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Parish of Saint Anthony of Padua

Our Parish Newsletter

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." (Mt 11:48)

A warm welcome to everyone from

Fr. Maximillian McKeown, OFM Conv, Parish Priest
Rev. Simon South, Deacon

7th May 2023



Times of Mass This Week

07 May. Sunday		8:00 AM
07 May. Sunday		10:45 AM
08 May. Monday		9:00 AM
09 May. Tuesday		9:00 AM
10 May. Wed		9.00 AM
11 May. Thurs		9.00 A.M
12 May. Friday		9:00 AM
13 May. Saturday		9:00 AM
13 May .Saturday	(SUNDAY VIGIL)	6.00 P.M



Thank you for your generous donations last week, towards to running of our parish .



PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED, ESPECIALLY, Guy Horton, Catherine Bowles, Richard Carey, John Kilroy, Ann Hamilton, Marcella Duckworth, Penny Setterfield, Dominique Chapious, Roy Godwin, Dorothy and Peter Van Heuven. Patricia Swain, Veronica Pragnell, Elsie Palmer, Peter McKenzie-Smith, Tom Healey, John Russell, Timothy O'Sullivan, and members of our parish, families, friends, and acquaintances.

PLEASE ALSO PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH FAMILY: Ron Peters, Sheila Miller, Audrey Hatter, Kathleen Sherwood, Monica Flint, Richard Horner, Janet Castro, Coleen, Louis Carnell, Isabella Rose, Judith (Angela's sister) and all those confined to their homes or care homes along with Mass intentions this week.

I am the Way the Truth and the Life....

As Jesus patiently continued to teach His disciples, He tells them today that "I am the way, the truth and the life" – In the Greek language, **I am** is a very intense way of referring to oneself. It would be comparable to saying, "I myself, and only I, am." affirming His unique and glories purpose as the Son of God, the way to Salvation for us all.

The way – Jesus used the definite article to distinguish Himself as "the only way." A way is a path or route. The disciples had expressed their confusion about where He was going and how they could follow? As He had told them from the beginning, Jesus was again telling them (and us) "follow me." There is no other path to heaven, no other way to the Father.

The truth – Again Jesus used the definite article to emphasize Himself as "the only truth." Ps119:142 says, "Your law is the truth." In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus reminded His listeners of several points of the Law, then said, "But I say unto you . . ." (Mt 5:22, 39, 44), showing that He is the very embodiment of the Law of God. Jesus said that He came to fulfil the Law and the prophets (Mt 5:17). Jesus, as the incarnate Word of God (John 1:1) is the source of all truth.

The life – Jesus had just been telling His disciples about His impending death, and now He was claiming to be the source of all life. In Jn 10:17–18, Jesus declared that He was going to lay down His life for His sheep, and then take it back again. He spoke of His authority over life and death, gifted to Him by His Father. In John 14:19, He gives us the promise that "because I live, you also will live." The life promised was not a political or social freedom (which most of the Jews were hoping for), but a life delivered from the bondage of sin and death, to a life of freedom in eternity, joy and love.

Just a thought

God's call to us all

In today's first reading we see an example of the biggest decision each and every one of us must make during our earthly life—hearing and responding to God's call to Love Him with our own freely given Yes!

God is continually calling all of humanity, just as He calls Stephen and his fellow Deacons, to His loving and eternal embrace. But as any parent will tell us, if you try to dictate or force your children into something, the response, especially as they become older, can lead to challenges, argument and even rebellion. And this is the gift of free will, that the Lord has given all. God is eternally calling and waiting to embrace us, to welcome us back to the intimacy of that unique Father and child relationship—patiently and wisely waiting for us to respond with our own heartfelt “Yes”—just as Stephen and the other six do in today's Gospel, just as our Lady Mary does; just as Samuel does to the quiet voice in the night and King David does while sitting in the field with his sheep, when called to be the King of God's chosen people.

And this is also the reality of Jesus' words when He reminds so many that “Your Faith has saved you!”.

And as we start to embrace the call of God, we become more aware of those special graces and gifts He has given to us all, as we read in the Epistle of Peter today, that as God's chosen, we are all called to be part of His royal priesthood. We have all received a special unique and individual charism or gift to use for the glory of God's Kingdom and to help others to respond to God's call.



Adoration this coming Saturday

We will be spending some time in prayer and reflection next Saturday after our morning Mass and you are welcomed to join the Lord as we bring our thoughts, joys, worries or concerns before Him .

Adoration this coming Saturday after the morning Mass at 9.30 a.m. to 10.00a.m. We will return to the 1st Saturday of each month again going forward.



Diocesan weekly newsletter

Have you signed up for the weekly Diocesan newsletter with details of courses, gatherings and meetings to support you on your faith journey <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk> .

There will be no Scripture Group for the next two Monday's as they are both Bank Holidays. Normal service will be resumed on 15th May at the Rye Hub.