

St. Anthony of Padua

Parish Newsletter

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

5th July 2020



Friary: Greyfriars, 1 Elmsley Road, Mossley Hill, Liverpool. L18 8AY,

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Parish email: saintanthonyofpadua@aol.com

Parish Priest: Fr. Kevin Hanley OFM Conv.

Pastoral Associate: Ms. Helen Jones.

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Mrs. Alice Killip

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Parish Office hours, Monday to Friday: 9.30 - noon; 2 pm - 5.30 pm.

(Order of Friars Minor Conventual Registered Charity No 249881)

Pastoral Associate Update: As the J&P Annual Assembly draws to a close, we are struck by the words of Pope Francis yet again “Prepare the Future” and as our churches are opening for Mass we cautiously re-enter a world we were so familiar with and yet now may seem somewhat shocking and strange. A video with “what to expect” is on our website to help us. Online missals might be an idea to have for Mass – the Universalis app can be downloaded for your phone (free trial for a month). This week keep an eye on Synod news. Now, more than ever, our experiences during the pandemic may give us an opportunity to create the church that God is calling us to be in a very different way. The Synod proposals portal will remain open until 1 September (www.synod2020.co.uk) Do reflect and share your thoughts if you can. As many of us are now used to virtual meetings, it may also be an opportunity to come together and share our own journeys with one another: watch this space! “*Not all storms come to disrupt your life, some come to clear your path.*” sent to me this week. God bless, Helen.

Mass in Church: Please check individual newsletters for details of Mass times. At time of writing I can confirm that OLMC, St Anne’s, St Francis Assisi St Vincent’s, are opening this week (but please check **all** parish newsletters for days of opening and Mass times). St Anthony of Padua is hoping to open for private prayer and will be open for Mass on Monday 20 July.

Private Prayer in our Pastoral Area *(please check newsletter)*

OLMC: Th 12noon – 5pm *(Exposition)*

The Cathedral: daily 12noon – 4pm

St Francis of Assisi: Mon – Wed 9 – 10:30am, Tues. & Thurs. 4:30 – 6pm

St Anthony of Padua: See page 6 of today’s newsletter.

Live Streams (all links online)

Sunday Mass – 9:00am Vincent De Paul Church Facebook Live; Sunday 10:00am St Anne and St Bernard’s YouTube Channel; 11:00am Met Cathedral Facebook and YouTube Channel; 11:00am St Philip Neri Church Facebook Live and www.cathchap.org.uk

Daily Mass (Mo-Fri) 10:00am: St Anne and St Bernard’s YouTube Channel

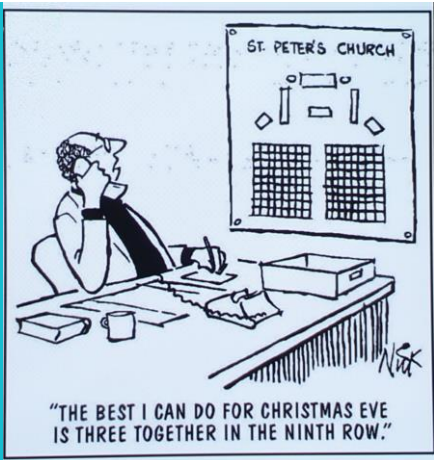
Daily Evening Prayer 6:30pm St Vincent’s – materials online

Masses: To be said in the Friary chapel – not the church

05. Sunday	Parishioners
06. Monday	Success of operation
07. Tuesday	Anita Morgan rip (LD)
08. Wednesday	Thanksgiving to NHS
09. Thursday	Thanksgiving (MM)
10. Friday	Hughes Family (deceased)
11. Saturday	Holy Souls
12. Sunday	Parishioners

Masses Received.

Success of operation, Thanksgiving to NHS, Anita Morgan rip (LD), Thanksgiving, Hughes Family (deceased).



Prayer during the Coronavirus crisis.

Generous and Merciful God, fill us with compassion and concern for others, young and old; that we may look after each other in these challenging times, especially those among us who are vulnerable. May your example give us the courage we need to go to the margins, wherever they may be. Heal us of our fear.

Healing God, bring healing to those who are sick with the Coronavirus and be with their families and neighbours. We pray especially who those who are isolated, that they may know your love. Stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

God of Strength, accompany all those who serve us with such love and generosity in the medical profession and in all our healthcare facilities. We give thanks for their continued work in the service of people. We ask you to bless them, strengthen them and guide them with your abundant goodness.

God of Wisdom, we ask you to guide the leaders in healthcare and governance; that they may make the right decisions for the wellbeing of people.

O God of creation and God of life, we, your people here in Mossley Hill, place ourselves and our world in your protection and love. May your peace be with us and enfold us today, tomorrow and during the time ahead. Amen.

About two months into my apprenticeship, I was taken on a routine maintenance job. A drain was blocked and needed to be rectified. My boss showed me the AJ (sewer access point) where I had to place the sewer rods and push with all my might to release the offending blockage. And did I push! Bearing in mind that I was only 12 inches from the AJ, the boss shouted to me if I could hear anything shifting. I listened intently, but it was too late. I had pushed so hard and the blockage erupted from the AJ like a volcano, covering me from head to foot. Fortunately, it was close to clocking off and as I boarded the bus for a 90 minute journey home, wondered why no one sat near me. It was the first and last time this ever happened. I ensured from then onwards that an alternative method to unblock a drain would be a priority.

Since the 1970's waste pipes for vessels such as baths, showers, wash basins and sinks are made from a heavy duty PVC. Prior to the 1970's waste pipes were made from lead and I have spent many days replacing these both before and after priesthood. You can search high and low on a supermarket shelf for the latest product to unblock a drain without success. Some products are very abrasive and can damage waste pipes. And yet, most likely, there is one product in almost every household which is just as effective [and inexpensive].

Most common internal blockages are the result of a build-up of soapy products. Using a plunger can be effective. If using a plunger, ensure that the vessel (basin, shower tray, bath, sink) is filled to half with cold water. The volume of cold water is greater and once the annoying blockage has been shifted, the cold water will force the blockage from the drain.

If this is unsuccessful, then turn to an everyday household product: *cola*. This does not have to be branded. The composites in cola will dissolve most blockage. You may have to repeat the exercise several times. Once qualified as a plumber, cola products have got me out of a long night of maintenance work, particularly in 1985, the night U2 played the national stadium Croke Park, located in the shadow of my parents' home. I was sitting in the back garden listening to a free-concert when the urgent call came. Car was ready and laden with bottles of cola (just in case). Unfortunately, that evening no amount of cola product would shift a baby's nappy. Household bins were invented for this!

Shower tray wastes are fitted with easy-clean traps and are accessible to clean out. Waste fittings should be cleaned at least once per month.

Kitchen sinks: One problem can be caused by pouring grease or hot oil into a kitchen sink. Once the grease hits cold water it cools and solidifies, causing a severe blockage. Waste traps can be dismantled and cleaned by hand.

Tip to prevent a blocked kitchen sink: wipe the pan clean of any hot oil or grease with kitchen roll before washing. The smallest amount of grease can create a hefty blockage. If your home is fitted with a grease trap, then this problem won't occur, however, most houses do not have this luxury and the problem will recur.

Wash basin traps (just like kitchen sinks) can be dismantled and cleaned by hand.

Next week: Preparing for winter – already!

Thought for the day

In today's Gospel, Jesus embarks on a deeper exploration of the mysteries of the kingdom. As ever he is keenly aware of his audience and of how unresponsive they can be. People went out to hear John the Baptist, but did they really understand his message? And so many of the towns in which Jesus himself had performed his miracles refused to change their hearts.

Having stated the difficulty of communication, Jesus suddenly switches to a very different note. The mood of lament and condemnation changes, and there is an outpouring of praise and acclamation. As at the beginning of the Sermon on the Mount, the accent is on blessing.

Jesus praises the Father for how he goes about revealing the mysteries of the kingdom. It is not the learned or the clever who receive the gift of enlightenment. Their minds are too full already, and blocked by presumption and prejudice. The message is given to children, those whose minds are still open and unformed. For these minds Jesus offers two insights about himself which lie at the heart of his preaching of the kingdom.

The first is like an extract from St John's Gospel, as it speaks about the special relationship between Jesus and his Father. The Father has entrusted all things to Jesus, who has the task of revealing them to others. Without this revelation, channelled through Jesus, there can be no true knowledge of the Father.

How does Jesus then go about his task?

We know he chooses the childlike, those who are open in mind and heart, but who are often powerless. He goes on to say that his desire is to lift the burdens we carry. The ones he is particularly referring to are those that the scribes and Pharisees impose but will not lift, the weight of the Old Testament law and commandments.

Jesus carries this burden for us through his humility and gentleness of heart. We fulfil the law through being carried by him. The central mystery of the kingdom is how Jesus himself carries us and through his act of sacrifice enables us to carry each other.

G. K. Chesterton was fond of saying that it was not that Christianity had failed; it was rather that it had never been properly tried. The history of the Church illustrates how time and again various groups have tried to engineer the success of the Christian faith through the use of human power.

Where the Church has become involved with the power of the state, the temptation to use that power to enforce belief has usually been strong.

Humility - the characteristic of Christ's life and teaching, has been practised by individuals, but it is difficult to think of examples of how it has been incorporated into the structures of the Church.

Intentions may have been of the best, but in practice there are too many examples of those in positions of power enforcing obedience in a restrictive and even abusive fashion.

Perhaps this is the great challenge to us from today's Gospel.

We know that we can take on the yoke of Jesus as individuals, creating oases of love. But how can we incorporate his principles into the structures of our institutions? Do our ways of being Church inevitably reflect the fallen world?

If the structures in place have allowed the abuse of power, if there have been insufficient checks and balances, then surely the structures as well as the individuals need challenging. Otherwise, they will continue to reflect the fallen nature of the world, only lit up momentarily by the lone saints who carry Christ's light in the darkness.

Lord God, today we remember your Son Jesus declaring “Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest.” We live in a time of great anxiety and uncertainty. We bring you our prayers, knowing that you hear even our unspoken longings.

1. We pray for Pope Francis and all Church leaders as they support a world experiencing the effects of Covid-19, that they might offer hope and a closer, deeper relationship with our amazing God and with each other. Lord hear us.
2. We pray for Governments and decision makers here and across the world as they discern the way ahead for millions of people, most of whom they will never meet, that they will be guided by wisdom, compassion and understanding. Lord hear us.
3. We pray for everyone experiencing job insecurity and an uncertain future at this time, that they and their families might find security and the encouragement that they need in the days that lie ahead. Lord hear us.
4. We pray for the people of Hong Kong during this time of change, that their rights and freedoms might be respected. Lord hear us.
5. We pray for all those involved in giving and receiving education in schools, colleges, universities and apprenticeships that they might find solutions to the challenges caused by the coronavirus and will know a future filled with hope. Lord hear us.
6. Let us pray for the repose of the souls of those who have died recently Anita Morgan and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time Bro. Bernard Sullivan, Fr. Cuthbert Ditmeier, Bro. Matthew Smith, Danny Reilly, Jonathan Fitchett, Veronica Rogers, Philip Joseph O'Neill. Mrs McKenna, Gerard Kelly, David Smith, Paul Davies, Frances Blank, John Chadwick, Joan Curtin, Margaret Shepherd, Frank Burns, Dorothy Waddington, Adam Hanlon, Joan Craven, and Joe Daly. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Lord our God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we come before you with our hopes and dreams, knowing that you are there for us with your incredible love and compassion. Amen

Reopening - 6th July 2020

Following consultation with the dean for St. John Almond pastoral area; St. Anthony of Padua Church is clear to reopen. The Church will open from tomorrow Monday July 6th to Friday 10th 2020 for one hour of private prayer (11.30am-12.30pm).

Beginning Monday 13th July, daily Mass at 12.00 will recommence. On Sunday 19th July 2020, Mass will be offered with the faithful for the first time since March. Mass will be at the usual times of 9.30am, 11.00am and 6.00pm. If you attend the daily Mass, you are not obliged to attend the Sunday Mass. This will allow parishioners who work during the week to attend on Sundays. Confessions will be heard by appointment only.

Stewards are still required. Some families have kindly volunteered to assist in this new ministry and you are respectfully requested to follow their directions for a smooth transition into church. Holy Communion will be distributed after the dismissal of Mass. The faithful are asked to leave the church immediately after Holy Communion is distributed and not to congregate in the Church grounds. {Archdiocesan guidelines appear on the next page}.

There are restrictions on the activity of ministries. Only the priest will be on the Sanctuary. The priest will wear a visor for the distribution of Holy Communion. The faithful are reminded to wear a face mask or scarf across the mouth and nose. These products will NOT be provided.

Pews will be sanitised after Mass and prayer. The faithful are asked to help with this, so any volunteers willing to carry out this task after each Mass will be of great help. All cleansing materials have been made available for this purpose.

There will be no singing at Mass. There will be no public devotions. The Rosary, Adoration, Stations of the Cross and St. Anthony's devotion – specifically venerating the relic are suspended indefinitely. You may follow the Stations of the Cross from your seat in Church.

Collections will be taken up as you enter the Church. Please place your offering in the baskets provided.

The 14 baptisms which were due to take place during the lockdown period have been rescheduled. Many couples have postponed their weddings until 2021.

Sacraments for Adults will be celebrated during the summer months. First Communion will be celebrated in September and October. Funerals are permitted but a Requiem Mass is not allowed. Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals are limited to 30 people max. In accordance with government guidelines, weddings will take the form of a reduced ceremony for validity of the sacrament and the legality of the marriage.

Welcome back.

Archdiocese of Liverpool

Cautious reopening of our churches for public worship.

Guidelines

Before you arrive

You should avoid bringing any unnecessary items into church, e.g. shopping bags, as you will not be returning to your seat once you have received Holy Communion.

You should stay at home if you are unwell. People who are vulnerable or who feel unsure about returning to Mass need to consider the wisdom of doing so.

Remember the Sunday obligation has not been reinstated and livestreaming of Masses will continue.

You will need to bring your own face covering.

All people entering church must wear a face covering at all times.

When you arrive

You will be welcomed by a volunteer steward and you may be asked to give your contact details.

You must adhere to social distancing guidelines in place.

Any children accompanying you must do the same.

Baskets will be available at the entrance (and exit) for your weekly envelopes or other contributions.

You will be directed to the hand sanitiser.

You will be directed to a bench. It may not be where you usually sit.

Toilets will remain closed at all times except for a genuine emergency.

The piety stall will be closed.

During Mass

There will be no Sign of Peace.

There will be no singing.

Holy Communion:

- Will be distributed after the final dismissal of the Mass.
- The words “The Body of Christ” and the reply “Amen” will only be said once at the beginning of distribution. They will not to be repeated for each person receiving Holy Communion.
- The volunteer stewards will direct you to approach the altar to receive Holy Communion.
- People receiving Communion will be instructed to approach the altar with their arms outstretched so as to maintain a reasonable distance from the minister.

- You may only receive the Sacred Host in your hand and not on your tongue.
- Communicants must avoid skin to skin contact with the minister's hands.
- You must then step to one side, lower your face covering and place the Sacred Host in your mouth the follow directions to leave the church immediately.

After Mass

Use only the designated exit.

Please take home any newsletters, Mass sheets and other papers you may use.

Please do not gather in the church porch or on church property for conversations.

Continue to wear your face covering until you leave the area where other people are.

We know that many people are excited about returning to church. We want to make sure that you can do so safely and comfortably as social distancing guidelines are still in place. Because of social distancing we will have to limit the numbers in church so we would encourage people, if possible, to attend weekday Mass as an alternative to Saturday evening or Sunday - the Sunday obligation is still suspended.

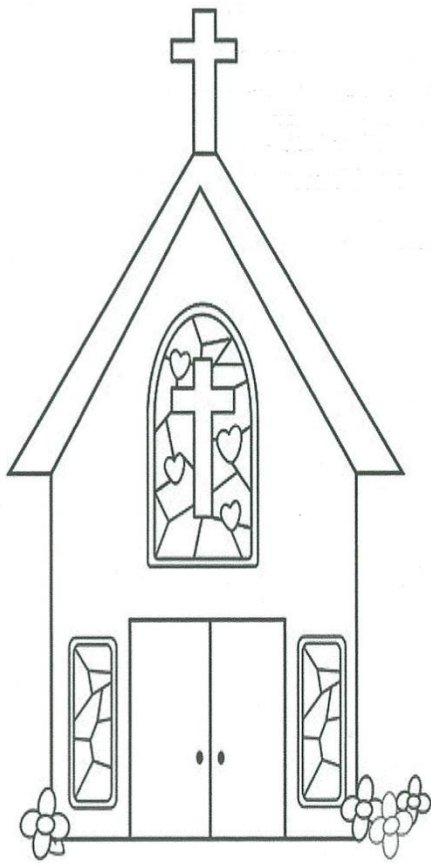
The Mass will be different to the way we are used to celebrating but it is to ensure everyone's safety. Thorough cleaning and sanitisation will need to take place after each Mass and that may mean the number of Masses may need to be reduced.

While we will attempt to take appropriate precautions consistent with the advice of public health authorities, parishioners should understand that they assume the risk of contracting COVID-19 any time they enter a public space since such precautions do not eliminate the risk of infection.

Liverpool Archdiocesan Office

Supporting Evangelisation

www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk



**Welcome
Back
to Church**