



# 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)



FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

08TH FEBRUARY 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 Anthonys Youth**

Insta ID : stay\_toongabbie1508  
email: [stanthonyyouthtoongabbie@gmail.com](mailto: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 7/8 Feb 2026			Next Week 14/15 February 2026		
	5.30pm	8.00am	10.00am	5.30pm	8.00am	10.00am
Senior Server	P. Vella	E. Opena	A. Prabakaran	J. Ivan	M. Maclou	K. Steele
Commentator	L D'vine	C. Molloy	C. Bernard	M. Mathavan	F. Lette	M. Tan
Reader 1	A. Lahood	C. Bugeja	J. Concepcion	E. Opena	I. Gomes	J. Concepcion
Reader 2	J. Buttigieg	S. Benjamin	M. Hili	V. Adams	O. Saldanha	J. Wharton
Data Projectionist	Mary		Sofie	Natasha		Jedd
Junior Server						
Children's Liturgy			Sofie/Annabelle			Rochelle/Stella

**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 CHRISTOFORO	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 begin our celebration of the Eucharist today, we pay our respects to the Indigenous custodians of this land on which we gather. We ask God's help as we seek new ways of journeying with them in a spirit of justice, peace, reconciliation and truth-telling.*

**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 **Wednesday 11th February 2026 with the enquiry night.**



**Working Bee** - Our monthly clean up of the Church and surrounding grounds will take place on Saturday, 14th February starting at 8am for a couple of hours. Please join us and bring along your cleaning & any gardening equipment/tools that you feel will be helpful with the clean-up. Remember, many hands make light work!

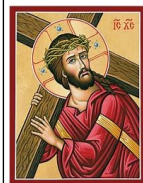


**Wedding Anniversary Blessings** - We celebrate the gift of marriage next weekend. If your wedding anniversary falls in February and you would like a blessing during the weekend Mass on 14th/15th February, please contact the parish office by Wednesday 11th February.



**Ash Wednesday** - We begin our Lenten journey in preparation for Easter on Wednesday 18th February, which is a day of fasting and abstinence. Mass will be celebrated at 9.30am and &.7.00pm

**Fasting & Abstinence** - Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting and abstinence. The law of fasting binds those who have completed their 18th year until the beginning of their 60th year. The law of abstinence binds those who have completed their 14th year.



**Friday Stations of the Cross & Mass** - Commencing Friday 20th February to Friday 27th March.

**Morning:** Stations of the Cross at 9.00am followed by Mass at 9.30am.

**Evening:** Stations of the Cross (in English) at 7.00 pm and Mass at 7.30pm followed by Stations of the Cross (in Tamil) at 8.00pm.



**Project Compassion** - Next weekend we celebrate Project Compassion Sunday. Donation Boxes will be available at the foyer of the church and the courtyard. Please take a box home and return your donations to the parish office on or before 17th April or use the single donation envelopes available

**Congratulations !**

**Amaia Grace Tonise**

She received the sacrament of baptism on 25th January 2026

**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**



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**.

Thursday 12 February 7:00pm	<b>Parish Pastoral Council Meeting</b> Parishioners and PPC members may submit their agenda for consideration by PPC by 5:00 PM on Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> of February 2026. Please email your agenda to <a href="mailto:secretary@stanthonyschurch.org.au">secretary@stanthonyschurch.org.au</a>
Sunday 22 March 11:15am	<b>Parish Annual General Meeting</b> Parishioners, PPC Members, other parish committees and groups are invited to attend. Chairpersons and Team Leaders of various ministries or group may submit their annual report to <a href="mailto:secretary@stanthonyschurch.org.au">secretary@stanthonyschurch.org.au</a> by 5:00 PM on or before Monday 16th March 2026
To be advised	<b>Parish Pastoral Council Planning Day</b>

**Weekend reading reflection during Lent** – The Liturgy committee invites parishioners who would like to write a short reflection for the weekend readings at Masses during Lent to contact Bill Ryan on 0408 613 281. The reflections will be read by volunteers at each of the weekend Masses. Submissions on or before Wednesday of the week prior to the weekend.

**Filipino Choir** - The Filipino choir of our parish is looking for a choir pianist and/or a guitarist. New choir members are also welcome. For information, please speak to Erick Opena after mass, or you may leave your details at the parish office and Erick will contact you.

**FaithLIFE Scripture Short Course: Begins 10 February**  
FaithLIFE Scripture offers a 3-session Catholic Bible study and faith formation short course on how to engage with the Bible through the Catholic tradition during turbulent times. The program will run on Tuesday 10, 17 and 24 February at Our Lady, Queen of Peace Parish, Greystanes, from 7pm to 9pm. The program is facilitated by Scripture scholar Dr Michele Connolly RSJ and is open to adults of all ages and supports ongoing adult faith formation. To register, visit <https://parracatholic.org/events/faithlife-scripture-session-1/>

**Volunteer with IMPACT** - Develop sustained self-reliant futures in overseas communities! Join Palms International Volunteering online in this special session where you'll learn about our diverse assignments suited to your qualifications. Hear from past Palms volunteers how skill-exchange makes a lasting impact in communities and changes lives. Venue: Online. Scan the QR or register at [palms.org.au/events](http://palms.org.au/events)  
Date: Thursday 19 February 2026 Time: 7 pm – 8:30 pm AEDT  
Phone: 02 9560 5333 Email: [palms@palms.org.au](mailto:palms@palms.org.au)  
*Want to visit a community first?* Join our 13-day Encounter Tour to Timor Leste! Book by 28 February for the May tour! See [palms.org.au/encounters](http://palms.org.au/encounters)



## FIRST READING

ISAIAH 58:7-10

***Your light will shine like the dawn.***

Thus says the Lord:

Share your bread with the hungry,  
and shelter the homeless poor,  
clothe the man you see to be naked  
and turn not from your own kin.  
Then will your light shine like the dawn  
and your wound be quickly healed over.  
Your integrity will go before you  
and the glory of the Lord behind you.  
Cry, and the Lord will answer;  
call, and he will say, 'I am here.'  
If you do away with the yoke,  
the clenched fist, the wicked word,  
if you give your bread to the hungry,  
and relief to the oppressed,  
your light will rise in the darkness,  
and your shadows become like noon.

The Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 111:4-9. R. v.4

***(R.) A light rises in the darkness for the upright.***

1. He is a light in the darkness for the upright:  
he is generous, merciful and just.  
The good man takes pity and lends,  
he conducts his affairs with honour. **(R.)**
2. The just man will never waver:  
he will be remembered for ever.  
He has no fear of evil news;  
with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord. **(R.)**
3. With a steadfast heart he will not fear;  
open-handed, he gives to the poor;  
his justice stands firm for ever.  
His head will be raised in glory. **(R.)**

## SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

***I came to you to proclaim Christ crucified.***

When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

The Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**I am the light of the world, says the Lord;  
the man who follows me will have the light of life.**Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL

MATTHEW 5:13-16

***You are the light of the world.***

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men.

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

***Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.***

## REFLECTION

***Salty and Radiant***

You are the salt of the earth, you are the light of the cosmos. 'You' is in the plural. So these descriptions are meant to apply to us as a Christian community.

Salt in the ancient world was a preservative for food. So, we are the ones who are to preserve the earth, to prevent its deterioration, to keep it life-giving.

Salt has to penetrate food to have an effect. We have to penetrate the world with our Sermon on the Mount values. Staying self-contained as a perfect little band of Christians is about as useful as salt remaining in the saltshaker. In Our Lord's scary opinion we would quite rightly be trampled underfoot.

How are we light for the cosmos? By 'good works'? No, a truer translation is by 'beautiful works'. These are those things we do which have grace, elegance and proportion and are therefore pleasing to observe: beautifully-good-works.

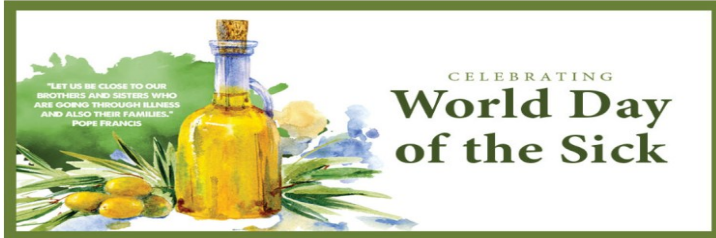
We could pause for a moment to pray that we remain salty and tangy, doing good beautifully and elegantly.

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

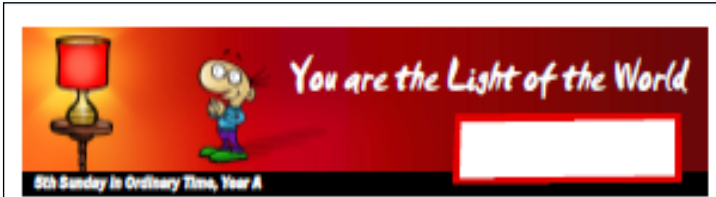


**St Josephine Bakhita Memorial Mass & Community Celebration: 8 February** - You are warmly invited to the annual St Josephine Bakhita Memorial Mass & Community Celebration on Sunday 8 February at 12:30pm at St Patrick's Church, MQOF Parish, Blacktown.

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.



**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/](http://parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-world-day-of-the-sick-mass/)



Unscramble and decipher these tiles to reveal one of Jesus' sayings from this week's Gospel.

on		U
like	4	
R	everyone	

Write down a way you can let your light shine for each person in this house?

Matthew 5:13-16 © Creative Ministry Resources



# Sapientia

Single adults, 18-35 years of age, are invited to join the Dominican Friars and Sisters for this weekend retreat of prayer, formation, and fellowship.

**13-15 February 2026**  
St Mary's Towers Retreat Centre  
Douglas Park

For more information or to register:  
[www.trybooking.com/DHJBL](http://www.trybooking.com/DHJBL)  
or email the Sisters at [sydney@op-tn.org](mailto:sydney@op-tn.org).



**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 the following days:

- Monday 9 February at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown, from 7pm.
- Thursday 26 February at St Nicholas of Myra Parish, Penrith, from 7pm.
- Saturday 7 March at Holy Spirit Parish, St Clair-Edskine Park, from 2pm.
- Tuesday 10 March at Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown, from 7pm.

Costs are \$5 per person – payable on arrival (includes all materials). To register and for more information, please visit [parracatholic.org/rosary-workshops](http://parracatholic.org/rosary-workshops)



**Catholic Charismatic Renewal Parramatta Holy Spirit Mission** - Experience a life-changing encounter with the Holy Spirit at the annual HOLY SPIRIT MISSION event! This free gathering is open to everyone seeking a deeper understanding and connection with the Holy Spirit. Join us for Prayer & Praise, Testimonies, Talks and Prayer Ministry. Discover the Spiritual Gifts and how to grow in them. Receive encouragement, help, and support from charismatic communities. **Join us on: Saturday 21st February 2026, 12pm to 5pm at Camilleri Hall, OLQP Parish, 198 Old Prospect Road, Greystanes.**

ENQUIRIES Desiree 0478 765 772. Dilani 0425 607 227  
Amila 0424 445 397 Register Now for this free event. Come and be Renewed, Encouraged, Healed, and Supported! Please Scan the QR code to register.

**Blacktown Parish presents 'The Witness'** - The community of Mary Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown, are bringing to life the musical "The Witness" – telling the story of the life of Jesus through the eyes of St Peter. We encourage anyone interested in being part of The Witness experience to register. For vocal auditions, contact our Music Director, Marianne Fernandes, at [music@bethewitness.com.au](mailto:music@bethewitness.com.au). To learn more, visit Be The Witness – The Musical or email [info@bethewitness.com.au](mailto:info@bethewitness.com.au).

