

St Anthony of Padua

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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

Lancaster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity Number 234331

What is our cornerstone?

'In relation to architecture, a cornerstone is traditionally the first stone laid for a structure, with all other stones laid in reference to this stone. A cornerstone marks the geographical location by orienting a building in a specific direction. Some cornerstones include time capsules from, or engravings commemorating the time a particular building was built.' [1]

Today's gospel asks us to look at the cornerstone which determines the direction of our lives. 'This gospel is an allegory about negative energy, the spirit of rejection. The tenants are antagonistic and oppositional about everything. They beat or stoned or killed everyone. Oppositional energy just knows what it is against. It is sort of a sad substitute for vision, yet negative people feed on it. It knows what it is against but it doesn't know what it is for, what it is in love with. What we reject and hate says much more about ourselves than about the people we hate or reject. If we want to know what or who our real God is we need to look at what we reject: if we reject poor people, our god is riches, money and success; if we reject foreigners, it is because we have made a god of our own country; if we reject anybody different from us then we have idolised ourselves, we've made a god of ourselves. What we fear or reject tells us what we really worship.' [2]

Not included in today's Gospel, but only two verses later are the words, "When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus' parables, they knew he was talking about them." This parable is set in the final days of Jesus' ministry in Jerusalem where we saw the tragic consequences of negative energy. The parable became reality when Jesus, the son of God, was crucified.

'When fear and rejection is our starting point, we are subconsciously creating a foundation stone which consists of our own self-centred priorities. However, when love becomes the cornerstone which determines the direction of our lives, we will see what we need to renounce.' [2] In the second reading St Paul gives us an alternative to the spirit of rejection. "Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things and the God of peace will be with you." These 'things' – and many others - are already placed in the timeless capsule of our Christ-centred cornerstone.

Adapted: [1] Wikipedia [2] Richard Rohr

27th Sunday of the Year

8th October 2023

Year A

Missal: p784

DIARY and MASS INTENTIONS

for the week beginning Saturday 7th October 2023

Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Private Intention	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant H.Family</i>	For successful eye operation For FCJ Jubilarians	27th Sunday in Ordinary Time CAFOD envelopes returned
Mon 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	<i>Eucharistic Service</i>	<i>Feast: St John Henry Newman</i>
Tue 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	<i>Eucharistic Service</i>	
Wed 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	<i>Eucharistic Service</i>	
Thur 9.15am	<i>H.Family</i>	<i>Eucharistic Service</i>	<i>Feast: St. Wilfrid</i>
Fri 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	<i>Eucharistic Service</i>	
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Laurence Doyle	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant H.Family</i>	In thanksgiving For our parish	28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Last Weekend: Attendance: 221 (87 + 134). Offertory: £566.87

Thank you for your generosity.

Masses received this week: Frank Routledge.

Carols Service Advance notice. On 10th December at 2pm.

Choir rehearsals are at 10.45 on Sunday mornings. New singers are welcome.

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

Day of Renewal

At St. Clare's on Saturday 14th October from 10am-4.00pm, led by Brother Jonathan from St. Pio Friary, Bradford.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for those who are sick, especially Jo Counsell, Bill Embrey, Marie Morris, Carole & Gary Adnitt, Maureen Cafferkey, Les Farrer, baby Mairead, Angela Russell, Jack Morton, Fr. Joe O'Connor;

We pray for those who have died recently: Rosemary Wright;

and those whose anniversaries fall about this time: John McCormack, Bill Cosgrove, Philip Fitzgerald, Ron Reid, George McMillan, Margarette Moylan (Ogle), Frank Routledge, Joe & Margaret Counsell, Joseph Henry Thompson, John McDermott, Veronica Judge.

May they rest in peace.

Day of Prayer for Prisoners and their Dependents - today

Prisoners' Sunday is a time to think about how we as individuals, as a Church and as communities are serving those affected by imprisonment. Prisoners, people with convictions, and their children and families often find themselves on the margins of our society. Yet Jesus challenges us with His words: I was in prison and you came to see me.

Halloween Party

With disco, ice cream, sweet stalls, party games. Fancy dress—prize for best dressed adult. Organised by St Anthony's Church and Primary school. All proceeds to school mini bus appeal. On Friday 27th October 7.00-9.30pm. Tickets £3.

St. Anthony's Pram Club

Baby & Toddler Group meets on Tuesdays from 1.30-3.00pm (term time only) in the Annexe (St. Anthony's Drive). £2 per family including refreshments. Play * Music * Crafts * Chat

St Anthony's After School Club

are looking for a friendly, reliable and energetic playworker to join our team. Common sense, a willingness to get stuck in and a sense of humour are essential. Hours are 3pm till 5.30pm Monday to Friday, 38 weeks of the year. Holiday pay, sick pay, £10.42ph. Details on 07507304908 during opening hours or email saafterschoolclub@gmail.com

Daffodils!

We're planting today (Sunday) - which ties in with MiniVinnies running the coffee morning today. The bulbs will be on sale at the back of church (50p, or 3 for £1.00) after the weekend Masses 30 Sept/1 Oct; and 7/8 October. The proceeds once again going to CAFOD.

St Vincent De Paul Society

"SVP would welcome anyone who might want to learn more about the work of this group within the community to join our St Vincent De Paul Meeting in the Padua Room 11am on 11th October 2023. The meeting takes up to an hour and we would love to meet you and talk about our work." Mary Ward, President.

The Eucharist in Scripture

Join us at 7.00pm on Wednesday 11 October as we continue the short course to explore the meaning of the Mass and the Holy Eucharist. For more information contact Jackie Stoprya, 07934 667293 Jackie.stoprya@gmail.com

Table Top Sale

The next Table Top Sale is on Saturday 14 October, 11am-2pm, in St Anthony's Annexe, St Anthony's Drive. Feel free to come along and browse, buy or simply have a brew. All proceeds to Rwanda Group Trust to help the poorest of the poor in that country.

Church Music

It would be good to involve other musicians from the parish, especially younger members. A number of our children receive tuition in school. Come and put your skills to good use, even if you don't feel particularly confident. Angie is very happy to give encouragement and support. If you want to speak to her ring 07581 629798.