

**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...**

	This weekend	Next weekend
Vigil readers	Nevin Vuddamalay	Catherine Joseph
<u>Sunday Readers:</u> 8:30 am	Georges Yindom	Noah Odili
Sunday Readers: 10:00 am	Geoff O'Donoghue, Linda Uzoma	Aodora Chukwu, Tony Coates
Eucharistic ministers (10am)	Ewa, John, Eugene	Mary, Derek, Jane

### **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](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)



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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 Basse, MSP: [fr.tony.basse@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:fr.tony.basse@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)

**01st December 2024**  
**First Sunday in Advent, Year C**



On the first Sunday of Advent, the Church wishes to remind us of what Advent means—a period of preparation for the Advent—the Coming—of Christ our Saviour. This prophecy of Jeremiah intended to encourage the Jews to trust in God in spite of all their present difficulties, can and should encourage us, too. The fulfilment of the ancient prophecies in Christ (this particular one was made six centuries before he came on earth) are a guarantee for us of the truth of his claims—he was the Messiah promised to Abraham, David and the Chosen People. In the Christmas festival each year we commemorate his coming on earth. What the Jews of old looked forward to, we can see fulfilled.

The teaching of Christ, the Christian faith, is for all races, all places and all times. St. Paul is telling us today what he told the Thessalonians nineteen centuries ago, to prepare for the Second Coming of Christ—the great day of judgement, by living each day as God wants us to live it, namely by living in love and peace in God and our neighbour. Some of the Thessalonians at that time were expecting the Second Coming—the general judgement—in their own day. It didn't come then, it hasn't come yet, but the particular judgement came to them, and it will come to us, in our day and sooner, rather than later, than we expect it. And that particular judgement, when we draw our last earthly breath, will decide our eternal fate. Advent—the preparation for Christmas, Christ's First Coming, is a most suitable occasion to prepare ourselves for that day.

In today's gospel, St. Luke gives our Lord's prophecy concerning the end of the world and how we should prepare ourselves to meet it. That this earth is not our permanent home nobody denies, yet many people live and act as if it were. We have been forewarned and the words of Christ read in today's gospel should awaken us to the true facts of life and of death. He does not ask us to ignore or despise this earth or this life but he does ask us to estimate it for what it is—a period of transit which properly used will earn for us our eternal home. If we judge ourselves daily we need not fear the day of judgement. If we are loyal and faithful to our Christian vocation, our end on earth will not be an end but the beginning of our true life.

What better occasion could we have for taking a serious, sincere look at ourselves and at our attitude to life and the things of this life, than this Advent period. If we can welcome the humble Babe of Bethlehem at Christmas with a sincere and open heart, we can trust and hope that the second and glorious coming of Christ will be an culmination of all our dearest hopes and desires.

**Today's Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16; Ps24; 1 Thess 3:12-4:2; Luke 21:25-28, 34-36**

**Responsorial Psalm: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.**

**Next Sunday: Baruch 5:1-9; Ps 125; Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11; Luke 3:1-6**

### **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:**

**Second Collection:** There will be a second collection next weekend for the Poor Parishes Fund.

**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.

**Sycamore - all welcome!** Four informal cafe style discussions, Thursday evenings exploring aspects of the Catholic Faith (7,14,28 Nov & 5 Dec) in Corpus Christi parish hall, Margaret Road, Headington, OX3 8AJ). Refreshments from 7.15, start at 7.30pm. No need to sign up, just drop in on the night.

**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.**

**Confirmation 2025:** This year's application form is available at the back of church. If your child is Yr 6 or above and wants to receive this sacrament, please complete the form and return to the parish office with a copy of their baptismal certificate, by the 1st December.

**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.

**SAOP Christmas Social Sunday 8th December (following 10:00am Mass).**

- Food: Filipino food , African food, Indian food, Crepes, Mulled wine and mince pies.
- Raffle for Luxury Xmas Hamper (donations needed - please see "post-its" at the back of church)
- Cake stall - Volunteers to bring cakes needed! Please sign list on board if you can bring cakes/biscuits etc

**PLEASE BRING CASH**

**Parish appeal 2024**

Please can all parishioners consider how they can help reduce this debt to the parish:

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

Bank details:

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

As of 29th Nov	Gift Aided	Non Gift Aided
Last week	£0	£0
Total	£2,170	£5,696

**Last week's offertory collection**

Offertory	Total
Loose Collection	£235.81
Gift Aid Envelopes	£15.00
Card Reader Machine Collection	£226.00
Online giving via website	£40.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£516.81</b>
Votive candles	£42.32

**Monthly standing orders : £1231**

**Second collection (Youth Services): £80.90**

Date	Day	Time	Intention
Saturday 30th November	Feast of St Andrew, Apostle	9:00am	Pushpa Rose and Simon Souls
	Vigil Mass	6.30pm	Margaret Denning RIP
Sunday 01st December	First Sunday of Advent	8.30am	Deceased members of the Devine
		10.00am	People of the Parish
Monday 02nd December	Advent Feria	9:00am	Patrick Maughan RIP
Tuesday 03rd December	Memorial of St Francis Xavier,	9:00am	Repose of Soul of Mr Paul Foster
Wed 04th December	Advent Feria	9:00am	Thanksgiving mass to the Blessed Vigin Mary for the Ndow Family
		1.00pm	John Radcliffe Chapel
Thursday 05th December	Feast of St Birinus, Bishop	9:00am	Souls in Purgatory
Friday 06th December	Advent Feria	9:00am	Repose of Soul of Jon Salazar
Saturday 07th December	Memorial of St Ambrose, Bishop, Doctor of the Church	9:00am	Friends and family of the Da Costa family
	Vigil Mass	6.30pm	Donors Intentions
Sunday 08th December	Second Sunday of Advent	8.30am	Aley Kutty Louis 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.