

St. Anthony of Padua Parish Newsletter

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9th August 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

Community: Fr. Kevin OFM Conv. Parish Priest
Fr. David OFM Conv. and Fr. Vincent 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 – 11.30am

(Order of Friars Minor Conventual Registered Charity No 249881)

BAPTISMS will continue from October 2020 once the children and adults who have been awaiting baptism receive the sacrament.

CONFIRMATION: The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated in the Parish next year. Enquiries can be made at the Parish Office.

ADULT CATECHESIS: Adults (18 years of age and above) who feel called to live the Catholic Faith in full are invited to make enquiries at the Parish office.

WEDDINGS: Six months' notification is required for Marriages. Please check first with the parish office to ensure the date for a wedding is free before booking a venue for the reception. Marriages which were due to take place in 2020 have been rescheduled for 2021.

THE DIVIDERS in the benches have been removed to create a sacred space. The same procedures are to be followed for entering and exiting the Church. Please **FOLLOW** the arrows and the one-way system that is in place. Please **DO NOT** cut through the benches, otherwise we will have to return to the previous set-up.

Face coverings or a loose fitted scarf 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 everyone who helps with sanitising the pews after each Mass.

THE FEAST OF ST. CLARE: TUESDAY 11TH AUGUST: - **there will be** Mass at 12.00.

ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY is transferred to next Sunday 16th August.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Three Masses will take place on September 12th and two Masses on September 19th. Please continue to pray for the children.

WELCOME into the parish community Dottie Rose Glenn who was baptised this weekend.

THANK YOU for your continued support of the friars and church through your generous contributions.

FR. BENEDICT has withdrawn from the friary and parish.

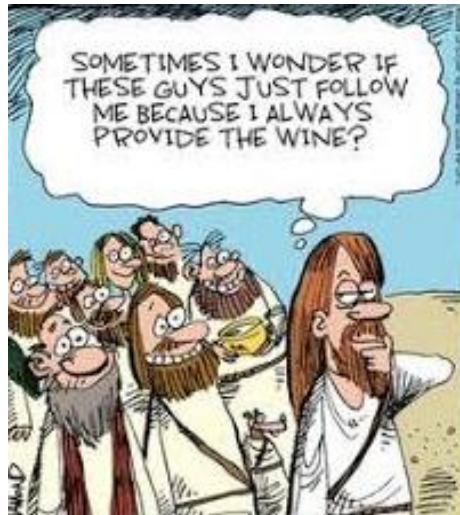
Please Note: we have returned to the old email address – saintanthonyofpadua@aol.com

Church Masses:

09. Sunday	9.30 am	Parishioners
	11.00 am	Thomas James Binsale rip (20 th Anniversary)
	6.00 pm.	John and Jane (both ill)
10. Monday	12.00 noon	Marie & Andrew Webb rip
11. Tuesday	12.00 noon	Tony Evans rip (LD)
12. Wednesday	12.00 noon	Colin Tranton rip
13. Thursday	12.00 noon	Kathleen O'Neil rip
14. Friday	12.00 noon	John and Jane (both ill)
15. Saturday	No Church Mass	
16. Sunday	Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
	9.30 am	Frances Peers rip (Birthday Remembrance)
	11.00 am	Parishioners
	6.00 pm.	Holy Souls

Masses Received. Masses Received. Marie & Andrew Webb rip, John and Jane (both ill), Tony Evans rip (LD), Kearon Worthington rip (A), Colin Tranton rip, Kathleen O'Neil rip, Holy Souls x 4, Frank Eustace rip (A), John Joseph Leonard rip (BR), Amber Leonard, Des Rooney rip (BR).

Church Humour



Thought for the day: "Lord, if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water."

The trouble with words is that, so often, they lock us into a particular meaning, and leave us on a single level of understanding. When we say someone was a little merry, what exactly do we mean? A little tipsy, or a little joyful?

And then there is the word vulgar. Does it imply bad taste, or simply rudeness? Or are we using it in the earlier, original sense of describing the ordinary, as when we say "the vulgar tongue"? And did you ever wonder how a fraction could be "vulgar"?

In translations, finding the right word to express the meaning of the text is sometimes difficult. This is particularly true of parts of the Old Testament when we are translating the wonderful poetry of the Hebrew writers, and words have layers of meaning which would have been clear to their contemporaries, but can be lost to us.

In today's extract from the Book of Kings we are introduced to two of the themes that run through today's readings: silence, and the unexpected.

Elijah was miserable. He felt himself to be a failure and he wanted to die. But he was ordered to eat, and to journey to Horeb, the Mountain of God. There he was told to stand on the mountain, where the Lord was to pass by.

Now in those days it was believed that thunder was the voice of God. The Hebrew word "kol" means voice as well as thunder and storm. There was an earthquake that split the rocks, and caused a mighty rush of wind. These violent manifestations would have been seen as God speaking.

And yet God was not in them. He was in the sound of a gentle breeze. The Hebrew also means a whisper, a calm silence, in one rendering "a sound of sheer silence". All this wealth of meaning contained in one Hebrew noun, which we can lose in the single word, breeze.

Then it was that Elijah covered his face with his cloak and knew the voice of God. And yet we are so afraid of silence.

The unexpected also surfaces in Paul's letter to the Romans. Here is a man whose very life is Christ, who said: "I live not I, but Christ lives in me." Yet he is ready to lose the essence of his being if by so doing he can save his fellow Israelites.

And in the Gospel? Where are these two themes?

Jesus sent his disciples away. He ordered them into the boat and told them to cross to the other side of the water. Then he went alone into the hills to find the silence that would allow him to be with his Father. These times of solitude seemed to be essential to his ability to continue; to be with his Father in stillness was like tapping into the source of his power, and realising who he was.

Not so for the disciples, who were rowing into the teeth of a gale. Perhaps they wondered why their Master had sent them into such danger. Storms blew up on Lake Galilee without warning, and worse than a storm was what they thought was a ghost.

But he came to them, and called out to them; and Peter on impulse walked towards him across the waves. Was he testing Christ or himself? His courage failed in the wind's strength, and in fear he began to sink, and cried out for help. Jesus put out his hand at once, and held him. Then came the silence as the wind dropped and the storm abated, and in the calm the disciples knew him as the Son of God.

God speaks to us in events. He is in the laughter and in the tears. He is with us in the ordinary, and in the sudden, unexpected storms.

He knows that we start things and do not always continue, and that we cannot always find the faith, let alone the courage to walk towards him. We imagine that he will override the noise of our world and tell us plainly in a loud voice what he wants us to do.

But he is unexpectedly silent. Yet if we find in the day a time to be silent with him - a short prayer in the morning, or a gathering into awareness at the bus stop or the traffic lights, or just the words "thank you" when we remember his goodness - then his voice will be in that stillness and his hand will hold us.

Bidding Prayers

19th Sunday Ordinary Time

9th August 2020

Heavenly Father, we come before you to seek your counsel and guidance. We place all our trust and hope in You, hear our prayers.

1. We pray for Pope Francis and follow his lead to encourage young Catholics to allow Jesus to transform their lives. Let us help our youth discover a new way to live beyond material possessions and provide the opportunity to encounter Jesus Christ in their daily lives.
2. We pray that all world leaders will remain vigilant with the overhanging threat of a second wave of the Coronavirus. May they be steadfast in protecting the health of their people first and foremost whilst safeguarding livelihoods and the economy.
3. We pray for people living in poverty. Let us think of those that are struggling to cope day after day, night after night. Let us share what we have with others and always do our best to help those in need.
4. We pray for those recently deceased as they now meet God face to face. As we mark *The Feast of the Transfiguration* let us remember the glory of the Lord as God, and His Ascension into heaven. Through grace we share in the divine promise of eternal life.
5. We pray for pupils as they wait patiently for exam results. Although this academic year has been like no other, we hope the results they are soon to receive will make them proud and set them well on their lifelong journey of learning.
6. We pray for all those living and working in care homes. Let us always value, respect and cherish our elderly neighbours and friends. Let us give thanks to those that work tirelessly to feed and care for them.
7. Let us pray for the repose of the souls of those who have died recently especially Tony Evans and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time Fr. Agnellus McLennan, Anne Boden, Patrick Mulcahy, Sally Comerford, Frank Eustace, Leslie Smith, Emily Walsh, John W Kelly, Breda Hughes, Thomas James Binsale, Daphne Kirten, Mary Noga, Hugh Clarkson, John Frain, Ernest Frantzen, Tracey Frantzen, Joan and Edward Whitehead, M. McClemens, Kitty Fahey, Maureen Stanch, Carmel & Gerard Hanley. 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.

God our Father, we place our lives in your hands. We make these prayers through Jesus, our Saviour. 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 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.

EL SALVADOR, RECTOR OF ROMERO SEMINARY ASSASSINATED *From the Vatican News Service – Saturday 8th August 2020*

Father Ricardo Antonio Cortez, Rector of Saint Óscar Arnulfo Romero major seminary in the diocese of Zacatecoluca, El Salvador, is murdered.

In a statement issued on Friday and transmitted via video, Bishop Elías Samuel Bolaños Avelar, announced the “tragic death” of Father Ricardo Antonio Cortez, Rector of San Óscar Arnulfo Romero seminary in the diocese of Zacatecoluca. He said that the Diocese’s “priests, men and women religious and faithful...lament” his death.

Death condemned

At the same time, the Bishop said, “we condemn and repudiate the vile assassination that he suffered.” The Bishop describes Father Cortez was “good, affable, dedicated to his flock and to the formation and education of the seminarians and to the members of the faithful he served.” Thus, his untimely and atrocious death is all the more “unexplainable”, the Bishops said.

Innocent blood shed

“The innocent blood of a good priests once again irrigates the land of El Salvador,” he said, recalling that this year the 40th anniversary of the martyrdom of Saint Óscar Arnulfo Romero, Brother Cosme Spessotto and four women religious from North America. “Once again, our Diocese is stained with the innocent blood of a good pastor dedicated to his sheep.” Bishop Avelar then proceeded to thank the forensic doctors and the Attorney General for their determination to undertake a criminal investigation into Father Cortez’s death.

Funeral arrangements

Father Cortez’s body was taken at midnight to the Zacatecoluca’s Cathedral. Bishop Avelar invited “the entire Episcopal Conference, the Diocesan clergy and clergy from other Dioceses” to the funeral Mass set to take place at 10:00am local time on Saturday. He will be buried on Sunday at 11:00 with homily close family members in attendance.

POPE FRANCIS IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLE OF LEBANON

From the Vatican News Service – Saturday 8th August 2020

Pope Francis donates €250,000 to assist the Church in Lebanon following a massive explosion on Tuesday in Beirut which killed over a hundred people and injured thousands.

In a gesture of solidarity with the people of Lebanon, Pope Francis has donated 250,000 Euro as initial aid to assist the Church in these moments of difficulty and suffering.

The Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development announced the Pope's donation in a statement on Friday. The donation "is intended as a sign of His Holiness's attention and closeness to the affected population and of his fatherly closeness to people in serious difficulty," the statement reads.

Pope Francis prays for victims of Lebanon explosion

Pope Francis's donation was sent through the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development to the Apostolic Nunciature of Beirut. It will serve to assist those affected by the explosion of 4th August.

On Tuesday evening, a massive blast ripped through the port of Beirut and the surrounding areas, killing over 100 people, injuring thousands and causing damage to buildings, including Churches and monasteries. Local authorities report that the explosion was caused by tons of ammonium nitrate stored in a warehouse in the port of Lebanon's capital.

The Church, through Caritas Lebanon and Caritas Internationalis, is helping to provide emergency assistance for those affected by the Beirut explosion.

Prayers for Lebanon

The Dicastery for Integral Human Development echoes Pope Francis's invitation to pray for Lebanon during the weekly General Audience on Wednesday:

"Let us pray for the victims, for their families; and let us pray for Lebanon so that, through the dedication of all its social, political and religious elements, it might face this extremely tragic and painful moment and, with the help of the international community, overcome the grave crisis they are experiencing, the Pope prayed.

Wishing you all a safe and pleasant week