

St Anthony of Padua

Presbytery: Cadley Causeway, Fulwood, Preston PR2 3RX
Tel: 01772 725193 E-mail: stanthonyholyfamily@gmail.com
Website: www.stanthonyss-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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Eternal Life

'Unfortunately, many Christians believe that the motive for divine incarnation was merely to fix what we humans had messed up. This "atonement theory" of salvation treats Christ as a mere Plan B. According to the 13th century philosopher and theologian Dun Scotus, the Incarnation was God's Plan A, his plan of perfect love. The 'atonement theory' leads us to believe that God will love us if and when we change. In fact, God loves us so that we *can* change. What empowers change, what makes us desire change is the inner experience of love. God is always and consistently *acting* out of supreme love and not merely *re-acting* to fallen human nature or using Jesus as the only worthy sacrifice of atonement to Himself. "God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life." Believing in Jesus -which has much more to do with following his way of love than affirming correct doctrines - is first and foremost living a life of love.[1]

In John 17:3 Jesus says, "This is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent." To know and to be known; to love and to be loved: these are our deepest longings. When we re-locate either by choice or by necessity, we feel the pain of not being known. We can also experience a sense of isolation even with people we encounter every day. Jesus himself knew the pain of not being known. "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip?" (John 14:9) 'When we are with someone who knows us, 'the eyes of the other receiving me, delighting in me, enjoying me and looking at me – make me feel like *me* and my best me! When we allow ourselves to be perfectly received, to be totally gazed upon by the One who knows everything and receives everything, we are indestructible. From God's side, the gift is total, once and for all and forever. God's face is turned towards us absolutely. It is we who have to learn to return the gaze.'[1] And when we do, we experience eternal life now; we 'touch eternity.' [2]

"God does not love us because we are good, God loves us because God is good." [1]

Adapted: [1] Richard Rohr [2] Daniel O' Leary

Fourth Sunday of Lent Year B

10th March 2024

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DIARY AND MASS INTENTIONS

for the week beginning Saturday 9th March 2024

Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Joan Taylor	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	Irene Atherton For our parish	<i>Fourth Sunday in Lent (Laetare Sunday)</i>
Mon 11.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	<i>Funeral Mass:</i> Barbara Cairns	
Tue 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	John & Agnes Cookson	
Wed 9.15am 11.30am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>St. Ant</i>	Ann Lister Funeral Service: Catherine Anderton	
Thur 9.15am	<i>H.Family</i>	Fr. Michael Murphy	
Fri 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Joe Moxham	<i>6pm: Stations of the Cross</i>
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	George Keane	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	For our parish Joseph Malinowski	<i>Fifth Sunday in Lent</i>

Last Weekend: Attendance: 244 (104 + 140). Offertory: £671.36.
Thank you for your generosity.

Masses received this week:

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

Catholic Voice

March edition is at the back of church. Take a free copy. For online version see:
https://issuu.com/cathcom/docs/lancaster_march_2024_final

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for those who are sick, especially Jo Counsell, Bill Embery, Les Farrer, Marie Morris, Angela Russell, Maureen Cafferkey, Carole & Gary Adnitt, Deacon Tom Butler, baby Mairead, Fr. Harry Holden, Fr. Michael Murphy, Fr. Gerard Dakin, Marie Kilshaw, Michael Connors, Karen Gunter;

We pray for those who have died recently: Barbara Cairns, Terry Robertson, Catherine Anderton, Leonard Airey, Jean Walkden;

and those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Charlotte Snalam, John Cooke, John & Lucy Swarbrick, Dorothy Pickles, Bert Smith, George Keane, Luke Kehoe, Maureen Berry, Imelda Salisbury, Joan Taylor, Alan Kenny, Lucia LaValle, Bernard Simpson, Judith Smith. May they rest in peace.

LENT

Stations of the Cross In St. Anthony's Church each Friday in Lent at 6.00pm, led by members of our parish.

CAFOD Family Fast Day — Lent appeal

The Family Fast Day envelopes came to £656.70 . Thank you for your generosity.

Wednesday Evening Group - 7.00 - 8.00 pm

We have a varied programme of films and short documentaries over the next few weeks. Come and try. Check the noticeboard for further details. 13th March - St Patrick. For further information contact Jackie on jackie.stopyra@gmail.com or 07934 667292.

Sacrament of Confirmation

We've asked bishop Paul to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation in the parish soon. Arrangements will be announced soon.

First Reconciliation and Holy Communion

We have started preparation for parents and children. Please remember them in your prayers.

Knights of St. Columba

The Knights of St. Columba are the largest lay Order of Catholics in the UK and have been serving the Church and communities for over 100 years. If you would like the opportunity to help fundraise for charitable causes and make a difference", to have a purpose in life and make lifelong friends, then come and join us!

To find out more about the Knights of St. Columba contact Andrew Fowler on 07914 751020 or Philip Wilcock on 07710 225868 or go to www.ksc.org.uk.

Would you like to be a Youth Ministry Leader in the Lake District?

Castlerigg Manor (Diocese of Lancaster Retreat Centre) are looking for a Programme Leader to join their youth ministry team. The work involves working on retreats in the heart of the Lake District, and occasionally working on outreach visits around the area. The post is residential and comes with a salary package in the range of £26-28k, made up of paid salary, accommodation, food etc. Would suit somebody with youth ministry experience perhaps recently graduated. Interested – jack@castleriggmanor.co.uk

Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage 2024

with Bishop Paul Swarbrick, 23rd – 30th July 2024. There is a leaflet at the back of church or visit www.lancasterlourdes.co.uk

Catholic Voice

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https://issuu.com/cathcom/docs/lancaster_march_2024_final