

St Anthony of Padua  
Watchbell Street  
Rye , TN31 7HB  
Phone 01797 222173  
Email:  
[chapelrye@gmail.com](mailto:chapelrye@gmail.com)  
<https://stanthonyrye.com>

# Parish of Saint Anthony of Padua

Our Parish Newsletter

15th 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

15 Dec. Sunday	<i>Gaudete Sunday</i>	8.00 AM 10.45AM
16 Dec. Monday		9:00 AM
17 Dec. Tuesday		9.00 AM
18 Dec. Wednesday		9.00 AM
19 Dec. Thursday		9.00 AM
20 Dec. Friday		9:00 AM
21 Dec. Saturday		9:00 AM
21 Dec. Saturday	(SUNDAY VIGIL 4th Sunday Advent)	6.00 PM

**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.

*Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. (James 5:13)*



## Rejoice, rejoice God is always with us.

Jesus tells the crowd that John the Baptist is Elijah. But what does He mean?

Elijah was a central character in Jewish history and as a sign of their relationship with God. If we summarise the story from the Book of Kings, we see that Elijah is sent by God, he is sent to put right the suffering of the people at the hands of corrupt, selfish and greedy kings – to free God's people from the oppression of sinfulness. Elijah battles with the evil of false teachings and the worship of false gods, he cares for the poor and those living on the fringes of society and he performs miracles in God's name, healing the sick and feeding the starving. Elijah represents the message of God's intimate paternal love for all His people.



In many ways, we can see the similarities between Elijah and Jesus' mission and in fact when Christ asks His disciples on the road to Jerusalem "who do you say I am?" He is told "some say you are Elijah" (Mt 16:13-20). But today Christ uses the metaphor to tell the crowd that John the Baptist is Elijah. Affirming that John has been sent by God. Assuring those present that John had come to set the people free from the oppression of sin through baptism and the message of God's forgiveness. But Jesus is also reminding us that in all our suffering and worldly temptations, God is always with us. Travelling alongside us, providing us with all we need, showing us the way back to Him, where we belong.

# Living our faith through action

## Just a thought....

Today's entrance antiphon brings us a wonderful moment to reflect on all that Christmas means and brings to us.

**Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed the Lord is near.**

Where do I need the Lord in my life at the moment? Is my heart ready to rejoice? What am I going to do over the next two weeks to "prepare the way for the Lord? "

### **Rethinking Abortion – Saturday 8 February 10am-5pm at The St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley (no cost)**

The Diocese is hosting an event organised by Rethinking Abortion, a national pro-life organisation. Rethinking Abortion will provide educational sessions looking at the lived experience and reality of women that lead them to choose abortion. The aim is to help build understanding and explore how to tactfully and empathetically talk about abortion with those around you in a meaningful way. The day begins with Mass at 10am, followed by a programme of discussion and talks. Please bring a packed lunch. Register your place at

<https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events>

## **Growing in faith.**

The CCRS (Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies) will be run at Cardinal Newman School in Hove on Tuesdays from 3.45-5.45pm starting on 14th January. Each module (5 sessions) will be delivered over a term and the course will complete in 2 academic years. There is a £20 registration fee which enables us to register you with the national administrator of this course. Additionally, £30 is charged for each of the 8 modules. This may be paid by the student, or they may be sponsored by their school/parish. Anyone wishing to develop their understanding of the Faith are welcome. Register your place here <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events>

## **Going to Confession in Advent**

Advent and Lent are both times of self reflection and examination as we consider the reason and purpose of Christ's coming in Advent and during Lent, the reason for His journey to the Cross.

In these seasons of personal reflection, we are specifically called to go to confession, to experience the love and forgiveness that comes from Christ. Fr Max is available on request to hear your confession, alternatively, Fr Eamon hears confession every Saturday at 10.30a.m in Hastings after morning Mass, as does Fr Behr in Tenterden.

**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.

**THERE IS NO SCRIPTURE GROUP ON 23rd and 30th DECEMBER**

## **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](mailto:sg1.rye@abdiocese.org.uk)