



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



SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT- YEAR A

01ST MARCH 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 28 Feb/1 March 2026			Next Week 7/8 March 2026		
	5.30pm	8.00am	10.00am	5.30pm	8.00am	10.00am
Senior Server	F. Le Clerc	T. Dalmati	Anthony	C. Bourne	E. Opena	A. Winton
Commentator	A. Lahood	F. Lette	E. Chand	V. Adams	M. Palmer	T. Sebastian
Reader 1	M. Nakhoul	C. Molloy	J. Thomas	J. Buttigieg	J. Olivera	S. Kenny
Reader 2	M. D'Souza	E. Pasikale	C. Pereira	L. D'vine	O. Saldanha	M. Tan
Data Projectionist	Susan		Rochelle	Nicole		Lourdes
Junior Server						
Children's Liturgy			Stella/Annabelle			Sofie/Felice

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISH:

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

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 to celebrate the Eucharist together, we acknowledge the Darug Nation, the Indigenous Custodians of the land on which our Parish is situated.

We pay our respects to their elders, past and present.



Recently Deceased -

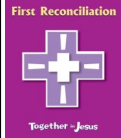
Alan Lumley passed away on Thursday 19th February. His funeral will take place at St Anthony's on Tuesday, 3rd March at 10.00am followed by burial at St Anthony Lawn, Field of Mars Cemetery, Ryde. In your charity please pray for the repose of the soul of Alan and remember the family in your prayers.

Masses during the month of March

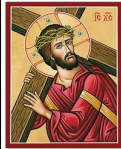
The Solemnity of St Patrick will be celebrated with Mass on Tuesday, 17th March at 9.30am

The Solemnity of St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary will be celebrated with Mass on Thursday, 19th March at 9.30am

The Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord will be celebrated with Mass on Wednesday, 25th March at 9.30am



Parish Sacramental Calendar 2026 The parish Sacramental Calendar for next year is up on the notice boards. **First Reconciliation - Lesson 3 - 7th & 8th March** Attendance is compulsory.



Friday Stations of the Cross & Mass -

We continue with the Stations of the cross until 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.



Washing of Feet (Holy Thursday) - We are looking for 12 people to participate in the "washing of the feet", to take place during the Holy Thursday celebration. If you are interested, please provide your details to the parish office by the 12th of March 2026. Please be aware that this will be on a first come, first served basis



Working Bee - Please join our wonderful group of volunteers for a couple of hours and support our monthly clean up of the Church and surrounding grounds which will take place on Saturday, 14th March starting at 8am.

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.

Parish Annual General Meeting - Sunday 22nd March, 11.15am - 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 secretary@stanthonyschurch.org.au by 5:00 PM on or before Monday 16th March 2026

Project Compassion - During this Lenten season please consider taking a donation box or a one-off giving envelope and return them with your donations to the parish office on or before the 17th April. Donation Boxes and envelopes are available at the foyer of the church and the courtyard. Alternately scan the QR code here or on the posters around the church to donate online.



Congratulations !

To **Tegan Helen Sarah Benson** who received the sacrament of baptism on 22nd February 2026

Wednesday 25/03/2026	2nd Rite of Reconciliation in preparation for Holy Week	7.00pm
St Anthony's THE SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM Mass times 2026		
Thursday 02/04/2026	Thursday of the Lord's Supper	7.00pm
Friday 03/04/2026	Stations of the Cross	10.00am
	Friday of the Passion of the Lord	3.00pm
Saturday 04/04/2026	Holy Saturday Easter Vigil	6.00pm
Sunday 05/04/2026	Easter Sunday of the resurrection of the Lord	8.00am
		10.00am

We are looking for youth aged from 15-28 to take part in the 10am Stations of the Cross for Good Friday.

Schedule:

- Sun, 15th march @Church hall, 11am - Introduction, assign roles & first rehearsal
- Sun, 22st march, @Church hall, 11am - Rehearsal
- Sat, 28th march, @Church hall, 6:30PM - Dress Rehearsal
- Fri, 3rd April, @Hall, 8am - Costume check & final Rehearsal
- Fri, 3rd April, @Church, 10am - Good Friday Stations of the Cross

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.

Parishes United with Refugees: CAN YOU HELP? - A picnic in Nurragingy Park with our Syrian refugee family was a perfect way to celebrate Australia Day. Our group from Parishes United with Refugees from St Anthony's and OLOL and Blacktown Regional Uniting churches enjoyed great food, games and fun activities together with the Safour family. You might also enjoy this story from the Diocesan Catholic Outlook. <https://catholicoutlook.org/seven-parishes-recognised-for-supporting-refugee-families/> Today, we are asking you for a little assistance to help cover the cost of specialist orthodontic treatment for one of the children in the family as they are unable to meet the cost on their own. If you are able to help, even a little, tax deductible donations can be made via Shout for Good. The QR code will take you directly to the site. Thank you for your generosity.



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

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.



FIRST READING

GENESIS 12:1-4

The call of Abraham, the father of God's people.

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing.

'I will bless those who bless you:
I will curse those who slight you.
All the tribes of the earth
shall bless themselves by you.'

So Abram went as the Lord told him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 32:4-5. 18-20. 22. R. v.22

(R.) *Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.*

1. The word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love. **(R.)**
2. The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine. **(R.)**
3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
The Lord is our help and our shield.
May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

2 Timothy 1:8-10

God has saved us, and called us to be holy.

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
King of endless glory!**

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
King of endless glory!**

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 17:1-9

His face shone like the sun.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order. 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



REFLECTION

Transfigured Bodysouls

We have to get rid of the idea that the soul is a dot of energy in some hidden core of our body. In fact, the body is in the soul. There is no part of my body which is not immersed in my soul. It is my whole person, bodysoul, which needs to be saved. As Thomas Aquinas says: 'If only my soul is saved, I am not saved.' Today's Gospel does not portray an out-of-body experience of religious ecstasy. Jesus' body was translucent, totally radiant with Divine Light. Further, this transfiguration was not a solitary experience for Jesus. Peter, James and John witnessed it precisely because it told them what our Heavenly Father desired as their destiny beyond martyrdom, if only they would listen to Jesus.

Heavenly salvation will involve my whole person, bodysoul, being transformed. But could a person, during their earthly existence, share in the transfiguration experience of Christ?

We could pause for a moment to 'Google' or otherwise get hold of my favourite story of a saint – St Seraphim of Sarov – and pray that we may share with his disciple the bodily experience of 'immeasurable wellbeing' – 'infinite joy in our hearts'.

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



Be renewed. Be transformed. Be sent.

In 2028, Australia will host the 54th International Eucharistic Congress. To mark the official commencement of the time of preparation for the International Eucharistic conference (IEC) there will be a nationwide Holy Hour this Sunday 1st March 2026. **Our parish will hold an hour of Eucharistic Adoration following the 8 am mass on 1st March the second Sunday of Lent.** Hearing the gospel of the Transfiguration proclaimed on that Sunday, it's an opportunity to seek a Eucharistic transfiguration of our own lives and within our community.

Peace, Justice & Ecology Sharings: 26 February - "Peace, Justice & Ecology Sharings" are quarterly online gatherings for everyone interested in social justice, care for creation, or global peace. They are an opportunity to connect, meet like-minded people, and discuss what's currently happening in the Peace, Justice & Ecology space. In February, the PJE Sharing will offer an opportunity for a relational round of conversation. You are invited to join: Thursday 26 February 2026, 6:30-7:30pm. To receive a zoom link, please RSVP to met@parracatholic.org

FaithLIFE Lenten Scripture night by Dr Michele Connolly RSJ: 3 March - Are you looking to read the Bible during Lent but don't know where to start? Consider the FREE Diocesan Lenten Scripture Night guided by Scripture scholar Dr Michele Connolly RSJ on Tuesday 3 March from 7pm-9pm at Our Lady, Queen of Peace Parish, Greystanes. RSVP via www.parracatholic.org/events/lenten-scripture-night OR email met@parracatholic.org

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

Rosary Making Workshops - 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: **Saturday 7th March** at Holy Spirit Parish, St Clair-Erskine Park, from 2pm and **Tuesday 10th March** at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown, from 7.00pm. Costs are \$5 per person – payable on arrival (includes all materials). To register and for more information, please visit parracatholic.org/rosary-workshops

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. To learn more, visit **The Witness – The Musical** or email info@bethewitness.com.au.

2026 ACBC Social Justice Statement on the cost of living -The Australian Bishops have released the first of two Social Justice Statements for 2026, titled "The Cost of our Living: Economic and Social Justice for the Common Good". The new statement and accompanying resources can be found at socialjustice.catholic.org.au. Printed copies and prayer cards can be ordered directly from the ACBC at shop.catholic.au

Annual 24 Hours For The Lord - You are warmly invited to take part in 24 Hours for the Lord, at the Schoenstatt Shrine in Mulgoa. Commencing with mass and confession from Friday 13 March at 6:30 pm to mass at 5:30 pm on Saturday 14th March. The Shrine will remain open all night for 24 hours of prayer, adoration, and quiet reflection. Whether you come for a few minutes or stay longer, this is a beautiful opportunity to step away from the busyness of life and spend time in the gentle presence of the Lord. All parishioners, families, and visitors are welcome to drop in.



2nd Sunday of Lent, Year A
Peter, James and John saw Jesus. Moses and Elijah talking with Jesus. The true nature of Jesus and his work was revealed to them as they witnessed the Transfiguration. Draw Jesus, Moses and Elijah on top of the mountain as the apostles look on.



God wants us to listen to Jesus. Write down three things that Jesus is telling you.

By using the words below, can you work out what the voice from the cloud said to the apostles?
SON AM LISTEN TO SAYS BELOVED HIM IS PLEASED

THIS ___ MY

AND I _____
WITH _____
___ WHAT HE _____

THE FILIPINO CHAPLAINCY
DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA

FEAST OF ST JOSEPH

Saturday, 14 March 2026
St Patrick's Church
Mary Queen of the Family Parish
51-59 Allawah St, Blacktown 2148
Solemn High Mass @ 10:30 am
Followed by Lunch & Entertainment

Theme:
"St Joseph: Guardian of the Holy Family, United in the Mission of Christ"

NOVENA MASSES

04 March 2026	Wednesday	7:00 PM	MARY IMMACULATE CATHOLIC CHURCH 125 Barnier Drive, Quakers Hill 2763
05 March 2026	Thursday	7:00 PM	ST JOHN XXIII CHURCH 160 Perfection Avenue, Stanhope Gardens 2768
06 March 2026	Friday	7:00 PM	ST BERNADETTE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH 10 Gardenia Grove, Lalor Park 2147
07 March 2026	Saturday	7:00 PM	ST PAUL THE APOSTLE CHURCH 40 Buckleys Road, Winston Hill 2153
08 March 2026	Sunday	7:00 PM	ST PADRE PIO CHURCH 34-38 William Howell Drive, Glenmore Park 2745
09 March 2026	Monday	7:00 PM	ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA CHURCH 326 High Street, Penrith 2750
10 March 2026	Tuesday	7:00 PM	ST AIDAN'S CHURCH 9 Adelaide Sreet., Rooty Hill 2766
11 March 2026	Wednesday	7:00 PM	ST ANDREW'S CHURCH 36-40 Breakfast Road, Marayong 2148
12 March 2026	Thursday	7:00 PM	ST PATRICK'S CHURCH 51-59 Allawah St, Blacktown 2148