



# 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](http://www.stanthonychurch.org.au)



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - YEAR A

04TH JANUARY 2026

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@stanthonychurch.org.au](mailto:frjoby@stanthonychurch.org.au)

**Rev. Deacon Charles Hyson**

[charles.hyson@parracatholic.org](mailto:charles.hyson@parracatholic.org)

**Mrs Shanika Joseph**

Parish Secretary

[secretary@stanthonychurch.org.au](mailto:secretary@stanthonychurch.org.au)

**Mrs. Jini Chittilapilly Joy**

Sacramental and SRE Co Ordinator

[thesacraments@stanthonychurch.org.au](mailto:thesacraments@stanthonychurch.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](mailto: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 03/04 January 2026

## Next Week 10/11 January 2026

	5.30pm	8.00am	10.00am	5.30pm	8.00am	10.00am
<b>Senior Server</b>	F. Le Clerc	M. Maclou	K. Steele	C. Bourne	T. Dalmati	F. Rodrigues
<b>Commentator</b>	V. Adams	D. Fernandes	S. Cullen	M. D'Souza	H. Menezes	J. Thomas
<b>Reader 1</b>	A. Lahood	A. Gomes	P. Lim	L. D'vine	S. Benjamin	J. Wharton
<b>Reader 2</b>	J. Buttigieg	E. Pasikale	B. Ryan	J. Buttigieg	F. Lette	C. Pereira
<b>Data Projectionist</b>	Soballa		Sofie	Soballa		Jedd
<b>Junior Server</b>						
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>			School Break			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

Alexsis PETRUCELLI

Anith THURAIRATNAM

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

Richard TOOKER

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

## Acknowledgement of the traditional custodians of this land

*As we gather on the land of the Tugagal people of the Darug Nation, we honour the spiritual presence of their ancestors and with the grace of God, we commit ourselves to journeying with them towards greater understanding, peace, justice and reconciliation.*



**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.

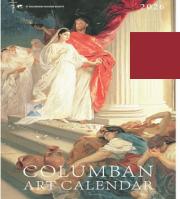
For any emergency please call the emergency contact number 02 9631 6420 or speak to Father Joby after any Mass.

**Parish Sacramental Calendar 2026** The parish Sacramental Calendar for next year is up on the notice boards. Please note date for registration for the Sacrament First of Reconciliation. Program commences on 11th February 2026 with the enquiry night.

**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.

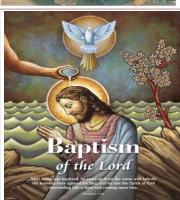


**Migrant Jubilee Cross visits the Diocese of Parramatta** - To mark the end of the Jubilee Year, the Vatican's Migrant Jubilee Cross will be visiting several parishes in the Diocese of Parramatta from 5-11 January. For one week, the Diocese of Parramatta will come alive with celebrations that recognise 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](http://parracatholic.org/migrant-jubilee-cross).



### COLUMBAN ART CALENDAR

Columban Art Calendar 2026 - is available for purchase at the Piety Stall, priced at \$11.00 each.



**The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord** - will be celebrated on Sunday the 11th of January 2026 at our weekend Masses.



**SVDP Back to School packs** - Please support the SVDP by donating toward the back-to-school packs for families preparing for the new school year. If you can help with donations of stationery please bring them to the church by 20th January. A list of suggested items for donation are displayed on our notice boards.

### 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.



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

### The Cast and pictures from the Nativity Play



### REFLECTION

#### Stars and Seekers after Truth

Unlike the writers of the horoscope columns in our newspapers, these Wise Men were scholar astrologers, probably from Syria or Iraq. They believed that the stars controlled the destiny of human beings, but they were open enough to the Hebrew scriptures to be led to the amazing discovery of a star-child in Bethlehem. They knelt before this baby, doing homage, because they realised that the stars did not control this infant, but that there was something of this baby which caused the night sky to respond! They preserved the child from the deadly schemes of Herod, and then they returned to their home country, 'by a different way'. They were on a different journey after encountering the Child.

Who can doubt that the Holy Spirit led these wise men from the East to the manger? In fact, the Holy Spirit is at work in every human being, prompting each and every one to become seekers after Truth.

As a person responds to this prompting and tries to lead a good humane life, then the Church teaches that the Holy Spirit can draw them into the saving life of God. Thus, billions in China and India who have never heard the Gospel, can be saved. But, such persons do not savour the fullness of Truth as we do with the privilege of having the scriptures and the sacraments. Where it is possible, we are obliged to offer them the road map to the Truth.

We can take a moment to affirm our faith in the baby in the manger as the One of whom Dante spoke: 'the Love which moves the sun and other stars'. Come, let us adore him.

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

## FIRST READING

**The glory of the Lord shines upon you.**

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples. Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness. Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and your daughters being tenderly carried. At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you; the wealth of the nations come to you; camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 10-13, R. SEE v.11

(R.) Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

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 earth's bounds. (R.)
3. The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts shall pay him tribute. The kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring him gifts. Before him all kings shall fall prostrate, all nations shall serve him. (R.)
4. 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.)

## SECOND READING

## Ephesians 3:2-3. 5-6

**The revelation means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body.**

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## ISAIAH 60:1-6

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord. **Alleluia!**



## GOSPEL

## MATTHEW 2:1-12

**We have come from the East to worship the king.**

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him, 'for this is what the prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah,  
for out of you will come a leader  
who will shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

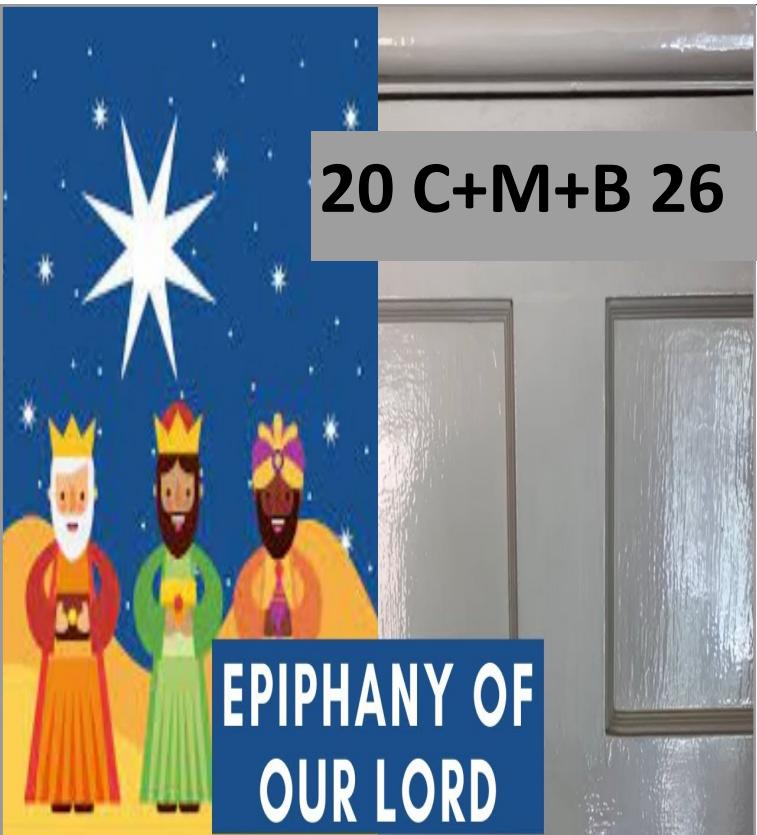
## The Epiphany Blessing

### Marking homes with Blessed Chalk for the New Year

The ancient custom of marking the door of the home with blessed chalk is a way of incorporating the liturgical feast of the Epiphany as a domestic ritual into the prayer life of the family. Chalk is first blessed in the parish church at Masses for Epiphany and then people are invited to take some home and to mark the lintel of the front door as follows: 20 C + M + B 26

The letters capital C, M and B stand for the traditional names for the three wise men who come seeking Jesus: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. The letters also represent the words Christus Mansionem Benedicat (May Christ Bless this Abode).

Chalk Mark	Words to be said at home.
	Peace be upon this house and with all of us who live here. <b>Amen.</b>
	<b>Matthew 2: 1-2, 10-11</b> The wise men from the East came to Jerusalem asking: Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising and have come to pay him homage. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage.
	<b>The Gospel of the Lord.</b> <b>Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.</b>
<b>C</b>	THE THREE WISE MEN
<b>M</b>	CASPAR
<b>B</b>	MELCHIOR
	BALTHASAR
	FOLLOWED THE LIGHT OF THE STAR TO FIND JESUS THE SON OF GOD, WHO CAME TO LIVE AMONG US
<b>20</b>	TWO THOUSAND
<b>26</b>	AND 26 YEARS AGO.
<b>+</b>	MAY CHRIST BLESS OUR HOME TODAY
<b>+</b>	AND REMAIN WITH US THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.
	<i>Let us pray:</i> God of mercy, fill our home with the light and love of Christ that it may be a place of hospitality and welcome. May Christ be our shelter when we are at home, our companion when we are away, and our welcome guest when we return. Through Christ our Lord. <b>Amen.</b>
	Let us bless the Lord. <b>Thanks be to God.</b>
	<b><i>In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.</i></b>



20 C+M+B 26

