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Parish of Saint Anthony of Padua

Our Parish Newsletter

1st December 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

01 Dec. Sunday	<i>1st Sunday of Advent</i>	8.00 AM 10.45AM
02 Dec. Monday	St Francis Xavier	9:00 AM
03 Dec. Tuesday		9.00 AM
04 Dec. Wednesday		9.00 AM
05 Dec. Thursday		9.00 AM
06 Dec. Friday	St Nicholas	9:00 AM
07 Dec. Saturday	St Ambrose	9:00 AM
07 Dec. Saturday	(SUNDAY VIGIL 2nd Sunday Advent)	6.00 PM



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

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED PARISHIONERS, ESPECIALLY, Audrey Hatter, 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, 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.

“But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.” (Is 40:31)

Christ is coming.

Our reading today from Luke's Gospel captures something about the craziness and chaos of life that seems to follow humanity throughout the ages. Luke writes about the reality of our own smallness and struggle in the setting of God's creation, the continuous unrest between nations and the human dilemma of being tempted into the deepest distractions of worldliness in all its "dissipation and drunkenness".— an apocryphal prophecy from 2000 years ago—and sadly, the content of the "News at 10" last night.

But in these dark words shines a portent of hope. The eternal promise of hope that God brings us, in the form of His only begotten Son—Jesus. Christ has come and Christ will come again. We wait in hope.

It is in this disparity between worldly and eternal that we are brought to the beginning of Advent. Through the gift of these four weeks, we are given the time to reflect on both the questions -who is coming, and how we will receive Him in our lives for the coming year?

Are we going to try to be in control of everything and everyone around us, or are we going to trust in God's guiding hand? Are we getting the balance right between earthly and eternal? Are we opening our hearts to Christ's Gospel? How well do I live in the image of Christ and His message of hope, love and salvation? Who is Christ going to be for me in 2025?



Living our faith through action

Just a thought....

"Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord." (Ps 27:14)

Waiting is one of the most challenging aspects of life, especially when we are eager to see God's promises fulfilled. Whether it's waiting for a breakthrough, an answered prayer, or clarity in a difficult situation, the waiting can test our patience and our trust in God's timing. It's easy to become frustrated or anxious when things don't happen according to our schedule, but it's in these moments that we are called to deepen our trust in God's perfect plan.



Praying for patience and trust in God's plans are essential because it aligns our hearts with His will. Through prayer, we learn to surrender our own timelines and trust that God knows what's best for us. Even when we can't see the full picture, we can rest in the assurance that God's timing is always perfect, and He is bringing all things together for our good and the common good.

News from the Diocese

The Diocese sends out a weekly E-Bulletin newsletter which includes Bishop Richard's Weekly Reflection, and details of formation and events taking place across the Diocese and our wider Catholic community. Please do encourage parishioners to sign up it's a great way to stay in touch! Find the link to sign up on the Diocesan website (bottom of the home page).

Day of Reflection for Ministers of the Word – Saturday 25 January 11 - 4pm at St Wilfrid's Parish Centre, Burgess Hill

Led by Bishop Richard. The day will include talks on the Scriptures, the Lectionary and its use in the Liturgy, the Liturgy of the Word, and preparing to minister as a reader. There will be a time of *Lectio Divina*, and the day will conclude with the celebration of Mass. The booking link can be found on the Diocese website just go to "events".

From Pope Francis' Encyclical on the Sacred Heart of Jesus.



"Everything finds its unity in the heart, which can be the dwelling-place of love in all its spiritual, psychic and even physical dimensions. In a word, if love reigns in our heart, we become, in a complete and luminous way, the persons we are meant to be, for every human being is created above all else for love. In the deepest fibre of our being, we were made to love and to be loved."

Our Scripture group will be meeting Monday

All are warmly welcomed to the Hub at the top of Rye Hill each Monday at 3.30p.m.—5.00 p.m. to discuss the upcoming Scripture readings together, to share thoughts and explore the meaning for us in the week ahead. For more details speak to Angela, Fr Max or Dcn Simon.

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