

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

Lancaster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity Number 234331



Be Aware

We are familiar with John the Baptist's preaching: telling us to repent, to prepare a way, to stay awake, to be ready.

'Prepare a way.' What is this way? 'Travel the most ancient way of all: the path that leads you to the centre of your life. This journey is not about miles. It is not about how far you can walk or how fast. It is about being in this moment.' [1] 'The real spiritual path is wherever you are. God is everywhere. The spiritual journey is a growth in awareness that what you are seeking is where you are.' [2]

Our preparation will be to repent. When we hear the word 'repent' some negative feelings may rise up within us and we become totally focused on what we have to do. However, in the original Greek, the word which we have translated as 'repent' is metanoia which is translated as 'change of heart,' or 'change of mind.' For this to happen, it's not totally up to us. To 'be ready' is to provide an open heart and mind.

To 'stay awake' means to be fully conscious, alert and aware.

'There is a story about a lion that came upon a flock of sheep and to his amazement found among the sheep a lion that had been brought up by the sheep ever since he was a cub. It would bleat and run around like a sheep. The 'real' lion went straight for the 'sheep-lion' and said to him, "What are you doing among these sheep?" And the sheep-lion said, "I am a sheep." And the lion said, "Oh no, you're not. You're coming with me." So he took the sheep-lion to a pool and said, "Look!" And when the sheep-lion looked at his reflection in the water, he let out a mighty roar, and in that moment he was transformed. He was never the same again.' [3]

Advent is a time to find those people, places and activities that help deepen our awareness of who we truly are. In those moments 'when you are gifted with an understanding of who "I" is, you'll never be the same again.' [3]

Adapted: [1] Jan Richardson [2] Imre Vallyon [3] Anthony de Mello

Second Sunday of Advent

8th December 2024

Year C

Missal 67

DIARY and MASS INTENTIONS

for the week beginning Saturday 7th December 2024

Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Kenneth Greig	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant H.Family</i>	For our parish Geoff Plumb	Second Sunday of Advent
Mon 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Deceased relatives & friends Whelan family	<i>Feast: Immaculate Conception of Bl. Virgin Mary</i>
Tue 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Special Intention	
Wed 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Edmund Machholz	
Thur 9.15am	<i>H.Family</i>	Connolly & Hunt families	
Fri 11.00am	<i>H.Family</i>	<i>Funeral Mass:</i> Sheila Clark	<i>Feast: St. Lucy</i>
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Deceased r & f Russell family	<i>Feast: St. John of the Cross</i>
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant H.Family</i>	John McDonagh Maureen Stephenson	Third Sunday of Advent

Last Weekend: Offertory: £631.20 + £86 by card; Poor Missions £65.28 + £35.
Attendance: 250 (78 + 172). Thank you for your generosity.

Masses received this week: Rev. Robert Horn, Fitzgerald & Williams families,
John McDonagh, deceased relatives & friends Whelan family, deceased relatives & friends
Russell family.

Rosary

We pray the rosary, as Our Lady requested, for World Peace, every Monday and Friday in church, after morning Mass and Sundays at 6.30pm in the Padua Room. All welcome.

St. Walburge's Annual Christmas Fair—today (Sunday) from 12:30-3:30pm at St. Walburge's Hall on Weston Street. All proceeds to the church restoration fund.

Lancaster Diocesan Directory 2025

Just arrived! Standard copy is £6, ring bound copy is £7. Please put money in the green safe or use the card reader.

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, Deacon Jim Maguire;

We pray for those who have died recently: Canon Bob Horn, Sheila Clark, Kenneth Baines;

and those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Eileen Draper, Vincent Crook, Helen May, Bernard Swarbrick, Michael Keane, Francis Myerscough, Winnie Rawcliffe, Brenda Gray, Edmund Machholz, Edward Giddens, Mary Kay, Agnes McMillan, Mary Dunn, Francis Bilsborough, Margaret Mary McFetridge, Michael Gildea, Paula Carroll-Montague, Leo Brown, Ava Loughlin, Beryl Gee. May they rest in peace.

ADVENT

Wed. 11th Dec: St Anthony's school Nativities Years 1 & 2 in church at 10.30 & 5.15.
Sun. 15th Dec: St Anthony's Parish Carol Service in church at 2pm. Followed by a Christmas singalong in the Parish Centre.

Tues. 17th Dec. St Anthony's school Years 5 & 6 Carol Service in church at 6pm
Fri. 20th Dec: St Anthony's Whole School Mass in church at 9.15am

Crib/Nativity sets

Has anyone got a crib/Nativity set that is no longer used? Our school would gratefully receive it. Thank you.

Parish charities 2025

Thank you for all your suggestions. The three most popular nominations are as follows:
Local/national Blood Bikers, Homeless(Salvation Army), Rosemere Cancer
Overseas Aid to Church in Need, Children in Need, Gaza Food Aid (via Red Cross),
Operation Smile (cleft palates)

You can now VOTE for your choices. Voting closes after Mass on Sunday 15 December.

The New Lectionary

At the start of Mass today we bless the Advent Wreath. We also bless the new Lectionaries as we listen to the English Standard Version of Scripture in the Liturgy from this Sunday onwards. If you want your own missal Covenant Books now have more stock. Please let Fr. Peter know if you asked him for a new Missal and haven't yet received it.

Catholic Voice — a new issue available from church today.

For children

Christmas themed books are available on table at back of church for children to borrow. We will continue to have children's liturgy on during the Christmas holidays. We are grateful to those who lead the children week-by-week throughout the year.

Donating by Card

The card machine is now working properly. Angela and Louise will be on hand again to explain how to use it for anyone who is unsure. Donations can be Gift Aided.

100 Years of the Diocese of Lancaster

On 22nd November 1924 Pope Pius XI created the Diocese of Lancaster to care for Catholics in Cumbria and North Lancashire. St Peter's in Lancaster was made a cathedral.

... Diocesan Centenary Ball: Join an evening of dining, dancing, and fellowship as we mark this significant milestone on Friday 3rd January 2025, from 6pm at The Villa, Levens (near Kendal). There is a coach going from Alston Lane so contact Fr. Doyle on 782244 if you want seats. Please visit www.lancastercentenaryball.com or alternatively contact info@lancastercentenaryball.com for further details and ticket reservation.

The Salvation Army Christmas gift collection

Thanks for your generous donations for the Salvation Army Christmas Toy Appeal.

Fair Trade Stall

Rwanda sales £64, Fairtrade sales £51.50, Donations to CAFOD £4.12

This year's CAFOD donations amount to £30 which is buying World Gifts:

2 'Trees for Life'; 1 'Emergency Water'; 1 'Vegetable Garden'; 1 'Happy Queen Bee'. Please see notice board. Many thanks for all the wonderful support.