



ST ANTHONY'S PARISH

M A R S F I E L D

26 JANUARY 2020
AUSTRALIA DAY

1st Reading **Isaiah 32:15-18**

Resp Ps **Psalm 84:9-14**

***The Lord speaks of peace
to his people***

2nd Reading **1 Cor 12:4-11**

Gospel **Matthew 5:1-12**

Masses This Week

Sat 6pm **Vigil Mass**

Sun 9am & 6pm **Mass**

Mon 9am **Liturgy of
the Word**

Tue - Fri 9am **Mass**

Parish Staff & Contacts

Pastor **Greg Cooney cm**
greg@saintanthonys.org.au

Pastoral Associate **Rachel Murphy**
rachel@saintanthonys.org.au
Sacramental Coord **Madeleine Pizzuti**
madeleine@saintanthonys.org.au

Parish Secretary **Rose Goh**
rose@saintanthonys.org.au

Parish Secretary **Pauline Jasudason**
pauline@saintanthonys.org.au

School Principal **Julianne Rook**
info@stamarsfield.catholic.edu.au

54 Agincourt Road (PO Box 3670)
Marsfield, NSW 2122.

P: 9888 5222. F: 9878 2741

E: office@saintanthonys.org.au

Web: saintanthonys.org.au

THE GOOD OIL

THE BEATITUDES are, as it were, a manifesto of Jesus' message and his call to see the world in his way. They express the necessary attitudes of those who belong to the Kingdom. Those who have these attitudes already have entered that Kingdom. What is this kingdom? It is not a place. The Greek word *basileia* (*basileia*) is an abstract word which means 'kingship' or 'reign' rather than 'kingdom', which suggests a territory. 'Kingship' or 'reign' on the contrary suggests power. To belong to the Kingdom or Kingship of God, then, is to put oneself fully, consciously and deliberately under the power of God, to experience that power and be empowered by it. That power is above all the power of agape-love. When we say in the Lord's Prayer, "Your Kingdom come", we are not talking about a future life after death but praying that people everywhere put themselves under the loving power of God. That is made clear by the petition immediately following: "Your will be done on earth..." Our first call as Christians is to belong to, to enter that Kingdom and not just to be a member of the Church. The Church is, in so far as it is faithful to the call of Christ, part of the Kingdom but the Kingdom extends far beyond the membership of the Church. The Church is, as it were, the sacrament or visible sign of the Kingdom. As examples, I would suggest that people like Mahatma Gandhi and the Dalai Lama are people who are very much full of the spirit of the Kingdom, more so, I dare to say, than many of us who are baptised. It is significant, I think, that Gandhi was particularly fond of the Beatitudes and identified with them. Some people have seen in these Beatitudes a portrait of Jesus himself and certainly they should be the portrait of every Christian and of every Kingdom person. They are the charter people everywhere (and not just Christians) are called to follow. They go far beyond what is demanded of in the Ten Commandments. The Commandments are not so difficult to follow and, in so far as several of them are expressed in the negative ('Thou shalt not...'), they can be observed by doing nothing! There is no way, however, that people can ever say they observe any Beatitude to the fullest. They always call us to a further and higher level.

FULL COMMENTARY at livingspace.sacredspace.ie/o2102g

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SISTERS OF ST ELIZABETH from Belarus will visit St Anthony's on Tues 28 Jan. After Mass handcrafts from their workshops will be available for purchase. The proceeds will help support their works, which include a boarding home for children and adults with special needs, and rehabilitation centres for women and men who are homeless, recently released from prison and those struggling to overcome drug and alcohol addiction.

SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION 2020. If your child is in Year 3 or above this year and is baptised a Catholic, he/she is now eligible to enrol in the First Reconciliation program. The enrolment package is available on saintanthonys.org.au and the Parish Office. Enrolments close 17 Feb 2020.

BUSHFIRE APPEAL COLLECTION– ALL MASSES 25 & 26 JAN.

Friends, the sad tragedy of the bushfires has impacted upon our Catholic community across the Archdiocese of Sydney in a very real way. A brave Rural Fire Service volunteer Andrew O'Dwyer was farewelled at a Requiem Mass at Our Lady of Victories Parish in Horsley Park this week. The parish is providing ongoing support to his widow Melissa and 19 month old daughter Charlotte and our prayers are with them. Amidst the devastation of the fires, it has been encouraging to witness the support of so many ordinary Australians, including so many men and women of faith. While much of the response must be at a local parish and diocesan level, such a great crisis also requires a national response. Alongside my brother bishops across the country, I encourage you to donate to a special parish collection at Masses over the Australia Day weekend (25 and 26 January) through the St Vincent De Paul Society. Through this bushfire appeal, you can make a tangible difference in the lives of those affected, whether that be to cover basic clothing or the food bill for a family evacuated from their home. The support may also come through psychological counselling services for families left traumatised by the disaster or financial counselling as they struggle to pay unexpected bills. Together we can offer real comfort and long term support to families left struggling after the bushfires.

+ ANTHONY FISHER OP



HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL THOSE WHO CELEBRATE THE LUNAR NEW YEAR. The Year of the Rat begins on 25 Jan 2020 and ends 11 Feb 2021. The Rat is the first of the twelve zodiac animals. Those born in The year of Rat are clever, quick thinkers, successful, but content with living a quiet and peaceful life.

LENTEN PROGRAM 2020. Each year, during the season of Lent, we are given the opportunity to prayerfully prepare ourselves to celebrate the life, death and Resurrection of Jesus. Here at St Anthony's we would like to assist your preparation for Easter, through our annual 6-week Lenten program. This is a wonderful opportunity to gather with friends, old and new, and to prayerfully reflect on the central mysteries of our faith. The program is clear and easy to follow and focuses on the Gospel reading for each Sunday of Lent. This year we are hoping to expand the program with several groups meeting either in homes or in the parish centre. We are looking for people willing to host a small group in their homes or in the parish centre, commencing the week of 23 Feb. These groups can meet during the day or in the evening. **If you would like to assist by being a host**, please put your details on the notice at the main entrance of the church. **If you would like to participate in a group** please indicate your preferred day and time and contact details on the notice for participants, also at the main entrance to the church.

For further information contact rachel@saintanthonys.org.au

ASSOCIATION OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL MONTHLY MASS AND NOVENA. The monthly AMM Mass and Novena will be held in St Anthony's on Sat 1 Feb at 10am. All Welcome.

PART TIME POSITION AVAILABLE AT ST CHRISTOPHER'S PARISH HOLSWORTHY. Email Fr Andrew (Xiang) Feng at stchris@tpg.com.au to obtain a job description by 7 Feb. The closing date for applications for the position is 24 Feb.

THE RED MASS will be celebrated at 9am on Mon 3 Feb at St Mary's Cathedral by Bishop Richard Umbers. Judges and counsel may robe in the Crypt below from 8.30am. The Red Mass has been celebrated since the Middle Ages (in Sydney since 1931) and invokes the grace of the Holy Spirit on lawyers-parliamentarians, judges, barristers, solicitors, students, law lecturers-and all whose lives are touched by law. Inquiries: Anthony Herro 9247 0100.

PARISH DIARY

26 JAN — 2 FEB 2019

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| BUSHFIRE APPEAL | All Masses 25-26 Jan |
| SISTERS OF ST ELIZABETH, BELARUS - CHARITY CRAFT SALE | Tuesday 28 Jan after 9am Mass |
| MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA & MASS | Sat 1 Feb 10am |

PASTORAL SESSIONS

Mon: Rosary in Italian 7pm.

Tue: **Cenacle** 9.30am. **Cenacle & Adoration** 4pm.

Wed: **Adoration** 9.30am. **Meditation** 10am Parish Centre.

Fri: **Rosary** 9.30am. **Adoration** 6pm.

Reconciliation by appointment or Sat 5.30-5.50pm

THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY is available at the church doors. Please put \$2 in the Poor Box.

Parish Collections

1st collection supports the needs of the Parish Priest, presbytery upkeep, food, utilities, support of the Archdiocese, care of elderly priests.

2nd collection supports the maintenance & upkeep of Parish buildings and grounds, pastoral works, Parish administration, insurance, utilities, salaries, priest car expenses & Charitable Works Fund shortfall.

COUNTERS ROSTER JAN/FEB/MAR

26/1 - Team 1; 2/2 - Team 2; 9/2 - Team 3;

16/2 - Team 4; 23/2 - Team 5; 1/3 - Team 6

COMMUNION UNDER BOTH KINDS

- If you have a cold or flu symptoms (or any other communicable disease, cold sores, etc.) you **MUST NOT** receive communion from the Chalice.
- In accordance with the General Instruction, we **DO NOT DIP** the Host in the Chalice.

Please turn off your mobile phone in Church. Thank you.

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY
CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE IS A CRIME. The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you or anyone you know have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

PRAYER MINISTRY

PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER:

Those who are sick, especially-

Fr Michael Walsh CM, Eddie Yap, Phillip Hopson, Moonki Nam, Victor Fernandez, Terry Wallace, Chris South, Kevin South, Konrad Wrzesinski, Alan Griffith, Barbaro family, Janet Godsell, Bishop Geoffrey Robinson, Victor Galea, Margaret Cusack, Karen Kuek Ah Lan, Jac Smits, Ann Chippendale, Ian Lim.

The recently deceased

Fr Gerald Scott cm

Joan Johnson

(wife of the late Kevin Johnson)

**And those with anniversaries
around this time.**

Due to privacy laws, if you would like the name of a family member or friend printed in the Good Oil, please contact the Parish Office.