

St Anthony of Padua

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Priest: Fr. Peter Draper. (Tel: 725193)
Deacon (retired): Rev. Tom Butler

Sunday Masses: 6.00pm (Saturday Vigil), 9.30am.
Weekday Mass: Mon-Wed, Fri: 9.15am. (Thurs 9.15am at Holy Family)
Confessions: 5.30—5.50pm

Annexe: 725544 Social Centre: 735963 Primary school: 726621
Playgroup/Preschool 07963 700591 Covenant Books: 07396 796969

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Invite Everyone to an Encounter with God

Today we celebrate World Mission Day. This year's theme, chosen by Pope Francis, is rooted Matthew 22:1-14 (The parable of the wedding banquet). "Go and Invite Everyone to the Banquet." All are welcome. When we have been invited to participate in any kind of group activity, we experience a sense of chosenness. Being made to feel welcome leads us to experience a sense of oneness with that group, however tentative that feeling may be. 'Mission is a tireless going out to all men and women, in order to invite them to encounter God and enter into communion with him. Let us not forget that everyone is called to take part in this universal mission by offering his or her own witness to the Gospel in whatever context they live their daily lives.' [1]

James and John experienced a sense of being chosen and they had developed a relationship, a oneness, with Jesus. 'They sound a bit arrogant and self-seeking; interested in privilege, honour and status. That's often how this text is interpreted. Maybe, however, there is more to this story. We all have people in our lives that attract and draw us to them. Their lives speak to us of love and friendship. They call from us the best part of who we are. In them we catch a glimpse of something holy, something meaningful, something that gives life. We don't want that experience to slip away. That is what Christ offers each one of us. That is what James and John experienced with Jesus. They are only asking for what they have already caught a glimpse of. It is not a plea for privilege and entitlement. It is the plea of one who never wants to lose that glimpse, who never wants the moment to end. However, that experience is not a thing to be had, grasped or possessed. It is lived. It is not an escape from the world but a deeper engagement in the world.' [2]

This involves 'drinking from the cup.' 'In the scriptures, 'cup' is frequently used as a metaphor for suffering. We have to have been led to the edge of our own resources, and have learned how to rely upon The Resource, The Source: God. We have some experience of who we really are and who God is in us and with us. Then we will freely do what Jesus says in today's Gospel reading: "You don't come to be served, but to serve. You don't come for others to take care of you but you want to take care of others, the way you have been so beautifully taken care of." [3] We will want to go out and invite everyone to experience an encounter and oneness with God.

Adapted: [1] Pope Francis [2] Michael Marsh [3] Richard Rohr

29th Week in Ordinary Time
20th October 2024

Year B
Missal 935

DIARY AND MASS INTENTIONS

for the week beginning Saturday 19th October 2024

Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Joseph Henry Thompson	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	Moira Airey Bill York	29th Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Mission Sunday—APF Collection</i>
Mon 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Eucharistic Service	
Tue 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Eucharistic Service	
Wed 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Eucharistic Service	
Thur 9.15am	<i>H.Family</i>	Special Intention	
Fri 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Moira Airey	
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Joe Morrison	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	Marie Hooper For our parish	30th Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Sick & Retired Priests Collection</i>

Last Weekend: Offertory: £561.74. Attendance: 221 (86 + 135). CAFOD Family Fast Collection this year came to an amazing £878.76. Thank you for your generosity.

Masses received this week: Joe Morrison, Patrick Bolger, Christina Bolger, Moira Airey, James Airey & family, Marie Hooper;

Tea, Coffee, cake etc. is served in the Padua Room after both weekend Masses.

Fairtrade Stall: Fairtrade stall made £63.07 with 73p extra donations for CAFOD. Rwanda made £18.20. Thank you to all who contributed.

St. Anthony's SVP Group

If you would like to join one of our SVP meetings you are most welcome. Our next meeting will be Wednesday 11am November 13th 2024 in the Padua Room. Thank you everyone for supporting your SVP here at St Anthonys.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for those who are sick, especially Jo Counsell, Bill Embery, Marie Morris, Michael Connors, John Mulholland, Deacon Tom Butler, Karen Gunter;

We pray for those who have died recently: Audrey Patricia Davies, Angela Russell, Ros Forrest;

and those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Veronica Judge, Pat Nolan, Richard and Mary Penney, Joe Bowers, Margaret, Martin McMurrough, Gordon Elliott, Mollie Curry, William Cosgrove, Lily Morrison, Catherine Mallon, Maria Wilson, Roland Catlow, John Gardner. May they rest in peace.

Special Collection - Mission Sunday

There will be a special collection at all masses this weekend for Missio. It is our chance to show love and solidarity to our brothers and sisters overseas who share our faith. In offering our prayers, we join with missionaries everywhere in communion and compassion to support them in spreading the Gospel, and by giving a donation we respond to Christ's call to feed the hungry and clothe the naked.

Donating by Card

From today we will be able to offer the facility to make donations by card. Increasingly people are no longer carrying cash but paying for so many things by card. It will now be possible to make offertory donations or special collections, or parish Social events etc by card. At first there will be someone standing with the machine to explain how to use it but we hope that it will quickly become as familiar as getting cash from a cash machine or paying a bus fare. Donations can be Gift Aided.

St. Anthony's Social Events

Anyone who can help with any of these social events on a rota basis, either by baking/ buying cakes or by light kitchen duties please contact Karen Hardman 07954575548

Planning our Annual Carol Concert

If you enjoy singing carols, please join us as we practice for our Annual Carol Concert. We will start rehearsing at 10.45 on Sunday after Mass.

Wednesday Evening Group.

Film Night this week will be the second part of 'Karol', the incredible story of Pope John Paul II before and after he became Pope. In the Padua Room at 7pm. All are welcome.

October is the month of the Holy Rosary

Wherever Mary appeared she always told us to pray the rosary for Peace on Earth. We will do this after morning Mass on Mondays and Fridays throughout October.

This weekend we are starting a **Sunday Evening Rosary Group** to pray the Rosary with short meditations, followed by a cuppa and chat for anyone who wishes. All are welcome to come along to the Padua Room at 6.30p.m. 'Come and See'.

Assisted Dying (Suicide)

The Bishops' Conference of England and Wales are calling on Catholics to unite in prayer and compassionate action to oppose assisted suicide. The first reading of a new bill on assisted suicide will be presented to the House of Commons and will be voted on by MPs on the 29 November. We know that assisted suicide laws in other jurisdictions have had devastating consequences for the poor, disabled and marginalised. You are asked to contact your MP to voice your opposition. The charity Right to Life UK <https://righttolife.org.uk/ASThreat> has a simple online way to do this. It takes only a few minutes to input your postcode, make sure the suggested text suits your viewpoint and submit your message to ask your MP to stop assisted suicide being rushed into law. Or you could simply write to your MP.

Cardinal Nichols issued a pastoral letter to address this forthcoming bill. If you are able it is worth reading it in full to educate ourselves on this important moral issue: Pastoral Letter on Assisted Suicide - Diocese of Westminster (rcdow.org.uk)