

St Anthony of Padua

Presbytery: Cadley Causeway, Fulwood, Preston PR2 3RX

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Website: www.stanthony's-rc-church-preston.org.uk/

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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Longing

When we reflect on the Beatitudes we are struck by the leitmotif or the recurring theme of longing, 'a yearning for a fulfilment that somehow lies beyond us. It flows from our deeply rooted human incompleteness. We all long for something more – for others as well as ourselves.' [1] Our effort to live the Beatitudes is our attempt 'to make sense of that intense and disturbing imperative for a completeness that always eludes us.' [2] Jesus sees our sincere attempts and says to us, "Blessed are you."

Archbishop Em Elias Chacour writes: '*Blessed* is the translation of the word *makarioi*, used in the Greek New Testament. However, when I look further back to Jesus' Aramaic, I find that the original word was *ashray* which means to set yourself on the right way for the right goal.' 'Jesus is not talking about doing virtuous deeds so we'll be rewarded later. He is talking about making transformational choices so that we will experience eternal life now. As we enter the path of transformation, the most valuable thing we have working in our favour is our yearning. When we yearn, we come into sympathetic vibration with a deeper heart-knowing. The heart is an organ of alignment; it connects us. Yearning is the vibration of that connectedness.' [3]

Blessed are the pure in heart: they shall see God. 'Jesus ties together heart and sight. When the heart is right, Jesus says, seeing will be right. The heart in the ancient sacred traditions has a very specific and perhaps surprising meaning. It is not the seat of our personal emotions but it is an organ for the perception of divine purpose and beauty. It is our antenna, so to speak, given to us to orient us toward the divine radiance and to synchronise our being with its more subtle movements. The heart is not for personal expression but for divine perception.' [3] When the distorted instrument of the mind is made clear, we see the divine spark at the centre of our very being; and we see simultaneously that spark in the heart of every other human being, one and the same in all.' [4] We live the Beatitudes in response to our growing awareness of who we are in God.

*Adapted : [1] Robert Maloney [2] Daniel O'Leary [3] Cynthia Bourgeault
[4] Eknath Easwaran*

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
29th January 2023 missal p700

DIARY AND MASS INTENTIONS

for the week beginning Saturday 28th January 2023

Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Joseph Smethurst	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	Tom & Marie Hooper For our parish	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Mon 9.15am 12.30pm	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>St. Ant</i>	Valerie Hope Funeral Service: Valerie Hope	
Tue 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Eileen Begley Conneely	<i>Feast: St. John Bosco</i>
Wed 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Frances Copp	
Thur 9.15pm	<i>H.Family</i>	Mary Patricia Brock	<i>Feast: The Presentation of the Lord</i>
Fri 10.30am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Funeral Mas: Chris Goldsmith	
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	For our parish	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	Michael Osbaldeston Geoff Plumb	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Last Weekend: Attendance: 226 (101 & 125). Offertory: £766.70

Thank you for your generosity.

Masses received this week: Marguerite Warburton, Mary Patricia Brock, Eileen Begley Conneely, Michael Osbaldeston.

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.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for those who are sick, especially Mary Lawler, Theresa Wilkinson, Jo Counsell, Alice Myerscough, 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, Chris Goldsmith, Valerie Hope, John Kay, Mary Teresa Duncan, Marguerite Warburton;

and those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Minnie Jackson, Martha Taylor, Gerard Mason, Maureen Thomas, Maria MacKenzie, Marie Starr, Frances Copp, Kate Devine, Maria Ball. May they rest in peace.

Ash Wednesday is on 22nd February

You are invited to return last year's palms to burn for the ashes for Ash Wednesday.

First Reconciliation and Holy Communion

We started the main preparation last Wednesday. The next one is in a fortnight. 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.

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

'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.

Keep fit - Weekly sessions, in the Padua Room on Wednesday mornings at 10a.m.

'Laudato Si' Action Platform.

Parishes, schools, families & individuals, hospital & aged care facilities, economic institutions, religious orders etc. are invited to join in a journey towards Integral Ecology. Meeting on Saturday 11th February, 10:00- 14:00, at the Xaverian Missionaries' Spiritual Centre. 169 Sharoe Green Lane, PR2 8HE Fulwood (bring a packed lunch) Information, Menchu: casa72@virginmedia.com 07434 760 656

Winckley Square Convent School Reunion

The annual reunion will take place on Saturday February 18th from 1pm - 4pm at Our Lady and St Edward's Parish Centre, Marlborough Drive. Fulwood. PR2 9UE. All past pupils (and Staff) are welcome to attend and bring along memorabilia and photographs to share. Anyone who needs a lift to get there please contact Diane 07546173802 or let us know on the facebook group page Winckley Square Convent School.

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.