

# 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.

ASCENSION OF THE LORD

JUNE 2, 2019

## Stories Strengthen Souls

For those of you with children, how would you survive if you lost your children in a car accident? What would you say to parents who have just lost their children? We'd love them, help them, and pray for them. We may even try to explain to them why God allows suffering.

Brothers, sisters, and guests, all those ways are good but there's something more that only a few of us could do: Those of us who ourselves have lost children would be asked by God to share with them how He got us through our grief and pain.

Today, Jesus says in the Gospel, "You are witnesses of these things" (Lk 24), and He's specifically asking us to share parts of our life story with other people. The Gospel says, "He opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things'" (Lk 24).

He opens their minds to understand the Scriptures, to remind them that God Himself chose to rescue us from suffering not by eliminating it, but by overcoming it through love. Jesus never gave in to temptation; He loved His Father and us to the very end. What He also said was true: He would rise again! Because the disciples saw it with their own eyes, they now need to tell what happened.

Why? Because stories touch the heart in ways abstract ideas don't; they're more real and practical. Stories strengthen souls.

Two weeks ago, we talked about devout conversations, where we ask questions of substance to give people an opportunity to share what God is doing in their lives. After Mass two weeks ago, some of you asked me such beautiful questions—it was awesome to go deeper and get to know you better. For example, some people asked me, "What's the best part of being a pastor here?" I said, "When people don't fall asleep during the homily. When people laugh at my jokes." Just kidding. The best part is being able to contribute in a small but powerful way to people encountering Christ and then becoming saints. Have you had any devout conversations? I hope so.

We've called this season Break the Silence because God's asking us to speak more about Him.

"You are witnesses of these things." There are three things we want to say about this command:

1) "In a courtroom, a witness isn't expected to argue the case, prove the truth, or press for a verdict; that is the job of attorneys. Witnesses simply report what happened to them or what they saw. Jesus said, 'You will be my witnesses,' not 'You will be my attorney'" (Rick Warren, *The Purpose Driven Life*).

2) The Greek word for 'witness' in this passage is 'martyres,' from which we get the English word, 'martyr.' So a martyr is someone who gives witness to Jesus by dying for Him. We may not be called to physically die for Jesus, but we're called to die to our fear of sharing.

3) It says, "Thus it is written... that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations" (Lk 24). So, we're sharing not for our own glory, but so that people can repent, meaning change their lives, and that they can receive forgiveness of sins, meaning they come back to the Father and renew their relationship with Him.

"He wants you to share your story with others. Sharing your testimony is an essential part of your mission on earth because it is unique. There is no other story just like yours, so only you can share it. If you don't share it, it will be lost forever... Your personal testimony is more effective than a sermon, because unbelievers see pastors as professional salesmen, but see you as a 'satisfied customer,' so they give you more credibility... Shared stories build a relational

*...continued inside*

### St. Anthony of Padua Novena



June 5 to 12: Mass & Novena 7:30 pm  
Confessions 7:00 pm  
June 13: Feast Day Celebration  
Procession 6:30 pm & Mass 7:30 pm

#### Celebrants / Preachers

June 5: Fr. Vincent Hawkswell  
June 6: Fr. James Comey  
June 7: Fr. Lucio Choi  
June 8: Fr. Justin Huang /  
Deacon Andrew Kung  
June 9: Fr. Pierre Leblond  
June 10: Fr. Nick Meisl  
June 11: Fr. Gary Franken  
June 12: Fr. Anthony Ho  
June 13: Fr. Justin Huang

\* NOTE: NO MORNING DAILY MASSES FROM JUNE 5–13  
NO SATURDAY 5:00 PM MASS ON JUNE 8

**Pastor: Fr. Justin Huang** Blog: [thejustmeasure.ca](http://thejustmeasure.ca)  
**Deacon: Andrew Kung** [deaconandrewrcav@gmail.com](mailto:deaconandrewrcav@gmail.com)  
**Priest in Residence: Fr. Pierre Leblond** [plb.op272@gmail.com](mailto:plb.op272@gmail.com)

Address: 8891 Montcalm St., Vancouver BC V6P 4R4  
 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](http://stanthonyvan.com)  
 Email: [office@stanthonyvancouver.org](mailto:office@stanthonyvancouver.org)

### St. Anthony of Padua School

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

### 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

Weekdays	Masses	Confessions
Monday	8:15 am	8:00 to 8:10 am
Tuesday	7:30 pm	
Wednesday & Thursday	8:15 am	8:00 to 8:10 am
Friday	8:00 am	7:45 to 7:55 am
Saturday	9:00 am	9:45 am

### Confession

Saturday afternoon 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** enter at 1365 West 73<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
 Tuesday to Friday: 9:00 am to 10:00 pm

**First Saturday of each month:** 9:30 am to 9:30 pm in the church during all-day confessions.

**First Friday of each month:** 8:45 am to 10:00 am in the church followed by **Benediction**.

### RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

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

## Weekday Masses & Intentions

Day	Feast or Memorial	Missal Page	Intention
Mon., June 3	<i>Memorial</i> Charles Lwanga & Companions	369	Yuen Yee Yim
Tues., June 4	Ferial	372	Remembrance Tree
Wed., June 5	<i>Memorial</i> St. Boniface	375	-
Thurs., June 6	Ferial	378	-
Fri., June 7	Ferial	381	-
Sat., June 8	Ferial	384	-

**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, Susan Panlican, Huguette Piché, Barney Rousseau, Therese Rozario, Christina Sayo, Liliana Taylor, Fernando Tiago, Cynthia Wing.

## Upcoming Homily Themes

June 8 & 9

*Preacher: Deacon Andrew Kung*



June 15 & 16

*The Law of the Gift*

June 22 & 23

*Understanding the Eucharist in Scripture*

June 29 & 30:

*Are You Free? Free to Do What?*



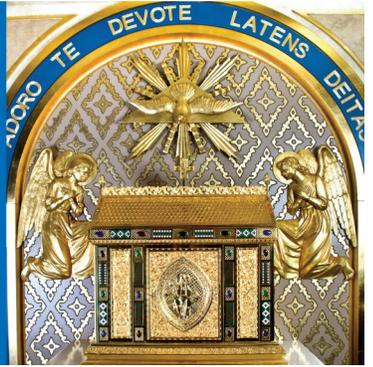
July 6 & 7:

*We Become What We Celebrate*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



St. Anthony of Padua Parish  
**ADORATION CHAPEL  
OPENING**  
Sunday, June 30, 2019 • Starting at 5 pm  
1345 W 73<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Vancouver



Summer is upon us! Please join the CWL Ladies on the last Coffee Shop & Bake Sale before the summer break, following the **8:00 am and 10:00 am Masses on Sunday, June 2**. If you wish to donate some baked goods please bring them down before Mass.

## CWL / Covenant House Drive

The CWL are collecting personal toiletry items for distribution among street youth. Please bring your donations this weekend. Also, in lieu of donated goods, the CWL gratefully appreciates cash donations of \$10 (which is the approximate cost of putting together one bag.) The Covenant House staff and those they serve, gratefully appreciate your support!



## Join your fellow

parishioners at this conference which takes place from July 25-28 in Ohio. The conference features speakers on *Applied Biblical Studies*, and *Defending the Faith*. For more information on registering and joining our parish group, please email Jessica or Agnes at [stbv.sapv@gmail.com](mailto:stbv.sapv@gmail.com).



Coming soon! **CCBR's Pro-Life Study Series** This five week series beginning June 17 includes educational videos, engaging discussions and practical tools to equip the everyday Christian to stand against abortion and defend pre-born children. Duration: One session per week for five weeks. Start time: 7:00 PM, in the parish hall. Registration is \$30 per person. For more details and to register, please email Michael Roy at [mroy@endthekilling.ca](mailto:mroy@endthekilling.ca) or call Annie Ma at the Parish Office.

**Volunteers needed for Childminding!** Childminding is an essential service that helps parents of our parish participate fully in the many formation programs we offer. We are currently seeking volunteers who can assist us on an as needed basis with childminding. If you would like to help, please sign-up at the Welcome Booth or email: [cminders.sapv@gmail.com](mailto:cminders.sapv@gmail.com).

**A gentle reminder...** We gratefully thank all parishioners for supporting the parish through weekly donations via the collection envelopes! To help our Sunday collection counters and ensure donations are being accurately accounted for on your tax receipt, **please write the donation amount clearly on the envelope.** Envelopes without the amount may not be given credit if missed by the counters. Thanks for your cooperation!

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bridge that Jesus can walk across from your heart to theirs" (Warren).

In Faith Studies, we learn that witnessing is one of the six key elements needed for spiritual growth. In order for us to grow, we need to share! "People can argue with what you believe or disagree with Church teachings, but no one can argue with your personal experience." [...]

Jesus asks us to proclaim Him in every circumstance. So, what we do is very simple: When we're in conversations, bring Jesus into it. But not artificially! When we're at the restaurant and ordering our food, you don't say to the waiter, "Let me tell you a story." No! We bring Jesus into conversations in a natural way. We can always say, "God bless you." I often say, "Praise God," or "God is good," because that's natural for me now. [...] And, like I've said before, we can always say, "I'll pray for you"—everyone appreciates that, even people who don't believe in God.

And, when it's natural and the time is right, we'll be able to share what God has done in our life. Has God done anything good in your life? Share that! [...]

This is the power of Jesus' Resurrection and the best kind of evangelization. We should praise Jesus for His power. I invite anyone here who's struggling in faith to turn to Jesus. Trust in Him, believe in Him, and, if you're ready, make a commitment to Him. [...] There is no other story of Jesus like yours, so only you can share it. Stories strengthen souls.

- excerpt from Fr. Justin's homily, June 2, 2019



Interested in reading the full text of Fr. Justin's homilies? Check-out:

**[thejustmeasure.ca](http://thejustmeasure.ca)**

This blog also features a collection of Fr. Justin's thoughts, musings, archive articles and a "contact me" page so that you can send feedback directly to Father.

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Available to tutor in my home near St. Anthony's where I am a parishioner (Marpole/one block east of Granville). Fee: \$50 an hour; may be split between two students in the same grade or two in the same family.

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