



## ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA

FEASTDAY - 13TH JUNE

### PATRON SAINT OF ST. ANTHONY'S MANGERE BRIDGE

St. Anthony of Padua, born in Lisbon, Portugal, in 1195 AD, was christened Ferdinand. He came from a noble family and joined the RULE of Augustinian. After his Ordination at the age of 25, he saw the bodies of those martyred in Morocco. He was fired with the desire to preach to the Saracens and be martyred, so he joined the Franciscan Friars Minor, taking the name of Anthony. Illness a year later, forced him to return to Portugal, but his ship was diverted so Sicily, where he recuperated. From there he attended the general Chapter in Assisi.

He was asked to teach theology to the young Brothers at the University of Bologna but was reluctant to do so until he gained permission from St. Francis, who responded; "It pleases me that you should teach the Friars sacred theology so long as they do not extinguish the spirit of prayer and devotion over this study, as contained in the RULE".

St. Anthony taught in Bologna, Montepellier, Toulouse and Puy-En-Valance, gaining a reputation as a Great Orator. He spent much time in study and prayer. With his knowledge of the scriptures and the writings of the Popes, he became known as the "HAMMER OF HERETICS".

St. Anthony died at Padua in 1237 AD and was Canonised by Pope Gregory IX in 1332.

HE IS REVERED AS THE PATRON SAINT OF LOST ARTICLES.