

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 Covenant Books: 07396 796969

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Love your neighbour as being yourself

The 4th-century theologian Jerome tells a story about the Apostle John. John was old and frail, unable to walk, so his disciples would carry him into the gathering of believers on the Lord's Day. Every week these were his words to the congregation: "Little children, love one another." This went on week after week, until at last, more than a little weary of these repeated words, his disciples asked him, "Master, why do you always say this?" "Because," John replied, "it is the Lord's command, and if this only is done, it is enough." [1]

The teaching of Jesus, to love God and our neighbour as ourself, appears in the Gospels eight times. This should help us realise the significance of this teaching but I wonder how many of us, when reading today's gospel, inwardly said, "I know this. I have the T-shirt." We skim-read the words. Or, if we do stay with them for a short while, we may reflect on traditional interpretations :

- Love God and love others. You can't have one without the other.
- Love your neighbour as yourself. "Do to others what you would have them do to you," or "Love your neighbour as much as yourself."

'If we listen closely to Jesus however, there is no 'as much as' in his admonition. It is "Love your neighbour as yourself." Or 'Love your neighbour as being yourself—as a continuation of your very own being. It's a complete seeing that your neighbour is you. There are not two individuals out there; there are simply two cells of the one great Life.' [2]

'Neuroscience can demonstrate that when a loving or positive thought comes our way, we have to savour it consciously for at least fifteen seconds before it can imprint itself in our "implicit memory;" otherwise it doesn't stick. We must indeed savour the good in order to significantly change our way of seeing and being.' [3] "Love your neighbour as being yourself."

Valarie Kaur, an American lawyer, educator and faith leader, invites us to look upon the face of anyone and say: "You are a part of me I do not yet know. I will listen to your story. Stories can see no stranger." [4]

'Our Gospel story ends in stunned silence. Silence is the appropriate first response to the radical love we're called to. We dare not speak of it glibly. We dare not cheapen it with shallow sentiment or piety. Rather, let's ask for the grace to receive it as the wise scribe received it: in awed and grateful silence.' [5] Then, when we are ready, 'let's acknowledge God's presence within us and reach out and affirm God's presence in the other.' [3]

[1] Michael Pahl [2] Cynthia Bourgeault, [3] Richd Rohr [4]TED talk. Valarie Kaur [5]Debie Thomas

31st Week in Ordinary Time

3rd November 2024

Year B

Missal 941

DIARY and MASS INTENTIONS

for the week beginning Saturday 2nd November 2024

Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Angela Russell	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	Osbaldeston & Golder families For successful op (Cara)	31st Sunday in Ordinary Time
Mon 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Karen Hardman	<i>Feast: St. Charles Borromeo</i>
Tue 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Special Intention (TB)	
Wed 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	For our parish	
Thur 9.15am	<i>H.Family</i>	Lancs Infirm Secular Clergy	<i>Feast: St. Willibrord</i>
Fri 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	James Airey & family	
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	For our parish	<i>Feast: Dedication of Lateran Basilica</i>
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	Robbie & Patsy Hasson For our parish	32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Remembrance Sunday

Last Weekend: Offertory: £587.95, Sick & Retired Priests £82.80. (plus £43 Offertory & £47 Sick & Retired by card). Attendance: 244 (97 + 147). Thank you for your generosity.

Masses received this week: Angela Russell (x 4), Ann Thompson, Intention (MH), Karen Hardman, for successful operation (Cara), Rosalinde Forrest, Patsy & Robbie Hasson.

Tea, Coffee, cake etc. is served in the Padua Room after both weekend Masses.

Fairtrade Stall: - will be open this weekend. With some Christmas items.

St. Anthony's SVP Group

If you would like to join one of our SVP meetings you are most welcome. Our next meeting will be Wednesday 11am November 13th in the Padua Room. Thank you everyone for supporting your SVP here at St Anthonys.

Welcome into the family of faith:

Bobby and James Bamber who were baptised in St. Anthony's last week.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for those who are sick, especially Jo Counsell, Bill Embrey, Marie Morris, Michael Connors, John Mulholland, Deacon Tom Butler, Deacon Michael Dolan, Fr. Alf Parker; We pray for those who have died recently: Rosalinde Forrest, Angela Russell, Jade Park; and those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Belle Duckworth, Gwendolyn Ward, Thomas Myerscough, Maria Wilson, Joseph Morrison, Matteo Marino, Derek Boyle, Jim Bashall, Patrick Bolger, David Hardman.

May they rest in peace.

Schools Academies

In line with the Bishop's vision for all Catholic schools within Lancaster Diocese to join a Catholic Multi Academy Trust, we are undertaking a consultation period to explore St. Anthony's Catholic Primary School converting to academy status and joining the Mater Ecclesiae Catholic Multi Academy Trust. The consultation will run from Friday 1st November until 3pm on Friday 29th November. Further information, including frequently asked questions, is available on the school website

<http://www.st-anthonys.lancs.sch.uk/consultation/>

The governors of St. Anthony's Catholic Primary School welcome the views of parents, staff, parish and the wider community. Comments and questions can be emailed to the headteacher using this email address - consultation@st-anthonys.lancs.sch.uk Following the consultation, governors will meet to make a decision as to how to proceed. Their decision will be published on the website on Friday 6th December.

New Priest for our Diocese

Fr. Simon Marley was ordained by Bishop Paul in the Cathedral last week. He will be based in Kendal with Canon Hugh Pollock VG. Our congratulations and prayers to Fr. Simon. He served in our parish very briefly last year.

The Salvation Army Christmas gift collection.

The Salvation Army are running their Christmas Toy Appeal once again (deadline end of November). We have taken part before. There are details and a box at back of church. For all ages 0-15. Deadline for donations is the end of November.

Suggestions for parish charities 2025.

Every year we choose one charity at home and one further away. So far this year we have raised over £3700 for Mary O'Gara Foundation and Sightsavers, and are on target to raise well over £4000. Suggestion slips are available at the back of church. Deadline for suggestions end of November.

Donating by Card

Last weekend we introduced an alternative way of donating to the Offertory collection or to social events etc. Paying by card is fast becoming the norm these days so we hope people find this facility useful. It attracted a good deal of attention last weekend and several people used it (see the figures with the offertory total opposite). There was a slight glitch in internet access on the Sunday morning. That might have been because the internet was also being used to stream the Mass but we hope it was a one-off. Angela and Louise will be on hand again to explain how to use it for anyone who is unsure. Donations can be Gift Aided.

The New Lectionary

The new Lectionary will be introduced from the first Sunday of Advent (1st December). The prayers remain the same but the translation of the scriptures will be from the English Standard Version (ESV). We have permission to print the new Readings on our weekend Newsletter. There are new Missals available at £19.95. If you want a copy put £20 in an envelope and we'll bring copies here for you.

Wednesday Evening Group.

This week its the second part of the documentary "Liberating a Continent: John Paul II and the Fall of Communism". Narrated by Jim Caviezel, the film explores one of history's greatest examples of the triumph of spiritual power over violence and oppression. Wednesday 7.00pm in the Padua Room.