

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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The Reverence of Approach

“Ephphatha.” That’s what Jesus tells the deaf man. He doesn’t say, “Now hear!” He says, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” He says the same thing to you and me. Jesus is always speaking, “Ephphatha,” to the closed parts of our lives. The openness to which Christ calls us transforms and heals us. It reconnects us to God and one another, offering new life, new beginnings, new hope and new possibilities.’ [1]

In today’s second reading James speaks about partiality, ‘the result of approaching people and life situations with an eye toward evaluation and critique. We look for flaws and defects, casting about for evidence of failure.’ [2] When we accept the Gospel’s invitation to surrender to openness, we experience the gift of reverence. ‘When we approach life with reverence, great things decide to approach us. What we encounter, recognise or discover, depends on the quality of our approach. An approach of reverence invites revelation.’ [3] ‘From this way of seeing, we recognise that everyone and everything possesses a measure of the sacred. When we suspend our preconceptions and static stories of who we are, or who others are; when we let go of our predetermined expectations of how it all should be, then we come into a place of reverence, of deep respect and the freshness of the encounter is once again available to us. Reverence, rather than expectation or entitlement, acknowledges that what we are seeing is holy.’ [2]

‘Reverence requires a rhythm akin to prayer. We are asked to slow down and rest in the space of silence and deep listening. It is a stance of humility, recognising that the otherness that surround us—that infuses the world—is vast and powerful and yet curiously open for connection. We are designed for encounter, How deeply we experience this encounter, what we come to recognise and discover, depends on our approach of presence, of reverence.[2] We may express our experience by saying, “You are the part of me I do not yet know.” [4] We then honour our encounter with a Namaste bow: “The divine in me bows to the divine in you.”

Adapted: [1] Michael Marsh [2] wisdombridge.net [3] John O’Donohue [4] quoted by Valarie Kaur

23rd Week in Ordinary Time

8th September 2024

Year B

Missal 913

DIARY and MASS INTENTIONS

for the week beginning Saturday 7th September 2024

Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	For our parish	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	Saeed Patel & family Anish Joy	23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Cath. Education Service Collection</i>
Mon 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	<i>Eucharistic Service</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>	For our parish	
Fri 10.30am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Funeral Mass: Mary Martha Mulligan	<i>Feast: St. John Chrysostom</i>
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Stany Rodrigues	<i>Feast: The Exaltation of the Cross</i>
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	Norman Mercer Anish Joy	24th Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Home Missions Collection</i>

Last Weekend: Offertory: £449.38. Attendance: 229 (76 + 153).
Thank you for your generosity.

Masses received this week: Leonard Airey;

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

Welcome into the family of faith:

Lottie Rita Lewis and Arriety Jane Bedford who were baptised in St. Anthony's last week.

Fairtrade Fortnight

- begins 9th September. Please support our Fairtrade stall at Masses next weekend.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for those who are sick, especially Jo Counsell, Bill Embery, Marie Morris, Angela Russell, Michael Connors, John Mulholland, Deacon Tom Butler, Karen Gunter, Tony Swan, Fr. Alf Parker;

We pray for those who have died recently: Theresa (Marjorie) Garside, Mary (Martha) Mulligan, Anish Joy;

and those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Michael Gielty, John Howarth, Joan Penney, Lora Noon, Joseph Horan, Robert Clarkson, Derek Lynch, Maureen Howard, Peter Hothersall, Patrick Parr, Bill Ash, Frank Stanton, Norman Abram, Marie Cooper, Catherine Game.

Catholic Trust for England & Wales

There is a special collection this weekend for the Catholic Education Service. Thank you for your support.

St. Gregory's Parish, Preston is celebrating its Centenary

Bishop Paul is celebrating Mass there on Friday 13th September 2024 at 7pm.

Wednesday Evening Group.

This week the viewing will be announced on the night. in the Padua Room, Wednesday at 7pm. All are welcome.

Grand Fun Auction

In aid of St. Catherine's Hospice. With Raffle and table top sales. In St. Anthony's Parish Centre on Wednesday 11th Sept. 1.00pm-3.30pm. For details tel. Anne Brindle on 735172 or Pat Riley on 07732 283722

Rwanda Group Trust (RGT)

Mark Ibison and Michael Donlan thank everyone who supported their 235 mile cycle expedition to Walsingham in aid of the Rwanda Group. If you wish to support him, please visit crowdfunding/mark-ibison-and-michael-donlan-Our-Lady-RGT or contact Mark on 07986191557. Thank you very much!

Season of Creation 1st September to 4th October 2024.

Our Diocesan Faith & Justice Group encourages all our parishes to do just two things: to celebrate the Season in the liturgy, with appropriate hymns, intercessions and the rosary, and to tackle energy consumption (especially as the weather gets colder and the bills get higher!). For ideas please go to <https://faith-justice.co/> and cafod.org.uk For tips on energy saving, please go to <https://diocesehn.org.uk/news/diocesan-environmental-group-publishes-small-things-guide/>.

Castlerigg Youth Centre - vacancies

Our youth ministry internship program provides comprehensive training and experience which looks great on a CV. We are looking for people aged between 18 and 22 who identify as Christian and who are at least interested in growing in their faith. We are taking very late applications, so if you know anybody who is interested, please contact Jack Regan on director@castleriggmanor.co.uk

Bishop's Certificate in Catechesis

The Bishop's Certificate in Catechesis is an online course and is available for all those, both in and outside the diocese, who proclaim their faith to others: as evangelisers, catechists or adult formators. It is a course for all wishing to know their Catholic faith more deeply no matter their stage in life. You will take a journey through the Church's teaching to understand your own faith in a more profound way and be able to share your faith with confidence and joy.

This is a systematic course with study over 24 months. You will be expected to attend 3 in-person Saturday sessions and 8 online study sessions throughout the course. All the units are accessed from a secured online platform. The books required are the Bible and the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

Activities engage you with the material in a variety of ways as you progress. Short written tasks (between 300-500 words) help you to sum up the key points and enable you to become more confident in expressing your faith. More information and applications forms available at: aec.rcaos.org.uk/Lancaster