

**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](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 2023/2024.

**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](#)

**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:** 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	Nevin Vuddamalay	Christmas rota
Sunday Readers: 8:30 am	Georges Yindom	Christmas rota
Sunday Readers: 10:00 am	Caroline Griffiths, Monica Agyapong	Christmas rota
Eucharistic ministers (10am)	Mary, Jane	Christmas rota

### 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 concerns.*

## St Anthony of Padua, Oxford

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[www.facebook.com/saop.oxford](https://www.facebook.com/saop.oxford)



Presbytery and office: 01865 762964 | Parish priest: 07484 271876 |  
Email: [stanthonyop.oxford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:stanthonyop.oxford@rcaob.org.uk)

Priest-in-charge: Fr Anthony Bassey, MSP: [fr.tony.bassey@rcaob.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:stanthonyop.oxford@rcaob.org.uk)

**14th December 2025**  
**3rd Sunday in Advent Year A**



What is Advent? Many answers can be given. We can grumble and say that it is nothing but a pretext for hectic activity and commercialism, prettified with sentimental clichés in which people stopped believing ages ago. In many cases this may be true, but it is not the whole picture.

We can also say that Advent is a time when a kindness that is otherwise almost entirely forgotten is mobilized; namely, the willingness to think of others and give them a token of kindness. Finally we can say that Advent is a time when old customs live again, for instance, in the singing of carols which takes place all over the country. In the melodies and the words of these carols, something of the simplicity, imagination and glad strength of the faith of our forefathers makes itself heard in our age, bringing consolation and encouraging us perhaps to have another go at that faith which could make people so glad in such hard times.

### Christmas and New Year Mass Times

Tuesday, 23rd Dec	9.00am 9.30am - 10.30am	Mass Confession
Wed, 24th Dec	9.00am 9.30 - 10.30am 7.00pm 10.30pm 11.00pm	Mass Confession Evening mass for Children & Elderly Christmas Carols Midnight Mass
Thursday, 25th Dec	8.30am 10.00am	Christmas Mass Christmas Mass
Friday, 26th Dec	9.00am	Morning Mass
Wed, 31st Dec	9.00am 10.30pm	Holy Family Mass New Year's Eve Mass
Thursday, 1st Jan	9.00am	New Year's Day Mass

### 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:

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.

Mass next Thursday 18th December will be at 6pm. There will be no 9am mass.

**Thank you:** A heart-felt thank you to everyone who worked so hard to resolve the church heating issues, and especially to Jane who had put in so much effort with the diocese and engineers in ensuring that warmth is restored in time for Christmas. Thank you also to all parishioners for your patience, understanding, and good humour throughout this time.

**Welcome:** Father Stephen Ojapah MSP will be joining our parish as assistant priest from Saturday 20th December.

**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!

**Johnathan Henry is being ordained as a deacon** next Saturday and will take part in his first Mass in this role next Sunday here in St Anthony's at 10am. Please join him for light refreshments (including a glass of fizz!) in the hall after Mass.

**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.

**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 12th Dec	Gift Aided	Non Gift Aided
Last week	£0	£0
Total	£2,440	£6,096

Last week's offertory collection

Offertory	Total
Loose collection	£200.50
Gift Aid Envelopes	£20.00
Card Reader Machine Collection	£101.00
Online giving via website	£10.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£331.50</b>
Votive candles	£84.85

Monthly standing orders : £1231

Second collection (Poor Parishes): £90.82

Date	Day	Time	Intention
Saturday 13th December	Memorial St Lucy, Virgin, Martyr	9.00am	Louis Varkey RIP
	Vigil Mass	6.30pm	Ilida da Coasta RIP
Sunday 14th December	Third Sunday of Advent	8.30am	People of the Parish
		10.00am	Tommy Healy RIP
Monday 15th December	Advent Feria	9:00am	NO MASS
Tuesday 16th December	Advent Feria	9.00am	Madeline Carvell Birthday RIP
Wed 17th December	Advent Feria	9.00am	All souls in purgatory
		1.00pm	JR Chapel
Thursday 18th December	Advent Feria	6.00pm	Lilly McLoughlin RIP
Friday 19th December	Advent Feria	9.00am	Jim O'Connell RIP
Saturday 20th December	Advent Feria	9.00am	Tom Healy RIP
	Vigil Mass	6.30pm	Kevin O'Bryan RIP
Sunday 21st December	Fourth Sunday of Advent	8.30am	People of the Parish
		10.00am	Salvador Carrazedo Saldanha 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.