

St Anthony of Padua
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Parish of Saint Anthony of Padua

Our Parish Newsletter

6th April 2025

**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



Parish Mass Times

06 Apr. Sun	5th Sunday Lent	8.00 AM 10.45AM
07 Apr. Mon		9:00 AM
08 Apr. Tue		9.00AM
09 Apr. Wed		9.00AM
10 Apr. Thurs		9.00AM
11 Apr. Friday		9.00AM
12 Apr. Saturday		9:00 AM
12 Apr. Saturday (Palm Sunday)		6.00 PM

Stations of the Cross 9.30a.m & 6.00p.m. Friday

A community founded in prayer

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED PARISHONERS, ESPECIALLY,
Fr David Young, 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 & Peter Van Heuven.
Patricia Swain, Veronica Pragnell, Elsie Palmer, Peter McKenzie-
Smith, Tom Healey, John Russell, Timothy O'Sullivan, Tim Hodge.

**PLEASE ALSO PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF OUR
PARISH FAMILY:** Sheila Miller, Kathleen Sherwood, Richard Horn-
er, Janet Luckman, Judith (Angela's sister), Michael, Carol Gear-
ing 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.

Break off from your cares and labours. Make a little time for God and rest a while in him.

+ St. Anselm,

Forgiveness? But it's all their fault!

Today's reading from the Gospel of John, always brings a smile of irony to me each time I read it as I reflect on how often I get angry and the person who has just cut me up on the motorway. How often I become indignant because someone has decided to jump the queue in the supermarket, and how often I plotted revenge in my thoughts on the one who has shouted at me or been abusive! *Mea culpa, mea culpa, mea maxima culpa.*

So many of the world's problems are escalated when a nation or individual gets it wrong, and they can't bring themselves to simply say "sorry—forgive me", while the offended individual finds it equally as difficult to say, "thank you, I accept your apology".

We are reminded today of the danger and hypocrisy attached to the judgement and actions of our ego and anger in our daily lives. So frequently, forgetting in the heat of the moment that in the ebb and flow of life, we play the role of both victim and aggressor in matters of dispute.

And yet the message of forgiveness cuts to the very heart of the Easter message and our relationship with our eternal Father. God loves us so completely that He gives His only Son to die on the Cross for the forgiveness of us all. Showing us the way to eternal life and our return to the garden.

St Paul was able to grasp the contradictions of life and shares his perspective with us today in His letter to the Philippians, as he reminds us that "I count everything as loss (irrelevant), because of the supreme good of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For His sake, I have suffered the loss of all other things, and I regard them as so much rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ". (Phil 3:8). As we start to see the purpose of our life as becoming Christlike for the promise of eternity, the barbs, insults and challenges placed before us start to show themselves for the irrelevances that they often are. In our own journey through life, we cannot repay Christ for what He does for us all, but, when we forgive a brother or a sister, we can follow His example. And when we get it wrong, and we will—we can turn to Him in reconciliation and in humility—say sorry.



Living our faith through action

Just a thought... *"Let he who is without sin cast the first stone"*

Forgiveness and love are truly interdependent. We can't forgive unless we love and if we don't forgive we can't love.

We **all** come together at the Mass and begin by sharing that we have all "greatly sinned in my thoughts and in my words". All of us need the forgiveness of Christ and through His love for us, He forgives us.



A Volunteer to build the Parish webpage

Jesus shared His Gospel in the manner of the times and in a way that was understood by the people around Him. Making the message relevant through relatable stories and analogies.

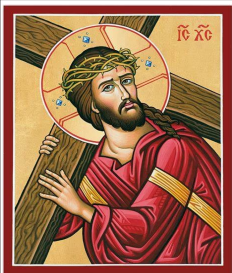
This is something that we hope to imitate and repeat in today's world and this means utilising the on-line world to share what we are doing as a community in the Lord's name and bring people to the gift of grace that is the blessed Eucharist.

Within our community, our Parish Family, do we have anyone who is able to help us to build our website and to bring the message of Christ to the wider community? If so please see Fr Max or Simon to find out more.



To have a Mass "offered" for someone?

Did you know that you can ask Fr Max (or any priest) to "offer" a Mass for several reasons or intentions: for example, in thanksgiving, for the intentions of another person (such as on a birthday or special occasion or time of difficulty), or as is most common, for the repose of the soul of someone who has died. Bringing your "intention" or prayer to the Altar of the Lord. The custom is to make a small donation to the priest for the Mass intention. To find out more just ask Fr Max.



Stations of the Cross

We will be following Christ on His journey to the Cross together each Friday either at **9.30a.m. after Friday morning Mass** or at **6.00p.m.**, for those who are working, at school or have commitments in the mornings.

Journey with the Lord, explore your relationship with Him on the pilgrimage of all pilgrimages.

Our Scripture Group will be meeting Monday

All are warmly invited 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 or Fr Max.

Parish Safeguarding Representative

The safety and well being of all our Parish Family is a priority for us all 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

Parish Pastoral Team

Your Pastoral Team Chairperson is Brian Cernuschi and the Team Secretary is Sophie Carnell.

For details of our community events, see notice board at the back of our Church.