

# Saint Anthony of Padua Parish

With the Eucharist at the centre, we are a community desiring to be saints, sent out to love like Jesus and proclaim Him in every circumstance.

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

JANUARY 13, 2019

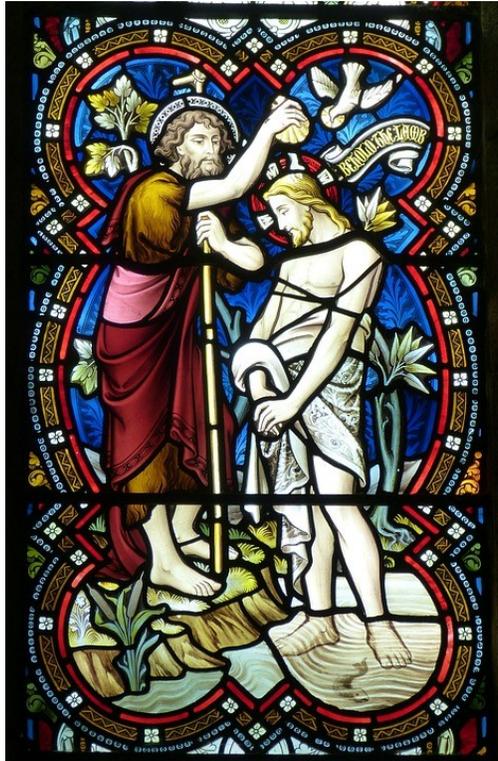
## Why should God let you into heaven?

Dear brothers and sisters, and dear guests, if we were to die and meet God, and He were to ask us, “Why should I let you into heaven?” what would we answer? The answer affects where we’ll spend eternity. Most of us would answer: “Well, I didn’t kill anyone.” Well, there’s a high standard! “I’m a good person, tried to be honest, loved my family, prayed almost every day, went to Mass. I was active in my parish. I was part of the CWL or Knights; I taught catechism.” These answers are all wrong for two reasons: First, being a good person is good, but not great; it doesn’t require remarkable effort. What would be great is if we were to say something like, “I sacrificed my life for other people. I tried to be holy, like Jesus.”

Second, it goes against the Bible, which over and over again says that Jesus saves us, not ourselves. The Second Reading, from the letter of St. Paul to St. Titus, talks to us about salvation. It says, “1) When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us, 2) not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, 3) through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that, having been 4) justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life” (Tit 3:4-7).

Let’s break this down: 1) For the past year, we’ve emphasized over and over again how Jesus is God and is our saviour. He saves us because of His love for us. 2) We cannot save ourselves; we don’t deserve to be saved; and we can’t earn it. 3) What’s “the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit”? It’s baptism. The Bible states many times how we need to be saved by baptism, which is necessary for salvation (Cf. CCC 1257-1261). 4) To be ‘justified’ is an important idea in the New Testament. It means that we’re “cleansed from sin and made righteous in the sight of God... In the legal context, a judge justifies the innocent when he acquits them of unproven charges” (Ignatius Catholic Study Bible, 260). When we’re justified, we’re in a covenant with God, like the relationship of marriage. [...]

Now, why can’t we save ourselves? Because, when we really understand sin, there’s nothing we can do to compensate for it; we have to wait for the other person to forgive us. When I punched my dad, there’s absolutely no way I could compensate for the wrong I did. I’d try to do penance, but I’d still need my dad to forgive me. When we let down our guard and ponder in our hearts, many of us



remember that we have done some very sinful things in our lives: perhaps we’ve been involved in abortion, have committed adultery or, as Jesus says, we’ve committed adultery in our hearts, we’ve taken advantage of people, we’ve gravely hurt our parents or children by our ongoing selfishness. Is there anyone here who hasn’t committed a mortal sin, meaning we did something gravely wrong when we knew it was wrong and chose it anyway?

In 1986, there was a movie called *The Mission*. Robert De Niro plays Mendoza, a slave trader who kills his brother. Because of this, he isolates himself, doesn’t eat and wants to die. A priest comes to visit him and says, “So... you killed your brother. Is this remorse?” Mendoza says, “Leave... priest... You know what I am.” “Yes, you’re a mercenary, a slave trader, and you killed your brother. I know. And you loved him.” That’s a key line! The reason why all of us feel guilt is because there’s goodness planted in us by God, and we do love Him and the people we’ve hurt. But Mendoza

says, “There is nothing else.” And the priest insists, “There is life!” “There is no life!” “There is a way out.” “For me, there is no redemption.” “God gave us the burden of freedom. You chose your crime. Do you have the courage to choose your penance?” And so Mendoza chooses to carry around this net of armour and weapons, weighing probably over 100 pounds. He takes it up hills, up cliffs, and falls down over and over again, trying to make up for killing the brother he loved. But he can’t. And then he meets the indigenous people he used to capture as slaves. When one sees him, he runs to him, holds a knife to his throat, but instead of killing him, he cuts off the burden and Mendoza starts crying. Someone’s taken away his guilt! He didn’t deserve it, but someone freed him!

That’s what Jesus does for us! That freedom is offered to all of us! We’re all sinners in need of a redeemer, to cut away our sins and forgive us. Now let’s say we haven’t done anything that bad. Archbishop Sheen still says that the gravity of sin also depends on whom we hurt. So, for example, slapping our friend in the face is bad. But slapping your grandmother is worse. Lying is always wrong, but lying to our parents is worse, because we’re betraying the covenant between them and us. If we truly appreciated how much our parents have loved us, done for us, sacrificed for us and then we realize the way we’ve treated them, we would recognize that our little sins against them are truly terrible.

...continued inside

**Pastor:** Fr. Justin Huang *Blog: thejustmeasure.ca*  
**Deacon:** Andrew Kung *deaconandrewrcav@gmail.com*  
**Priest in Residence:** Fr. Pierre Leblond *plb.op272@gmail.com*

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 Mailing Address: 1345 West 73<sup>rd</sup> Ave., Van., BC V6P 3E9  
 Tel 604.266.6131  
 Hours Tuesday—Friday  
 9:00 am—12:00 noon  
 1:00 pm—3:00 pm  
 In case of emergencies,  
 please call the office anytime.  
 Web: *stanthonyvan.com*  
 Email: *office@stanthonysvancouver.org*

**Parish Registration**

Our parish family warmly welcomes new parishioners. Please register by filling out a registration form located in the vestibule or the Parish Office. If you are registered and moving, please advise the parish office.

**Sunday Masses**

Saturday 5:00 pm  
 Sunday 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 pm

**Weekday Masses**

Monday 8:15 am  
 Tuesday 7:30 pm  
 Wednesday-Friday 8:15 am  
 Saturday 9:00 am

**Confession**

Weekday 8:00 to 8:10 am *except Tuesday*  
 Saturday 9:45 am & 3:45 pm to 4:45 pm  
 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday each month 9:45 am to 1:00 pm;  
 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm;  
 7:00 pm to 9:45 pm

**Eucharistic Adoration** at 1365 West 73<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
 Tuesday to Friday: 9:00 am to 10:00 pm in the chapel

First Friday of each month: 8:45 am to 10:00 am in the church followed by **Benediction**.  
 First Saturday of each month: 9:30 am to 9:30 pm in the church during all-day confessions.

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)**

Please call the parish office for more information on RCIA classes and other Sacraments.

**St. Anthony of Padua School**

Kindergarten to Grade 7  
 1370 West 73<sup>rd</sup> Avenue,  
 Vancouver, BC V6P 3E9  
 Principal: Michael Perry  
 Telephone: 604.261.4043  
 Website: *stanthonyofpaduaschool.ca*  
 School Email: *office@stanthonyofpaduaschool.ca*

**Weekday Masses & Intentions**

Day	Feast or Memorial	Missal Page	Intention
Monday, January 14	Ferial	437	Mae Puche
Tuesday, January 15	Ferial	439	Fung Kee Poon
Wednesday, January 16	Ferial	441	Kathleen Francis
Thursday, January 17	<i>Memorial</i> St. Anthony Abbot	443	Asuncion Reg †
Friday, January 18	Ferial	444	Theresita Areualo
Saturday, January 19	Ferial	446	Ireneus Susanto †

**Prayers for the Sick** At Holy Mass we remember the sick including: Nita Carvajal, Nung Chum, Isobel Clancy, Nick De Vos, Tamara Dixon, Elaine dos Remedios, Kathleen Francis, Teresa Gaio, Feli Hempl, Cecile Hernandez, Yvonne Kharoubeh, Molly Loui-Ying, Huguette Piché, Barney Rousseau, Therese Rozario, Christina Sayo, Filomena Sison, Liliana Taylor, Fernando Tiago, Theresa Yoshioka.

**Upcoming Homily Themes**



January 19 & 20  
*God Wants to Hear Our Problems*



January 26 & 27  
*Guest Preacher: Father Nick Meisl*

February 2 & 3  
*Speaking the Truth in Love*



February 9 & 10  
*A Plan of Growth*

February 16 & 17  
*Guest Preacher: Deacon Felix Min*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## School Announcements

### Grade 2 Parent Meeting for First Reconciliation

Tuesday, January 15  
7:00 pm

### School Open House

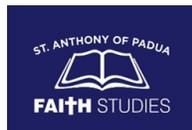
Wednesday, January 16  
12:30 pm to 3:00 pm

### Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, January 30  
6:30 pm

### Faith Studies is back!

**Note: Registration deadline is Sunday, January 20.** The 14th round of Faith Studies will start up again, **Tuesday nights from January 29 to March 5.** All five levels of studies will be offered: **Discovery, Source, Growth, Obedience and Commission.** NOTE: Limited spots are available in each of the levels. For more information or to register, call Angel José at the Parish Office, 604.266.6131 ext. 204 or email her at [stanthonyfaithstudies@gmail.com](mailto:stanthonyfaithstudies@gmail.com).



### Baptism this weekend!

Please join us in welcoming the newest member of our parish family. **Isabela Mariana José Duque** received the Sacrament of Baptism on Sunday, January 13 at the 10:00 am Mass.

**Refugee Committee Update:** News has been received from the Syrian family we are sponsoring that a healthy baby was born on November 24, 2018. So we will soon be welcoming a family of five! We have secured the major household furniture required including a crib. Once we have notice of their approval we will ask for additional items that may be required. This has been a much longer journey than we had anticipated, but we are now in the final stretch. Please pray for a successful conclusion to this family's application to come to Canada.

Experts needed! The Parish Centre Building Committee needs volunteers to assist and advise us with the Parish Centre project. We are seeking licensed individuals with any of the following expertise: **architectural, civil engineering, structural engineering, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, plumbing and fire protection.** Please contact **Marline Kolterhoff** at [mak183@telus.net](mailto:mak183@telus.net) or **Severino Tan** at [sthtan@shaw.ca](mailto:sthtan@shaw.ca) for more information.

## "Encountering Jesus, the Bread of Life"



with Fr. Nick Meisl

Sunday, January 27 &  
Monday January 28  
7:00 PM

St. Anthony of Padua Church  
*Please bring your Bible!*

Fr. Nick Meisl is a priest of the Archdiocese of Vancouver. Recently, he finished his License from the Pontifical Biblical Institute. Currently, Fr. Nick teaches courses on the Bible at Corpus Christi and St. Mark's Colleges and is chaplain at St. Patrick's High School.

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When God asks, "Why should I let you into heaven?" and we don't even mention Jesus in the answer, we're missing out on the fundamental point of Christianity, that God wants a relationship with us. Yes, He wants good actions, but first He wants us to love Him. That's why we're focusing this season on the Eucharist. God wants to spend time with us. Wouldn't it be beautiful if, when we died, God asked this question, and we said, "Because I want to be with You. We spent so much time together in the chapel that I want to be with You forever." That's love!

Okay, so Jesus saves us, but we still have to do something to accept Him. If our children ever ask us how to go to heaven, here's the answer: To be saved, "You need to repent, have faith, and be baptized. If you commit a mortal sin, you need to repent, have faith, and go to Confession." Repent means to change our lives and actions; faith means to trust in God, believe what He teaches and obey Him, which leads to loving Him; and baptism and Confession are the ways God gives us new life.

All of us were born with original sin, meaning we

inherited from Adam and Eve a separation from God, meaning we're born without spiritual life. And when we're spiritually dead, we need someone to resuscitate us. That's what God does through baptism. He brings us back to life and gives us a spiritual blood transfusion, giving us His life.

By the way, baptism is so important that the Church says that we should have our babies baptized, when? Within one month of their birth. Repentance and faith are shown by the parents, of which one of the signs is going to Mass every week.

Part of proclaiming Jesus in every circumstance means being able to articulate what we believe when people ask. If people want to know about what the Bible teaches about salvation, and when our children ask this question, we now have a clear answer.

Why should God let us into heaven? Because Jesus saved us. And what did we do to receive Him? We repented, had faith and we're baptized and went to Confession.

*- excerpt from Fr. Justin's homily, January 13, 2019*

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**SERVING WITH FAITH AND JOY**  
 We would like to invite the ladies of the parish to become members of the CWL. Meetings are normally held the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month at 10:00A.M. For more information, please email Ai-Lin aleng@shaw.ca



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