



# St. Anthony's R C Church

*Served by the Order of Augustinian Recollects (O.A.R.)*

Mill Street, Ottery St Mary, EX11 1AF. Tel: 01404 812372.

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**Parish Priest:** Rev Frank Umendia O.A.R.

St Rita's Centre, Ottery Moor Lane, Honiton, EX14 1AP.

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**Deacon:** Rev John Park. Tel: 01404 812622.

**Exeter Hospital Chaplain:** Fr. Kieran Kirby Tel: 01392 272815

**Exeter Hospital Chaplaincy:** 01392 402024

**Sunday Masses:** Saturday 6.00pm. Sunday 9.30am.

**HOLY DAYS** Masses at 9.30 am & 7.00pm. **Weekday Masses** 9.30am. **Morning prayer:** Mon to Sat 9.15am.

**Confessions:** after the daily 9.30am Mass (Otherwise on request)

**Parish Safeguarding Reps:** Paul Doyle Mobile 07971 936734 Email: [paul.doyle@icloud.com](mailto:paul.doyle@icloud.com)

and Deborah Stuart. 07973 153675 Email: [dstuart9753@gmail.com](mailto:dstuart9753@gmail.com)

**Items for Newsletter** by 12 noon each Wednesday to: [ottery@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:ottery@prcdtr.org.uk)

**Cheques** to be made payable to "PRCDTR Ottery St Mary RC Parish".

**Direct payments:** Sort Code 53-50-55. Ac. No. 05126126. NatWest Bank, Honiton.

Ottery St Mary RC Parish is part of Plymouth Diocese: Registered Charity 213227.

## 3rd Sunday of Advent - 13th Dec. 2020 - Psalter 3 Year B

### Collections

July: £930.00 + £457.99 by direct debit

August: £360.00 + £457.99 by direct debit, £55.00 for Sierra Leone Mission and £40.00 for CAFOD.

September: £255.00 + £457.99 by direct debit, £80.00 for Sierra Leone Mission and £50.00 for CAFOD.

October: £275.00 + £457.99 by direct debit, £40.00 for Sierra Leone Mission and £43.00 for MISSIO

November: £115.00 + £457.99 by direct debit, £30.00 for Sierra Leone Mission

Thank you.

### Things to pray for this week

*Pope Francis' intention for December:* For life of prayer. We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer. See also <https://thepopevideo.org/>

*Sea Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> December:* For all who sail the world to enable our safety and comfort · For families left behind, that they may know stability and peace · For an appreciation of the food and produce which comes to us through seafarers, that we may never take their work for granted.

### Mass attendance

The overall Mass attendance the week starting 10 to 16 August was 40 people.

The overall Mass attendance the week starting 7 to 13 September was 40 people.

The overall Mass attendance the week starting 5 to 11 October was 35 people

The overall Mass attendance the week starting 19 to 25 October was 42 people

The overall Mass attendance the week starting 26 to 1 November was 46 people

### Public Masses

Public acts of worship have now resumed and will continue regardless of which tier we are in. The obligation to attend Mass remains suspended - if you do not feel safe coming to Mass then please stay at home and don't worry – there is absolutely no requirement for you to attend Mass in person.

### Confessions

If you would like to receive the Sacrament of Confession, please see Fr Frank after the 9.30am Mass.

## **Church building development progress Phase 1**

**Week 1:** The FIJ Building Contractors of Ashburton have set up site and have demolished the existing half brick walls by the door, excavated the existing strip foundation, cut tarmac for drainage runs to soak away.

**Week 2:** They have excavated new foundation and concrete, laid new drainage, inserted manholes and back filled, and installed new strip foundations.

**Week 3:** They have reinforced the area that was sinking in the car park to avoid further damage in the future, started building the porch, removed the carpet tiles in the aisle and fixed the skirting board to the walls to get ready for painting.

**Week 3:** We haven't seen much progress this week.

**Week 4:** They have almost finished the porch brick work, formed top half of porch timber structure, installed timber posts, erected scaffolding, put new central heating pipes and radiators in the nave and started painting the room.

**Week 5:** They have stripped the roof slates, installed roof trusses, new lead valleys and covering, run cables for new lighting, and progressed with the painting and porch roof covering and interior development.

**Week 5:** The electrical work has been done and power restored, heating down pipes boxed, painting has been done as work allows, porch and nave roofs are prepared for tiling next week and work is progressing generally.

The porch and nave will be ready to be used by Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December, but the porch painting will be done in January.

**Fratelli Tutti** – Caritas Plymouth is preparing a number of short videos to offer a reflection on each chapter of the Encyclical. One reflection will be shared each week over the coming 8 weeks. We hope that the videos will provide food for thought and encourage people to read the full text. The reflections are all on our Diocesan Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/plymouthdiocese/videos>

## **Received from our Church Insurance**

Recently we received £9.154.08 for the works not done and the carpet, as we were undertaking extension works this year.

## **May he rest in peace**

We pray for the repose of the soul of Tom Penney who died on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December, a parishioner of St Anthony's for some years until they moved to Exmouth and then to Sidmouth. Our condolences and prayers to his wife Marie and family.

## **Christmas Masses**

The following note was enclosed in the Christmas card to parishioners: *'Dear Parishioners, it is most disappointing and regrettable that we can only accommodate 28 people at the 8.30 Christmas Eve Mass and at the 9.30am Mass on Christmas Day. But for the safety of everyone concerned we are to keep the social distance, wear a mask in church gatherings, have short Services and singing is not allowed. Church will be opened 30 minutes before Mass. May God bless you all! Fr Frank'.*

## **Why are we building an outside church porch?**

- To increase the room capacity of the church.
- To make it obvious that it is the main entrance to St Anthony's.
- To be more 'respectful' of the health and safety rules and regulations inside the church building.
- To be able to open the inside and outside double doors, when necessary, without causing so many little problems.
- To help create a quiet and prayerful atmosphere once inside the church before Services.
- To have easier access to open windows, water plants and light candles in window sills.
- To welcome people before they enter the church.
- To expand the space available for umbrellas, notice board and display of newspapers, magazines, newsletters and other publications.
- To keep the Clergy under cover when they dismiss the congregation as they go out after Mass and other Services.

## **Bishops issue updated statement on COVID-19 and vaccination**

Thursday, December 3rd, 2020 @ 3:46 pm

On behalf of the Bishops, the Department for Social Justice of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales has issued a follow up to its September 2020 statement – COVID-19 and Vaccination (24 September 2020).

The development of a vaccine against COVID-19 presents an important breakthrough in protecting others as well as oneself from the virus; a virus which has not only caused a global pandemic and led to a huge loss of life but has also placed a great burden on healthcare workers and systems.

Each of us has a duty to protect others from infection with its danger of serious illness, and for some, death. A vaccine is the most effective way to achieve this unless one decides to self-isolate.

At present, debate concerns the use of the vaccines developed by Pfizer & BioNTech, Moderna, and AstraZeneca. Some have questioned the use of the Astra Zeneca vaccine since it has been developed from cell-lines originating from the cells of an aborted foetus in 1983.

The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith and the Pontifical Academy of Life have expressed the view that one may in good conscience and for a grave reason receive a vaccine sourced in this way, provided that there is a sufficient moral distance between the present administration of the vaccine and the original wrongful action.

In the COVID-19 pandemic, we judge that this grave reason exists and that one does not sin by receiving the vaccine.

Both the Pfizer & BioNTech and Moderna vaccines have a different source since they are mRNA-based vaccines. On 2 December 2020, the Pfizer & BioNTech vaccine was approved for use in the UK.

Each Catholic must educate his or her conscience on this matter and decide what to do, also bearing in mind that a vaccine must be safe, effective, and universally available, especially to the poor of the world.

Catholics may in good conscience receive any of these vaccines for the good of others and themselves. In good conscience, one may refuse a particular vaccine but continue to have a duty to protect others from infection.

**Right Reverend Richard Moth**

*Chair, Department of Social Justice*

Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales