

St. Anthony of Padua Parish Newsletter

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

26th July 2020



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

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

New Parish email:

Parish Priest: Fr. Kevin 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: 9.30 - noon; 2 pm - 5.30 pm.

(Order of Friars Minor Conventual Registered Charity No 249881)

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES IN 2021

FIRST COMMUNION 2021: Registration for First Communion in 2021 closed last Friday. Applications will now be considered for 2022. All Sacramental programmes in the Archdiocese of Liverpool are parish-based and therefore registration was necessary. In the last five years the parish has oversubscribed to printed material and therefore it is unfair to expect the parish to cover the costs of unused materials.

CONFIRMATION: The Sacrament of Confirmation for Year 8 children will be celebrated in the Parish next year. Enquiries and registration can be made at the Parish Office.

ADULT CATECHESIS: Adults (18 years of age plus tax) who feel called to live the Catholic Faith are invited to make enquiries with Fr. Kevin.

REOPENING:

Last Sunday we opened for public worship following a lengthy closure. For the most part all those attending followed the directives. However, a few people avoided using the hand gel sanitisers. This weekend, contact details will be taken at 11.00am Mass, so that there can be no confusion if there is a covid-19 case. It was hoped that if everyone followed the guidelines, this exercise could be avoided. Depending on its success it may be introduced at all Sunday Masses. There has also been some disquiet regarding the distribution of Holy Communion after Mass. No exceptions will be made in this regard until instruction is received from the Archdiocese based upon government directives. We are blessed to be open for Mass. Please be reminded that a one-way system is in operation in Church. When going to Holy Communion please avoid crossing through benches. This prevents any form of cross contamination.

Face coverings: Since Friday 24th July face coverings became obligatory and must be worn at all times in Church. Children and those with medical conditions who find it difficult to wear a mask are exempt.

CLEANING PEWS: Grateful thanks to the volunteers who sanitise the pews after each Mass.

PARISH EMAIL ADDRESS: The parish has received a new email address stanthonyofpadua@rcaol.org.uk

Church Masses:

26. Sunday	9.30 am	Parishioners
	11.00 am	Deceased Friars
	6.00 pm.	Josie McVeigh (further treatment)
27. Monday	12.00 noon	Donors Intention
28. Tuesday	12.00 noon	Fergal Lawlor rip (Anniversary)
29. Wednesday	12.00 noon	Josie McVeigh (further treatment)
30. Thursday	12.00 noon	Donors Intention
31. Friday	12.00 noon	Josie McVeigh (further treatment)
01. Saturday	Friary Mass	Mr and Mrs Bate (Wedding Anniversary)
02. Sunday	9.30 am	Parishioners
	11.00 am	Donors Intention
	6.00 pm.	Donors Intention

Masses Received.

Church Humour:

A few minutes before the services started, the townspeople were sitting in their pews and talking. Suddenly, Satan appeared at the front of the church. Everyone started screaming and running for the front entrance, trampling each other in a frantic effort to get away from evil incarnate.

Soon everyone had exited the church except for one elderly gentleman who sat calmly in his pew without moving, seeming oblivious to the fact that God's ultimate enemy was in his presence. So Satan walked up to the old man and said, "Don't you know who I am?"

The man replied, "Yep, sure do."

"Aren't you afraid of me?" Satan asked.

"Nope, sure ain't," said the man.

"Don't you realize I can kill you with a word?" asked Satan.

"Don't doubt it for a minute," returned the old man, in an even tone.

"Did you know that I could cause you profound, horrifying, physical AGONY... for all eternity?" persisted Satan.

"Yep," was the calm reply.

"And you're still not afraid?" asked Satan.

"Nope."

More than a little perturbed, Satan asked, "Well, why aren't you afraid of me?"

The man calmly replied, "Been married to your sister for the last 48 years."

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"The disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both old and new."

St. Matthew brings to an end his chapter of parables on the nature of the kingdom of heaven with two on perception and choice, and one on the resolution of confusion. Finally there is a summary on the qualities of the true disciple.

If we read the whole chapter of parables straight through, what strikes home is the complexity of the kingdom. It is not immediately available to all. It is like a seed. It grows from insignificance to grandeur. It produces a variety of crops, and it gets mixed up with weeds. Anyone in pursuit of it needs to be able to decide what is of true value and what can be either tolerated or discarded. The hidden treasure, or the pearl of great price, needs then to be pursued with total commitment. We have to be prepared to give up all that we have in order to get it.

The task of discernment is made more complicated by the fact that the world is a mixture of good and evil that often, to the undiscerning eye, resemble each other. For the most part we just have to live with the mixture, for the real sifting or separating out will only be done at the end of time.

The scribe who becomes a disciple is the one who combines the learning of the Old Testament with that of the New. The true follower of Christ can take out of the storeroom of both Testaments the learning which is appropriate to the needs of a situation. Matthew, ending his chapter of parables on this note, will now return to his concern of how to create a Church. One thing he has illustrated is the sort of discernment which is required in those who take on such a task.

We sometimes look for programmes that can be applied like steam rollers to eliminate all the potholes or like flat irons to get rid of all the creases. Matthew's chapter of parables shows the inappropriateness of this desire for simple solutions. It is also an aid to those who are trying to be Church. The world does not go away or change its nature.

It is for us to discover the creative links between our beliefs and its hard realities. For this we need the backing of the teaching of both Old and New Testaments. They will put us in touch with what is of true value.

We also need to be aware of the complexity of the world in which we live, where such values may not be immediately discernible. There is an ongoing struggle between different philosophies, from altruism to utilitarianism to hedonism, from internationalism to nationalism, from focus on the needs of people to focus on the needs of the environment.

We have to learn how to evaluate the different messages we hear, the different pressures that are put upon us. We have to learn to choose and to support our choices. We also have to learn to tolerate. We need the excitement of great collectors, able to spot real value when it emerges and be able to give of our time and energies to help that value grow. Sometimes we have to dive in with total commitment, at other times we have to wait and see.

Working for the kingdom is an awesome adventure. In the weeks to come the extracts from Matthew's gospel will give us further insight as to how we need to go about our task.

Dear Lord, help us to put all our trust in you knowing that we make these prayers through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

1. We pray for Pope Francis as he asks us to think of our parish community as a *house among houses*. Let us give thanks for our own parish community and let it be a permanent sign of the Risen One in the midst of His people. Lord hear us.
2. We pray for the 600,000 people around the world that have died from the Coronavirus. As they now rejoice in the company of Christ let us remember their loved ones grieving. May their weary hearts be carried by the kindness and compassion of those supporting them. Lord hear us.
3. We pray for those that are lonely and isolated from society. May they be renewed and comforted with strength from the Holy Spirit to overcome their feelings of seclusion. Lord hear us.
4. We pray for all children, that they may be kept safe and protected. Equip parents and guardians to enable children in their care to thrive by continually encouraging and nurturing their hearts and minds. Lord hear us.
5. We pray to protect nature and the world around us. Help us focus our resources on taking care of our common home. Grant us your grace to lift our voices for lasting change so we may live tenderly on the earth. Lord hear us.
6. We pray for all Christians, as we mark the feast day of St James, let us all be travelling beacons of God's light and love. Let us hold the faith in unity of spirit and righteousness in life. Lord hear us.
7. Let us pray for the repose of the souls of those who have died recently and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time Fr. Leo Godfrey, Les Jones, Monica Elliott, Peter Harrison, Mima Duke, Veronica Doran, Catherine Gordon, Margaret Finegan, Sheila O'Reilly, Joseph Green, Maureen Birch, Milly Jeffreys, Mary McHale, Alice McLoughlin, George V. Landry, Jack Williams, Peter Murphy, Patricia Murphy, Christine Bird and Michael Denning. 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. Lord hear us.

Father Almighty, we place our lives in your hands and bask in your never-ending love. We make this prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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.

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 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 then 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.

Sign seen outside a church in the USA.

Jesus cleans the heart – we disinfect the pews

BEATITUDES

FOR A GLOBAL PANDEMIC

BLESSED ARE THOSE
WHO STAY INDOORS



FOR THEY HAVE
PROTECTED OTHERS

BLESSED ARE THE
UNEMPLOYED AND THE
SELF-EMPLOYED



FOR THEIR NEED OF
GOD IS GREAT

BLESSED ARE THE
CORNER SHOPKEEPERS



FOR THEY ARE THE
PURVEYORS OF SCARCE
THINGS

BLESSED ARE THE DELIVERY
DRIVERS AND THE POSTAL
WORKERS



FOR THEY ARE THE
BRINGERS OF ESSENTIAL
THINGS

BLESSED ARE THE HOSPITAL
WORKERS; THE AMBULANCE CREWS,
THE DOCTORS, THE NURSES, THE CARE
ASSISTANTS, AND THE CLEANERS



FOR THEY STAND BETWEEN US AND
THE GRAVE, AND THE KINGDOM OF
HEAVEN IS SURELY THEIRS

BLESSED ARE THE
CHECKOUT WORKERS



FOR THEY HAVE PATIENCE AND
FORTITUDE IN THE FACE OF
OVERWORK AND FRUSTRATION

BLESSED ARE THE
REFUSE COLLECTORS



FOR THEY WILL SEE
GOD DESPITE THE
MOUNTAINS OF WASTE

BLESSED ARE THE
TEACHERS



FOR THEY REMAIN
STEADFAST AND
CONSTANT IN
DISTURBING TIMES

BLESSED ARE THE CHURCH
WORKERS; THE DEACONS,
PRIESTS AND BISHOPS



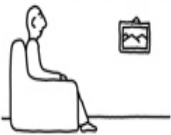
FOR THEY ARE A COMFORTING
PRESENCE IN A HURTING
WORLD AS THEY CONTINUE TO
SIGNPOST TOWARDS GOD

BLESSED ARE THE SINGLE
PARENTS,



FOR THEY ARE COPING
ALONE WITH THEIR
RESPONSIBILITIES AND
THERE IS NO RESPITE

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO
ARE ALONE,



FOR THEY ARE CHILDREN OF
GOD AND WITH HIM THEY
WILL NEVER BE LONELY

BLESSED ARE THE
BEREAVED,



FOR WHOM THE WORST HAS
ALREADY HAPPENED. THEY
SHALL BE COMFORTED

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO
ARE ISOLATED WITH THEIR
ABUSERS



FOR ONE DAY - WE PRAY -
THEY WILL KNOW SAFETY

BLESSED ARE ALL DURING THIS TIME WHO HAVE PURE HEARTS;
ALL WHO STILL HUNGER AND THIRST FOR JUSTICE; ALL WHO
WORK FOR PEACE AND WHO MODEL MERCY



MAY YOU KNOW COMFORT. MAY YOU KNOW CALM. AND MAY THE
GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, AND THE LOVE OF GOD, AND
THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, BE WITH US ALL. AMEN