Bugeja	A. Prabaharan
Reader 1	M. Nakhoul	K. Wilson	J. Wharton	V. Adams	H. Menezes	C. Bernard
Reader 2	A. Lahood	S. Benjamin	T. Sebastian	J. Buttigieg	M. Palmer	F. Rodrigues
Data Projectionist	Nicole			Soballa		Sofie
Junior Server	A	C	E	B	D	F
Children's Liturgy			Stella/Sofie			School Break

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

Alexis PETRUCELLI

Anith THURARATNAM

Maureen HANVEY

Rosa DI CHRISTOFORO

Gabby ABOUD

Lylette 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.



Parish Christmas Carols - Our annual Parish Christmas Carols and BBQ will take place this Saturday 13th December after the 5:30 pm Vigil Mass from 6:30 pm onwards. We hope to see you all in your Christmas hats.



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 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



Wedding Anniversary Blessings - We celebrate the gift of marriage next weekend. If your wedding anniversary falls in December and you would like a blessing during the weekend Mass on 20/21 December, please contact the parish office by Wednesday 17th December.



THANK YOU! St Vincent De Paul Society is very thankful for all your donations of children's gifts and food and pantry items for the hampers. They were distributed to the Families we support. Thank you once again for your continuing support of Vinnies in the parish.



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



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.



Parish office will be closed for the Christmas/New Year holiday break from the afternoon of 24th December 2025 to 5th January 2026. Weekday and weekend Mass will continue as usual.

For any emergency please call the emergency contact number 02 9631 6420 or speak to Father Joby after any Mass.

Positions Vacant

- Catholic Chaplain – Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains

More details at: parracatholic.org/jobs



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.

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

Liturgical Ministry Formation Course returns for 2026

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Course will be returning in February 2026. To avoid disappointment, please send signed enrolment forms to ofw@parracatholic.org before Friday 23 January. Please visit parracatholic.org/liturgical-ministry-course for more information about this course. **Forms are available in the foyer.**

ROSTERS: Rosters for Acolyte/Senior Servers & Data Projectionist - January to June 2026 and Commentator/Lectors from January to March 2026 have now been emailed and printed copies are available in the sacristy.

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA PARISH, TOONGABBE SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION CALENDAR 2026		
NOTE: Dates, times, and venue are subject to change. Please check with the Sacristy and during mass there.		
FIRST RECONCILIATION SUNDAY		
TIME: 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM		
VENUE: St. Anthony's Church		
CONFIRMATION CEREMONY		
TIME: 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM		
VENUE: St. Anthony's Church		
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FIRST READING

ISAIAH 35: 1-6,10

God himself will come and save us.

Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult, let the wasteland rejoice and bloom, let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil, let it rejoice and sing for joy.

The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it, the splendour of Carmel and Sharon; they shall see the glory of the Lord, the splendour of our God.

Strengthen all weary hands, steady all trembling knees and say to all faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid.'

'Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy, for those the Lord has ransomed shall return.

They will come to Zion shouting for joy, everlasting joy on their faces; joy and gladness will go with them and sorrow and lament be ended.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 145:6-10. R. SEE IS 35:4

(R.) Lord, come and save us.

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free. ***(R.)***
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down, the Lord, who protects the stranger and upholds the widow and orphan. ***(R.)***
3. It is the Lord who loves the just but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age. ***(R.)***

SECOND READING

James 5:7-10

You also must be patient; do not lose heart, the Lord's coming will be soon.

Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the spring rains! You too have to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Alleluia!



GOSPEL

MATTHEW 11:2-11

Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else?

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.'

As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

REFLECTION

The Right Question

John was languishing in prison, held captive by the local agent of the Roman Empire. Perhaps he was looking for evidence that Jesus was the One who would throw off Roman despotism. In answer to his questing, Jesus replied that John should rather look at what was happening on the ground in His healing ministry and orientation to the poor. Those are the signs that the reign of God has begun.

I admire John the Baptist because he was prepared to seek and accept the answer to the question which was crucial to him, even though the answer might upset his preconceptions. He was a true seeker after Truth.

All our activities as a parish in building community, forming faith, serving the poor, participating in the liturgy, should be undertaken so that a seeker after Truth might see and hear the evidence of the presence and mission of the risen Lord Jesus Christ amongst us.

We could pause for a moment to simply pray in the spirit of Advent: 'Come, Lord Jesus' to satisfy the restlessness of the questing heart.

The Christmas Mass time flyers for post box drop - is available in the foyer. Please take a bundle of 25 and distribute in your area. Thank you.

**St Anthony of Padua Parish,
Toongabbie**

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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

Jesus is coming to save us

3rd Sunday of Advent, Year A

Jesus told John the Baptist's followers to tell him all they had seen and heard. How did Jesus help the following people?

Draw Jesus bringing the good news to the poor

Blind People		
Deaf People		
Lame People		
Lepers		

Advent Wreath

Each Sunday during the season of Advent, we light a candle on the Advent Wreath. The candle which is lit on the third Sunday of Advent is pink. All the other candles are purple. Colour in the Advent Wreath.





3rd Week of Advent

Candle Name : Shepherd's Candle

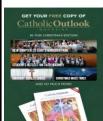
Candle Symbolizes : Joy

Reminds us : The joy the world experienced at the coming birth of Jesus

Lighting of Advent Wreath

Dear Jesus, help us focus on you during this busy season. May we stay aware of the joy you bring into our lives. We want to find you in the everyday moments and come with hearts of gratitude to your manger on Christmas. 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.



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.

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

