

St Anthony of Padua

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Parish of Saint Anthony of Padua

Our Parish Newsletter

28th January 2024

God is love: he who dwells in love dwells in God, and God in him. In Jesus Christ we see how God loves us.

A warm welcome to everyone from

Fr. Maximillian McKeown, OFM Conv, Parish Priest

Rev. Simon South, Deacon



Times of Mass This Week

28 Jan. Sunday	4th Sunday in Ordinary time	8:00 AM
28 Jan. Sunday		10:45 AM
29 Jan. Monday		9:00 AM
30 Jan. Tuesday		9:00 AM
31 Jan. Wed		9.00 AM
01 Feb. Thurs		9.00 AM
02 Feb. Friday	<i>Presentation of the Lord</i>	9:00 AM
03 Feb. Saturday		9:00 AM
03 Feb. Saturday	(SUNDAY VIGIL)	6.00 PM



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



PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED, ESPECIALLY, Ron Peters, Guy Horton, Mary Byrne, 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, Tim Hodge and members of our parish, families, friends, and acquaintances.

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

"Beware of false prophets"

Today's readings bring a strong message—Listen to the Word of God and not the false prophets who will try to lead us astray!

Have you noticed how we are constantly being bombarded with messages of "the truth". Everyone these days no longer has an opinion or a point of view—they have "the truth!" and also - their truth is truer than your truth.

Multi media has become a battle ground of misrepresentation, part truths, bias and personal agendas. And at the heart of these messages is so often the reality of sinfulness—greed, false witness, hatred and or pride.

In our Gospel today, we are told that Jesus speaks "with authority". He speaks with authority because He speaks on behalf of the Father, and He speaks of the only truth that we can rely on without question—the truth that is Love.

The message of truth is that God loves each and every one of us unconditionally, He gives His only Son for the salvation of humanity, and that through receiving this love we in turn are able to love God with all our heart and strive to love our neighbour.



Just a thought....How do we discern God's will in our lives?

God speaks through the Holy spirit: Jesus told His disciples that He would leave us the Holy Spirit to guide and direct us (Jn. 14:16-17). The Holy Spirit still guides and directs us today, but it is important that we know how He works: -

"The kingdom of God is within you" (Lk. 17:21). God speaks from inside us, since the Holy Spirit dwells within us. It is the gentle stirring of our heart, the tingle within our conscience that is the prompting of the Spirit.

God's peace always accompanies His guidance. We can distinguish the voice of God from false prophets by the peace we feel and the confirmation we get. "The wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure and full of quiet gentleness" (Jas. 3:17). That inner feeling of peace is a positive sign of divine guidance.

God's guidance often comes unexpectedly. Listening for God in our lives is often a challenge when we are all so busy and life is naturally very messy and chaotic. God comes to us in His time not ours, so we need to keep listening, try to see/feel the subtle nudges from God, often when we are at our busiest and not expecting it.

But above all, when discerning God's will there is one overriding test for validity—**GOD ALWAYS SPEAKS THROUGH HIS WORD**. God's Word is the final judge in all guidance. God never, ever tells His people something that runs contrary to His Word. So a good point to start is asking yourself "does what I am being asked to do demonstrate a love of God or a love for my neighbour?"



Date for your Diary

The National Board of Catholic Women are holding an on-line webinar looking at "Women and Synodality"

Saturday 16th March 11.00a.m.—12.45 p.m.

To register your interest email nbcw@abdiocese.org.uk



Second Collection—Envelopes at back of the Church

2024 is Lepra's Centenary Year and Sunday 28th January 2024 is World Leprosy Day. For 100 years Lepra's research has led to new and innovative approaches to healthcare programmes. Lepra seeks to provide better detection, treatment and support mechanisms, to advocate for those without a voice, to challenge prejudice wherever it exists, to strengthen local health systems and to help provide sustainable healthcare in partnership with local communities for a future free from the terrible impact of the disease.



OUR SCRIPTURE GROUP meets at the Hub on the Hill at 3.30p.m. till 5.00p.m. to discuss the Gospels and their meaning to us in our everyday lives. All are welcome.