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Parish of Saint Anthony of Padua

Our Parish Newsletter

22nd September 2024

God is love: He who dwells in love, dwells in God, and God in them. 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

22 Sept. Sunday	25th Sunday Ordinary time	8.00 AM 10.45AM
23 Sept. Monday		9:00 AM
24 Sept. Tuesday	Our Lady of Walsingham	9.00 AM
25 Sept. Wednesday		9.00 AM
26 Sept. Thursday		9.00 AM
27 Sept. Friday	St Vincent de Paul (priests)	9:00 AM
28 Sept. Saturday		9:00 AM
28 Sept. Saturday	(SUNDAY VIGIL 26th wk)	6.00 PM



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

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED PARISHIONERS, ESPECIALLY, Reg and Monica Flint, 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, Nigel Winborne.

PLEASE ALSO PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH FAMILY: Sheila Miller, Audrey Hatter, Kathleen Sherwood, Richard Horner, Janet Luckman, Judith (Angela's sister), Michael, Carol Gearing and all those confined to their homes or care homes along with Mass intentions this week, and members of our parish, families, friends, and acquaintances.

Prayer is exhaling the spirit of humanity and inhaling the spirit of God

Do we always understand?

After Peter's affirmation of his belief that Jesus is the Messiah, the road to Calvary brings us three prophetic predictions of the Passion that is to come; with each prediction becoming increasingly explicit.

Each time the inability of the disciples to understand and accept the message is stressed, in today's example, the disciples were too ashamed to even ask what Jesus was talking about—"they did not understand what He said and were too afraid to ask Him". Yet these movements of uncertainty are, I am sure an affirmation to us all that even those who journeyed with Jesus had doubts and questions, so when we face our own uncertainties and question—it's absolutely understandable and we should never be afraid to ask—what does that mean?

On this occasion the re-iteration takes the form of putting forward a child to show how the least honoured members of society should be treated. In the modern era we are especially sensitive to the rights of children. This was not the case in the ancient world, perhaps because of the high infant mortality rate: only a small minority of children would reach adulthood. So the child represents the most neglected segment of society, and Jesus chooses the child to stress that all human beings have infinite value, being made in the image of God. All deserve the same respect, love and care regardless of status, creed, race or age.



Just a thought...

The Book of Wisdom was probably written at Alexandria in Egypt, and it was written in Greek. It is because it was written in Greek that it was not included in the Protestant Bible as it was felt only book written in Hebrew or Aramaic were genuine – this being despite the reality that Greek was the common language across the Mediterranean during that time in history.



A major theme of the book is the contrast between divine Wisdom and “folly” or human wisdom and philosophy. It also includes a wonderful poem in God’s Wisdom, by which he created the world, ‘the reflection of the eternal light, and the image of his goodness’. In this reading we have the taunts which those who refuse divine Wisdom make against those who embrace Wisdom.

The message of St James

Since the time of the Reformation, the book of James has been seen as controversial. And like the Book of Wisdom, it is not included in the Protestant Bible.



Martin Luther famously stated, “St. James’s epistle (letter) is really an epistle of straw, compared to these others, for it has nothing of the nature of the gospel about it”.

Primarily Luther argued that he thought it was too “Old Testament” in style and not in keeping with the “New”. Although scholars point out that the key issue is the challenge to Luther’s theology of only through scripture are we saved, when James reminds us that “faith without works is dead” (James 2:14-26).

In today’s reading from James’ letter, we are brought the challenge of thinking about whether we are praying for our own needs or to build the kingdom of God? Should we pray because we think we are changing God’s mind to give us what we want or are we praying to allow the Holy Spirit to work within us and to change us?

James reminds us that the biggest personal battle we face is overcoming selfishness and embracing the God’s will built on the examples of Christ – love, founded on self-sacrifice. We often question why God allows wars and strife in the world, James points out that it is not God who brings us to war and conflict but individuals and selfish greed.

Our Scripture Group meets on Mondays at The Hub on the Hill, from 3.30pm - 5pm to explore the Scripture readings for the forthcoming Sunday and reflect on their meaning in our everyday lives. The Sunday Liturgy sheets will be available, with Bibles and commentaries for reference, so just come as you are. A small donation towards the room hire is appreciated. Angela Tyson email: angetyson@aol.com

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 sg1.rye@abdiocese.org.uk