



St Anthony of Padua Parish Toongabbie

Established 1951

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

24th/25 December 2020

* Office Tel: 9631 3316

* Emergency 9631 6420

Website: www.stanthonyschurch.org.au

email: secretary@stanthonyschurch.org.au

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

Mrs Luisa Luccitti Parish Secretary

Secretary@stanthonyschurch.org.au

Miss Kristin Borg

Sacramental Coordinator and

Special Religious Education Coordinator

thesacraments@stanthonyschurch.org.au

Hall Hire Charlie 0488264922

Office Hours

Monday and Wednesday

9:00—3:00pm

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

9:00—4:00pm

St Anthony's School

School Principal:

Linda Ducksbury

Phone: 8843 4600

Mass Times

Saturday 5:30pm Vigil

Sunday 8.00am, 9.00am 10.00am

Tuesday 7.00pm

Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat 9.30am

Communion Service:

Tues 9.30am

As of December -

Bookings no longer necessary for weekend Masses but you must give contact details before entering and adhere to social distancing rules. Masks are recommended

Baptisms & Weddings:

By arrangement.

Ring parish office for more information

Reconciliation:

Saturday 4.45pm to 5.15pm or by arrangement

Rosary

Week days 9.10am

Exposition

Friday 10am to 10.30am

(special intention for Vocations)

Novena

Tuesday - after 7pm Mass to St Anthony

Prayer Groups:

Christ the King

Tamil - Friday, 8.00pm in the Marian room (Tarcisius 0423699146)

Legion of Mary - Weekly Meetings:

Monday 6.45pm Marian Room

(Ben 9863 1723)

Tuesday 10am St Enda's room

(Peter: 0417 613 737)

Christmas Mass Roster

	6.00pm	8.00pm	12.00am	8.30am	10.00am
Acolyte/ Senior Server	C Bourne	AM	J Rodrigues	M Maclou	
Acolyte/ Senior Server	Matthew	Matthew	Matthew	Matthew	Matthew
Commentator	C Perera	S Cullen		E Pasikale	
Reader 1	V Adams	C Bugeja	F Rodrigues	M Palmer	S Benjamin
Reader 2	J Buttigieg		M D'Souza	A Pushparajan	T Jose
Data Projectionist	R Soballa			Maria H	Sofie T
Junior Server	Sachin, Shalini and Sean	A Prabakaran	Muki, Shanela And Devanshi	Marcus, Isabel T	Feodora C



PRAYER SERVICE

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) Night Year B (Extracted from *Liturgy Help*)

Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Penitential Act

The Lord is rich in mercy and kindness. Let us prepare ourselves to hear God's Word and praise the Lord Jesus Christ.



Lord Jesus, you are mighty-God and prince of peace: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Christ Jesus, you have established justice and integrity: Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you have set us free: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

Opening Prayer

Let us pray.

(All pause for silent prayer.)

O God, who have made this most sacred night radiant with the splendour of the true light, grant, we pray, that we, who have known the mysteries of his light on earth, may also delight in his gladness in heaven. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Let us listen to God's Word.

First Reading Is 9:1-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

A son is given to us.

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. For all the footgear of battle, every cloak rolled in blood, is burnt and consumed by fire. For there is a child born for us, a son given to us and dominion is laid on his shoulders; and this is the name they give him: Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God, Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace. Wide is his dominion in a peace that has no end, for the throne of David and for his royal power, which he establishes and makes secure in justice and integrity. From this time onwards and for ever, the jealous love of the Lord of hosts will do this.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 95:1-3. 11-13 R. Lk 2:11

Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

O sing a new song to the Lord, sing to the Lord all the earth. O sing to the Lord, bless his name.

R:

Proclaim his help day by day, tell among the nations his glory and his wonders among all the peoples.

R:

Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad, let the sea and all within it thunder praise, let the land and all it bears rejoice, all the trees of the wood shout for joy at the presence of the Lord for he comes, he comes to rule the earth.

R:

With justice he will rule the world, he will judge the peoples with his truth.

R:

Second Reading

Ti 2:11-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Titus

God's grace has been revealed to all people.

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

Amen.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Good News and great joy to all the world: today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord

Alleluia!

Gospel

Lk 2:1-14

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

All: Glory to you, O Lord

Today a saviour has been born for you.

Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a census of the whole world to be taken. This census – the first – took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria, and everyone went to his own town to be registered. So Joseph set out from the town of Nazareth in Galilee and travelled up to Judaea, to the town of David called Bethlehem, since he was of David's House and line, in order to be registered together with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to a son, her first-born. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them at the inn. In the countryside close by there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in turns to watch their flocks during the night. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone round them. They were terrified, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. And here is a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.' And suddenly with the angel there was a great throng of the heavenly host, praising God and singing: 'Glory to God in the highest heaven and peace to men who enjoy his favour.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Prayers of the Faithful

Celebrant: God's love for us is revealed in the birth of Jesus. In gratitude for the gifts we have already received from God, we trustfully bring all our needs to the Father.

For our Holy Father, the Pope, for our bishops and all those who teach us and lead us in our faith.
We pray.

Response: Lord hear our prayer

For all those experiencing the darkness of war and violence, that the birth of Christ, the Prince of Peace, may bring them hope.

We pray.

Response: Lord hear our prayer

For families experiencing the pain of broken relationships, that Jesus may help them find reconciliation and happiness together.

We pray.

Response: Lord hear our prayer

For children, that the message of Christmas may help them to grow in love and gratitude for their families.

We pray.

Response: Lord hear our prayer

In a moment of silence we pray for our personal needs and those of our families and friends.

We pray.

Response: Lord hear our prayer

Celebrant: Heavenly Father, thank you for all the gifts you have given us through Jesus your Son. Continue to bless us with all we need to be his faithful disciples. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Sign of Peace

Let us seal our prayer with a gesture of unity and reconciliation and offer each other a sign of peace.

(All exchange a sign of peace.)

The Lord's Prayer

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Amen.

Celebrant: Lord Jesus, may your light shine upon all those who long for peace. In your name we pray.

All: Amen.

PRAYER SERVICE

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) Day Year B (Extracted from *Liturgy Help*)



Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Penitential Act

The Lord is rich in mercy and kindness. Let us prepare ourselves to hear God's Word and praise the Lord Jesus Christ.

Lord Jesus, your light brings us faith and hope: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Christ Jesus, you are the word made flesh who dwells amongst us: Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you are the splendour of the Father: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

Opening Prayer

Let us pray.

(All pause for silent prayer.)

Eternal God, today we have seen your glory for Jesus Christ is born. Emmanuel, God with us, may your light shine on us for your coming brings hope to the world. We make this prayer through the Holy Spirit in Jesus' name.

All: Amen.

Let us listen to God's Word.

First Reading Is 52:7-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

All the ends of the earth shall see the saving power of our God.

How beautiful on the mountains, are the feet of one who brings good news, who heralds peace, brings happiness, proclaims salvation, and tells Zion, 'Your God is king!' Listen! Your watchmen raise their voices, they shout for joy together, for they see the Lord face to face, as he returns to Zion. Break into shouts of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord is consoling his people, redeeming Jerusalem. The Lord bares his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 97:1-6. R. v.3

All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders. His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation.

R.:

The Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations. He has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel.

R:

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord all the earth, ring out your joy.

R:

Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp, with the sound of music. With trumpets and the sound of the horn acclaim the King, the Lord.

R:

Second Reading

Heb 1:1-6

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

In our own time, God speaks to us through his Son.

At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son, the Son that he has appointed to inherit everything and through whom he made everything there is. He is the radiant light of God's glory and the perfect copy of his nature, sustaining the universe by his powerful command; and now that he has destroyed the defilement of sin, he has gone to take his place in heaven at the right hand of divine Majesty. So he is now as far above the angels as the title which he has inherited is higher than their own name.

God has never said to any angel: You are my Son, today I have become your father, or: I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Again, when he brings the First-born into the world, he says: Let all the angels of God worship him.

Amen.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

A holy day has dawned upon us. Come you nations and adore the Lord. Today a great light has come upon the earth.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Jn 1:1-18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

All: Glory to you, O Lord

The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us, and we saw his glory. In the beginning was the Word: the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him. All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower. A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light. The Word was the true light that enlightens all men; and he was coming into the world. He was in the world that had its being through him, and the world did not know him. He came to his own domain and his own people did not accept him. But to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to all who believe in the name of him who was born not out of human stock or urge of the flesh or will of man but of God himself. The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only

Son of the Father, full of grace and truth. John appears as his witness, He proclaims: 'This is the one of whom I said: He who comes after me ranks before me because he existed before me.' Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received – yes, grace in return for grace, since, though the Law was given through Moses, grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayers of the Faithful

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For our Holy Father, the Pope, for our bishops and all those who teach us and lead us in our faith.

We pray.

Response: Lord hear our prayer

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Amen.

Celebrant: Lord Jesus, may your light shine upon all those who long for peace. In your name we pray.

All: Amen.

Merry Christmas...

Christmas this year is different in many ways from what we have celebrated in the past. Our Christmas gatherings and holidays are being restricted due to the Pandemic. Especially, the new outbreak in the northern beaches and now also spreading to some other areas in Sydney as I am writing this, must have changed many of your plans. And we are uncertain how Christmas celebrations going to unfold. But those are expected during a Pandemic. Living in Australia we should be grateful, as our situation is much better than some other places in the world now.

Since March 2020, with the outbreak of COVID-19 to almost all parts of the world, the entire humanity has been wondering how to get out of this. The answer was a successful vaccine. Ever since we have been waiting patiently and looking forward to seeing a day the vaccine becomes available to all peoples. We have learned that we are limited in many ways and the world can overcome this only as one family. I think the Pandemic has taught us to be united, patient, and hopeful.

Over 2000 years back the birth of the Holy Child Jesus brought joy and peace to a humanity that was waiting for centuries for a Saviour. He came to unite us with God and one another, to restore all that we had lost, to make us children of God. Year 2020 has been a challenging time for many of us. This year Christmas is even more relevant to us. I hope and pray you and your families may be blessed by the birth of this holy child. And may his presence in your lives guide you all throughout the new year.

WISHING YOU ALL A BLESSED CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Fr Joby Kadambattu MS.



Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year filled with peace and joy

From Father Joby, Matthew, Kristin and Luisa