

Please pray for those who have recently died: Robin Devenish and Mary Veronica Francis

...and for those whose anniversaries occur in January: Julie Bevan, Mary McNally, Mary Lillis, Bernie Gavin, Dennis Chiles, Sally Roberts, Madeline Carvell, Fr Anthony de Vere, Thomse Denning, Glenys Jones

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 February. There is no need to do so if their names were on the list in 2024/25.

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/StanthonyofPaduaOxford)

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...

	This weekend	Next weekend
Vigil readers	Nevin Vuddamalay	Catherine Joseph
<u>Sunday Readers:</u> 8:30 am	Hilary Lappage	Rajesh Paul
Sunday Readers: 10:00 am	Tony Coates, May Macpherson	Ewa Posner, Jane Kennett
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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Email: stanthonyop.oxford@rcaob.org.uk

Priest-in-charge: Fr Anthony Bassey, MSP: fr.tony.bassey@rcaob.org.uk
Assistant Priest: Stephen Ojapah, MSP

The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216
Parish secretary (Wed & Fri): stanthonyop.oxford@rcaob.org.uk

25th January 2026

Third Sunday in Ordinary time Year A



The prophet Isaiah announced a future of liberation and great joy for all of Galilee, through the image of light that dispels the darkness in which the people walk. The Gospel, quoting verbatim the same passage of the prophet Isaiah, presents Jesus as the Light thus fulfilling Isaiah's prophecy. He is the light that was promised to dispel the darkness of sin and to free man from the obscurity in which he is enclosed.

The light becomes an efficacious means to express God's involvement in human history. God manifests Himself as 'The Light' that disperses the darkness. The light illuminates, encircles, defines things, emphasises the colours and gives depth to space. The light

heartens and comforts: to be in an enlightened place helps us to accept reality for what it is and makes one feel happier, more certain and protected.

God's initiative with regard to men permits them to have a renewed relationship with reality. In God's light everything assumes a new significance, its authentic and definitive meaning. A light which illuminates gives strength and permits the disclosure of the universe and man.

A joy and happiness that became real in Jesus' presence. He is the promised light that has come into our midst, His physical presence that expresses the definitive arrival of the Light. The light that shines brightly marks God's initiative performing His first merciful and free step towards a wounded humanity.

This dynamic is expressed through Jesus call of the first Apostles. He chooses them with an unequivocal call, 'Follow Me'. Faced with God's sudden interruption in their lives He invited them to abandon the nets and trust themselves totally to the Lord for a new 'catch', a new definitive horizon. At the Last Supper, the end of His earthly life, Jesus reminds His disciples 'you did not choose me, no, I chose you' (Jn 15:16).

This Sunday's Gospel invites us to remember that our personal vocation is founded on God's original and absolutely free choice. His invitation towards us, therefore, is an invitation to make a final decision to let Him conquer or reconquer us to mark a turning point in our lives.

Let us ask the Lord, for us and the whole Church, for the gift of a true conversion of our hearts enabling us to receive Christ as the only Light to follow. Christ is the only one that really dispels the darkness within and around us.

Today's Reading: Isaiah 9:1b-4; Ps26; 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17; Matthew 4:12-23

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is my light and my help.

Next Sunday: Zephaniah 2:3, 3:12-13; Ps145; 1 Corinthians 1:26-31; Matthew 5:1-12a

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:

NO MASS on Fridays - there will be no morning mass on Fridays until end-February. Please contact the parish office if you have mass intentions that will be affected by this change. We apologise for any inconvenience.

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 21st Jan	Gift Aided	Non Gift Aided
Last week	£0	£0
Total	£2,440	£6,096

Last week’s offertory collection

Offertory	Total
Loose collection	£267.26
Gift Aid Envelopes	£20.00
Card Reader Machine Collection	£220.00
Online giving via website	£0.00
Total	£507.26
Votive candles	£89.38

Monthly standing orders : £1231

Date	Day	Time	Intention
Saturday 24th January	Memorial of St Francis de Sales, Bishop, Doctor of the Church	9.00am	For full healing of Patrick McDonagh from cancer
	Vigil Mass	6.30pm	Eamon McDonald - Get Well Soon
Sunday 25th January	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am	People of the Parish
		10.00am	Mark Broughton-Taylor Intentions
Monday 26th January	Memorial of Ss Timothy and Titus, Bishops	9:00am	Holy mass for John Byrne
Tuesday 27th January	Feria in Ordinary Time	9.00am	Birthday thanksgiving for Emma
Wed 28th January	Memorial of St Thomas Aquinas, Priest, Doctor of the Church	9.00am	Annamma Chacko RIP
		1.00pm	JR Chapel
Thursday 29th January	Feria in Ordinary Time	9.00am	Jacqueline Cunningham RIP
Friday 30th January	Feria in Ordinary Time	9.00am	NO MASS
Saturday 31st January	Memorial of St John Bosco, Priest	9.00am	Sean Finnegan RIP
	Vigil Mass	6.30pm	Holy mass for Fidelis Byrne
Sunday 01st February	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am	People of the Parish
		10.00am	Holy mass for Pascal Byrne

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.