St Anthony of Padua Parish Toongabbie

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

*** Office Tel: 9631 3316 * Emergency 9631 6420 ***

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR A **26TH APRIL 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 25/26 April 2026			Next Week 2/3 May 2026		
	5.30pm	**8.00am**	**10.00am**	**5.30pm**	**8.00am**	**10.00am**
Senior Server	F. Le Clerc	T. Dalmati	J. Rodrigues	C. Bourne	M. Maclou	A. Prabaharan
Commentator	Youth	O. Saldanha	C. Pereira	A. Lahood	D. Fernades	J. Wharton
Reader 1	Youth	S. Benjamin	S. Kenny	M. Mathavan	I. Gomes	J. Thomas
Reader 2	Youth	C. Molloy	A. Rego	N. Nakhoul	C. Bugeja	C. Bernard
Data Projectionist	Nicole	Jasmine	Jedd	Lauren		Geneva
Junior Servers	A	D	G	B	E	H
Children's Liturgy			School Break			Felice/Sofie

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.

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 CHRISTOFORO
Gabby ABBOUD
Lylette 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.

Acknowledgement of the traditional custodians of this land

We acknowledge the living culture of the Tugagal people of the Darug Nation, the traditional Custodians of the land on which we gather. We pay tribute to the unique role they have played in the life of this region.

Anzac Day - **Saturday, 25th April 2026**
Mass will be celebrated at 9.30am.
The parish office & church will be closed on Monday 27th April for the Long weekend.

Creative Arts' Group - Our classes will resumed on **Friday 24th April** 2026. Time: 10.00am to 12.30pm. The classes are held in the Church Hall (kitchen and conference rooms). The dates for this term are as follows: April 24th, May 8th and 22nd, June 5th and 19th, July 3rd. We will be continuing with the making of greeting cards. Any enquiries please call Jane: 9688 1682, or Debbie: 0410302739 or Vicki: 0414671514

Mothers' Day- If you would like to offer a Mothers' Day Mass intention, please complete an envelope on the offertory table and place it in the box provided. Names will be recorded in our Mothers' Day intention book and Mass will be offered on 9th/10th May for all mothers.

Mothers' Day Photo Tribute- To celebrate Mothers' Day we will be creating a photo tribute to our mothers. If your mother is or was a member of St Anthony's Parish and you would like her photo to be part of our Mothers' Day tribute please email the Parish Office a digital copy of a photograph of your mum/mother/grandmother/mother-figure for the Mothers' Day Mass PowerPoint. **Photos should reach us no later than Tuesday 5th May**.

Working Bee - Our monthly clean up of the Church and surrounding grounds will take place on Saturday, 9th May 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.

Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities for May 2026 - The next session of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Renewal Training will be held on 2 May at St Joseph's Parish, Kingswood. More training opportunities are available throughout May at different parishes. Please register directly for this training or for other convenient dates and locations by clicking on the training event at: **https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training.** For more information, please email: **safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org**

PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

You can also support the parish by using the:
Tap & Go Machines. 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.

Church Renovation - The Machine placed in the Church foyer is allocated for donations toward the upcoming Church Renovations. We thank you for your continued support.

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

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

If you have any queries please email Jini Joy, the parish sacramental coordinator at **thesacraments@stanthonyschurch.org.au**

Reflection

The Shepherd's Voice

In Jesus' time, the shepherd lead from the front: the sheep followed the sound of his voice to reach good pasture. Jesus describes other voices who might try to mislead the sheep as 'thieves and brigands'.
In John's gospel, Judas, the thief from the common purse of the disciples, led a group of temple guards and Roman soldiers to take Jesus by force.
Barabbas was a brigand, a leader of an insurrection. Our Lord knew that armed rebellion against the Romans would lead to the destruction of Jerusalem.
So, Jesus is warning his followers against the seductive voices of those who advocate the use of violence.
In particular, the successor of Peter should echo the voice of Jesus the Good Shepherd and no other. Popes of the modern era seem to be listening more attentively to the Good Shepherd, as successors of St Peter who was instructed: 'Feed my lambs, feed my sheep'.
We could pause for a moment to attune our ears to the sound of the Shepherd's voice and follow Him so that He may lead us to pastures where we can have life, abundantly.
Alleluia!

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

First Reading **Acts of the Apostles 2:14, 36-41**

God has made Jesus both Lord and Christ.

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.'

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm **Ps 22:1-6. R. v.1**

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. ***(R.)***

2. He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. ***(R.)***

3. You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. ***(R.)***

4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. ***(R.)***

Second Reading **1 Peter 2:20-25**

You had gone astray but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty.

This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.
Alleluia!

Gospel **John 10:1-10**

I am the gate of the sheepfold.

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

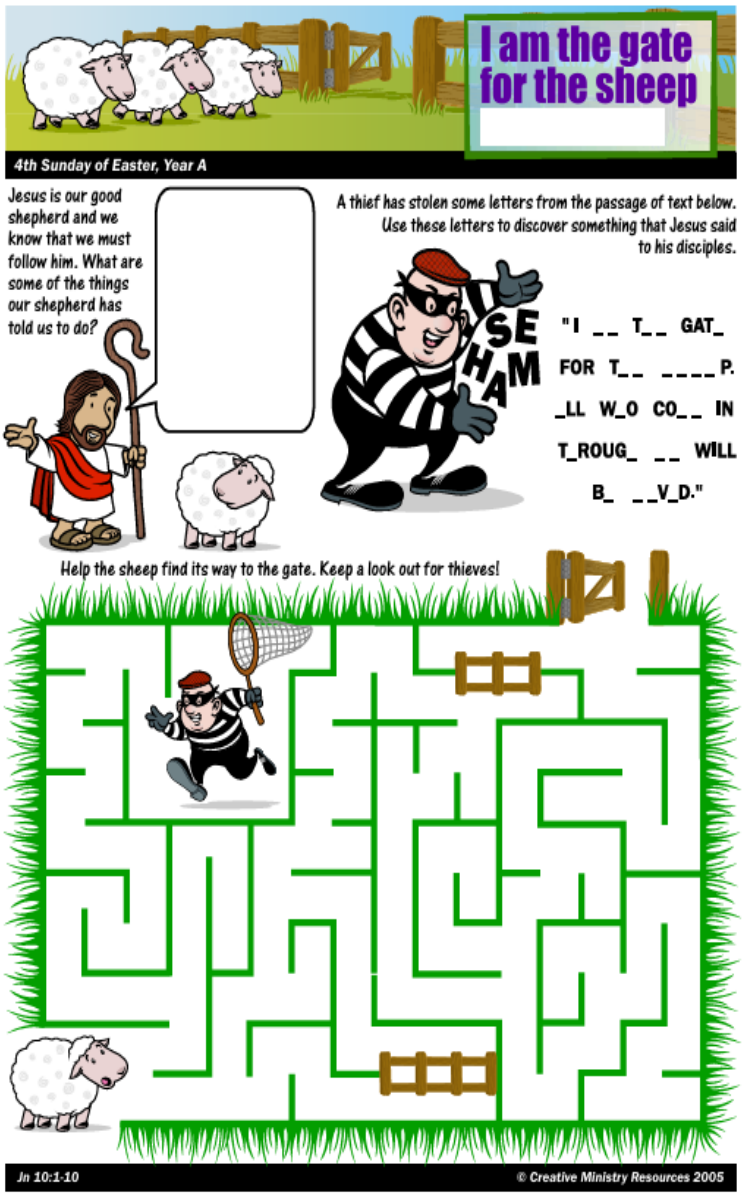
So Jesus spoke to them again:

'I tell you most solemnly,
I am the gate of the sheepfold.
All others who have come
are thieves and brigands;
but the sheep took no notice of them.
I am the gate.
Anyone who enters through me will be safe:
he will go freely in and out
and be sure of finding pasture.
The thief comes
only to steal and kill and destroy.
I have come
so that they may have life
and have it to the full.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Music Workshop 'Exploring Music for the Solemnities': 5 May - Musicians throughout the Parramatta Diocese and beyond are invited to attend this workshop led by MET Music Formation Facilitator Eric Grella. On Tuesday 5 May to the Bishop Bede Heather Centre 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown, the workshop will outline suggested hymns and explore music new and old for the many Solemnities and Feasts that occur in the period of Eastertide. Please RSVP by 1 May via **https://parracatholic.org/events/music-workshop-exploring-music-for-the-solemnities.** Enquiries: **ofw@parracatholic**.org or 0460 037 795.

Rosary Workshops in May - 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 evening will be held on the following days: **Tuesday 5th May at Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown, from 7pm. Wednesday 20th May at Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown from 7pm Cost: $5 per person – payable on arrival (includes all materials).** To register and for more information, please visit **parracatholic.org/rosary-workshops** or **ofw@parracatholic.org** or 0460 037 795.



Commissioning Mass of Liturgical Ministers: **12 May** - All liturgical ministers – readers, servers, extra ordinary ministers are invited to join us for our Annual Commissioning Mass of Liturgical Ministers. Families and friends are also invited. This celebration will take place at 7:30pm on 12 May 2026, at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Liturgical ministers are asked to please arrive by 7pm and be seated by 7:15pm. To register the number of guests and ministers attending please register by Thursday, 7th May. To register please contact **ofw@parracatholic.org** or 0460 037 795.

Nominations open for the 2026 Papal & Diocesan Awards - Nominations are now open for the 2026 Papal and Diocesan Awards, recognising individuals – both religious and lay – who have made outstanding contributions to the Catholic Church and its community. Do you know someone who deserves to be recognised? Nominations close at midnight on 30 June 2026. For more information or to submit a nomination, visit **parracatholic.org/contribute/papal-diocesan-awards/**

Adult Confirmations 2026 - The Office for Worship will host a Catechesis and Formation Day for those candidates (16+) interested in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this year. This will be on Saturday 29th August, 9.30am – 2.00pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre in Blacktown. A light lunch will be provided on the day. It is recommended that all sponsors attend the catechesis day. A contribution of $40 is suggested from the candidates to assist in covering the Catechesis Day.
The Confirmation will take place on Tuesday 1st September, 2026 at 7:30pm at the Cathedral. Please Note: Enrolment forms and a copy of Baptismal Certificates should be sent to OFW before Monday 18th August, 2026. For more information, please contact the Office for Worship **ofw@parracatholic.org** or 0460 037 795.

Develop sustained self-reliant futures in overseas communities! Join Palms International Volunteering. In April meet past Palms volunteers and discover how skill-exchange makes a lasting impact in communities, Scan below or see **palms.org.au/events** TP: 02 9560 5333 E: palms@palms.org.au

APRIL INFO SESSION · SCAN HERE · SCAN HERE · APRIL INFO SESSION

April Session: Discover Palms Online!

Date: Thursday 30 April 2026

Ministry of Care courses: **3-24 June** - Those who visit the sick and are involved in the Ministry of Communion to the Sick and Dying in Hospitals, Aged Care Facilities and in Homes are invited to attend this course on the Ministry of Care. The course will take place every Wednesday in June at 7pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. Please register via parracatholic.org/ministry-of-care-courses to reserve your spot. For enquiries, please contact **ofw@parracatholic.org** or 0460 037 795.

THE 54TH INTERNATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS 2028 SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA