



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



THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

25TH 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@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 24/25 January 2026			Next Week 31 Jan/1 Feb 2026		
	5.30pm	8.00am	10.00am	5.30pm	8.00am	10.00am
Senior Server	P. Vella	M. Maclou	A. Winton	F. Le Clerc	T. Dalmati	J. Rodrigues
Commentator	Youth	K. Wilson	J. Wharton	M. D'Souza	C. Molloy	M. Hili
Reader 1	Youth	J. Suresh	M. Tan	N. Nakhoul	D. Fernandes	S. Kenny
Reader 2	Youth	C. Bugeja	A. Rego	V. Adams	I. Gomes	F. Rodrigues
Data Projectionist	Lauren		Rochelle	Nicole		Lourdes
Junior Server						
Children's Liturgy			School Break			Stella/Angelin

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISH:

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

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



"Thank you" to everyone who gave generously toward the **SVDP Back to School packs** - packs were collated and distributed among the families who were in need.



Australia Day Mass - will be celebrated on Monday 26th at 9.30am



Parish office will remain closed on Monday 26th January due to the Australia Day long weekend.



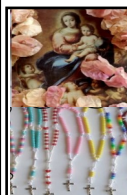
Creative Arts' Group - Our classes resume on Friday 30th January in our Parish Hall commencing at 10.00am and concluding at 12.30pm. Our dates for this term are: 30th January, 13th & 27th February, 13th and 27th March 2026. We welcome newcomers to join us. Any enquiries please phone Debbie 0410 302 739, Jane 9688 1682 or Vicki 0414 671 514



Annual Diocesan Red Mass: 3 February - Fr Robert Riedling, Dean of St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta, cordially invites members of the judiciary and legal community, public service officials, law students and their families to the [annual Red Mass](#). Join us on Tuesday 3 February at 7pm, refreshments will be served following the Mass. Please RSVP by Friday 30 January to enquiry@stpatrcathedral.com.au or call (02) 8839 8400.



St Josephine Bakhita Memorial Mass & Community Celebration: 8 February - You are warmly invited to the annual St Josephine Bakhita Memorial Mass & Community Celebration on Sunday 8 February at 12:30pm at St Patrick's Church, MQOF Parish, Blacktown. The South-Sudanese and Sudanese Catholic Community, supported by the Mission Enhancement Team, will celebrate their national patron saint, share their spirituality, culture and cuisine, and pray for the victims of modern slavery and human trafficking. All are welcome to attend.



Rosary Making Workshop: 9 February - Come along for a fun evening of community and crafting rosary beads that will then be donated to the sick and dying in hospitals across our Diocese. The craft evening will be held on Monday 9 February at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. Costs are \$5 per person - payable on arrival (includes all materials). To register and for more information, please visit parracatholic.org/rosary-workshops

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.



Parishioners are invited to return any palms and palm crosses (not wooden) from last year that can be burnt and used in this years Ash Wednesday Mass. Place them in the baskets in the courtyard by **11th February**.



Diocesan World Day of the Sick: 11 February - A Mass for the World Day of the Sick, including the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, will be held at 11am on 11 February 2026 at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. All are welcome, including those who may be sick, and those who care for the sick and dying and health care professionals. To register, please visit parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-world-day-of-the-sick-mass/

Be a stronger you - Free empowerment course for women:

Beginning February 2026 - Catholic Care has partnered with Survivor Voice Australia to run a free six-week empowerment program for women who have experienced domestic violence and abuse. The program will start in February 2026 in the Blue Mountains. Contact Catholic Care to express your interest: (02) 8843 2500.

REFLECTION

The Voice of Jesus

Two sets of two brothers were running successful family businesses. But once Jesus passed by and called them, the Gospel says, at once they left their boats and followed him. I think because, hearing his voice, they realised that Jesus was the true vocalist of God.

Irish author and mystic, John O'Donohue, once wrote, 'Something in us senses and knows how perfectly the contours of the soul fit the divine embrace.'*

Maybe Simon Peter, Andrew, James and John sensed that, in this Jesus, there was a Soul whose contours perfectly fitted the divine embrace. They were prepared to risk everything for the chance to have their souls contoured along the same lines.

The call: 'Follow me ...', was not to an isolated individual promising to save his soul, but to two brothers and then another two brothers. Immediately, a community was being formed and its task was to bring others into that Jesus-following community.

We could pause for a moment to hear the brothers beckoning us to follow the call of that voice sounded by Our Lord Jesus Christ.

*John O'Donohue, *Divine Beauty: The Invisible Embrace*, Bantam Press, 246.

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

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

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 8:23 – 9:3

In the Galilean country, the people have seen a great light.

In days past the Lord humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in days to come he will confer glory on the Way of the Sea on the far side of Jordan, province of the nations.

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone.

You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase, they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils.

For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 26:1. 4. 13-14. R. v.1

(R.) The Lord is my light and my salvation.

1. The Lord is my light and my help;
whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
Before whom shall I shrink? ***(R.)***
2. There is one thing I ask of the Lord,
for this I long,
to live in the house of the Lord,
all the days of my life,
to savour the sweetness of the Lord,
to behold his temple. ***(R.)***
3. I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness
in the land of the living.
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.
Hope in the Lord! ***(R.)***

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17

I appeal to you, my brothers and sisters, make up the differences between you.

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, to make up the differences between you, and instead of disagreeing among yourselves, to be united again in your belief and practice. From what Chloe's people have been telling me, my dear brothers, it is clear that there are serious differences among you. What I mean are all these slogans that you have, like: 'I am for Paul', 'I am for Apollos', 'I am for Cephas', 'I am for Christ'. Has Christ been parcelled out? Was it Paul that was crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul?

For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the Good News, and not to preach that in the terms of philosophy in which the crucifixion of Christ cannot be expressed.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!



GOSPEL

MATTHEW 4:12-23

He went to Capernaum, that the prophecy of Isaiah be fulfilled.

Hearing that John had been arrested Jesus went back to Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he went and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled:

Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali!
Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan,
Galilee of the nations!
The people that lived in darkness
has seen a great light;
on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death
a light has dawned.

From that moment Jesus began his preaching with the message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee he saw two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and his brother Andrew; they were making a cast in the lake with their net, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.' And they left their nets at once and followed him.

Going on from there he saw another pair of brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they were in their boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. At once, leaving the boat and their father, they followed him.

He went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Safeguarding Training Dates for Deaneries

From this year, parishes within a Deanery will have the same Safeguarding Training Renewal and Refresher Dates. In 2026, the dates for those in a Deanery to update and complete their Training will be:

- Blacktown Deanery – April 2026
- The Hills Deanery – August 2026
- Cumberland Deanery – November 2026

The remaining Deaneries will renew in 2027. Online Training Modules are always available for those who are entering ministry. Face-to-face opportunities can be found at:

<https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>. For further inquiries and to book in F2F Training dates at your Parish, please contact: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

When should I complete my Safeguarding Training? - All Clergy, employees and volunteers in parish ministry are required by the NSW Children's Guardian Act 2019 to be current and complete with Safeguarding Training. Check with your Parish Office when you are due to update your Safeguarding Training.

- If you are new to ministry, you must complete the Introductory Modules 1-3 (Cycle 1).
- If you completed Cycle 1 modules two years ago, you must complete Renewal Modules 4 and 5 (Cycle 2)
- If you renewed your Cycle 2 two years ago, you must complete a Refresher Module 6 (Cycle 3)

Safeguarding Training Modules can always be completed online at <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au/>. Face-to-face training opportunities can be found at <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>.

MET Natural Fertility – Natural Family Planning (NFP)

Are you looking for help to track your fertility cycle? Come and explore a natural, effective, healthy and scientific approach to achieve, space/avoid pregnancy or monitor women's health. NFP is suitable for all situations including post-contraception, breastfeeding mothers and women experiencing peri-menopause. Express your interest at www.parracatholic.org/learn/natural-family-planning



Be The Witness, a production being brought to life by a team at Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown, is gathering momentum across our Parish and the Diocese with vocal auditions now having commenced. We would love to extend the invitation to all those in our parishes to our **open auditions on Sunday 1st from 11am-1pm and 2pm-4pm and Monday 2nd of February from 6pm-8pm**, which will take place at the Parish Office at St Patrick's Church, Blacktown. Please register to audition by emailing music@bethewitness.com.au

We would also love to invite anyone who is interested in assisting in any way in any of our teams – production, event management, communications, finance, fundraising, and prayer – to get in touch using the QR code provided. We are also currently looking for a director and choreographer. Musicians and dancers can also scan the relevant QR codes to register their interest and be kept informed of upcoming Live Band and Dance auditions.

Registration for core teams



Dancers



Musicians



Matthew 4:17-23



Write down the names of four people you know who follow Jesus. For each person give an example of how they follow Jesus.

The first disciples to be called by Jesus were all fishermen. Connect each of these apostles with his correct description.

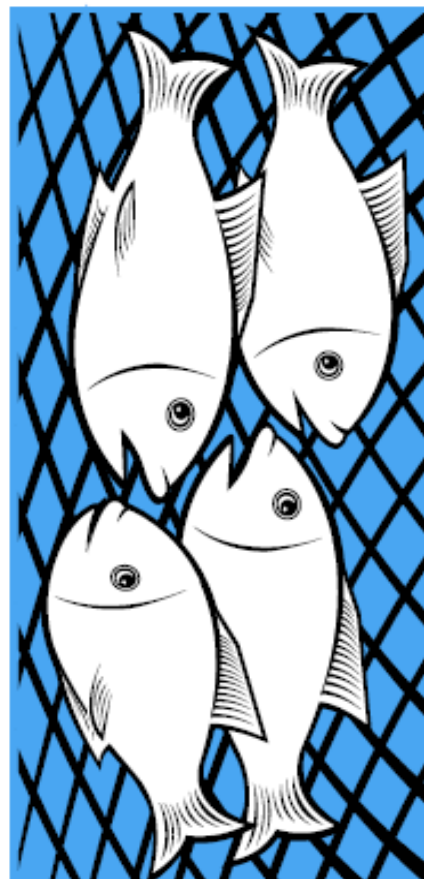
Also known as Simon, Jesus called him the "rock" upon which he would build the church. After the Ascension, he became a leader of the apostles and is regarded as the first pope.

He was the brother of John and one of the sons of Zebedee. He was chosen by Jesus to be one of the witnesses to the Transfiguration. He was the first of the apostles to be martyred.

He was one of the sons of Zebedee and a close friend of Jesus. He stood at the foot of the cross with the virgin Mary during Jesus' crucifixion. One of the Gospels bears his name.

He was the brother of Peter and the first called by Jesus. He was martyred by being crucified on an 'X' shaped cross, which became his symbol. He is the patron saint of Scotland.

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The disciples were called by Jesus to bring people to God. Inside the fish write down some of the ways that we can bring people to God in our everyday lives.



Come with me!