

Please pray for those who have recently died: John Billington

...and for those whose anniversaries occur in January: Julie Bevan, Mary McNally, Mary Lillis, Bernie Gavin, Dennis Chiles, Sally Roberts, Madeline Carvell, Fr Anthony de Vere, Thomse 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 January. 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/saop.oxford)

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 and Glenys Jones.

Dates for your diary...

	This weekend	Next weekend
Vigil readers	Jane Kennett	Nevin Vuddamalay
Sunday Readers: 8:30 am	Rajesh Paul	Georges Yindom
Sunday Readers: 10:00 am	Michael Onobhayedo	Tony Coates
Eucharistic ministers (10am)	Mary, Derek, 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

28th January 2024

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B



The readings for the 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B invite us to recognize Jesus and grant him authority in our lives. In the first reading, Moses foretells the coming of a mighty prophet. The Gospel tells how the people were amazed by the way Jesus taught with authority. The readings encompass several interwoven themes that are central to Christian theology and spiritual life:

- **Prophetic Authority and Divine Truth:** The first reading from Deuteronomy speaks of a prophet like Moses, emphasizing the importance of heeding true prophetic voices that convey God's will and truth. This theme of authoritative teaching is echoed in the Gospel, where Jesus' teachings are contrasted with those of the scribes.
- **Divine Guidance and Obedience:** Psalm 95 calls for joyful praise and worship of God, recognizing Him as our creator and guide. It emphasizes listening to God's voice and avoiding the hard-heartedness of our ancestors, underscoring the importance of obedience to divine guidance.
- **Undistracted Devotion to God:** The second reading from 1 Corinthians discusses the states of married and unmarried life, highlighting how the unmarried can focus more directly on pleasing the Lord. This theme of undistracted devotion is relevant to understanding different vocations and the ways they can lead to holiness.
- **The Authority of Jesus:** The Gospel reading vividly demonstrates Jesus' divine authority, not just in teaching but also in his power over unclean spirits. His authority impresses and amazes the people, revealing him as a figure of divine power and wisdom.
- **Recognition of Christ's Power:** The reaction of the congregation in the Gospel to Jesus' exorcism and teaching underlines the theme of recognizing and responding to Christ's power and authority. This response of amazement and the spread of Jesus' fame throughout Galilee are central to understanding the impact of Jesus' ministry.

These themes collectively focus on the recognition and acceptance of divine authority, the call to obedient and joyful worship, the importance of discerning true prophetic voices, and the unique and powerful role of Jesus Christ in salvation history. They offer rich material for reflection on how Christians are called to respond to God's word and authority in their everyday lives. We should never give up in our search for God each day of our life, trusting in the loving help of the One who created us and who has sustained us to the present. At the same time, we need also to keep in mind that at some point we will all be exchanging time for eternity, one definition of the reality of death. May we be prepared to meet the Lord now and at the moment of the completion of our earthly pilgrimage.

Today's Reading: Deu 18:15-20; Ps94; 1 Corinthians 7:32-35; Mark 1:21-28

Responsorial Psalm: O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.

Next Sunday: Job 7:1-4, 6-7; Ps 146; 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23; Mark 1:29-39

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:

Annual Mission Appeal for the Missionary Society of St Paul - Rev. Fr. Peter Akor MSP of the Missionary Society of St. Paul (MSP) will make a Mission Appeal at all the Masses on the weekend of the 27th and 28th of January. The MSP is a religious congregation working in different parts of the world, committed to spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ and the salvific work of God the Father in the Holy Spirit. The MSP invites you to support their mission appeal. There will be a retiring collection at all the Masses, or you can use your smartphone to donate using the QR code which can be found on the noticeboard. Thank you for supporting the work of the MSP and the training of their Seminarians.

Oxford Pro-Life Rosary Witness: On Saturday 3rd February (On Our Lady's first Saturday of the Month) all pro-lifers are warmly invited to recite the Rosary for the end of abortion and in defence of life. We will be meeting outside the Clarendon building at 48 Broad Street, Oxford, OX1 3AZ at 12 pm. Please join us in the mission of witnessing to the Gospel of life for the conversion of hearts and minds. For more info contact Hon- or Roberts at honorroberts@hotmail.com

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Last week's offertory collection

Offertory	Total
Loose Collection	£203.05
Gift Aid Envelopes	£20.00
Card Reader Machine Collection	£70.00
Online giving via website	£00.00
Total	£293.05
Votive candles	£50.45

Monthly standing orders : £1231

Date	Day	Time	Intention
Saturday 27th January	Feria in Ordinary Time	9:00am	Pat Fitzpatrick RIP
	Vigil mass	6:30pm	John Dougherty - Get well soon
Sunday 28th January	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am	People of the Parish
		10.00am	Filomeno Da Cruz Martins
Monday 29th January	Feria in Ordinary Time	No mass	
Tuesday 30th January	Feria in Ordinary Time	9:00am	Martin Lyons RIP
Wed 31st January	Memorial of St John Bosco, Priest	9:00am	Owen McGlone RIP
Thursday 01st February	Feria in Ordinary Time	9:00am	Repose of the soul of Agnes Christine Bluett (known as Ina)
Friday 02nd February	Feast of the Presentation of the Lord	9:00am	Jose Manuel Martinho Martins Madeira (RIP)
Saturday 03rd February	Feria in Ordinary Time	9:00am	Mary McGrath RIP
	Vigil mass	6:30pm	Mass for Steven Lillian & family
Sunday 04th February	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am	Pat Fitzpatrick RIP
		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.