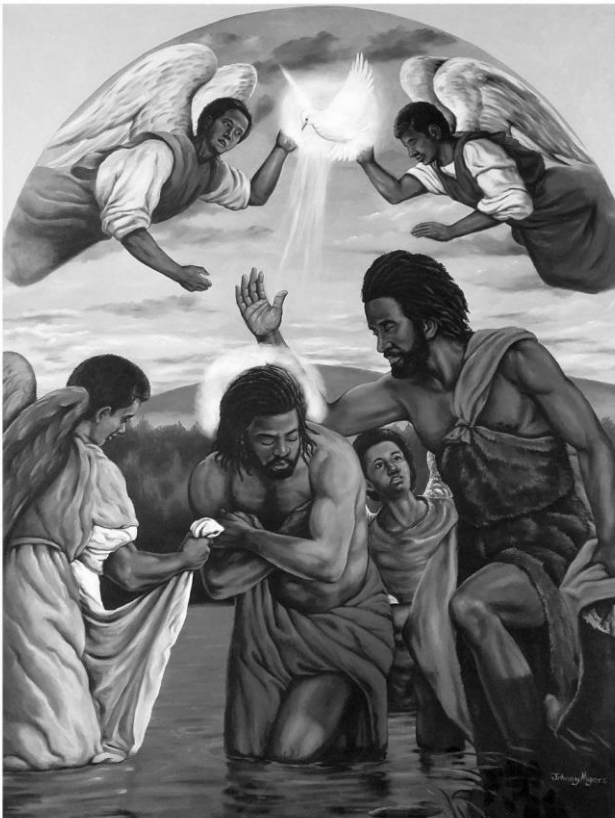


*Sunday 16 January 2022
The Parish of
S Michael and All Angels.
Abbey Wood.*

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME



MASS THIS WEEK

Sun 16 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PARISH MASS 10:00

Mon 17 Saint Antony, Abbot Mass 18:00

Tue 18 Tuesday of week 2 in Ordinary Time Mass 09:00

Wed 19 Wednesday of week 2 in Ordinary Time
or Saint Wulstan, Bishop, Religious Mass 09:00

Thu 20 Saint Sebastian, Martyr Mass tba

Fri 21 Saint Agnes, Virgin, Martyr Mass 09:00

Sat 22 Saint Vincent, Deacon, Martyr Mass tba

Sun 23 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

(SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD)

PARISH MASS 10:00

God is here for you everyday!

OUR PARISH LIFE

ARRANGEMENTS for baptisms, weddings etc and requests for references for school forms, passports etc can next be arranged with Fr David in church at 18:45 tomorrow Monday 17 January.

GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS. The Government has made the wearing of face coverings in places of worship mandatory. We ask you to respect this.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL. We have an informal meeting after Mass today, when we will begin our new stage of thinking about the Mission of our Parish.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS. You may have noticed that we have resumed our tradition of passing a collection plate around during the Offertory Rite. From this Sunday we also resume our custom of the gifts of bread and wine being brought to the altar by members of the congregation. This is a better expression of us bringing our lives with the gifts in offering.

As we resume this it is hoped that we can do this in a more representative way so that with different families or groups bringing up the gifts each week – but it may in practical terms take short while to fully develop thus.

GIVING ON YOUR PHONE If you would like to give by your phone the church's details are as follows
Sort Code 30-99-88, Account No 00160771, Account Name is P C C St Michael and All Angels Abbey Wood.

***Please support your church
by giving generously in faith.***

DIARY. We have a new diary for the Parish for 2022 in the Sacristy. We recognise that a physical diary for the Parish is not an ideal situation and that it presents particular difficulties, but it is all that we are able to do at the present moment. If you are a Parish Officer or are involved in organising events, please take time this week to make sure that everything for the coming year is in it. The Diary is for all Parish, Church, Hall and Social Club Events.

The Back of the Diary has a planner for 2023, please mark dates for next year in there – some pages have been set aside near the back of the diary for you to write up 2023 entries in more detail. A page has also been reserved for 2024.

BUSY, BUSY, BUSY. This week is looking very busy in our Parish, so please bear with us as we get through it all. We have a lot to do!

Church and Parish Committees and meetings this Month

Sunday 16 Special PCC to begin our Mission Thinking.

Tues 18 Mission Committee

Wed 19 Social Club Committee

Fri 21 Meeting with Architect and Lighting Consultants.

Tue 25 Standing Committee

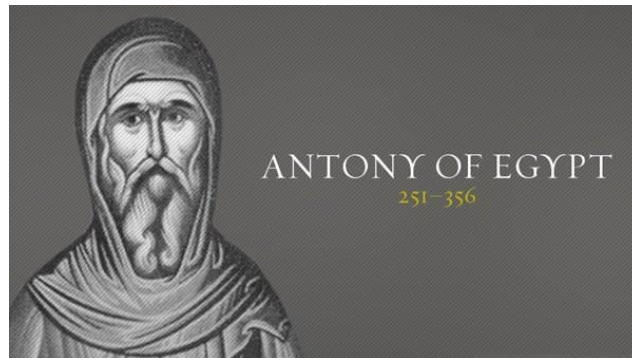
PARISH PRIEST. Fr David Sherratt. Tel. **07796 432357**

email dasherratt@aol.com

Assistant Priest Fr Derek Robinson

Churchwardens Mr Peter Ludlow, Mr Christopher Harper

Safeguarding Officer Mrs Susan Robinson
michaels.church



Saint Antony receives his vocation

When Antony was about eighteen or twenty years old, his parents died, leaving him with an only sister. He cared for her as she was very young, and also looked after their home.

Not six months after his parents' death, as he was on his way to church for his usual visit, he began to think of how the apostles had left everything and followed the Saviour, and also of those mentioned in the book of Acts who had sold their possessions and brought the apostles the money for distribution to the needy. He reflected too on the great hope stored up in heaven for such as these. This was all in his mind when, entering the church just as the Gospel was being read, he heard the Lord's words to the rich man: *If you want to be perfect, go and sell all you have and give the money to the poor – you will have riches in heaven. Then come and follow me.*

It seemed to Antony that it was God who had brought the saints to his mind and that the words of the Gospel had been spoken directly to him. Immediately he left the church and gave away to the villagers all the property he had inherited, about 200 acres of very beautiful and fertile land, so that it would cause no distraction to his sister and himself. He sold all his other possessions as well, giving to the poor the considerable sum of money he collected. However, to care for his sister he retained a few things.

The next time he went to church he heard the Lord say in the Gospel: *Do not be anxious about tomorrow.* Without a moment's hesitation he went out and gave the poor all that he had left. He placed his sister in the care of some well-known and trustworthy virgins and arranged for her to be brought up in the convent. Then he gave himself up to the ascetic life, not far from his own home. He kept a careful watch over himself and practised great austerity. He did manual work because he had heard the words: *If anyone will not work, do not let him eat.* He spent some of his earnings on bread and the rest he gave to the poor.

Having learned that we should always be praying, even when we are by ourselves, he prayed without ceasing. Indeed, he was so attentive when Scripture was read that nothing escaped him and because he retained all he heard, his memory served him in place of books.

Seeing the kind of life he lived, the villagers and all the good men he knew called him the friend of God, and they loved him as both son and brother.

From the Life of Saint Antony by Saint Athanasius, bishop



Saint Sebastian Feast Day 20 January.

St Sebastian was martyred early on in the persecutions of Diocletian. St Ambrose knew of him and states that he was already venerated in Milan in the fourth century. One of the seven chief churches of Rome was built over his grave in 367. The tradition often portrayed in paintings is that his persecutors tried to kill him by shooting him with arrows, but he was saved from death by a pious woman called Irene. Later he died by being clubbed to death. Because he survived the first attempt to kill him, his prayers are often asked in time of plague and epidemics.