

Please pray for those who have recently died: Joan Manuell

...and for those whose anniversaries occur in August: Kathleen Harvatt, Michael Marshall, Kathleen Marshall, Lee Hagan, John O'Sullivan, Marietta Carreon, Sr Mary Amicia, Honorata 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.

Please contact the Parish Office with the names of those to be included whose deaths occurred in the month of August. 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](#)

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...

March for Life, Saturday 7th September, 1.30 pm to 4 pm. Leaves from the Emmanuel Centre (SW1P 3DW) finishing in Parliament Square Website link for more info: <https://www.marchforlife.co.uk/2024-event-page/>

	This weekend	Next weekend
Vigil readers	Paul Moore	Agnes Valencak
<u>Sunday Readers</u> : 8:30 am	Noah Odili	Hilary Lappage
Sunday Readers: 10:00 am	Aodora Chukwu, Tony Coates	May Macpherson, Patricia Iyiegbu
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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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

4th August 2024

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B



This Sunday, we rejoice because of the incredible nourishment that God gives us daily through Christ, the bread of life. As Christians, by receiving and putting on Christ, we undergo a spiritual revolution. Our life and satisfaction are no longer dependent only on material things but more on the spiritual. We need that spiritual nourishment, the bread of life that comes from heaven.

The first reading reminds us of the saying: "A hungry man is an angry man." Due to hunger, the Israelites murmured and revolted against Moses, and consequently, against God. They doubted and put God to the test. They hastily forgot how good and merciful He had been to them and how he separated the Red Sea and defeated their enemies to save them. However, God proved that He is a great provider. He feeds them to satisfaction. They complained, "we have no bread!" He sent them manna from heaven. They grumbled: "Now we eat only bread every day and no meat!" God rained meat on *them* like dust. They complained: "We are dying of thirst!" And, He gave them water from the Rock (Ex 17:6).

In the gospel, Jesus read the minds of the people following him. He performed the miracle of the multiplication of bread and fish out of necessity. However, like the Israelites, his followers became obsessed with food. They were carried away by physical hunger. They came to search for their daily bread but failed to recognize that Christ was the bread of life.

An important lesson for us today is that when we pay too much attention to material things, we forfeit the spiritual meaning of life. So, our relationship with God and others must not be based solely on how much material things we can get from them. Unfortunately, at times we act like the Israelites by murmuring against God. Imagine them preferring food and slavery to freedom. Like Esau, they were ready to sell their birthright for a plate of porridge (Gen 23, 29-34). For some of us, "God is good" only when things are okay. However, when we are faced with difficulties, we forget all his goodness. Hence in our second reading, knowing that we are on a spiritual journey, Paul advised us: "You must give up your old way of life... which is corrupted by following illusory desires. Your mind must be renewed by a spiritual revolution." Illusory desires prevent us from appreciating God's goodness. They leave us with spiritual starvation.

Finally, the gospel and the church teach us that Christ is the bread of life. He is present in the Holy Eucharist. Each time we celebrate Him, we celebrate and receive life. He strengthened the Israelites in the desert when: "He gave them bread from heaven." Hence, to support us for our spiritual journey on earth, Christ offers us himself at every Mass. We are indeed blessed as we pray at every Mass: "Blessed are those called to the Lord's supper."

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: Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15; Ps77; Ephesians 4:17, 20-24; John 6:24-35

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

Next Sunday: 1 Kings 19:4-8; Ps33; Ephesians 4:30-5:2; John 6:41-51

NOTICES:

Mission Appeal: There will be a mission appeal for the St. Patrick's Missionary Society (Kiltegan Fathers) this weekend.

Oxford Pro-Life Social, Saturday 10th August from 1pm to 4pm. All Christians welcome to join in at the summer BBQ at the Church of St Gregory and Augustine 322 Woodstock Road, Oxford OX2 7NS. Parking available.

X'mas Bazaar - Sunday 8th December 2024. This bazaar is of significant importance for our church as we aim to raise sufficient funds for our parish appeal. If you have great event ideas, a flair for organising a spectacular fundraising event or simply to volunteer your time with a wonderful community, please speak with Father Emmanuel.

Rites of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is for adults and teenager who wish to be full-fledged Catholics. Those who have not been baptised or confirmed in the Catholic Church, or those already baptised in Anglican Communion and wish to become Catholics, are encouraged to obtain the form at the back of the church. The programme starts in September, where they shall receive the sacraments at Easter vigil and the programme continues till Pentecost.

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 is also in need of replacement and the quote for this is £4,200. 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 02nd Aug	Gift Aided	Non Gift Aided
Last week	£0	£55
Total	£1,250	£2,455

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

Last week's offertory collection

Offertory	Total
Loose Collection	£311.42
Gift Aid Envelopes	£35.00
Card Reader Machine Collection	£265.00
Online giving via website	£0.00
Total	£611.42
Votive candles	£183.80

Monthly standing orders : £1231

Date	Day	Time	Intention
Saturday 03rd August	Feria in Ordinary Time	9:00am	Thanksgiving mass Filomena and Paulo (1st Wedding Anniversary)
	Vigil Mass	6.30pm	John Pill RIP
Sunday 04th August	Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am	People of the Parish
		10.00am	Arianne Dominguez birthday thanksgiving mass
Monday 05th August	Feria in Ordinary Time	9:00am	For Joseph Vayahil John for a peaceful family life
Tuesday 06th August	Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord	9:00am	Joan Manuell RIP
Wed 07th August	Feria in Ordinary Time	9:00am	John Pill RIP
		1.00pm	John Radcliffe Chapel
Thursday 08th August	Memorial of St Dominic, Priest	9:00am	Birthday thanksgiving for Opejiro Omo-Enwefah
Friday 09th August	Feast of St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein) Virgin, Martyr, Patron of Europe	9:00am	Joan Manuell RIP
Saturday 10th August	Feast of St Lawrence, Deacon, Martyr	9:00am	Bill Norris
	Vigil Mass	6.30pm	Maria Raniao RIP
Sunday 11th August	Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am	Birthday thanksgiving mass for Chris Desouza's 18th birthday
		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.