

St Anthony of Padua, Oxford

115 Headley Way, Oxford OX3 7SS | Web: www.stanthonyofpadua.org.uk | www.facebook.com/saop.oxford
Presbytery and office: 01865 762964 | Parish priest: 07484 271876 | Email: stanthonyop.oxford@rcaob.org.uk

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10th October 2021

Parish Priest: Fr Mark Odion, MSP Email: fr.mark.odion@rcaob.org.uk

Assistant Priest: Fr John Amana Okeme, MSP Email fr.john.amana.okeme@rcaob.org.uk

The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216

SUNDAY REFLECTION: LEAVE ALL TO FOLLOW JESUS



A story is told about St. Anthony of Egypt, a hermit and presumed "Father" of the monastic life. Anthony lived in the 4th century. He lost both his parents at the age of twenty. But he inherited a considerable wealth from them for himself and a younger sister. One day in church he heard the invitation of Jesus to the rich young man in today's Gospel passage: "Go and sell everything you own and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." Anthony believed that those words were addressed to him. He went and did exactly what the rich man would not do. He sold everything he owned, gave the money to the poor, and went to live in the desert as a hermit. Today, we celebrate him as a Saint and "Father" of the monastic life. But of the rich young man in the Gospel we know nothing at all. We do not even know his name. Both he and his wealth have been blotted out of human memory.

The invitation of Jesus is addressed to all his disciples, not just to any particular group of them. It is the condition for discipleship. Every disciple of Jesus must "sell" everything he or she owns to follow him. Some disciples do that literally, like Peter and the other Apostles and St. Anthony of Egypt. We find such disciples even today among the clergy, religious, and laity of the Church. They are conscious of a specific vocation from God to so respond to the invitation of Jesus.

Other disciples are not exempt. The invitation is addressed to them too, and they must respond. Otherwise they would not be disciples of Jesus, they would not be Christians properly so called. But their own response will not be literal. They have no vocation to respond in that way. Their response must however be at least moral or symbolic. What that means is that they will be able to keep their possessions, what they own. They will not have to literally "sell" it. But they must "sell" it morally or symbolically. They will do that in at least two ways:

First, they must put Jesus and the affairs of Jesus before their possessions. If ever the demands of their possessions should come into conflict with those of Jesus on them, the former must give way to the latter. That is, the demands of Jesus must prevail. On no account should they ever be subordinated to the demands of their possessions.

Secondly, they must be prepared to put their possessions at the service of Jesus and the affairs of Jesus. If ever and whenever the demand should be made on them to put their possessions at the disposal of Jesus or the Church or the poor, they will do so willingly and generously. It should never be necessary to beg them or threaten them with dire consequences before they will do so.

I should point out that the possessions in question are not only material; that is their treasures. They include immaterial possessions as well; namely, their time and talents. Every disciple of Jesus must be prepared to "sell" all three of them literally or morally. Only then can they follow him. Only then can they be truly Christian.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR OCTOBER: Missionary Disciples. We pray that every baptised person may be engaged in evangelisation, available to the mission, by being witnesses of a life that has the flavour of the gospel

NOTICES

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEK: Sunday 10TH October is **Prisoner's Sunday**. The National Day of prayer is an opportunity for us to direct our thoughts to the needs of prisoners and their families and to pray for them and to reflect on the ways we can make a difference to the lives of those who are affected by the criminal justice system. For more information call 02030316867 or email parish.action@prisonadvice.org.uk

WEEKLY DONATIONS: We thank all parishioners for their generous offerings to the parish. We wish to gently remind everyone that the contactless machine is still in use. The contactless device will be kept every Sunday in the porch by the side entrance. Interested parishioners who wish to use the card reader machine should, please, leave the church by the side door.

Last Sunday Offering Collection:

Loose Collection	£302.96
Gift Aid Envelopes	£25
Card Reader Machine collection	£150
Total	£657.96
Votive candles	£118.12

Last Sunday Second Offering Collection: (CAFOD)

Loose Collection	£89.42
Gift Aid Envelopes	£100
Card Reader Machine collection	£5
Total	£194.42

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: First Holy Communion Forms are available at the back of the Church and in the porch at the side door of the Church. Parents can also download it online. All completed forms should reach the parish office on or before 20th October 2021. The materials to use for the classes cost twenty pounds (£20.00), and the payment will be when submitting the form. The first meeting with parents will be on Friday 22nd October 2021 at 7:30 pm, and the First Class with the children begins on Sunday 7th November at 9:00 am in the parish hall.

CONFIRMATION: Confirmation forms are available from the porch or can be downloaded from the parish website. There will be a parents meeting at the end of October and classes to begin on Sunday mornings biweekly at 8:30 before the 10 am Mass in November. Our Confirmation will take place on Pentecost Sunday - Sunday 5th June. Please email Fran Walsh for more information fwalsh@ryestantony.co.uk

MARRIAGES: Intending couple preparing for Marriage either here at St Anthony or elsewhere in the world should, please, inform the Parish Priest at least six months to the time of the marriage. This is to enable the Parish Priest to get all the paperwork done.

HEAD TEACHER REQUIRED: Applications are now open for the post of Principal at Blessed George Napier Catholic School and Sixth Form in Banbury, Oxfordshire. (For Easter 2022 start or January, if available). Please email for more information hr@bgn.oxon.sch.uk or call 01295 264216.

THANKSGIVING MASS FOR STEWARDS: The 10am Mass on Sunday 17th October will be dedicated to those who acted as stewards during the pandemic as a way of expressing the thanks of the Parish.

COVID RESEARCH: If you or a family member have had Covid-19 you could help in a research programme run by the University of Oxford. You would need to be able to attend virtual meetings of up to one hour for a remittance of £20/hour. If you are interested please complete a form at: bit.ly/COVIDTRIALPPI

THERE WILL BE NO 09:00AM ON TUESDAY 19TH OCTOBER. THE 06:30PM EVENING MASS WILL GO AHEAD AS NORMAL.

HYMN BOOKS: New hymn books have been ordered for use at the 10:00am Mass and should be available from next week. While we continue to move out of Covid restrictions, some people may have concerns about sharing hymn books. The good news is that the scientific data about spreading Covid 19 via paper is clear - the risk is minimal. However, if

parishioners would like their own copy for individual use they can buy one for £5. In addition, the words of the hymns will continue to be projected for those not wishing to use hymn books.

COVID REGULATIONS: Following the lifting of certain regulations on July 19th the Bishop's Conference has issued guidelines for Catholic churches. Although some regulations will be lifted, care must be taken to ensure that churches continue to be places where people feel safe to gather to worship.

The full guidance can be viewed via the following link: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/covid-guidance-collective-worship/>
SEE LATER IN BULLETIN FOR SUMMARY.

The obligation to attend Sunday Mass **remains suspended** until the First Sunday in Advent, and we will continue to stream the Mass on YouTube

TIMETABLE FOR THE WEEK AHEAD.

- **Masses** are public and live-streamed at the times below.
- Private prayer with **exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:** 5:45 – 6:15 pm on Saturday
- **Confessions** can be arranged by appointment or between 5:45 – 6:15 pm on Saturday.
- **The rosary** will be recited after the 9:00am Mass if numbers allow and will be live streamed.

Date	Time	Day	Intention
Saturday 9 th October	9:00 am	St John Henry Newman Vigil Mass	Terry Cullen RIP*
	6:30 pm		Donor's intention*
Sunday 10 th October	8:30 am	28 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	People of the parish
	10:00 am		Samantha Nkiruka Ndidiamaka Igweh RIP*
Monday 11 th October	9:00 am	Feria in ordinary Time	Abbz Intention*
	6:30pm		Birthday thanksgiving and blessings for Alan Asher Vijay*
Tuesday 12 th October	9:00am	Feria in ordinary Time	Sr Mercy, Fr Smith and Fr Corduff*
	6.30pm		Donor's intention*
Wednesday 13 th October	9:00 am	Feria in ordinary Time.	Birthday anniversary of the late Prisca Magnordrigues*
	6:30 pm		Donor's intention*
Thursday 14 th October	9:00 am	Our Lady of the Rosary	Lee Hagan RIP. 1 st anniversary*
	6:30 pm		Felismino Sarmiento RIP and Madelena De Araujo RIP*
Friday 15 ^h October	9:00 am	St Teresa of Jesus	Ann Szewezyk's birthday*
	6:30 pm		John Looney RIP*
Saturday 16 th October	9:00 am	Feria in Ordinary time Vigil Mass	Donor's intention*
	6:30 pm		People of the parish
Sunday 17 ^h October	08:30 am	29 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Sally Egan*
	10:00am		Donor's intention*

Coronavirus matters:

Latest guidance from the Catholic Bishop's Conference (as of 19th July 2021).

In summary:

- Hand sanitising and face coverings are still **strongly recommended** in church.
- The individual desire for social distancing still needs to be respected (see below).
- Holy water fonts are to remain unfilled.
- The sign of peace remains suspended and Holy Communion will continue to be under one kind, and it is recommended that it is received in the hand.
- The church will be open for private prayer from Monday 26th July.
- Votive candles will be available to light (30p per candle).

- The offertory collection is to be resumed (with the bags on poles to minimize handling), but online and contactless giving is encouraged.
- Congregational singing is to be reintroduced. **Those who want to join in with the singing should wear a mask at this time.**
- Stewards should no longer be necessary, but we would hope that people would continue to exercise good responsible behaviour especially when moving to receive Holy Communion and should avoid getting too close to each other.
- The one way system will no longer be enforced

Those who wish to socially distance will be allowed to do so.

St Anthony's will accommodate this by designating the Lady Chapel as an area where 1m+ social distancing will be maintained. We suggest that parishioners who want to use this facility enter and leave the church by the side door.

Mass intentions or the names of those for whom you would like us to pray should be sent to the Parish Office address by email or phone (01865 762964 or 07484 271876) by 10am Sunday one full week in advance for guaranteed inclusion.

Please pray for the sick and housebound of the parish: Fr John Baggley, Pat Hodgson, Elizabeth Johnson, Frank and Helen Kennedy, Margaret Wipp, Maureen O'Sullivan, Gordon Robson, and John Barker.

Please pray for those who have recently died ... Ann Ashfield., and Moira Redfern.

... and for those whose anniversaries occur in October: Lee Hagan and John O'Sullivan.

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 and date of death (day and month) to stanthonyop.oxford@rcaob.org.uk.

Please contact the office with the names of those to be included whose deaths occurred in the month of October.

Live streaming of public masses. Because St Anthony's is now streaming all masses, altar servers, Eucharistic ministers and readers are required to sign a consent form allowing their images to be broadcast.

Food bank donations can now be brought to church at either of the public weekend Masses and placed in the box at the back of church. Any non-perishable goods are welcome, especially tea, coffee, sugar, pasta, rice and tinned vegetables and fruit. The pandemic continues to have an impact on the financial situation of many people so please give generously

The food bank officials thank all parishioners for their ongoing generosity to the foodbank.

On-line prayer and 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](#)

"Thank you"

To Maureen for the new planters outside church.

To Nevin and Dominic for their work in the presbytery garden.

Rotas

	This weekend	Next weekend
Vigil readers	Agnes Valancak	Ashna Sebastian
<u>Sunday Readers:</u> 8:30 am	Hilary Lappage	Gurjeet Singh Jutley
10:00 am	Caroline Griffiths	May Macpherson
Vigil collectors	Jane and Mary	Mary and Jane
<u>Sunday collectors:</u> 8:30 am	Hilary and Mary	Hilary and Mary
10:00 am	tbc	tbc
Intercessions	Grey book	Grey book
Altar flowers	Kit Adlington	Shalini Lalvani

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

ST ANTHONY OF PADUA FEAST DAY CELEBRATIONS: With the ongoing recommendation to wear masks whilst in church it seems inappropriate to arrange a parish social event in the hall at the moment. Perhaps things will be more settled for Christmas!

GOD'S GOOD CREATION: Worship during COP26 Climate Change Conference. Saturday 7th November 4pm. St Michael's Church, Marston

THE BIBLE TIMELINE COURSE Understand the Bible from start to finish, the Old and New Testament, with this FREE OF CHARGE, worldwide-famous course delivered online LIVE by Mauro Iannicelli. Starts Wed 29th September 2021. Eight Wednesday sessions, @7pm. Info & Registration: www.comeandsee.org

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINARS:- Wed 29th September, 7.30pm - still time to join

Hosted by The Charis Diocesan Renewal Group, these free on-line seminars, explore how the Holy Spirit can make a difference in your life. The first was on Wednesday 29 September at 7.30pm, and sessions will consist of a short talk, discussion and prayer. For full details and one-off registration go to: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/life-in-the-spirit-course-with-the-archdiocese-of-birmingham-registration-167312296583>

SUNDAY PLUS

Follow me



by Sr Janet Fearn FMDM

Fact really can be stranger than fiction. As the burglar left the crime scene, he forgot to carry away his holdall containing a couple of letters bearing his name and address. Unsurprisingly, he soon found himself with a court appearance and jail sentence.

Another strange but true story involved a man who stole a wooden bench from outside a pub. Finding it too heavy to carry, he dragged the seat home – and the police officer merely followed the trail through the grass and down the muddy lane...

“Mr Big” often escapes paying the penalty of his crimes. It’s the small fry who are caught out, often through their own blunders.


The rich young man in today’s Gospel tried hard to live a virtuous life and wanted to do more than the bare minimum

required to reach heaven. Perhaps he hoped that Jesus would tell him to give a hefty donation to the poor people in the neighbourhood or to offer a bullock rather than a goat as a sin offering in the Temple sacrifice – but to give up everything. Did Jesus really mean that? Surely not!

It is hard to be anonymously good! Too often, we want to do the right thing but also want other people to know just how hard we are trying. The small donations receive less publicity than the philanthropic millions which can bring about real changes in society – but Jesus praised the elderly widow who, in her poverty, gave more than she could afford. He pitied the rich young man who kept hold of his fortune.

Where do I stand?

Sr Janet Fearn is a Franciscan Missionary of the Divine Motherhood.

Loving Lord, be close to those in prison and to their families for whom life can become extremely painful. Watch over and support all those who are imprisoned within their own hearts and life situations, that they will find the freedom for which they long.  Amen.

Jesus needs YOU!

by “a prison visitor”

Three-quarters of prison inmates cannot read, write or count to the standard expected of an 11-year-old. They depend on someone else to write letters on their behalf or to read out the messages from their families and friends.

The reoffending rate drops by 80 per cent if the person leaves prison and goes straight into a job. How many return to crime because illiteracy limits their employment possibilities, so that, once again amongst the “bored-on-benefits”, there’s little hope of a hopeful, challenging future?

Catholic education has a wonderful tradition of

helping children to reach for the stars even if the star for which they are reaching is as simple as being able to recite the alphabet or count to ten. Teachers in Catholic schools have made a name for themselves because of their preparedness to go the extra mile on behalf of their pupils.

Some people are illiterate because their families had never learned to read and write, but how many only needed a Good Samaritan?

Feast of the week
Friday 15 October

St Teresa of Avila
(1515-1582)

“We had to run many dangers. At no part of the road were the risks greater than within a few leagues of Burgos, at a place called Los Pontes. The rivers were so high that the water in places covered everything, neither road nor the smallest footpath could be seen: only water everywhere, and two abysses on each side. It seemed foolhardiness to advance, especially in a carriage, for if one strayed ever

so little off the road (then invisible), one must have perished.”

Teresa led her frightened companions across the swollen river on foot. The current was so strong that she slipped, and was almost carried away. “Oh, my Lord!” she exclaimed, “When will you stop scattering obstacles in our path?” “Do not complain, daughter,” the Divine Master answered, “for this is how I treat my friends.” “Ah, Lord, it is also on that account that you have so few!” Teresa replied.

Adapted from The Life of Saint Teresa: taken from the French of A Carmelite Nun

“You cannot talk about paying a debt to society from a jail cell without windows. There is no humane punishment without a horizon. No one can change their life if they don’t see a horizon. And so many times we are used to blocking the view of our inmates.”

Pope Francis

Today:
Wisdom 7:7-11
Hebrews 4:12-13
Mark 10:17-30

Monday:
Romans 1:1-7
Luke 11:29-32

Tuesday:
Romans 1:16-25
Luke 11:37-41

Wednesday:
Romans 2:1-11
Luke 11:42-46

Thursday:
Romans 3:21-30
Luke 11:47-54

Friday:
Romans 4:1-8
Luke 12:1-7

Saturday:
Romans 4:13, 16-18
Luke 12:8-12

Next Sunday:
Isaiah 53:10-11
Hebrews 4:14-16
Mark 10:35-45

redemptorist publications Sunday Plus. Edited by Denis McBride C.Ss.R. and Sr Janet Fearn FMDM. Copyright © Redemptorist Publications, Chawton, Hampshire GU34 3HQ. A registered charity limited by guarantee. Registered in England 03261721. www.rpbcooks.co.uk. Printed on FSC approved paper.

 www.facebook.com/sundayplus