

St Anthony's and St Mark's

13th September 2020

24th Sunday – Year A

Ecclesiasticus 27:33-28:9

Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you; and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven

Psalm 102

The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy

Romans 14:7-9

Alive or dead, we belong to the Lord

Matthew 18:21-35

To be forgiven, you must forgive

Sick

Baby Emma Burnett, Robert Blair, Thomas McKell, John McFarlane, Jon Land, Margaret Harris, Tommy McKenzie, Helen Grassie

Recently Dead

Ethel Fairgrieve, Indy Perayarawar, Thomas Watters, Anne Creeley, Eilis McKaveney, Thomas Duffy, Peg Allison

Anniversaries

Gerry McLaughlin, Jean McCluskey, Peter Murphy

Reflection on the Readings

A big issue for any community: how often should you forgive a wrongdoer? Peter offers a generous suggestion – seven times? Peter must have thought he was doing well, but he's still wrong! How wrong is shown when Jesus talks of God's limitless forgiveness. Jesus tells of someone who was released from a debt of 10,000 talents: about 150,000 years' wages! How much more then was this person morally obliged to release his brother from a smaller debt.

Canon Niall Hayes RIP

Canon Hayes' funeral was celebrated by his brother last week along with Bishop Toal. We will have a Month's Mind Mass for him in St Anthony's on **Friday 25th September at 10am**. I do not know how many people will want to come to that, so it will be a Mass that people have to book in the usual way.

Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion

For your information, I have attached the letter sent to parents during the week regarding the future celebration of these sacraments.

Readers at Mass

Individuals can now read at Mass if they wish. You should sanitise your hands before coming forward, and you can remove your mask to read. Anyone wishing to volunteer should speak to Fr Dougan.

Special Collection

It is a bit more complicated than usual to have special collections, so the Bishop has decided the following: there will be one special collection a month that can be given at any time during the month. You can either place it in a clearly marked envelope and put it with your ordinary collection; or you can go to the Diocesan website and pay it directly: <https://www.rcdom.org.uk/>

This month's collection is for those students training for the priesthood and permanent diaconate.

Masses Streamed Online

There have been one or two problems with Masses on Facebook. This seems limited to St Mark's Masses. Hopefully, I will get to the bottom of it (when Fr Parkes comes back!). In the meantime. If you are watching on Facebook, please just be ready to move onto YouTube if it does not come on.

Fr Parkes

Fr Parkes will be with us for the next two weeks from Monday. Thereafter, he will take up his new appointment as Parish Priest of Sacred Heart and St Gerard's, Bellshill.

Weekday Masses

The opening of our churches for weekday Masses has gone smoothly so far with around 30 people at these. This means we can continue as we are, without having to book. A continued thank you to our stewards who make this possible.

This week, we will open the churches for weekday Masses as follows:

Tuesday 7pm – St Anthony's
Wednesday 10am – St Mark's
Thursday 10am – St Anthony's

When you arrive, you will be required to give your name and phone number and to follow the direction of the stewards. Face-coverings remain the norm.

Please try not to arrive at the last minute!

Please remember that there is still no obligation to attend Mass.

Re-opening for Mass

The restrictions for Sunday Masses are as follows:

- No more than 50 people per Mass
- The contact details of all those attending must be retained by the parish (in order to contact people in the event of an outbreak)
 - Face coverings, sanitising and social distancing still apply
 - There must be no singing (not even the priest!)

We therefore are going to have to apply a booking system for Mass. This may seem awkward, but it is the best way to fulfil our obligations to keep people safe. The obvious drawback is that not everyone has the internet. It is therefore ***up to you*** to support relatives and fellow parishioners in doing this.

For those who do not have access to the internet, they can telephone 07746 221205

Masses will be at the usual times (**Sat 5pm, Sun 10am, 11.30am & 5pm**).

If a Mass fills up, you can try for another. In the first instance, there will be availability to book for the next 3 weeks, but please try to leave space for others. It will take time, but we will get there!

To book a Mass go to:

<https://stanthonystmarkmass.eventbrite.co.uk>

Parish Contributions

There are now two ways to make an offering online. The first is as given on the parish website.
There is also an easier way via the Diocesan website:

1. Go to: https://www.mygivinghub.com/detailed/donate?charity_id=1086524
2. In “search” type in either St Mark or St Anthony and it will take you to the payment page
3. Follow the instructions

The same page also allows you to make to donations to things like Peter’s Pence.

Please let me emphasise: if this were to put you under a burden then do not make an offering!

Next Week’s Readings – 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 55:6-9

My thoughts are not your thoughts

Psalms 144

The Lord is close to all who call him

Philippians 1:20-24,27

Life to me is Christ, but death would bring me more

Matthew 20:1-16

Why be envious because I am generous?

Online Masses (Youtube Channel CatholicG73 and on Facebook)

Saturday 5pm

Sunday 11.30am

Tues 7pm (with Novena to St Anthony)

Wed-Fri 10am

Online Rosary

Sat 10am

Online Addresses

Facebook: [@stanthonyandmarkrutherglen](#)

Twitter: [@AnthonyandSt](#)

Website: <https://www.stanthonystmark.org.uk/>

Email: stanthonystmark@rcdom.org.uk

YouTube: CatholicG73 https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpz_3QFuQegEegyke9UtDtw

Other Resources

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en.html>

<https://www.rcdom.org.uk/>

<https://www.universalis.com/>

<https://camglenradio.org/> (107.9FM.)

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe you are present in the Blessed Sacrament.
I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul.
Since I cannot receive you Sacramentally now,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
As though you were already there,
I embrace you and unite myself wholly to you;
permit not that I should ever be separated from you.
Amen.

THE NINE TUESDAYS IN HONOUR OF ST ANTHONY

Novena

O glorious St Anthony, safe refuge of the afflicted and distressed, who hast revealed that all who piously invoke thee on nine consecutive Tuesdays shall experience thy powerful help, I a poor sinner, come to thee. Encouraged by thy promise, in all confidence, I implore thy counsel and thy protection.

Obtain help for me, O Blessed Anthony, in my present need.
(silently mention it)

If, however, the favour I ask be opposed to the Will of God and the welfare of my soul, do thou obtain for me such other graces as shall be conducive to my eternal salvation.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be (3 times)

O gentle and loving St Anthony, in whose arms the infant Jesus did linger, grant the intercessory aid and at thy word our prayers shall be heard.

Leader: Pray for us O Blessed Anthony!

All: That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray: O God, give ear on our behalf to the intercession of thy holy confessor Anthony, upon whom, adorned with heroic virtue, thou didst bestow the gift of miracles, even unto working prodigious signs and wonders.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

If then you ask for miracles, death error, all calamities,
the leprosy and demons fly, and health succeeds infirmities.

Response

*The sea obeys and fetters break, and lifeless limbs thou dost restore,
while treasures lost are found again,
when young and old thine aid implore.*

All dangers vanish at thy prayer, so too incessant care and need,
let all who know thy power proclaim, Padua tell, tis so decreed

Response

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit

Response

Leader: Pray for us O Blessed Anthony!

All: That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray: O God, may the intercession of Blessed Anthony, thy confessor, be a source of joy to thy Church,
that we may be always fortified by thy assistance and deserve to enjoy eternal happiness.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Brief of St Anthony

Behold the Cross of the Lord: Fly ye powers of darkness;
The Lion of the Tribe of Juda, the root of David has conquered.
Alleluia

Hymn to St Anthony

St Anthony, our Father dear, we meet around thy throne once more;
Thy wondrous praises to proclaim, and make them sound from shore to shore.

O ye who for great wonders seek, go visit once his sacred shrine;
Ah there you'll hear that even death has yielded to his power sublime.

Before his wisdom's wondrous rays, dark error takes its rapid flight;
The demons even cannot bear the starlight gleam of his chaste light.

And raging sea obeys his voice, and from the shore doth quickly fly;
For health, things lost and liberty, both old and young to him do cry.

Repeat 1st verse



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PARISH OF ST. ANTHONY'S & ST. MARK'S



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Rutherglen,
Glasgow G73 4DA

St. Anthony's
Mar Gardens,
Springhall,
Rutherglen G73 5JE
0141 634 3053



Charity No. SC011041

Parish Priest: Fr. Frank Dougan

2nd September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, I hope you are all well and coping with difficult times for yourselves and your children.

As a parish, like everyone else, we missed the regular face-to-face meetings and Masses that we became so used to. We did develop our online contact through the website, Facebook, Twitter and our online Masses via YouTube.

Now that we have the children back at school, it is time to look forward to celebrating some of the things that had to be postponed earlier in the year. We also can look forward to the year ahead. After having spoken to our two headteachers, I can give you information on one or two things.

First Reconciliation (Confession)

This was postponed at the last minute. That means that the boys and girls were well prepared, so we can go ahead quite soon with a little bit of revision. To make this simpler, we will not have a service with families etc. present. That would have meant waiting until 2021. Instead, I will go into the school on a weekday and celebrate it with the classes:

- In St Mark's, for P4 it will be in October, with a date to be fixed;
- In St Anthony's, the P3 and P4 will celebrate it together on a date/dates to be announced (possibly November)

It would be ideal to celebrate it as a community celebration as usual. However, we cannot tell what the restriction will be in the future, and it is important for the boys and girls to celebrate the Sacrament.

First Communion (P5)

I know that in some parishes, this will be celebrated over a number of dates in September / October. However, my preference is to wait until Spring next year (March or April). My thinking is this:

- The children have not been prepared for the Sacrament yet. This would take at least 6 weeks. This means we would have to set dates in October/November. You do not need me to tell you what the weather could be like;
- With present restrictions (no more than 50), we would either have celebrations with small groups of children and small groups of adults, or larger groups of children and no adults;
- We have a long tradition of making a fuss of the children all together. This is not essential, but I would like to try our best to maintain the traditional first communion day. While I cannot see into the future, we have a better chance of this happening in Spring;
- Bishop Toal wrote to the priests of Motherwell Diocese advising us not to hurry into this. He also suggested that there is a risk that a number of celebrations over Autumn could lead to a number of parties across households as well. Unfortunately, not everyone is careful about following the rules, so this could lead to a spike caused by First Communion parties

There is no ideal answer to this, and I know that there is no solution that will please everyone. However, I believe that this will be the best compromise. I will wait until December before setting dates, as we might have a better sense of where things are going by that point.

First Communion (P4)

We can set dates as usual for May (these will be set in October and announced firstly at parish Masses). However, we must be aware that things could always change according to the situation with the pandemic at the time.

Confirmations (P6/P7)

We are awaiting information from the Diocese on this.

In Summary, I propose the following:

1. First Reconciliation

- In St Mark's, it will be in October for P4; P3 to be announced;
- In St Anthony's, the P3 and P4 will celebrate it together on a date/dates to be announced (possibly November).

2. First Communion

- P5 sometime in March/April next year. Dates to be announced in December;
- P4 in May next year. Dates to be announced in October.

3. Confirmation

- We will await guidance from the Diocese.

I understand that this is not the perfect solution, and would welcome your thoughts. The final decision is to be made by me as parish priest, so I would ask you not to direct any complaints to the school.

If you do contact me, I will be interested to know how you have found the online Masses, particularly watching them with your children. It will also give me a chance to ask you what you have done to help your children's faith grow in this time when they have not been able to attend church or school. I look forward to hearing your thoughts.

I invite you to continue to pray for the school and the parish in the months ahead.

Yours faithfully,

Fr Frank Dougan