

St. Anthony of Padua Parish Newsletter

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

19th July 2020



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

Tel: 724 2109. (Sat Nav for church - L18 8BG.)

Parish email: saintanthonyofpadua@aol.com

Parish Priest: Fr. Kevin G. Hanley OFM Conv.

Pastoral Associate: Ms. Helen Jones.

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Mrs. Alice Killip

Parish Hall Manager: Carol 07377341973

Parish Office hours - Monday to Friday: 9.30am-12.00; 6.30pm-9.00pm.

(Order of Friars Minor Conventual Registered Charity No 249881)

SUNDAY MASS

Welcome back to Mass. Much work and preparation has taken place to make our parish church a safe environment. The Weekday Masses were well attended. To assist with a smooth transition, stewards will be on duty at all Sunday and weekday Masses. Please follow their guidance. As this is our first weekend for Sunday Mass, there will inevitably be some minor adjustments to the structures within Mass. Kneelers are not in use, so at those liturgical moments, please be seated or stand – both are respectful gestures. Holy Communion will be distributed after the dismissal of Mass. Please extend your arms to full length and stay behind the green line.

Face coverings: Adults are requested to provide their own face coverings. Children may wear a scarf across the mouth and nose if a mask is uncomfortable {Blue, Red and RU colours are acceptable}.

The **PORCH** is not to be used as a play area. The main doors will remain open and the loud-speakers in the porch should provide sufficient amplification to the carpark.

Spacing in Church: The Church can provide safe social distance seating for up to 90 people. Pews will be reserved for individuals, couples and families. Please respect the reserved areas.

SANITISING: Hand gel dispensers, antibacterial wipes and solution are located throughout the Church. Please do not remove these from the Church. Assistance with sanitising the pews after each Mass will be required.

FIRST COMMUNION 2021: Children who reside in the parish of St. Anthony of Padua are eligible for First Holy Communion next year. All Sacramental programmes are parish based. The closing date for registration for the *With You Always* programme is Friday, July 24th 2020.

CAFOD has joined with the UK Disasters Emergencies Committee to help millions of people whose lives are at risk, as coronavirus spreads across refugee camps and countries suffering conflict. You can donate at cafod.org.uk/coronavirus to help CAFOD scale up its coronavirus response through our global Church family. Or use CAFOD's Summer of Hope fundraising ideas with your family and friends to transform lockdown and raise money for the appeal: cafod.org.uk/summerofhope.

School Holidays: We wish the children and their families a safe and happy summer break.

ELECTRONIC ORGAN located in St. Francis chapel: in working order except for the amplifier which requires attention. Dual keyboard console with foot pedals. Available to one who is learning this instrument. There is no charge. If interested please contact the parish office.

Church Masses:

19. Sunday	9.30 am	Parishioners
	11.00 am	David Healiss rip
	6.00 pm.	Tommie Walsh rip
20. Monday	12.00 noon	Frances McTernan rip
21. Tuesday	12.00 noon	Mai Lyons rip
22. Wednesday	12.00 noon	Charles McVeigh rip (Anniversary)
23. Thursday	12.00 noon	Elizabeth Wylie rip (Anniversary)
24. Friday	12.00 noon	Josie McVeigh (Successful Operation)
25. Saturday	No Masses	
26. Sunday	9.30 am	Parishioners
	11.00 am	Deceased Friars
	6.00 pm.	Josie McVeigh (further treatment)

Masses Received. David Healiss rip (LD), Tommie Walsh rip (LD), Frances McTernan rip (LD), Mai Lyons rip (LD), Charles McVeigh rip (A), Elizabeth Wylie rip (A), Josie McVeigh (successful Op), Josie McVeigh (further treatment) x 3.

Church Humour:

Atheist: "Do you honestly believe that Jonah spent three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish?"

Priest: "I don't know, sir, but when I get to heaven, I'll ask him."

Atheist: "But suppose he isn't in heaven?"

Priest: "Then you ask him."

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 for 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.

Thought for the day:

"The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed."

The Man Who Planted Trees is a true story written in 1953 by the French author Jean Giono. During a walking trip in a desolate mountainous region of France forty years earlier he had accepted hospitality for a few days from a local shepherd. He observed this shepherd planting oak trees while his sheep grazed.

Over the previous three years in the wilderness the shepherd had planted 100,000 trees, and of these 20,000 had sprouted. Of the 20,000 he still expected to lose about half. But there remained 10,000 oak trees to grow where nothing had grown before. The following year came the First World War, and the author was involved in it for the next five years as an infantryman.

In 1920 he took the road to the wilderness again and revisited the shepherd. By now the oaks of 1910 were taller than either man, and they spent a day walking through the shepherd's forest, which measured eleven kilometres in length.

The transformation of the landscape was so gradual that it didn't cause particular astonishment to anyone. Hunters in pursuit of hares or wild boars had noticed the growth of little trees and then the gradual appearance of willows, streams, meadows and flowers, but did not attribute this to any human activity. By 1935, however, the trees began to attract outside attention and a government delegation came to examine the area. They walked among trees 20-25 feet tall, but they could not find out the reason for the growth of the forest.

The shepherd ignored the War of 1939 as he had ignored that of 1914. Elzeard Bouffier continued to plant. He died in 1947, aged 89 years. The wasteland had become green, laden with scents and filled with the sound of the wind blowing through the trees.

The central theme in the teaching of Jesus is the kingdom of God, or as Matthew calls it, the kingdom of heaven. Through the three parables in today's Gospel Jesus tells us something about this kingdom. It is not something that God forces upon the world with a terrifying vengeful force, but is like a tender plant that grows gradually from within.

Like a mustard seed, it starts as something tiny and inconsequential and becomes something substantial. The seed sends out its roots, penetrating deep into the soil, and its branches stretching up to the sky. Likewise, the tiny grains of yeast make the dough ferment, producing thousands of bubbles and making the bread light and airy. The mustard seed and the yeast spores have a potential for change that is out of all proportion to their size.

In the same way, the reign of God will come from beginnings so small that they are hardly perceptible.

And all the while good and bad influences are there together: people loving and people fighting, some building up while others knock down, some healing while others are hurtful. Within ourselves too, as God's Spirit works, its positive influence mingles with many negative aspects of our own personalities.

The good and the bad must stay alongside each other - just like the wheat and the darnel in the third parable. One must tolerate the other, but the activity of the Spirit will encourage a good and fruitful harvest in the end.

Signs of the kingdom are there in the smallest acts of kindness, in the tackling of injustices which dehumanise people, and in the enhancing of the environment for future generations.

Most individuals make their contributions in small, quiet ways: parents when they educate their children to be gentle and sensitive to the needs of others, doctors and nurses who demonstrate patience in dealing with the most irritable patients, business leaders who place human development ahead of financial gain. There will be negative influences too, but the vision of Jesus is an inclusive, tolerant one.

Kingdom people seek to serve rather than dominate. They prefer invitation to force. We are not judgmental of others, since it is not our task to do the weeding out. In various small ways we follow Jesus whenever we affirm positive values, assist the weak and make peace.

When we do these things, we are helping to bring about the kingdom of God. We may feel insignificant, but we have the God-given potential of the tiny mustard seed and the yeast.

Bidding Prayers

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Loving Lord, you bless and nurture that seed of faith which you planted in the fields of our hearts, encouraging it to grow to its full loveliness. Today, we come before you, conscious of your care for each one of us, bringing our prayers before you, who love us more than we can possibly imagine.

1. We pray for Pope Francis and all religious leaders, that they will inspire and cultivate hope and courage in people who are afraid and uncertain as they look beyond the threats of Covid-19. Lord hear us
2. We pray that men and women in positions of authority might work for the greatest good for the greatest number of people, nurturing compassionate cooperation and understanding in all that they say, think and do. Lord hear us

3. We pray for employers and employees who are currently facing uncertain futures as the lockdown gradually eases, that they will find the answers and job security that they need. Lord hear us
4. We pray that students of all ages, whether waiting for exam results or for grading after their cancelled exams, will find the hope and support they need for their journey into the future. Lord hear us
5. We pray for a fruitful harvest and good markets for farmers and growers after a year of floods, drought and economic insecurity, that they will be able to supply the food that we all need. Lord hear us
6. We pray for everyone shielding or recovering from the coronavirus and for all those who are caring for them, that they will remain safe and well. Lord hear us
7. Let us pray for the repose of the souls of those who have died recently Jack Garth Melling and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time Fr. Brendan Blundell, Fr. Roger Azzopardi, Fr Patrick Griffin, Br. Simon Lucas, Joachim Dolan, Marie Angela Costello, Patrick Flannery, Ann Finnan, Eilish Keenan, Doris McNeil, John McNerny, Patrick Murphy, Sheila O'Reilly, Teresa Perkins. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.
8. Let us pray for a moment for our own personal petitions.

Loving Lord, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we ask you to hear our prayers and to bless and protect us and everyone whom we know and love. Amen.

Archdiocese of Liverpool

Cautious reopening of our churches for public worship.

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.

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA

ALTAR SERVERS

Photograph taken on Palm Sunday (circa 2005)

Do you recognise yourself, family member or friend?



Please submit names to Fr. Kevin so that the parish photographic archives can be updated

The Most Rev. Marco Tasca OFM Conv.

(Minister General 2007-2019)

Episcopal Ordination ~ 11th July 2020.

Installed as Metropolitan Archbishop of Genoa, Italy, 11th July 2020.

