



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



FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT- YEAR A

22ND 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 21/22 March 2026			Next Week 28/29 March 2026		
	5.30pm	8.00am	10.00am	5.30pm	8.00am	10.00am
Senior Server	P. Vella	T. Peiris	A. Prabakaran	F. Le Clerc	T. Dalmati	K. Steele
Commentator	Youth	C. Bugeja	A. Rego	M. Mathavan	O. Saldanha	C. Pereira
Reader 1	Youth	J. Suresh	C. Bernard	V. Adams	A. Gomes	E. Chand
Reader 2	Youth	M. Palmer	F. Rodrigues	J. Buttigieg	S. Cullen	S. Kenny
Data Projectionist	Mary		Jedd	Carol		Sofie
Passion Readers	N/A	N/A	N/A	Deacon Charles M. D'Souza A. Lahood	Deacon Charles C. Bugeja M. Palmer	Deacon Charles T. Sebastian F. Rodrigues
Children's Liturgy			Felice/Bettina			Stella/Rochelle

Prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in the day of battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISH:

Edmond PAUL	Angelo ALEXANDER	Gabby ABOUD	Joe (Joseph) BORG	Noe ISOTTEN
Maria VELLA	Aidan ALEXANDER	Lyllette 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.

FIRST READING

EZEKIEL 37:12-14

I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live.

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 129. R. v.7

(R.) With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

1. Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord, Lord, hear my voice!
O let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleading. *(R.)*
2. If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive?
But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you. *(R.)*
3. My soul is waiting for the Lord, I count on his word.
My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak.
(Let the watchman count on daybreak and Israel on the Lord.) *(R.)*
4. Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption, Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity. *(R.)*

SECOND READING

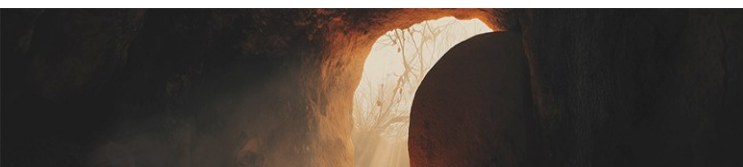
Romans 8:8-11

If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he will give life to your own mortal bodies.

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;
whoever believes in me will not die for ever.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

GOSPEL

JOHN 11:1-45

I am the resurrection and the life.

There was a man named Lazarus who lived in the village of Bethany with the two sisters, Mary and Martha, and he was ill. – It was the same Mary, the sister of the sick man Lazarus, who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair. The sisters sent this message to Jesus, ‘Lord, the man you love is ill.’ On receiving the message, Jesus said, ‘This sickness will end not in death but in God’s glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.’

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, ‘Let us go to Judaea.’ The disciples said, ‘Rabbi, it is not long since the Jews wanted to stone you; are you going back again?’ Jesus replied:

‘Are there not twelve hours in the day?

A man can walk in the daytime without stumbling because he has the light of this world to see by; but if he walks at night he stumbles, because there is no light to guide him.’

He said that and then added, ‘Our friend Lazarus is resting, I am going to wake him.’ The disciples said to him, ‘Lord, if he is able to rest he is sure to get better.’ The phrase Jesus used referred to the death of Lazarus, but they thought that by ‘rest’ he meant ‘sleep’, so Jesus put it plainly, ‘Lazarus is dead; and for your sake I am glad I was not there because now you will believe. But let us go to him.’ Then Thomas – known as the Twin – said to the other disciples, ‘Let us go too, and die with him.’

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. Bethany is only about two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to sympathise with them over their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, ‘If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.’ ‘Your brother’ said Jesus to her ‘will rise again.’ Martha said, ‘I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.’ Jesus said:

‘I am the resurrection and the life.

If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.

Do you believe this?’

‘Yes, Lord,’ she said ‘I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.’

When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in a low voice, ‘The Master is here and wants to see you.’ Hearing this, Mary got up quickly and

went to him. Jesus had not yet come into the village; he was still at the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who were in the house sympathising with Mary saw her get up so quickly and go out, they followed her, thinking that she was going to the tomb to weep there. Mary went to Jesus, and as soon as she saw him she threw herself at his feet, saying, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' At the sight of her tears, and those of the Jews who followed her, Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus wept; and the Jews said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said:

'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer.

I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak

for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.'

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.' Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

REFLECTION

Rage against Death

This Gospel tells us that Our Lord was moved with compassion in an almost violent way, raging against the seeming finality of death. The raising of Lazarus was a demonstration of his power to rob death of its supposed supremacy.



But, Our Lord did not set Lazarus completely free! You may think that to be raised from the dead was not a bad start, but Lazarus was still shuffling: bound, constrained, constricted by the past. To those gathered around the tomb Jesus issued the command: 'Set him free, unbind him.' It was the collective effort of others which enabled Lazarus to walk as a liberated son of God.

You may find yourself commanded by the Lord to help unbind a person who has had a deadening experience which has drained them of life. We get the courage to respond because it is the command of the One who definitively conquered death.

We could pause for a moment to resolve to help liberate others already helped by the grace of Him whom we believe to be the Resurrection and the Life.

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(Extract from Liturgy Help.com)

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

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

Parish Annual General Meeting - this Sunday, 22nd March at 11.15am in the Parish Hall - Parishioners, PPC Members, other parish committees and groups are all invited and encouraged to attend.

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

Prayers of Intercession during Good Friday 3pm liturgy - if anyone would like to read an intercession please contact the Parish office or speak to Bill Ryan - 0408 613 281/after Mass.

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 or speak to Father Joby after Mass



Special Working Bee - Please join us next Saturday, 28th March commencing 8.00am for a couple of hours to clean and prepare the Church for the Holy week liturgies, all help would be most welcome at this time.



Palms for Palm Sunday - If you can donate palms to be used on Palm Sunday please drop them at the office by Thursday 26th March before 3pm or alternately you are welcome to bring your own palms on Palm Sunday



Catholic Outlook - Free copies of the Catholic Outlook Magazine is now available in the foyer and courtyard. Please take one.



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.

HOLY WEEK ROSTER 2026

Mass	Time	Senior Server	Commentator	Readers	Passion Reading	Old Testament	Projectionist	Practise
Palm Sunday 28 March	Vigil 5.30pm	Francois Le Clerc	Mary Mathavan	1. Vince Adams 2. Joseph Buttigieg	1. Deacon Charles 2. Margaret D'Souza 3. Anthony Lahood	N/A	Carol	28th April 10.00am <i>Passion readers only</i>
Palm Sunday 29 March	8.00am	Tony Dalmati	Onita Saldanha	1. Agnelo Gomes 2. Sarah Cullen	1. Deacon Charles 2. Charlie Bugeja 3. Monica Palmer	N/A		
	10.00am	Kathy Steele	Crimseanna Pereira	1. Elvis Chand 2. Sandra Kenny	3. Deacon Charles 4. Teresa Sebastian 5. Felicity Rodrigues	N/A	Sofie	
Holy Thursday 2 April	7.00pm		Erick Opena	1. Vince Adams 2. Mary Mathavan	N/A	N/A	Geneva	N/A
Good Friday 3 April	3.00pm		Bill Ryan	1. Felicity Rodrigues 2. Jacob Thomas	1. Deacon Charles 2. Elvis Chand 3. Crimseanna Pereira	N/A	Mary	3rd April 11.00am <i>Passion readers & Veneration of the Cross bearers</i>
Easter Vigil 4 April	Vigil 6.00pm	Catherine Bourne	Bill Ryan	(New Testament) Jacob Thomas	N/A	1. Gary Brazell (1) 2. Joseph Buttigieg (3) 3. Teresa Sebastian (5) 4. Mary Mathavan (7)	Natasha	4th April 10.00am <i>Vigil Mass readers only</i>
Easter Sunday 5 April	8.00am	Marie Maclou	Catherine Molloy	1. Monica Palmer 2. Ingrid Gomes	N/A	N/A		N/A
	10.00am	Felicity Rodrigues	Phylis Lim	1. Sarah Cullen 2. Crimseanna Pereira	N/A	N/A	Rochelle	N/A



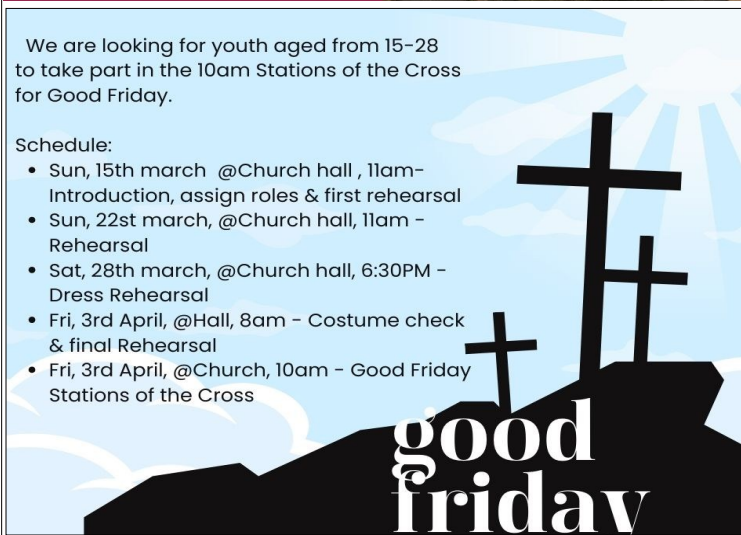
PROJECT COMPASSION

Donate to Project Compassion using the QR code above. Your donations during this time of Lent are much needed and appreciated. Thank you.

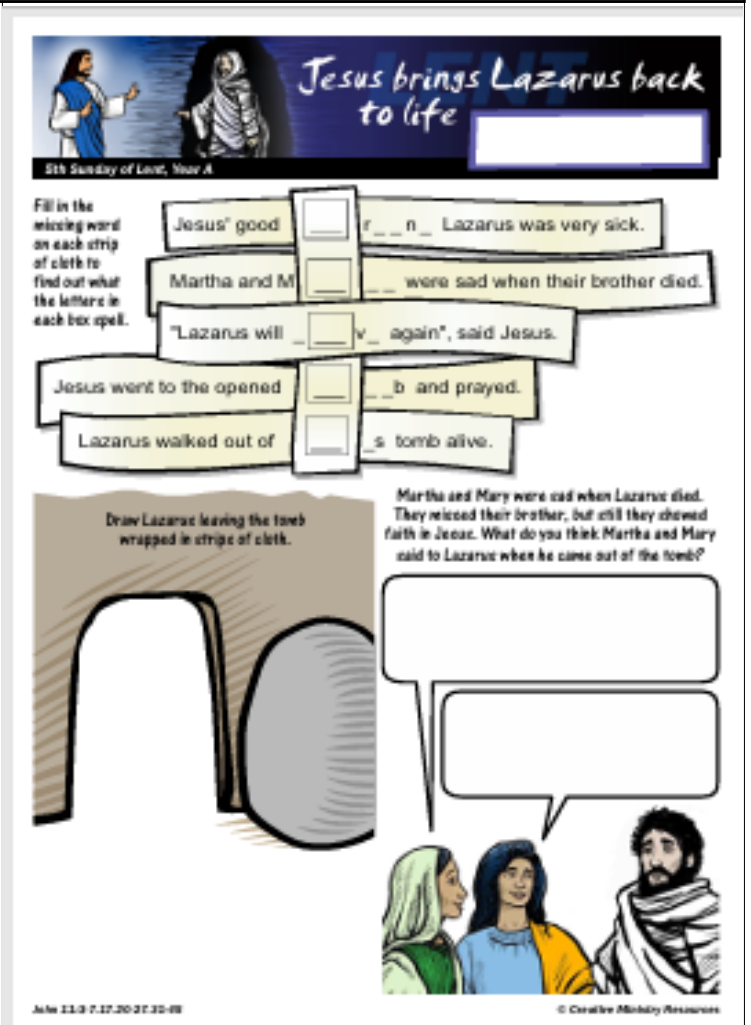
We are looking for youth aged from 15-28 to take part in the 10am Stations of the Cross for Good Friday.

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



good friday



Jesus brings Lazarus back to life

5th Sunday of Lent, Year A

Fill in the missing word on each strip of cloth to find out what the letters in each box spell.

Jesus' good [] r [] n Lazarus was very sick.

Martha and M [] [] were sad when their brother died.

"Lazarus will [] [] v [] again", said Jesus.

Jesus went to the opened [] [] b [] and prayed.

Lazarus walked out of [] [] s [] tomb alive.

Draw Lazarus leaving the tomb wrapped in strips of cloth.

Martha and Mary were sad when Lazarus died. They missed their brother, but still they showed faith in Jesus. What do you think Martha and Mary said to Lazarus when he came out of the tomb?

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