



LOOKING AHEAD...

SAVE THE DATE: *Sunday, 27 May 2018, after the 10:45 AM Mass (@12 Noon). Someone is celebrating a 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.*

**World Communications Day: 13<sup>th</sup> May, Sunday.** We are asked to pray for those who work in the media and a second collection will be taken after Mass to fund this important work. Communications, language, is what separates us from the animals. Most especially we are told by Jesus to communicate the Good News to one another and to the world. We should be able to speak about the hope we have in Jesus.

**What can urban theology do for us? A Bishop's Story.** Thursday, 17 May, Christ the King Parish Room, Princes Rd., Eastbourne BN23 6HT. Entrance FREE. 7:00 PM for 7:30 – 9:00 PM. Bishop Laurie has written extensively on urban theology and, as a parish priest, worked with Hell's Angels and Skinheads. Further info: Alex 07957 632 208; Edward 01424 219 788; Julia 01424 842 314; John 01323 726 334.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY: CHURCHES TOGETHER IN RYE & DISTRICT  
14<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> May: services at 10:00 AM each day.  
Monday & Tuesday at Rye Methodist

**WEDNESDAY HERE AT SAINT ANTHONY'S**

Thursday at St. Mary's  
Friday at Playden  
Saturday 8:00 AM Baptist Church

**A TASTE OF SPRING:** A feast of music and verse by local artists in aid of Bible Society providing trauma healing and support for Refugees in Jordan. FRIDAY, 11<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 6:30 PM in Rye Baptist Church. Entry by ticket £8, including buffet supper in the interval. Tickets can be obtained from: 01797 214 089.

WEDNESDAY, 13 JUNE 2018

The Solemnity of Saint Anthony of Padua  
Franciscan Priest and Doctor of the Church  
The Patron and Protector of our Parish

MASS AT 11:00 AM

LUNCH AT 12:30 PM AT SIMPLY ITALIAN  
Cost: £21.50

(includes staff gratuities, but NOT drinks.)  
Please give your money (cash or cheque made out to  
"SAINT ANTHONY OF PADUA CHURCH"  
to Christopher Rowe  
in an envelope clearly marked with  
name(s) and phone number.

RAFFLE: WE NEED PRIZES!  
Profits to go to the Rye Food Bank

Menu (briefly)  
Pollo: Chicken breast with spinach and tomatoes  
Spigola: Fillet of seabass and fried, potatoes  
Lonza di Maiale all Senape: Roasted Pork, roasted potatoes, veggies  
Tagliatelle Dell'Orto: Red peppers, mushrooms, spinach, tomato sauce

WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE OUR BIGGEST CROWD EVER!

PLEASE SIGN-UP EARLY!

**St. Peter of Tarantaise:** Cistercian Archbishop. Peter was born near Vienne, in Dauphine, France, and joined the Cistercian Order at Bonnevaux at the age of twenty with his two brothers and father. Known for his piety, at age thirty he was sent to serve as the first abbot of Tamie, in the Tarantaise Mountains, between Geneva and Savoy. There he built a hospice for travelers. In 1142, he was named the Archbishop of Tarantaise against his wishes, and he devoted much energy to reforming the diocese, purging the clergy of corrupt and immoral members, aiding the poor, and promoting education. He is also credited with starting the custom of distributing bread and soup, the so-called May Bread, just before the harvest, a custom which endured throughout France until the French Revolution. After thirteen years as bishop, Peter suddenly disappeared. Eventually he was discovered serving as a lay brother in a Cistercian abbey in Switzerland and was convinced to return to Tarantaise and resume his episcopal duties. Trusted as an advisor by popes and kings, he defended papal rights in France and was called upon to assist in bringing about a reconciliation between King Louis VII of France and then Prince Henry II of England. Peter was canonized in 1191. He should not be confused with Peter of Tarantaise, who became Pope Innocent V. **[Comment:** I don't suppose any national leader would consider asking a saint to settle disputes among nations. The saint brings with him or her the Peace that the world cannot give, the Shalom that Jesus gave to His disciples on that first Easter Night and for which the Jews had prayed for thousands of years. Anything less than this Peace is "fake" and only the cessation of fighting until either side thinks it has the advantage over its opponents and starts fighting again. I don't see how any politician or diplomat can bring the true Peace that the world needs without submitting to the Laws of God and the Laws of Nature. We used to have nations that consider themselves Catholic (Spain, Ireland, Italy, e.g.). Now, like other nations, they have decided that paganism works better than Faith. So far, the record is not good. St. Peter urges us to pray for our leaders, but we should remind our leaders about these truths frequently and firmly.]

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**In the footsteps of the saints** by Mags Ivatts, <http://www.ryenews.org.uk/living/in-the-footsteps-of-the-saints>



Recently a group from the Catholic church in Rye, St Anthony of Padua, set out on a pilgrimage. There is usually something romantic associated with a journey described as a pilgrimage. Such journeys are so very ancient and always to a spiritual destination. Historically a pilgrimage would be associated with physical hardships or the challenge of difficult terrain but, for the group of Catholics setting out from Rye to Rome at 5:15am, it was the early morning time of the flight from Gatwick that presented the biggest challenge. There were 16 in our group led by our parish priest Father Matthew Chadwick OFM Conv.

Being a small parish and having a small church, many of us do not meet each other during the course of normal worship and Mass attendance, so it was particularly enjoyable to be able to travel together. Our group was a mixture of people, some new to Rye and others who have been attending St Anthony's for many decades. We all felt eager anticipation to visit Assisi, most especially the great

Basilica of St Francis, consecrated in 1253. This was especially the case for our parish priest who is a Franciscan friar from America. On arrival in Rome we all transferred to a coach to Assisi and arrived in time to for a short visit to the Basilica before dinner.

It is apparent from first glance that the Basilica of St Francis is an extraordinary showcase of paintings. In fact, it contains the most complete mural decoration of the 13th and 14th century to be found in Italy. The following day we all thoroughly enjoyed a tour of the Basilica, a particular highlight being Father Matthew celebrating Mass at the site of the tomb of St Francis. We visited St Francis' house, and the sites around Assisi closely associated with the life of St Francis and St Clare and the beginning of the Franciscan movement.

We then transferred to Padua by coach where our hotel was directly opposite the Basilica of St Anthony, the famous Franciscan saint after whom our parish church is named. Padua is a beautiful medieval town and includes the celebrated Capella degli Scrovegni, a chapel decorated with some of the finest frescos by Giotto.

It was extraordinary and mind-boggling to realise that this small, beautiful chapel with its vibrant bright colours was being decorated at the same time as Dante wrote the *Inferno*.

Our six-day trip came to an end too quickly and too soon we were all back on the plane to Gatwick and on our way home to Rye. It was in many ways a refreshing trip, to be in the company of like-minded others, and to be able to discuss Faith and spirituality openly is a rare experience these days.

*Our Lady, Queen of the Franciscan Orders, pray for us on our pilgrimage through life!*