

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 (07853 777957)

Sunday Masses: 6.00 (Vigil - Saturday Evening) 9.30am, 5.00pm
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 about the Bath?

Episcopalian priest Michael Marsh speaks about an experience he had when teaching the story of the prodigal son. 'Bob, a gentleman who was probably in his 70s, had been quiet and attentive throughout the evening. When I finished speaking Bob was the first one out of his chair. I could tell that he was upset. "What about the bath," he demanded. "You didn't say anything about the bath." I had no idea what he was talking about and told him that I did not understand his comment. He became more agitated the longer he talked. "You know where he had been! The son was dirty and smelly. The father would never hug him, kiss him, or put a robe on him until the son first had a bath. Why didn't you talk about the bath?" I explained that a bath was not part of the story, that we can never 'get clean enough' to go home. The father receives the son as he is. The son is immersed in his father's love. Bob just could not believe that, so together we read the story again. When we got to the end his eyes filled with tears and he said, "All my life I thought this story said the son had to take a bath before he could go home." I said to him, "And all your life you have been trying to get clean enough to go home." He simply nodded in silence, tears running down his face.

Each of us can probably name parts of our life and being that we have judged unacceptable and unclean. They are the parts of ourselves that we dislike, condemn, and sometimes even hate. We allow them to declare that we are not enough to be God's child, never have been, and never will be, so we exile those aspects of ourselves to the distant country. We then live as fragmented, broken, persons trying to get clean enough to come home. Over and over the voice of the Prodigal Son echoes in our ears, "Father, I am no longer worthy to be called your son." The unclean parts of our lives are real, but they are not our final reality. Instead of keeping us from going home, they become the way home. They become places of healing, new life, wholeness and forgiveness.'

We, too, will then feel immersed in love. 'You will experience the presence of God within you, which some theologians name uncreated grace. You can't manufacture this by any right conduct. God isn't going to love you any more than God loves you right now. We can't diminish God's love for us. What we can do, however, is to learn how to believe it, receive it, trust it, allow it and celebrate it.'

(Richard Rohr)

Fourth Sunday in Lent Year C

27th March 2022

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DIARY AND MASS INTENTIONS

for the week beginning Saturday 26th March 2022

Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	David Rose	
Sun 9.30am	<i>St. Ant</i>	For our parish	<i>Fourth Sunday of Lent - Laetare</i>
11.00am	<i>H.Family</i>	Eric Hyland	
5.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Special Intention	
Mon 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	May Rigby	
Tue 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Peter Davies	
Wed 1.45pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Michael Atkinson	
Thur 9.15am	<i>H.Family</i>	Doreen Lavery	
Fri 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Special Intention	<i>Stations of the Cross in church</i>
11.45am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Funeral Service: Judith Smith	
6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>		
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Wladyslaw Stopyra	
Sun 9.30am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Marie & Tom Hooper	<i>Fifth Sunday of Lent</i>
11.00am	<i>H.Family</i>	Evelyne Bamber	
5.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	For our parish	

Last Weekend: Attendance: 185 (6pm 60, 9.30 94, 5pm 31). Offertory £578.11.
Ukraine Appeal: £1141.28. Thank you for your generosity.

Masses received this week: May Rigby, Marie & Tom Hooper.

Welcome into the family of faith:

Harry James Mountain who was baptised in St. Anthony's last Sunday.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for those who are sick, especially Mary Lawler, Mandy Davis, Jo Counsell, Alice Myerscough, Chris Goldsmith, Theresa Wilkinson, Bill Embery, Carole Adnitt, Gary Adnitt, Lawrence Dunnagan, Les Farrer, Frank Stanton.

We pray for the souls of those recently departed this life: Doreen Lavery, Judith Smith, May Rigby, Leslie Fragle;

and those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Mary Bamber, Harry Daggars, Joe Rogers, Frank Clarkson, Margaret Langtree, Rose Salter, Anne & Bert Keane, Dorothy Pickles, Frances Dewhurst, Wladyslaw Stopyra, Thomas Hooper, Albert Butler, Michael Atkinson, Melvyn Evans, Doreen Murray, Dorthy Heskin, Margaret Holden, Elizabeth Proctor, David McBride, James Gormley, John Myerscough. May they rest in peace.

Mothering Sunday

Happy Mothering Sunday to all our Mums! Breakfast in bed?

Ukraine Appeal

Thank you for the donations to the Ukraine Appeal. These came to £1141.28 and they have been sent via CAFOD.

CAFOD Lent Fast Day

Thank you for the envelopes returned followed Lent Fast Day. This also will be sent to CAFOD for their work in other parts of the world. We'll report the total next week.

Guild Wheel Walk for CAFOD

Last Monday the valiant parish walkers completed the third and final leg of their sponsored walk around the Guild Wheel, from Fulwood ASDA to Saint Anthony's. They were blessed with good weather which made it an enjoyable walk of supporting a very good cause. They have dedicated the walk to the memory of Deacon John Kilshaw and have raised over £1000 so far for CAFOD's "Walk Against Hunger" campaign. Please sponsor them at www.tinyurl.com/5n6ukusk Photos at <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/stanthonysholyfamilywalkagainsthunger>

Children's Liturgy

Thank you to the parents who have set up a rota for leading Children's Liturgy at 9.30am Sunday Mass. It will now take place every Sunday (except during school holidays).

Lourdes Pilgrimage Summer 2022

We have received details of this year's Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes - 22-29 July from Manchester. From £799. See the poster in church or joewalstours.co.uk.

Fairtrade stall

Next Sunday is the Fairtrade Stall with a few 'recycled' Eater cards on sale for Rwanda.

Lent Service of Reconciliation

There will be a Service of Reconciliation in St. Anthony's Church on Thursday 7th April. As in recent years we will be joined by priest and people from St. Gregory's, Holy Family and elsewhere

Catholic Voice

- there is a new issue of our free Diocesan newspaper available from the back of church.

Reconciliation & Holy Communion.

Next Session this Wednesday. Please pray for the children who have started their preparation for the two Sacraments and for their families.

Streaming Mass

The hard drive has been replaced so we are back to streaming the 9.30am Sunday Mass.

Lenten Appeal

The Rwanda Group Trust, a registered Catholic charity based in Preston is seeking to raise funds for the poorest of the poor in Rwanda.

We make a Lenten appeal in which every penny raised will enable families to purchase essential items. Our funds also help with medical costs, housing and school fees. We have no paid employees or overheads. For further information or to make a donation please contact: Michael Donlan (Trustee) Tel: 07864 990941 or email rwandagrouptrust.org@gmail.com www.rwandagrouptrust.blogspot.com