

St Anthony of Padua

Presbytery: Cadley Causeway, Fulwood, Preston PR2 3RX
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Priest: Fr. Peter Draper. (Tel: 725193)
Deacon (retired): Rev. Tom Butler

Sunday Masses: 6.00pm (Saturday Vigil), 9.30am.
Weekday Mass: Mon-Wed, Fri: 9.15am. (Thurs 9.15am at Holy Family)
Confessions: 5.30—5.50pm

Annexe: 725544 Social Centre: 735963 Primary school: 726621
Playgroup/Preschool 07963 700591

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Ways of Knowing

John said, "I did not know him". Of course he knew Jesus, his cousin, while at the same time he did not know him, he did not know his true identity. However, after his experience of the baptism of Jesus, John could say: "I myself have seen that this is the Son of God." His openness to the revelation of Jesus' true identity was no doubt due to a gradual inner transformation that took place during his time spent in solitude and contemplation. Is this the message that today's gospel holds for us?

'Contemplation is an entirely different way of knowing reality and has the power to move us beyond words, theories, doctrines and dogmas so that we will come to know the very Source of everything that exists. The goal of contemplation is not success, only the continuing practice itself.' [1] 'Contemplation is any way one has of penetrating illusion and touching reality.' [2] 'Contemplative Prayer gradually detaches us from the God we think we know and it gradually increases our awareness of the God who actually is and whom we don't know. Contemplation reveals more and more of the mystery of silence and the importance of receptivity over effort. Silence leads to stillness; stillness leads to surrender. At first our experience may be one of emptiness but we are not speaking of just emptiness, but of an emptiness that is beginning to be filled with a Presence. Perhaps we could say that contemplation occurs when interior silence morphs into Presence. This Presence, once established in our inmost being, might be called spaciousness. There is nothing in it except a certain vibrancy and aliveness. You're awake, but awake to what, you don't know and cannot describe.' [3] 'Contemplation is another word for prayer, a kind of prayer that doesn't seek to fix, control, or explain but surrenders to Presence.' [1]

'Is there anything I can do to make myself enlightened?'
'As little as you can do to make the sun rise in the morning.'
'Then of what use are the spiritual exercises you prescribe?'
'To make sure you are not asleep when the sun begins to rise.' [4]

Adapted:[1] Richard Rohr [2] Parker Palmer [3] Thomas Keating [4] Anthony de Mello

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
15th January 2023 missal p693

DIARY AND MASS INTENTIONS

for the week beginning Saturday 14th January 2023

Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Joe Morrison	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	Ray & Doris Wilson Geoff Plumb	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Day of Prayer for Peace
Mon 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Maureen Dignon	
Tue 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Tony Slater	Feast: St. Anthony
Wed 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	George Flinter	
Thur 9.15am	<i>H.Family</i>	For our parish	
Fri 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Bob Taylor	
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Bill Gornall & Harry Jones	Feast: St. Agnes
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	For our parish Martin Banks	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Last Weekend: Attendance: 203 (93 & 110). Offertory: £6

Thank you for your generosity.

Masses received this week: Bill Gornall, Harry Jones, George Flinter, Special Intention.

Tea, Coffee, cake etc. served in the Padua Room after weekend Mass.

Lancaster Diocesan Directories 2023

Price is £5.00 or £6.00 for ring-bound. Please put payment in the slot in the green safe.

Sacrament of Confirmation

We are hoping to welcome Bishop Paul to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation in the new year for those in Years 8 & 9 (and above). There is an application form at the back of church.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for those who are sick, especially Mary Lawler, Theresa Wilkinson, Jo Counsell, Alice Myerscough, Chris Goldsmith, Bill Embrey, Maureen Cafferkey, Carole & Gary Adnitt, Les Farrer, Rev. Tom Butler, baby Mairead, Vera Bolton.

We pray for those who have died recently: Bill Gunter, Ramon Consiglio; and those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Edith Higginson, John Howarth, Francis Cross, Eileen Bashall, Mary Hardy, Matt Moran, Alice Partington, Roderick Taylor, Bob Taylor, Jean Mangan, Stuart Cave, John Magee, Geoffrey Moss, Joseph Holden, Stephen Gardner, Johanna McDonnell, Marion Barton, Ilena Taylor, Alexander Latham. May they rest in peace.

'Catholicism'

The series of films about "Catholicism" have started again. Wednesdays at 7.00pm in the Padua Room. This session covers the Sacraments. All are welcome; you do not need to have seen the other episodes.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

You are invited to join the Christian Churches in Fulwood & Broughton for a Service on Sunday 22nd January 2023 at Fulwood Methodist Church at 3:00 pm

Parish Charities

Our Parish Charities in 2022 raised £2620, and that this will be split equally between 'The Rwanda Group Trust' and 'Life'. Thanks to all who supported the different fund raising events.

The Parish Charity for 2023 is 'The Hygiene Bank'. Details on the poster in the porch.

First Reconciliation and Holy Communion

We will be starting the main preparation on Wednesday 25th January. We'll send out a reminder through school. Anyone not in St. Anthony's school should have a word with Fr. Peter as soon as possible.

St. Walburge's Spire at Night

An opportunity to climb St. Walburge's spire 14th, 21st January from 4pm to 8pm. All proceeds will go to assist in the maintenance of this structure and especially the restoration of our amazing Rose Window. Children over 7 years welcome. The times of access are 4 pm to 8pm and ticket price is £10 (plus eventbrite fee). Tickets can be purchased on line at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/spire-at-night-tickets-469175465447?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>.

Mornings with James Finley Beginning February 2023

These are now going to be scheduled as Preparation for Easter. One-hour sessions of reflection with James Finley's contemplative insights and beautiful poetic imagery. They will take place every Thursday in March: 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th from 10.30am – 11.30am. Evening sessions could also be offered if needed. The venue is still to be confirmed.

Please contact Cathy York at cathmyork@gmail.com or 01772 723568

CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

Could your New Year's resolution be getting more involved in the life of our church? What aspects of church brings you life or joy? Could you give a bit of time to help those parts flourish? Could you help in our parish, bringing people together to help build a better world or by visiting local schools? Or raise a voice and campaign for justice or perhaps speak for CAFOD throughout the diocese? Could you support local volunteers or share your office skills to help CAFOD keep costs low? Training and support is provided. See cafod.org.uk/Volunteer for more information or get in touch with Emma and Patrick at lancaster@cafod.org.uk

Cups & Saucers

Our Social Group give thanks for the cups and saucers to be used for the Afternoon Teas etc. If you have any redundant crockery they'll be glad to receive them.

Fulwood Farmers' Market

The first of 2023 will be held on Saturday 28th January from 9.30am-1pm at Fulwood Methodist Church, Watling Street Road, PR2 8EA. Come and stock up on fresh local produce and Fairtrade products, and stay for a drink and a snack.