

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

...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.

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 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](#)

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...

Christmas Carols at The Victoria Arms, Wednesday 17th Dec from 7pm, organised by Churches Together in Marston and Northway. Join us for a magical evening of Christmas Carols!

	This weekend	Next weekend
Vigil readers	Jane Kennett	Nevin Vuddamalay
<u>Sunday Readers:</u> 8:30 am	Rajesh Paul	Georges Yindom
Sunday Readers: 10:00 am	Ewa Posner, Jane Kennett	Caroline Griffiths, Monica Agyapong
Eucharistic ministers (10am)	Ewa, Eugene, Jane	Mary, 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. 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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Presbytery and office: 01865 762964 | Parish priest: 07484 271876 |

Email: stanthonyop.oxford@rcaob.org.uk

Acting Parish 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

7th December 2025

2nd Sunday in Advent Year A



“As the journey of Advent continues, as we prepare to celebrate the nativity of Christ, John the Baptist's call to conversion sounds out in our communities. It is a pressing invitation to open our hearts and to welcome the Son of God Who comes among us to make divine judgement manifest. The Father, writes St. John the Evangelist, does not judge anyone, but has entrusted the power of judgement to the Son, because He is the Son of man.

“And it is today, in the present, that we decide our future destiny. It is with our concrete everyday behaviour in this life that we determine our eternal fate. At the end of our days on earth, at the moment of death, we will be evaluated on the basis of our likeness or otherwise to the Baby Who is about to be born in the poor grotto of Bethlehem, because He is the measure God has given humanity.

“Through the Gospel John the Baptist continues to speak down the centuries to each generation. His hard clear words bring health to us, the men and women of this day in which even the experience and perception of Christmas often, unfortunately, reflects materialist attitudes. The 'voice' of the great prophet asks us to prepare the way for the coming Lord in the deserts of today, internal and external deserts, thirsting for the water of life which is Christ.” — Benedict XVI.

SAOP CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISING EVENT

After the 10am Mass on Sunday 14th December we will be holding an event to celebrate Christmas and raise some funds for the church. This will consist of a **multicultural buffet** (with food from Africa, India, East Timor and the Philippines); a **raffle for a luxury Xmas hamper** and a visit from **Father Christmas for nursery and primary school aged children**. Drinks will be on sale. Tickets will be available from next weekend: Buffet tickets £10 for adults, £5 for children; Raffle tickets £1 each; Fr Christmas visit £2.50. We need donations for the raffle - please take a post-it and return your donation to the parish office ASAP. Thank you. Let's make it a great day!

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: Isaiah 11:1-10; Ps 71; Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12

Responsorial Psalm: In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails.

Next Sunday: Isaiah 35:1-6, 10; Ps 145; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11

NOTICES:

Second collection: There will be a second collection for the Poor Parishes of the Diocese this weekend.

BAPTISM: Baby Orla will be baptised at the 10am mass this Sunday. Please pray for her as we welcome her into our parish community.

Monday 8th December. Being a holy day of obligation, there will be a 9am and a 6pm mass.

The Porch: Please bring donations of gloves, scarves, toiletries, chocolates and biscuits etc to put in the red box for delivery to The Porch before Xmas.

Food bank: The Community Food Bank thanks all those who donate non-perishable food for those who are struggling with the cost of living. They have made a special request for small bags of sugar, pasta sauces and tins of soup. Please help if you can.

Walk with Me booklets for Advent now available price £1.50. Please put money in CTS box at back of church.

CAFOD Christmas gift brochures available at back of church. Great presents at all prices!

Children’s Liturgy and First Holy Communion preparation are both now taking place during Sunday Mass. Please contact Eva on 07968270320. The form for First Holy Communion registration is on the website and copies will be available at the back of church. Please fill in a form and return to the parish office with a copy of your child’s baptismal certificate ASAP.

Confirmation: 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 21st December.

Church heating. We apologise for the fact that the church heating is still not working now that the temperature has dropped. We are hopeful that the necessary work will be completed in the next few weeks. In the meantime morning masses will be conducted in the hall (unfortunately these will not be streamed).

Banns for ordination: Jonathan Henry is due to be ordained to the Sacred Diaconate on 20th December. If anyone knows of any reason why he should not be ordained please contact Father Tony at the earliest opportunity.

Diocesan Mass of Thanksgiving for the Jubilee Year: At 12.15pm on Monday 8th December at St Chad’s Cathedral, His Grace Archbishop Bernard Longley will be celebrating a Mass of Thanksgiving for the Jubilee Year. He would like to invite representatives from around the Archdiocese of Birmingham to join him. For more information, visit <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Event/invitation-diocesan-mass-of-thanksgiving-for-the-jubilee-year-at-st-chads-cathedral>

Survey: The Catholic Bishops’ Conference of England & Wales and Birmingham Newman University are conducting research into Neurodiversity and our Faith experience. Please contact: Fleur Dorrell – fleur.dorrell@cbcew.org.uk or Dr Magdalena Smusz – m.smusz@staff.newman.ac.uk for more information.

Car park: 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 03rd Dec	Gift Aided	Non Gift Aided
Last week	£0	£0
Total	£2,440	£6,096

Last week’s offertory collection

Offertory	Total
Loose collection	£300.98
Gift Aid Envelopes	£0.00
Card Reader Machine Collection	£215.00
Online giving via website	£0.00
Total	£515.98
Votive candles	£38.44

Monthly standing orders : £1231

Second collection (Catholic Youth Services): £122.14

Date	Day	Time	Intention
Saturday 06th December	Advent Feria	9.00am	Tom Healy RIP
	Vigil Mass	6.30pm	Joan Manuell (RIP) and David Manuell Wedding Anniversary
Sunday 07th December	Second Sunday of Advent	8.30am	People of the Parish
		10.00am	Tom Shaw RIP
Monday 08th December	Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	9:00am	Kathy Stevens RIP
		6.00pm	Blessings and Prayers for Nicholas and Seng
Tuesday 09th December	Advent Feria	9.00am	Aleykuty Louis RIP
Wed 10th December	Advent Feria	9.00am	Lilly McLoughlin RIP
		1.00pm	JR Chapel
Thursday 11th December	Advent Feria	9.00am	Birthday Thanksgiving Eugene Onobhayedo
Friday 12th December	Advent Feria	9.00am	Varghese Chacko RIP
Saturday 13th December	Memorial St Lucy, Virgin, Martyr	9.00am	Louis Varkey RIP
	Vigil Mass	6.30pm	Ilda da Coasta RIP
Sunday 14th December	Third Sunday of Advent	8.30am	People of the Parish
		10.00am	Tommy Healy RIP

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.