

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

...and for those whose anniversaries occur in May: Margaret Carton, Margaret Crowe, Pam Regan, Larry King, Pamela Denning, Patrick McNally, Elizabeth O'Hara, Ann Rae, Patricia Hodgson, Michael Mobay, Fr John Baggley

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 May. 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/stanthonyofpadua)

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	Catherine Joseph	Agnes Valencak
<u>Sunday Readers:</u> 8:30 am	Georges Yindom	Veronica Robbins
Sunday Readers: 10:00 am	Mercy Christopher, May Macpher-	Caroline Griffiths, Ewa Posner
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. 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

Parish Priest: Fr Emmanuel Adindu, MSP: fr.emmanuel.adindu@rcaob.org.uk
Assistant Priests: Fr Anthony Bassey, MSP: fr.tony.bassey@rcaob.org.uk
Stephen Ojapah, MSP: fr.stephen.ojapah@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

17th May 2026

Seventh Sunday of Easter Year A



The death of a member of his family or of a loved friend, must be the saddest event imaginable in the life of an atheist. He is one who really is convinced that there is no God, no future life and therefore that the relative or friend is to turn into dust in the grave, never to be met with again. The thought that every day that passes is bringing him too nearer to that same sad fate, death, which will be the end of all his ambitions, all his enjoyments, the end of everything he thought he was or had, must be something hard to live with.

Thank God, we have the good fortune to know, and reason and faith convince us of this truth, that death is not the end of man. It is rather the real beginning. We shall all rise from the grave with new, glorified bodies and ascend to heaven, as Christ did. There we'll begin our true life of eternal happiness.

While it is true that even for good Christians the death of a beloved one is a cause of sorrow and tears, this is natural as we still are of the earth earthly. Yet the certitude that our beloved one has gone to his true life and will be there to meet us when our turn comes, is always at the back of our minds to console and comfort us. What all human beings want is to live on forever with our dear ones. Death breaks that continuity but only for a little while. That break is necessary for the new life to begin.

Look up to heaven today. See Christ ascending to his Father and our Father. Say: Thank you, God, for creating me, and for giving me, through the Incarnation of your beloved Son, the possibility and the assurance that if I do my part here, when death comes it will not be an enemy but a friend, to speed me on my way to the true, supernatural life which you have, in your love, planned and prepared for me.

I too must suffer. I too must accept the hardships and the trials of this life, if I want, and I do, to enter into the life of glory. Christ, who was sinless, suffered hardship and pain. I have earned many, if not all of my hardships, by my own sins. I should be glad of the opportunity to make some atonement for my past offences, by willingly accepting the crosses he sends me. These crosses are signs of God's interest in my true welfare. Through him he is giving me a chance to prepare myself for the day of reckoning, for the moment of my death which will decide my eternal future. For every prayer I say for success in life, I should say three for a successful death, a death free from sin and at peace with God.

Today's Reading: Acts 1:12-14; Ps 26; 1 Peter 4:13-16; John 17:1-11a

Responsorial Psalm: I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living.

Next Sunday: Acts 2:1-11; Ps 103; 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13; John 20:19-23

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 for Catholic Communications this weekend.

Farewell for Father Tony: As Father Tony prepares to leave our parish, we invite parishioners to join us as he celebrates the vigil mass and Sunday masses over the weekend of 30th and 31st May. There will be a bring and share gathering after the Sunday 10am mass. Those who are unable to attend the gathering are warmly invited to come and say farewell at any of the weekend masses. Those wishing to donate to his leaving collection can do so via the link here: <https://pay.sumup.com/b2c/QPWS9Y3E>, card reader in church, a designated QR notice at the back of church, or by cash in baskets which will be available at the back of church for the next two weekends.

Parish Priest visit for the sick and housebound: Father Emmanuel would like to arrange visits for parishioners who are sick or housebound. If you, or someone you know, would appreciate a visit, please email the parish office with your details so that Father can arrange a suitable time.

Nine Tuesdays Novena to St Anthony of Padua and Dedication to our Blessed Mother Mary. During this month of May, we will incorporate the praying of the Holy Rosary into our ongoing Nine Tuesdays Novena to Saint Anthony of Padua. The Rosary will be prayed before the Novena prayers. All parishioners are warmly invited to join us in this time of prayer and devotion. There will be no morning Mass on Tuesdays during this period up to and including 9th June.

Sponsored walk: Congratulations to Mary, Hilary, Danielle and Darren who walked last weekend to raise funds for the parish. Not all the pledges have been donated yet, but it looks as though they have raised almost £500 - a truly amazing amount! Thank you so much for your efforts.

Ordination to the priesthood of Rev Deacon Jonathan Henry: This will take place in Birmingham on Saturday July 4th. There is a flyer on the notice board at the back of church with details and a QR code for those who wish to attend the ordination (including the option of booking a place on a coach leaving SAOP). Alternatively you can use the link: bit.ly/RevHen. The same QR code and link should also be used if you wish to join Jonny and his family at his first Mass which is being celebrated at St Anthony's the following day (Sunday 5th July at 3pm), and refreshments afterwards.

Catholic Handicapped Fellowship: John D would like to thank everyone who donated to the bingo night last week, either by attending, buying raffle tickets or donating prizes. The evening raised over £900!

New Mass books: We are thinking about changing our Mass books. They cost £6 each and as we use 120 each weekend and there are three years in each cycle and 2 volumes per year, that is an outlay of over £4000 so Fr E will be making an appeal for help with this outlay.

QR Codes for donation: To make giving more convenient, we have placed QR codes around the church and hall. These can be scanned with your phone to access our secure online donation page. We hope this provides an easy and flexible way for those who wish to support the parish. Thank you for your generosity and continued support.

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.

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

Last week's offertory collection

Offertory	Total
Loose collection	£336.64
Gift Aid Envelopes	£0.00
Card Reader Machine Collection	£287.00
Online giving via website	£0.00
Total	£623.64
Votive candles	£50.48

Monthly standing orders : £1231

Second collection (Poor Parishes): £331.30

Date	Day	Time	Intention
Saturday 16th May	Easter Feria	9.00am	James King RIP
	Vigil Mass	6.30pm	Barbara Boot Intentions
Sunday 17th May	Seventh Sunday of Easter	8.30am	People of the Parish
		10.00am	Thanksgiving mass Adaugo Eze - 1st birthday. Pray for God's guidance
Monday 18th May	Easter Feria	9:00am	Gerard Creegan RIP
Tuesday 19th May	Easter Feria	6.30pm	Fabregas Mota Ribeiro birthday thanksgiving 10 years old
Wed 20th May	Easter Feria	9.00am	Ellen Stephens
		1.00pm	JR Chapel
Thursday 21st May	Easter Feria	9.00am	Andrea Byrne RIP
Friday 22nd May	Easter Feria	9.00am	Marion Woods RIP
Saturday 23rd May	Easter Feria	9.00am	Maria Luisa e benevides de Carvalho RIP
	Vigil Mass	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 24th May	Solemnity of Pentecost	8.30am	Vincent Barron RIP
		10.00am	Felismino Sarmento 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.