

# 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

*Lancaster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity Number 234331*



## *This Embracing the Leper*

Both Jesus and the leper defy the rules - the leper was not to approach; Jesus was not to touch or even speak to the leper who was condemned to a life of isolation and treated as a non-person. 'The leper did not doubt Jesus' power to heal him, but he doubted whether or not Jesus would engage with a leper who dared to approach him in defiance of the religious Law of the time. Jesus' compassion broke the boundaries that the Law sought to create. His response to the leper shows that God is not in the business of excluding people, regardless of how they are judged by others. The gospel reading suggests that the Lord's instinct to include overcomes all the forces that work to exclude. That message is both a reassuring word for us when we feel excluded and a challenging word when we are tempted to exclude others.' [1] It is significant that Jesus heals the leper by touching him. 'Touch, and the world of touch, bring us out of the anonymity of distance into the intimacy of belonging. Touch brings presence home.' [2]

'Leprosy is a symbol of the aspects of our lives that we fear, all that we deny, all that we wish to exclude from our lives. In touching the leper Jesus is symbolically telling us that God wishes to reach us in our weakness and restore us to fullness of life. What are the issues in our lives that are "untouchable", that need to be embraced, released and healed?' [3] 'In defiance of popular thinking, both therapy and spirituality encourage us to embrace our shadow self, to reclaim what we have denied, feared and rejected, to befriend our mistakes and failures. In doing so we leave space for Mystery, for the healing alchemy of God – who is within us.' [4]

Adapted: [1] Fr Martin Hogan [2] John O'Donohue [3] Jim Gordon [4] R. Rohr

***Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*** Year B

11th February 2024

Missal page 849

# DIARY AND MASS INTENTIONS

for the week beginning Saturday 10th February 2024

Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Baby Finlay	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant H. Family</i>	For our parish Geoff Plumb, Tony Hardman	<b>Sixth Sunday of the Year</b> <i>World Day for the Sick</i>
Mon 1.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Funeral Mass: June Blinkhorn	
Tue 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Rose Taylor	
Wed 9.15am 7.00pm	<i>St. Ant H Family</i>	Kathleen Lakeland For our parish	<b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b>
Thur 9.15am	<i>H. Family</i>	Special Intention	
Fri 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Catherine Holmes	
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Mary Allen	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant H. Family</i>	For our parish Sr. Marie Michelle Kelly & Sr. Mairead Callanan.	<b>First Sunday in Lent</b>

**Last Weekend:** Attendance: 226 (99+ 127). Offertory: £620.32.  
Thank you for your generosity.

**Masses received this week:** Rose Taylor, Margaret Patten, Mary Allen, Irene Atherton, Catherine Holmes, John Calvey.

## Diocesan Directories

New Directories are at the back of church. Ring bound are £7 and ordinary bound are £6.

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for those who are sick, especially Jo Counsell, Bill Embrey, Les Farrer, Marie Morris, Angela Russell, Maureen Cafferkey, Carole & Gary Adnitt, Deacon Tom Butler, baby Mairead, Fr. Harry Holden, Fr. Jim Allen, Canon Dunstan Cooper, Fr. Gerard Dakin, Michael Connors;

We pray for those who have died recently: June Blinkhorn, Margaret Carruthers, Anne Lister;

and those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Harry Billington, Agnes Embrey, Ivor Hilton, Irene Oldham, May Eccles, Maureen Berry, Mary Radcliffe, Ian Holmes, Gabrielle Sudell, Eric Ridge, Malcolm Brindle, Gertrude Docherty, Canon Leo Harrison, Maureen Stella Cox, Olive Hughes, William Etherington, Catherine Mary Holmes, Thomas Riding, Joan Wane, Margaret McKeown, May Rigby. May they rest in peace.

Please put money in the Directories slot in the green safe.

## LENT BEGINS ON WEDNESDAY

- This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, a day for receiving ashes.
- There will be an extra evening Mass at 7pm at Holy Family as well as the morning Mass at St. Anthony's.
- Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are the two days of fasting and abstinence.

### - Stations of the Cross

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

### - Palms

Last call to return last year's palms for burning to provide the ash we use in church.

## Night of Mystery & Intrigue— WhoDunnit HotPot Supper

On Friday 8th March at 7.30pm in St. Anthony's Parish Centre. £10 per person — all proceeds to the Parish Charities. Adults only. Tickets available at the back of church or from Bob & Mary Scott on 01772 715096.

## First Reconciliation and Holy Communion

We will soon be re-starting sessions of preparation for parents and children. If you have a child in a school other than St. Anthony's have a word with Fr. Peter as soon as possible.

## Day of Renewal

At St. Clare's on Saturday 2nd March, from at 10am-4.00pm. Led by Gary Stephens, leader of the Prince of Peace Community, Walsingham. \* poster

## Some notes from Bernadette:

**Fairtrade stall** sales amounted to £692. CAFOD donations were £45 which Thankyou to all who have supported.

**'Keep Fit for Rwanda'** each Wednesday morning 10am. We have a couple of places left. Come and see before committing! See notice board. With Gift Aid we raised £2,324.80 last year.

## Wednesday Evening Film Night

We will be watching 'AD Kingdom and Empire' over the next few weeks. This drama tells the story of the first few chapters of Acts of the Apostles. Wednesdays 7.00pm in the Padua Room, starting on 10th January 2024. For further information, contact Jackie on 07934 667292 or jackie.stopyra@gmail.com

## 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](http://www.lancasterlourdes.co.uk)

## Parish Charities 2024

The total raised for the 2023 Parish charities is £4192.70, to be split 50/50 between the Hygiene Bank and WaterAid. Thank You to all who contributed through various charity events during the past year, including the coffee after Mass.

The charities for 2024 are The Mary O'Gara Foundation and Sightsavers. Details of both are on the board at the back of church.

## Catholic Voice

Take a free copy from the porch. To read it online see: [https://issuu.com/cathcom/docs/lancaster\\_february\\_2024\\_final](https://issuu.com/cathcom/docs/lancaster_february_2024_final)