

Please pray for those who have recently died: Glenys Jones

...and for those whose anniversaries occur in February: Fr Francis Ighorurhie MSP, Truc Nguyen, Rev Fr Joseph Etim MSP, Pauline Willan, Florrie Murphy, Gladys Glyn, Katheleen Cassidy, Ann Byrne, Julie Denning, John Denning.

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 February. There is no need to do so if their names were on the list in 2023/2024.

Online prayer & faith resources. A range of resources is given on our parish website 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 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, Nuala Lula McNally

Dates for your diary...

	This weekend	Next weekend
Vigil readers	Paul Moore	Nevin Vuddamalay
Sunday Readers: 8:30 am	Georges Yindom	Noah Odili
Sunday Readers: 10:00 am	Caroline Griffiths, Philip Mountford	Monica Agyapong, Michael Onobhayedo
Eucharistic ministers (10am)	Mary, Jane	Ewa, John, Eugene

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

02nd February 2025

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord Year C



This feast commemorates how Jesus, as a baby, was presented to God in the Temple in Jerusalem. This presentation finds its complete and perfect fulfilment in the mystery of the passion, death and Resurrection of the Lord. The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord is a combined feast, commemorating the Jewish practice of the purification of the mother after childbirth and the presentation of the child to God in the Temple and his buying back (redemption) from God.

Mary was given the blessedness of being the mother of the Son of God. That blessedness also would become a sword which would pierce her heart as her Son died upon the cross. The words Simeon addressed to Mary announced that she would be intimately linked with her Son's redemptive work. The sword indicated that Mary would have a share in her Son's sufferings. Her suffering would be an unspeakable pain which would pierce her soul. Our Lord suffered on the cross for our sins, and it is those sins which forged the sword of Mary's pain. Mary received both a crown of joy and a cross of sorrow. But her joy was not diminished by her sorrow because it was fuelled by her faith, hope, and trust in God and his promises. The Lord gives us a supernatural joy which enables us to bear any sorrow or pain and which neither life nor death can take away. Do you know the joy of a life fully surrendered to God with faith and trust? The Redeemer is redeemed. She who is all-pure presents herself to be purified. Such is the humility of our God. Such is the humility of the Blessed Virgin.

Although we were officially presented to God on the day of our Baptism, we present ourselves and our dear ones on the altar before God our Father through our Savior Jesus Christ at every Holy Mass. Hence, we need to live our daily lives with the awareness both that we are dedicated people consecrated to God and that we are obliged to lead holy lives.

All those who, like Simeon and Anna, persevere in piety and in the service of God, no matter how insignificant their lives seem in men's eyes, become instruments the Holy Spirit uses to make Christ known to others. In His plan of redemption, God makes use of these simple souls to do much good for all mankind. In other words, The Holy Spirit employs ordinary men and women with simple faith as His instruments to bear witness to Christ, His ideals and teachings, just as He used Simeon and Anna. The Holy Spirit reveals the presence of the Lord to us when we are receptive and eager to receive Him. Let us be open to the promptings of the Holy Spirit within us to recognize the indwelling presence of the Lord with us and in others.

Today's Reading: Malachi 3:1-4; Ps23; Hebrews 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-40

Responsorial Psalm: Who is the king of glory? It is the Lord.

Next Sunday: Isaiah 6:1-8; Ps137; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11

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:

HEATING IN CHURCH WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR THE TIME BEING after a recent gas survey. We apologise for any inconvenience.

Until further notice 9am morning Mass is being celebrated in the church hall, in the warm!

Unfortunately this means however that there will be no weekday masses lived streamed at this time.

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).**

Silver Jubilee Celebration for the Missionary Society of St Paul UK region, Friday 14th February, 6.30pm at St George's Cathedral, Southwark, Westminster Bridge Road, London, SE1 7HY. All welcome. To RSVP, contact Fr Francis Arinze Ayogu MSP at f.ayogu@mspfathers.co.uk or 07534 050125.

Now of the Church - a new Young Adults group open to young adults of post school age to 30 years old. Every first Sunday of the month post 6.30pm mass at Corpus Christi Church, Headington OX3 8AJ. If you are looking for a way to discuss and explore your faith whilst socialising with other young adults, this group is exactly what you are looking for.

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.

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 29th Jan	Gift Aided	Non Gift Aided
Last week	£0	£300
Total	£2,290	£5,996

Last week's offertory collection

Offertory	Total
Loose Collection	£252.96
Gift Aid Envelopes	£15.00
Card Reader Machine Collection	£120.00
Online giving via website	£40.00
Total	£427.96
Votive candles	£97.03

Monthly standing orders : £1231

Date	Day	Time	Intention
Saturday 01st February	Feria in Ordinary Time	9:00am	Private Intentions
	Vigil Mass	6.30pm	Patricia Reilly RIP
Sunday 02nd February	Feast of the Presentation of the Lord	8.30am	Leslie Gallon RIP
		10.00am	People of the Parish
Monday 03rd February	Feria of Ordinary Time	9:00am	Bill Doyle RIP
Tuesday 04th February	Feria of Ordinary Time	9.00am	Denis Fogarty RIP
Wed 05th February	Memorial of St Agatha, Virgin, Martyr	9.00am	Mary Crew-Clark RIP
		1.00pm	John Radcliffe Chapel
Thursday 06th February	Memorial of St Paul Miki, and Companions, Martyrs	9:00am	Mrs Lucy Igiebor Birthday Thanksgiving
Friday 07th February	Feria of Ordinary Time	9:00am	Elizabeth Spillane RIP
Saturday 08th February	Feria in Ordinary Time	9:00am	Mary Collins
	Vigil Mass	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 09th February	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am	Deceased of the Coyne family
		10.00am	Repose of the Soul of Pamela Slater

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.