



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



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD - YEAR A

29TH 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@stanthonychurch.org.au

Rev. Deacon Charles Hyson
charles.hyson@parracatholic.org

Mrs Shanika Joseph
Parish Secretary
secretary@stanthonychurch.org.au

Mrs. Jini Chittilapilly Joy
Sacramental and SRE Co Ordinator
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

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

Pope Leo's prayer to St. Francis: a call to peace in a divided world

Saint Francis, our brother, you who eight hundred years ago went to meet Sister Death as a man at peace, intercede for us before the Lord. You recognized true peace in the Crucifix of San Damiano, teach us to seek in him the source of all reconciliation that breaks down every wall. You who, unarmed, crossed the lines of war and misunderstanding, give us the courage to build bridges where the world raises up boundaries. In this time afflicted by conflict and division, intercede for us so that we may become peacemakers: unarmed and disarming witnesses of the peace that comes from Christ. Amen.

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	Soballa	N/A
	10.00am	Felicity Rodrigues	Phylis Lim	1. Sarah Cullen 2. Crimseanna Pereira	N/A	N/A	Rochelle	N/A

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.

Commemoration of the Lord's Entrance into Jerusalem

Matthew 21: 1-11

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord"

When they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find an ass tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me.

If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, "The Lord has need of them," and he will send them immediately'. This took place to fulfil what was spoken by the prophet, saying, 'Tell the daughter of Zion, Behold, your king is coming to you, humble and mounted on an ass, and on a colt, the foal of an ass'.

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the ass and the colt, and put their garments on them, and he sat thereon.

Most of the crowd spread their garments on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before him and that followed him shouted,

'Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest!'

And when he entered Jerusalem all the city was stirred, saying, 'Who is this?' And the crowds said,

"This is Jesus the prophet, from Nazareth in Galilee."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 50: 4-7

I did not cover my face against insult and I know I will not be ashamed.

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied he provides me with speech. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 129. R. v.7

(R.) My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

1. All who see me deride me.
They curl their lips, they toss their heads.
'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him;
let him release him if this is his friend.' ***(R.)***
2. Many dogs have surrounded me,
a band of the wicked beset me.
They tear holes in my hands and my feet.
I can count every one of my bones. ***(R.)***
3. They divide my clothing among them.
They cast lots for my robe.
O Lord, do not leave me alone,
my strength, make haste to help me! ***(R.)***

4. I will tell of your name to my brethren
and praise you where they are assembled.
'You who fear the Lord give him praise;
all sons of Jacob, give him glory.
Revere him, Israel's sons.' ***(R.)***

SECOND READING

Philippians 2:6-11

He humbled himself to become like us and God raised him on high.

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are, and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross.

But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
king of endless glory!
Christ became obedient for us even to death
dying on the cross.
Therefore God raised him on high
and gave him a name above all other names.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
king of endless glory!**

GOSPEL

Matthew 27:11-54

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

(Key: N. Narrator. J. Jesus. O. Other single speaker.
C. Crowd, or more than one speaker.)

- N. Jesus was brought before Pontius Pilate, the governor, and the governor put to him this question:
- O. Are you the king of the Jews?
- N. Jesus replied,
- J. It is you who say it.
- N. But when he was accused by the chief priests and the elders he refused to answer at all. Pilate then said to him,
- O. Do you not hear how many charges they have brought against you?
- N. But to the governor's complete amazement, he offered no reply to any of the charges. At festival time it was the governor's practice to release a prisoner for the people, anyone they chose. Now there was at that time a notorious prisoner whose name was Barabbas. So when the crowd gathered, Pilate said to them,
- O. Which do you want me to release for you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?

N. For Pilate knew it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. Now as he was seated in the chair of judgement, his wife sent him a message,

O. Have nothing to do with that man; I have been upset all day by a dream I had about him.

N. The chief priests and the elders, however, had persuaded the crowd to demand the release of Barabbas and the execution of Jesus. So when the governor spoke and asked them,

O. Which of the two do you want me to release for you?

N. they said,

C. Barabbas.

N. Pilate said to them:

O. But in that case, what am I to do with Jesus who is called Christ?

N. They all said:

C. Let him be crucified!

N. Pilate asked:

O. Why? What harm has he done?

N. But they shouted all the louder,

C. Let him be crucified!

N. Then Pilate saw that he was making no impression, that in fact a riot was imminent. So he took some water, washed his hands in front of the crowd and said,

O. I am innocent of this man's blood. It is your concern.

N. And the people, to a man, shouted back,

C. His blood be on us and on our children!

N. Then he released Barabbas for them. He ordered Jesus to be first scourged and then handed over to be crucified. The governor's soldiers took Jesus with them into the Praetorium and collected the whole cohort round him. Then they stripped him and made him wear a scarlet cloak, and having twisted some thorns into a crown they put this on his head and placed a reed in his right hand. To make fun of him they knelt to him saying,

C. Hail, king of the Jews!

N. And they spat on him and took the reed and struck him on the head with it. And when they had finished making fun of him, they took off the cloak and dressed him in his own clothes and led him away to crucify him. On their way out, they came across a man from Cyrene, Simon by name, and enlisted him to carry his cross. When they had reached a place called Golgotha, that is, the place of the skull, they gave him wine to drink mixed with gall, which he tasted but refused to drink. When they had finished crucifying him they shared out his clothing by casting lots, and then sat down and stayed there keeping

guard over him. Above his head was placed the charge against him; it read: 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.' At the same time two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. The passers-by jeered at him; they shook their heads and said,

C. So you would destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days! Then save yourself! If you are God's son, come down from the cross!

N. The chief priests with the scribes and elders mocked him in the same way, saying:

C. He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the king of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He puts his trust in God; now let God rescue him if he wants him. For he did say, 'I am the son of God.'

N. Even the robbers who were crucified with him taunted him in the same way.

From the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour, Jesus cried out in a loud voice,

J. Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?

N. That is, 'My God, my God, why have you deserted me?' When some of those who stood there heard this, they said,

C. The man is calling on Elijah.

N. and one of them quickly ran to get a sponge which he dipped in vinegar and, putting it on a reed, gave it him to drink. The rest of them said:

C. Wait! See if Elijah will come to save him.

N. But Jesus, again crying out in a loud voice, yielded up his spirit.

(Here all kneel and pause for a short time.)

N. At that, the veil of the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom; the earth quaked; the rocks were split; the tombs opened and the bodies of many holy men rose from the dead, and these, after his resurrection, came out of the tombs, entered the Holy City and appeared to a number of people. Meanwhile the centurion, together with the others guarding Jesus, had seen the earthquake and all that was taking place, and they were terrified and said,

C. In truth this was a son of God.

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

Good Friday - Fasting & Abstinence - Good Friday is a day 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.

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

Congratulations !

Saandra Jeevakumar
she received the sacrament of baptism
on 22nd March 2026

Easter Food Basket Blessing - The Blessing of Easter food baskets will take place Saturday 4th April at 9.30am. All are welcome to attend.

Pontifical Holy Land Good Friday Collection: 3rd April - Every year on Good Friday, a collection is taken up in every Catholic church to support the people and places of the Holy Land. The Franciscans of the Custody of the Holy Land have the unique responsibility of caring for the Holy Places as well as caring for the Christians living in the Holy Land. Make your donation this Holy Week via the envelopes available on the pews or donate directly via Commissariat of the Holy Land, 47 Victoria St. Waverley NSW 2024 or holyland@franciscans.org.au or use the QR Code to donate online.



REFLECTION

Lowly Prince of Peace

Jesus entered Jerusalem, not as a warrior in the tradition of King David as many had hoped for, but riding simply on a donkey. The disciples and the crowd applauded him, but they proved fickle in their support.

On the other hand, Jesus remained steadfast in his commitment to non-violent revolutionary change of the religious and political systems so as to establish the reign of God. Why did he renounce marshalling human and angelic warriors to further his cause?

First, Jesus embodied God-for-us, and God does not want the destruction of those he has created out of love. Second, Jesus had a premonition that an armed revolt would lead to the destruction of Jerusalem and the dispersal of the Jewish people (as occurred in 70AD).

Third, another Gospel (Luke) recounts that as Jesus laboured up Mount Calvary he turned to some wailing women and said, 'Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, weep rather for yourselves and for your children.' He knew that they suffer grievously in armed uprising. This is seen in barbaric reality in our own time with women being tortured and raped in campaigns of terror, trafficked into sexual slavery, suffering the loss of sons, husband and lovers.

We could take a moment to pray that the Church of the 21st century, successor of the pacifist Church of the first three centuries, may enter on a new period of reflection on these issues, grappling with the desire to protect the innocent, yet always challenged by the man on a donkey, Divine Prince of Peace.

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(Extract from Liturgy Help.com)



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 office Closed - The Parish office will be closed from Friday, 3rd April to Monday, 6th April for the Easter long weekend.

If you have an emergency during this time please contact Fr. Joby on 02 9631 6420

Project Compassion - Please return your donation boxes and envelopes to the Church or parish office by Sunday 5th April or donate online using the QR Code. Your donations are greatly appreciated.



FIRST EUCHARIST 2026

Year 4 and above

ENQUIRY

Wednesday 29 Apr - 7:00 PM

COMMITMENT AND SIGN-UP MASS

Saturday 02 May - 5:30 PM mass; OR

Sunday 03 May - 10:00 AM mass

PARENT & CHILD LESSON ONE

Saturday 09 May - 4:15 PM; OR

Sunday 10 May - 8:45 AM

PARENT & CHILD LESSON TWO

Saturday 16 May - 4:15 PM; OR

Sunday 17 May - 8:45 AM

PARENT & CHILD LESSON THREE

Saturday 23 May - 4:15 PM; OR

Sunday 24 May - 8:45 AM

PARENT & CHILD LESSON FOUR

Saturday 30 May - 4:15 PM; OR

Sunday 31 May - 8:45 AM

RECONCILIATION and REHEARSAL

Wednesday 03 Jun - 6:30 PM

FIRST EUCHARIST CEREMONY

Sunday 7 Jun - 12:00 NOON



*Daylight saving time ends next
Sunday, 5th April 2026
Don't forget to set your clocks back!*

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISH:

Maria VELLA
Peter RANEE
Carole O'HARE
John GAUCI
Rene NEMORIN
Anthony AL HADDAD
Anna FERNANDES
Sarah MARLIN
Angelo ALEXANDER

Aidan ALEXANDER
Adrian NOCEVSKI
Tanya AMBROSE
Katherine S. SHEEHAN
Alexsis PETRUCELLI
Anith THURAIRATNAM
Maureen HANVEY
Rosa DI CRISTOFORO
Gabby ABOUD

Lyllette MATHIEU
Teresa GALEA
Geraldine HALLIWELL
Mary CAMELLERI
Ajith SEEMAMPILLAI
Ranjith CHELLAPPA
Simon SHERVILLE
Emma NONEY
Joe (Joseph) BORG

Dennis KUNDER
Kate MORTIMER
Shanji ANTHONY
Cecilia FERRER
Joseph MACDERMID
Rita DAVID
Lesley MYERS
John TYNAN
Noe ISOTTEN

Sarah SHEEHAN
Jan SALMON
Colleen DAVAR
Richard TOOKER
Rita McCREADIE

Please advise the parish office if you know of anyone on the sick list whose name could be removed.