

St Anthony of Padua

Watchbell Street

Rye, TN31 7HB

Phone 01797 222173

Email:

[chapelrye@gmail.com](mailto:chapelrye@gmail.com)

<https://stanthonrye.com>

## Parish of Saint Anthony of Padua

Our Parish Newsletter

17th March 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

|                   |  |          |
|-------------------|--|----------|
| 17 Mar. Sunday    | 5th Sunday of Lent <i>Laetare</i>      | 8:00 AM  |
| 17 Mar. Sunday    |  | 10:45 AM |
| 18 Mar. Monday    |  | 9:00 AM  |
| 19 Mar. Tuesday   | St Joseph, husband of Our Lady         | 9:00 AM  |
| 20 Mar. Wednesday |  | 9.00 AM  |
| 21 Mar. Thursday  |  | 9.00 AM  |
| 22 Mar. Friday    | <i>Station of the Cross after Mass</i> | 9:00 AM  |
| 23 Mar. Saturday  |  | 9:00 AM  |
| 23 Mar. Saturday  | (SUNDAY VIGIL Palm Sun)                | 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, Nigel Winborne (Friend of Keith), Carol Gearing and all those confined to their homes or care homes along with Mass intentions this week.

### **Transformation through Christ.**

Scripture is filled with imagery of, and divine importance of change in our lives, and the challenge that this can bring us. Leaving us the question—do we embrace or reject the lessons of life?

In Scripture we see the rich man who was told to sell everything and follow Christ (Mk10:21), we hear about the new wine in the new wine skins (Mk 2:22) and we are told that man must be purified in the fire like gold (Zec 13:9). We are all given the chance to grow in faith by overcoming our shortfalls, to become the best version of ourselves, so that we can fulfil God's plans for us (Jer 29:11). Even Christ must go through the transformation of death and resurrection. I guess the old saying "I'm too old to change" just isn't very Christian.

Today, how we embrace change and growth is reinforced to us via John's Gospel, in that "unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain, but if it dies it yields a rich harvest". Christ must die to bring us to salvation, we must die to our old habits, to bring us to Christ.

Have we been able to die to the world through our Lenten sacrifice, so that we might rise in the glory of Christ this Easter? As we encounter the lessons of change and our death to self desire, are we able to follow Christ's example of humbly embracing these changes, accepting the challenge and uncomfortable feelings it brings, understanding that like Christ, as we go through the hardship of suffering and uncertainty we have the potential to be purified and enter the eternal salvation Christ has prepared for us (Hebrews 5:7-9).



## Just a thought.... Pope Francis Amoris Laetitia (The Joy of Love)

200. The Church Fathers emphasized that Christian families, by the grace of the sacrament of matrimony, are the principal agents of the family apostolate, above all through their joy-filled witness as domestic churches. Consequently, "it is important that people experience the Gospel of the family as a joy that 'fills hearts and lives', because in Christ we have been set free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness and loneliness. As in the parable of the sower (cf. Mt 13:3-9), we are called to help sow seeds; the rest is God's work. The Church wishes, with humility and compassion, to reach out to families and "to help each family to discover the best way to overcome any obstacles it encounters".



Eternal Father,

Through Christ we believe that there is always hope and a promise of a future, both earthly and eternal. Help the families of our Parish to discover the best way to overcome the obstacles of life, as a family, together, in love, and through Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

## Christ sees, loves and heals.

The sad reality in the UK is that many millions of woman, for so many reasons, have felt the only option in her life at that moment, is to terminate their pregnancy. So many can spend a life time experiencing the turmoil and emotional trauma of that experience. Much of the time feeling isolated and rejected by society and or the Church. If you are aware of anyone who is experiencing this emotional trauma, there is a beautiful Christian organisation called **Rachel's Vineyard UK** ([rachelsvineyard.org.uk](http://rachelsvineyard.org.uk)) who want to help. The organisation is endorsed by the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales and works to bring hope, and healing to the women's life through the love and forgiveness of Christ.

The name "Rachel" refers to the old testament figure who was written about in the Bible.

Thus says the Lord: "*In Ramah is heard the sound of moaning, of bitter weeping! Rachel mourns her children, she refuses to be consoled because her children are no more. Cease your cries of mourning, wipe the tears from your eyes. The sorrow you have shown shall have its reward, says the Lord.*" (Jeremiah 31:15-16).

There are many images attached to a vineyard. It is a place where grapes are grown, pruned, lifted up and cleansed so they can bear a more bountiful harvest. Perhaps the most significant association with vine comes from the powerful and moving words of Jesus found in the Gospel of John (15:5):

*"I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, will bear much fruit; for you can do nothing without me."*

**Stations of the Cross will be held after 9.00a.m. Mass every Friday throughout Lent.**

**If you cannot make this, we will leave the books out at the back of the Church so that you can journey with Christ when you have finished work.**

**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.**

## Parish Safeguarding Representative

The safety and well being of all our Parish Family is a central priority for us here at St Anthony's. Should you have any concern that you feel unable to raise with Fr Max or Deacon Simon our Parish Safeguarding Rep will be happy to speak to you in total confidence.

Valerie Wright can be contacted by email on [sg1rye@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:sg1rye@abdiocese.org.uk)

