

**Please pray for those who have recently died:** Chris Byrne, Shaun McCarthy and Josephine Doran.

**...and for those whose anniversaries occur in December:** Desmond Donovan, Michael Ong, Michael Bishop, Hugh Roberts, Jim Roberts, Ann Holden, Eileen Robertson, Josefino Salazar, Lolito Santiago

**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](mailto: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 December.** 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/](http://stanthonyofpadua.org.uk/resources/).

**Keeping in touch.** We send this 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](mailto: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, Nuala Lula McNally

**Dates for your diary...**

### The Archdiocese Commitment to Safeguarding

	This weekend	Next weekend
Vigil readers	Christmas rota	Christmas rota
<u>Sunday Readers:</u> 8:30 am	Christmas rota	Christmas rota
Sunday Readers: 10:00 am	Christmas rota	Christmas rota
Eucharistic ministers (10am)	Christmas rota	Christmas rota

*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](mailto:sg.stanthonyop.oxford@rcaob.org.uk). The Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concern.*

## St Anthony of Padua, Oxford

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[www.facebook.com/saop.oxford](http://www.facebook.com/saop.oxford)



Presbytery and office: 01865 762964 | Parish priest: 07484 271876 |

Email: [stanthonyop.oxford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:stanthonyop.oxford@rcaob.org.uk)

Parish Priest: Fr. Emmanuel Ogunnaike, MSP: [fr.emmanuel.ogunnaike@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:fr.emmanuel.ogunnaike@rcaob.org.uk)

Assistant Priest: Fr Anthony Bassey, MSP: [fr.tony.bassey@rcaob.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:stanthonyop.oxford@rcaob.org.uk)

**22nd December 2024**

**Fourth Sunday in Advent, Year C**



This Sunday is the fourth and last of the Sundays of Advent, on which occasion we focus ourselves on the aspect and theme of Love, the last one among the themes of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love that we reflect upon each Sunday in this time and season of Advent. On this Sunday we focus on the Love of God which has been manifested to us in His Son, incarnate in the flesh, to become the perfect manifestation of His love in our midst. Yes, Our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, Whose coming into this world we celebrate this Christmas, is the One Who showed us all what God's love is all about, love that is always ever enduring, love that never ceases, ever generous and which He has always lavished on each and every one of us, His precious and beloved ones.

And this emphasis on the theme of Love at the very last Sunday of Advent also has its significance as Love is also the most important one amongst the all the Christian virtues and values, the most important of all the fruits of the Holy Spirit and the manifestation of all that is good from God. Without Love then there can be neither Hope, nor Peace, nor Joy. True Hope, Peace and Joy have been shown and given to us most generously by the Lord Himself through His Beloved Son, Whom He sent into our midst, because God so loved the world that He gave us His only Begotten Son, so that all those who believe in Him may not perish but has eternal life.

As we have heard from our Scripture passages this Sunday, we are all reminded that Christmas is truly all about Love, the Love that God has never ceased to show us all. That is why as we all prepare ourselves for the celebrations and joyful occasion of Christmas season and time, let us all remind ourselves constantly that everything that we are rejoicing for, all of these are only possible thanks to the most generous and selfless love from God.

It means that we should also show this love in our Christmas celebrations and festivities, remembering to share the joy we have to one another, to everyone around us especially to those who are suffering and enduring challenges and difficulties, and also all those who may not be so fortunate and blessed, and may not be able to rejoice much this coming Christmas season. We must remember everyone around us, all those who are in need of our love and attention, our help and care so that we may indeed be able to share the joy and blessings that God has given us most generously. May all of us grow ever stronger in our love for both God and for one another just as God Himself has loved us all and shown us how we can love everyone around us, now and always.

### 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.

**Today's Reading: Micah 5:1-4; Ps79; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45**

**Responsorial Psalm: God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.**

**Next Sunday: Eccl. 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps127; Colossians 3:12-21; Luke 2:41-52 or**

**1 Sam 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 83; 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24; Luke 2:41-52**

**NOTICES:**

**Car park changes:** The ANPR camera, signage and in-church tablet have been installed. 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. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THE CHURCH CANNOT TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY FINES ISSUED UNLESS THERE WAS A PROBLEM WITH THE TABLETS, IN WHICH CASE PLEASE NOTIFY THE PARISH OFFICE IMMEDIATELY (by phone or email).**

**Xmas Social:** Final amount raised £1688.60. **THANK YOU EVERYONE!**

**CAFOD World Gifts for Christmas**

This Christmas, buying CAFOD's virtual World Gifts makes a real difference for our sisters and brothers facing the injustice of poverty around the world. Choose from a range of beautifully illustrated cards. Cards can be sent by post, as an eCard, or printed at home. Purchase World Gifts and other gifts such as Advent calendars and jute bags at [worldgifts.cafod.org.uk](http://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk) or pick up a catalogue in church.

**The Porch:** as always we will be collecting for the homeless during Advent and donating to the Porch at Xmas. Please bring toiletries, sanitary products, chocolates, biscuits, socks, hats and gloves to put in the red box.

**Roof replacement notice - Whilst scaffolding is in place the garden is out of bounds to children.**

**Walk with Me:** Booklets and Children's calendar at back of church. Please put £1 in the CTS box in the wall.

**The Jubilee year** starts at the beginning of Advent. A companion booklet explaining the Jubilee from the point of view of scripture. £1.50. Money in CTS box please.

**Christmas and New Year Mass Schedule 2024**

Monday, 23rd Dec	9.00am 9.30am - 10.30am	Mass Confession
Tuesday, 24th Dec	9.00am 9.30 - 10.30am 7.00pm 10.30pm 11.00pm	Mass Confession Evening mass for Children & Elderly Christmas Carols Midnight Mass
Wed, 25th Dec	8.30am 10.00am	Christmas Mass Christmas Mass
Thursday, 26th Dec	9.00am	Morning Mass
Tuesday, 31st Dec	9.00am 10.30pm	Holy Family Mass New Year's Eve Mass
Wednesday, 1st Jan	9.00am	New Year's Day Mass

Father Emmanuel, Father Tony, and everyone at the Parish Office would like to wish all parishioners a blessed Christmas, and may the good Lord be with you always.

**Parish appeal 2024**

- The **card reader, parish website, or direct bank transfer.**

Bank details: RCOAB St Anthony of Padua. Sort code 60-10-28.  
Account number 66574919. Ref: Building

As of 19th Dec	<b>Gift Aided</b>	<b>Non Gift Aided</b>
Last week	£0	£0
Total	£2,240	£5,696

<b>Offertory</b>	<b>Total</b>
Loose Collection	£226.72
Gift Aid Envelopes	£10.00
Card Reader Machine Collection	£132.00
Online giving via website	£0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£368.72</b>
Votive candles	£37.67

**Last week's offertory collection**

**Monthly standing orders : £1231**

Date	Day	Time	Intention
Saturday 21st December	Advent Feria	9:00am	Private Intentions
	Vigil Mass	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 22nd December	Fourth Sunday of Advent	8.30am	Anthony McDonnell RIP
		10.00am	Prayers for the McMullin Family
Monday 23rd December	Advent Feria	9:00am	Patricia O'Leary RIP
Tuesday 24th December	Advent Feria	9:00am	Wedding Anniversary Intentions
		7.00pm	Peter Rushe RIP
		11.00pm	Christopher O'Reilly RIP
Wed 25th December	Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord	8.30am	William Harron RIP
		10.00am	Trish Healy RIP
Thursday 26th December	Feast of St Stephen, the first Martyr	9:00am	Special Intention good health
Friday 27th December	Feast of St John, Apostle, Evangelist	9:00am	Eileen Patterson RIP
Saturday 28th December	Feast of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs	9:00am	Margaret Kelly RIP
	Vigil Mass	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 29th December	Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph	8.30am	Annamma Chacko RIP
		10.00am	Vi Maceda - God's blessings on her birthday

**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.