

Please pray for those who have recently died:

...and for those whose anniversaries occur in **September**: Kathleen Marshall, John Szewczyk, Heriberto Carreon, Patrick Denning, Moira Redfern, Ann Ashfield, John Billington, Joselito Villena, Sebastian Rhys Ciocon

Memorial list: If you would like a deceased family member or friend to be remembered in the bulletin during the month of the anniversary of their death please email their name to: stanthonyop.oxford@rcaob.org.uk.

Please contact the Parish Office with the names of those to be included whose deaths occurred in the month of September. There is no need to do so if their names were on the list in 2022/23.

Online prayer & faith resources. A range of resources is given on our parish website stanthonyofpadua.org.uk/resources/.

Keeping in touch. We send a weekly *Bulletin* by email: please let us know if you would like to join our email list and forward the bulletin to anybody who may be interested. We have a *WhatsApp* group. Let Shalini Lalvani know (via the parish email address) if you would like to join, and follow us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/stanthonyofpadua)

Hall bookings - Please email stanthonyop.oxford@rcaob.org.uk for hall availability.

Mass Intentions: or the names of those for whom you would like us to pray should be sent to the Parish Office. The envelopes are available at the back. If you want your intention to be published in the bulletin, drop the intention and donation in the letter box by Thursday.

Please pray for the sick and housebound of the parish: Fr John Baggley, Elizabeth Johnson, Frank and Helen Kennedy, Margaret Wipp, Maureen O'Sullivan, Lorraine McNally, Peter Donnelly, Lilian Flores, Doreen Busby, Glenys Jones, Chris Byrne, Anna, Slawek, Joe, Xi and Camilla.

Dates for your diary...

International Cultures Evening Celebration, Saturday October 12th at 7pm. Blessed Dominic Barberi Catholic Church at Cowley Road, Littlemore OX4 4JX. Food sharing and tasting - please contact Roger Kassi 07765 457998 or rgkassi@yahoo.co.uk for more information

	This weekend	Next weekend
Vigil readers	Jane Kennett	Nevin Vuddamalay
Sunday Readers: 8:30 am	Rajesh Paul	Georges Yindom
Sunday Readers: 10:00 am	May Macpherson, Patricia Iyiegbu	Caroline Griffiths, Philip Mountford
Eucharistic ministers (10am)	Ewa, John, Eugene	Mary, Derek, Jane

The Archdiocese Commitment to Safeguarding

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is May Macpherson. She can be contacted at sg.stanthonyop.oxford@rcaob.org.uk. The Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.

St Anthony of Padua, Oxford

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Email: stanthonyop.oxford@rcaob.org.uk

Parish Priest: Fr. Emmanuel Ogunnaike, MSP: fr.emmanuel.ogunnaike@rcaob.org.uk
Assistant Priest: Fr Anthony Bassey, MSP: fr.tony.bassey@rcaob.org.uk

The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216
Parish secretary (Wed & Fri): stanthonyop.oxford@rcaob.org.uk

22nd September 2024

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B



Today's first reading is fulfilled in the life of Christ. First, it points to Christ, the Son of God, who was put to death by jealous and wicked people. As a righteous man, Jesus reprimanded and condemned the ambitious Pharisees and scribes of his time. So, they took offense and persecuted and crucified Christ. This reading is also fulfilled in the life of all who suffer unjust persecutions today for being right and just. Like Christ, sometimes, we are persecuted by our enemies and even by our friends for being just. However, we must remain steadfast because God will surely vindicate us as he vindicated Christ.

Our second reading reminds us of the importance of focusing sincerely on the things that unite us rather than on the ones that divide us. We all desire a harmonious life, yet many Christian communities, families, and homes live in frequent conflicts and disorder. As much as conflicts are inevitable in life, we must not allow them to tear us apart. Sadly, the root of most of such disputes is selfish ambitions. So, James admonishes us not to let selfish ambitions destroy our relationships, families, and communities. James asks us: "Where do all these battles between you first start. Is it not precisely in the desires fighting inside yourselves? You have an ambition that you cannot satisfy, so you fight to get your way by force." Of course, many families, marriages, communities, and nations have already been destroyed because of selfish ambitions or desires.

Jesus foretells his imminent suffering, death, and resurrection in today's gospel. Unfortunately, instead of reflecting on what Christ was saying, his disciples quarrelled secretly over who was the greatest. Of course, their argument was aimed at the earthly government they imagined that Christ had come to establish. Like the community James wrote to, Jesus' disciples were experiencing a conflict of interest. We often see this in any society, church, family, and anywhere that personal ambition is considered more important than anything else. There, we see in-fighting, gossips, indifference, aggression, threats to lives and properties, hatred, and all sorts of vices. All these come at the expense of the common good and peaceful coexistence. Wherever these exist, there can be no progress, prosperity, and peace.

Therefore, by using a child as an example for us today, Jesus only teaches us that we must become like children to be great. This does not mean being childish. Instead, it means being child-like. It means that we have to live our lives in humble service to God and one another.

Today's Reading: Wisdom 2:12, 17-20; Ps53; James 3:16-4:3; Mark 9:30-37

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord upholds my life.

Next Sunday: Numbers 11:25 - 29; Ps18; James 5:1-6; Mark 9:38-43, 47-48

Morning Prayers

Mon-Fri 8.40am

Mass Times:

Mon—Fri 9.00am.

Sat: 9am; Vigil 6.30pm

Sunday: 8.30am; 10am

Adoration & Confession

Saturday 5.30—6.15p.m.

NOTICES:

Second collection: There is a second collection this week for the Father Hudson's Society.

Parish Mass attendance: Once a year we are asked by the archdiocese to count the number of people attending the weekend Masses for their records. This will be happening for the next 4 weekends.

Roof replacement work has now started and will last between five and six weeks. There will be some parking restrictions on the parking lots on the right side of the church at times. Pedestrian access to the parish office, presbytery and emergency hall exit will be accessible at all times. **Whilst scaffolding is in place the garden is out of bounds to children after the Sunday 10:00 Mass.**

Car park changes: The ANPR camera, and in-church tablet have been installed and the signage will be following soon. The implications for car park users is summarised on a handout available at the back of church, on the notice board and on the website.

First Holy Communion - For all parents or guardians of children 7 years or older who wish their children to be prepared for First Holy Communion, please complete the application form on the website and hand in with the child's baptism certificate to the office. The application must be received by October 20th and classes will begin in early November.

Curry night tickets to raise funds for the church roof will be on sale after all masses this weekend. It will be held at 7:30pm on **Saturday 26th October after the Vigil Mass**. Tickets are £15 for adults and £10 for children aged 10 and younger. Please support this event, which is kindly being organized by John Denning and the Syro-Malabar community.

Family Fast Day is on Friday 4th October. There will be an appeal next weekend and envelopes will be available for your donations at weekend Masses 5th/6th October

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting (PPC) - This meeting comes up on Monday 7th October 2024 at 7.00pm. All those who have given their names should please endeavour to attend. Please note that the FC meeting also scheduled for this date will be rearranged.

Rites of Christian Initiation of Adult (RCIA) - For those who want to take part in this group and have not returned their application form should please do so as soon as possible.

Parish appeal 2024

The quinquennial diocesan review three years ago detected significant problems with the flat roof at the back and front of church. The estimate for repairing this is £64,000. The presbytery carpet has been replaced at a reduced cost of £2,162.15. We have been given a grant of £10,000 from the Oxford historic Churches Trust, but we need to raise a significant amount if we are to avoid a large overdraft.

Please can all parishioners consider how they can help reduce this debt to the parish:

- The **card reader** at the back of church (there is a dedicated Parish Appeal page).

- The **parish website** (there is a parish appeal button to click on).

- Via direct **bank transfer**.

Bank details:

RCAOB St Anthony of Padua. Sort code 60-10-28.

Account number 66574919. Ref: Building.

- Or directly to Fr Emmanuel.

As of 20th Sep	Gift Aided	Non Gift Aided
Last week	£0	£0
Total	£2,070	£4,141

May God sees all that is done in secret reward you abundantly.

Last week's offertory collection

Offertory	Total
Loose Collection	£327.37
Gift Aid Envelopes	£10.00
Card Reader Machine Collection	£280.00
Online giving via website	£10.00
Total	£627.37
Votive candles	£76.68

Monthly standing orders : £1231

Second collection (Catholic Evangelisation): £100.00

Date	Day	Time	Intention
Saturday 21st September	Feast of St Matthew, Apostle, Evangelist	9:00am	Renewal of marriage vows of Dr. and Mrs. Aisabokhale
	Vigil Mass	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 22nd September	Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am	Akunne Emeka Family thanksgiving mass
		10.00am	Repose of soul of Sebastian Rhys Ciocson (14th yr anniversary)
Monday 23rd September	Memorial of St Pius of Pietrelcina	9:00am	Maria Luisa e Benevides de Carvalho RIP (10th month anniversary)
Tuesday 24th September	Feast of Our Lady of Walsingham	9:00am	Birthday thanksgiving for Mary Lee
Wed 25th September	Feria in Ordinary Time	9:00am	Good health, study, protection from enemies
		1.00pm	John Radcliffe Chapel
Thursday 26th September	Feria in Ordinary Time	9:00am	Julia King RIP (40th anniversary)
Friday 27th September	Memorial of St Vincent de Paul, Priest	9:00am	Teotonio & Liliana 16th Wedding Anniversary
Saturday 28th September	Feria in Ordinary Time	9:00am	Varghese Chacko RIP
	Vigil Mass	6.30pm	Lily Feaver RIP
Sunday 29th September	Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am	Donor's Intention
		10.00am	People of the Parish

Offertory Contribution: In addition to the weekly envelope offerings and the card reader there are other ways to contribute to the parish. If you do online banking, consider a monthly gift by Standing Order. You can set it up yourself or request for a Bank Standing Order form for you to complete and return to us or send directly to your bank.

Gift-Aid: If you pay Income Tax in the UK, please consider Gift-Aiding your donation to the parish. In this scheme the government give the church extra 25p on every pound you give. Example: if any tax-payer gives the church £100 donation for the year, the church will claim from the government extra £25 without any extra cost to the person. It's like giving £125 by that person. Help the Church to get the extra cash from the government. Please ask for the gift-aid form or bank standing order form. Forms are available at the back of the Church.