



*"Charity is the soul of faith, makes it alive; without love, faith dies." St. Anthony of Padua*

## **Saint Anthony of Padua**

### **Catholic Parish**

**41 Bee Lane, Fordhouses  
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**Website: [www.stanthonyrcchurch.org](http://www.stanthonyrcchurch.org)**

**Parish Priest Fr George Thomas**

### **First Sunday in Lent**

**Saturday 8th Mar—Saturday after Ash Wednesday**

9 am Adoration 9.30am Holy Mass Malayalam

6 pm Holy Mass—Bridie Tannian RIP

**Sunday 9th Mar**

10am Holy Mass—Garrido Filipe Deceased Family

**Monday 10th Mar—Lent Feria**

No Mass

**Tuesday 11th Mar—Lent Feria**

*Perpetual Novena of St Anthony of Padua*

**9.00 am Silent Adoration 9.30am Holy Mass**

**Wednesday 12th Mar—Lent Feria**

9.30am Silent Adoration 10am Holy Mass

**Thursday 13th Mar—Lent Feria**

9.30am Silent Adoration 10am Holy Mass

**Friday 14th Mar —Lent Feria**

9.30am Silent Adoration 10am Holy Mass

3.00 pm Stations of the Cross

### **Second Sunday in Lent**

**Saturday 15th Mar—Lent Feria**

9 am Adoration 9.30 am Holy Mass Malayalam

6 pm Holy Mass—Bernette Canning Intention

**Sunday 16th Mar**

10am Holy Mass—Bernette Canning Intention

Gift Aid envelopes starting 6th April are now available for collection. If your circumstances have changed, you are no longer a tax payer or you have changed address, please let Linda in the office know. If you are a tax payer please consider Gift Aiding your donation to the church.

**Gift Aid—Forms are available in the porch and from Fr George.**

Gift Aid enables a registered charity to obtain an additional 25p from the Government for every £1 donated by an individual who pays income tax on their earnings or pension. To apply Gift Aid to your donations complete the Gift Aid section of the form, if you wish to apply Gift Aid and pay by standing order complete both parts of the Gift Aid form and return the completed form to the Parish Office. Thank you.

**RC Archdiocese of Birmingham Registered Charity 234216**

**Diocesan Website: [www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk) Diocesan Safeguarding: [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk)**

**St Anthony's Safeguarding Representative: Barbara Kosdoj [sg.stanthony.wolves@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stanthony.wolves@rcaob.org.uk)**

<b>Parish Finance SO Feb £541.70</b> Gift Aid           £ 88.00 Cash               £150.01 <b>Total               £238.01</b> <b>Cathedral Maintenance £53.02</b> <b>CAFOD collection 15/16th Mar</b>	<b>50/50 Club</b> February Winners—Congratulations to you all.  £100 M Knight   £50 M Evans   £50 V Leighton £25 R Brandon   £25 M Huntbatch
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**Please pray for the sick and those who care for them especially** Janet Cooper, Chris & Mary Scott, David Walsh, Trevor Quinton, Julie Kendrick, Margaret Smith, Harminster Luis, Martyn Davies, Mary Therese Richard, Doris McShane, Maura Gallagher, Carole Mountford, Mary Doll Gallagher, Robert and Eileen Palmer, Ann O'Rourke, Margaret Clemson, Maureen Tannian. *Names may be added to the list with the consent of the person*

**We pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** James Myles, George Lamsdale, John Mason, Sarah Beardsmore, William Dodd, Nicholas O'Connell, Eileen Orme, Michael Fenlon, Partick Groom, Graham Wood, Margaret Smith, Michael Moroney, Mary Evans, Alice Beddows, Augustine Fannion, Josef Michalski, Alice Callaghan, John Rowman, Mary Gibson,

Rota	Reader	Eucharistic Minister	Counting Team
Sat	Gemma	Richard	
Sun	Robert	Sandra A	Liz, Wendy, Anne
Sat (Next weekend)	Lewis	Martyn	
Sun	Sandra M	Gail	Anne, Wendy, Marie, Donna

**If you have a child attending a non Catholic School and would like them to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, please see Martyn or Fr George with proof of the child's baptism.**

**Preparation for Confirmation for Children attending non-Catholic schools**

Dates will be as follows: Friday 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th May and 6th June. 4pm in St Anthony's Sacristy. Archbishop Bernard will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation on Thursday 12th June.

Frugal Lunches in Lent are as follows:	Christian Aid Week starts on Monday.
6 March - Rakegate Methodist Church - Thursday 15 March - Epiphany. Oxley - Saturday 20 March - Baptist Church - Thursday 29 March- St Paul's Pendeford - Saturday 3 April - St Anthony's - Thursday 10 April - St James - Thursday  We need volunteers for 3rd April at St Anthony's - to make soup and help to set up the sacristy and run the Lunches.	Please pray for the people of Nairobi, Kenya and a small donation would be appreciated.

**Important Dates for your diary**

22nd & 23rd March	Parish visit Bishop Timothy Menezes	Sat/Sun Masses
13th April	Palm Sunday	10am
17th April	Maundy Thursday (Thursday of Holy Week)	7pm
18th April	Good Friday	3pm
19th April	Easter Vigil	8pm
20th April	Easter Sunday	10am

**The first reading, (Dt 26:4-10), explained:** The passage from Deuteronomy describes the ancient Jewish ritual of presenting the first fruits to God during the harvest festival to thank Him for liberating His people from Egypt and for strengthening them during the years of their trials and temptations in the desert. After setting forth the first fruits in front of the altar of the Lord, the people were to bow down in God's presence and hear the recital of the mighty acts of Yahweh in Jewish history which centered around three decisive events that shaped Israel's evolution as a people: (1) the demographic shift from Mesopotamia to Canaan to Egypt motivated by God's call of Abraham (Genesis); (2) the deliverance from Egypt of the enslaved Israelites, their passage to freedom, and their formation as a people covenanted to God (Exodus); (3) the promise of Canaan and Israel's eventual possession of it. This ritual was performed annually as part of the Covenant renewal ceremony known as the *Feast of Weeks* [Pentecost: the fiftieth day after the Passover and the day after the Seventh Sabbath which ended the seventh week after Passover, thus giving it the name *Feast of Weeks*]. The people formally declared their loyalty to the Covenant with Yahweh. By this ritual of thanksgiving, they thanked God for the gift of the land, the abundance they enjoyed due to God's provident care, and the gift of freedom. As Christians entering the Lenten season we thank God for (a) a new exodus, i.e., a new passage from slavery to freedom, from death to life; (b) a new and eternal Covenant sealed with the blood of Jesus on the cross; (c) a new manna in the gift of the Eucharist; (d) a new promised land over which God will reign: and (e) a new people of God, including all the peoples of the earth.