

Please pray for those who have recently died: Kathy Stevens, Martin Moran

...and for those whose anniversaries occur in October: Breda Dwyer, Lee Hagan, John O’Sullivan, Margaret Bagley, Pat Deeley, Chris Byrne, Shaun McCarthy

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 October. 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/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: Elizabeth Johnson, Frank Kennedy, Margaret Wipp, Maureen O’Sullivan, Lorraine McNally, Peter Donnelly, Nuala Lula McNally.

Dates for your diary...

Details of pilgrimages San Giovanni Rotondo (28th November - 2nd December), at the back of church

The Archdiocese Commitment to Safeguarding

	This weekend	Next weekend
Vigil readers	Agnes Valencak	Jane Kennett
<u>Sunday Readers:</u> 8:30 am	Georges Yindom	Noah Odili
Sunday Readers: 10:00 am	Caroline Griffiths, Monica Agyapong	Geoff O’Donoghue, Linda Uzoma
Eucharistic ministers (10am)	Mary, Jane	Ewa, John, Eugene

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 concerns.

St Anthony of Padua, Oxford

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www.facebook.com/saop.oxford



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

19th October 2025

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C



The times now are betwixt and between; the kingdom, as the theologians put it, is both already and not yet, something now but also something yet to come. Thus, the proper disposition of the disciple is to pray without losing heart, without giving up.

The believer should imitate the widow, “importunate” she’s called. It’s quite possible here that this parable is meant to be humorous. The characters are drawn such, almost cartoonishly, to underline the moral; the judge’s stoneheartedness is cinematic while the widow’s annoying persistence is equally dramatic. Yet it all serves a simple message: that although the kingdom is indeed in a genuine sense “at hand,”

something “fulfilled in your hearing,” it will also at times feel distant and unfulfilled, something you look for and long for, and sometimes painfully.

What Jesus teaches by way of parable, St. Paul teaches by means of a description of feeling. We Christians feel our desire for the kingdom. That is, there is something about being a follower of Jesus that instils a providential restlessness for the sake of God’s true rest. We are meant to feel something of the angst of the widow; we are meant to be restless and to pray with an urgent purpose just like her. Because we are not indifferent. We really do long for the kingdom just as a kid waits for Christmas, a beggar for a little relief, a tired soul for rest, a sinner for salvation.

The parable of the importunate widow reminds us never to despair. It reminds us of the fact that there will indeed be days when I will feel the need to pray so passionately, bitterly even, that it feels like this widow taking it to the judge.

Yet our judge is not like the judge in the story; our judge is a merciful Father, kind and loving. He will answer our prayers. But still our prayers will feel like that sometimes, and that’s just the mystery of it. Which is why the believer must have faith. That’s simply the name of the game for the believer, the grit of the Christian.

That is simply how Christian longing on occasion feels, weeping as we sometimes do in this vale of tears. It will feel at times like the brutal resistance of despair by means of anxious prayer. At times we will indeed share in the light joy of the angels while at other times we will weep. That’s just how it is. There will always be something like Good Friday and Easter to our earthly existence; they will always be mingled this side of heaven. Which is why we must keep the faith, why the widow still teaches us.

Today’s Reading: Exodus 17:8-13; Ps 120; 2 Timothy 3:14-4:2; Luke 18:1-8

Responsorial Psalm: Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth.

Next Sunday: Eccl 35:12-14, 16-19; Ps 32; 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18; Luke 18:9-14

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 collections: There will be a collection for World Mission Sunday this weekend.

23rd Priestly Anniversary Celebration - let us congratulate Father Tony on his 23rd anniversary of ordination into priesthood. May God reward him and bless him for his caring and dedicated service. And may God's love and compassion be in his heart always.

NO MASS ON MONDAYS until late-October. Please if you have mass intentions on Mondays, could you contact the parish office for alternative dates. We apologise for any inconvenience.

Rosary during the month of October: Please attend Sunday Mass 20 minutes early (08:10 and 09:40) , and Vigil Mass at 6pm to join in reciting the Rosary during October.

Lay Mission Institute pilot programme: a 3-year programme to learn about your faith and grow in discipleship. Offers flexible weekly online study, bi-annual events, and more. See noticeboard for more details or contact lay.mission@english.op.org

Our Lady of Guadalupe Monthly Prayers for the Sanctity of Life. First Sunday of each month | 9.45am before the 10am Mass | Join us at any time in the pews to the left (North) of the altar for a short time of prayer. Ask Ed or Jo Smith for details joandedwedding@gmail.com.

Car park changes: PLEASE NOTE THAT THE CHURCH CANNOT TAKE RESPOSIBILITY FOR ANY FINES ISSUED UNLESS THERE WAS A PROBLEM WITH THE TABLETS, IN WHICH CASE PLEASE NOTIFY THE PARISH OFFICE IMMEDIATLEY (by phone or email).

QR CODE now available for car registration validation (as an alternative to the tablet). Please use the QR code if the tablet is not working.

Parish appeal 2024/25

- 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 15 Oct	Gift Aided	Non Gift Aided
Last week	£0	£0
Total	£2,440	£6,096

Last week's offertory collection

Offertory	Total
Loose collection	£294.29
Gift Aid Envelopes	£0.00
Card Reader Machine Collection	£75.00
Online giving via website	£15.00
Total	£384.29
Votive candles	£104.95

Monthly standing orders : £1231

Second collection (CAFOD): £221.26

Date	Day	Time	Intention
Saturday 18th October	Feast of St Luke, Evangelist	9.00am	Aleykuty Louis RIP
	Vigil Mass	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 19th October	Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am	In Memoriam Jose & Monserrat Nuique
		10.00am	Richard Cronnelly RIP
Monday 20th October	Feria in Ordinary Time	9:00am	NO MASS
Tuesday 21st October	Feria in Ordinary Time	9.00am	Annamma Chacko RIP
Wed 22nd October	Feria in Ordinary Time	9.00am	Mary Curtan Intentions
		1.00pm	JR Chapel
Thursday 23rd October	Feria in Ordinary Time	9.00am	Bridget Williams Intentions
Friday 24th October	Feria in Ordinary Time	9.00am	Richard Cronnelly RIP
Saturday 25th October	Feria in Ordinary Time	9.00am	Birthday thanksgiving for Mrs Mak-pemose Enwefah
	Vigil Mass	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 26th October	Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am	Mrs Murphy Intentions
		10.00am	Memorial of Samantha Igweh & Chief JU Igweh

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.