

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

Allow ourselves to be loved and “gazed upon” by God

As with last week’s reading, today we once again reflect on God as being loving and merciful. ‘The gospel story begins with a deathly accusation but ends with divine mercy. Where the community’s condemnation would have led the adulterous woman to death, Jesus’ mercy leads her to new life. A story that begins with exposing the sin of an individual ends with exposing the sinfulness of all. Where the people begin with awareness of the woman’s sinfulness, they are transformed, through encountering Jesus, into awareness of their own sinfulness. A story that begins with human testing of the divine ends with a divine invitation to repent, to a change of heart. Jesus reveals a new order in which all are called to repentance and to the experience of divine mercy, to the experience of being God’s beloved.’ [1]

‘We can’t seem to know the good news that we are God’s beloved on our own. It has to be mirrored to us. Another has to tell us we are beloved. Jesus looked at the woman and said, “I don’t condemn you.” Before this gaze of Love, we gradually disrobe and allow ourselves to be seen, to be known in every nook and cranny, nothing hidden, nothing denied, nothing disguised. The wonderful thing is, after a while, we feel so safe that we know we don’t have to pretend or disguise any more. We don’t have to put on any kind of costume.’ [2] However ‘we can’t love and live on our own terms.’ [3] ‘We want to give ourselves to this love but we discover that we can’t get to where we want to go and stay in the comfort zone of where we are.’ [4] “Go, and sin no more.”

‘Letting our naked self be known by God is always to recognise our need for mercy and our own utter inadequacy and littleness. Knowing our need for mercy opens us to receiving mercy. We all stand under an immense waterfall of loving mercy, compassion and forgiveness.

God doesn’t love us because we are good. God loves us because God is good!’ [2]

Adapted: [1] Living Liturgy [2] Richard Rohr [3] Thomas Merton [4] James Finley

Fifth Sunday in Lent Year C

3rd April 2022

Missal page 226

DIARY AND MASS INTENTIONS

for the week beginning Saturday 2nd April 2022

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	
Mon 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Joe Rogers	
Tue 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Brenda Wignall & family	
Wed 9.15pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Ann Consiglio	
Thur 9.15am	<i>H.Family</i>	Special Intention	
2.15pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Funeral Service: Bernard Fisher	
7.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>		<i>Service of Reconciliation</i>
Fri 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Anthony Keane	
6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>		<i>Stations of the Cross in church</i>
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Stany Rodrigues	
Sun 9.30am	<i>St. Ant</i>	For our parish	<i>PALM SUNDAY</i>
11.00am	<i>H.Family</i>	Joyce Hilton	
5.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Fr. Manus Keane	

Last Weekend: Attendance: 169 (6pm 72, 9.30 66, 5pm 31). Offertory £610.40.
Thank you for your generosity.

Masses received this week: Harry Lonsdale, Fr. Manus Keane, Anthony Keane, Joe Rogers, Helen Duffy, Brenda Wignall, Mollie Walmsley, Joyce Hilton.

Welcome into the family of faith:

Lilah Rae Hodson and Livia Rose Hodson who were baptised in St. Anthony's last week.

Marie Curie daffodils

Helen Shelden thanks everyone who helped her raise £93.82p for Marie Curie from the very generous congregation.

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, Rev. Tom Butler.

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

and those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Brian O'Kane, Florence Spicer, Harry Lonsdale, Peggy McQuillan, Elizabeth Noble, Anthony Keane, Fr. Manus Keane, Barbara Howe, Albert Butler, Julie Mason, Francis Benson, Kitty Winstanley. May they rest in peace.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES and Gift Aid

The envelopes have just arrived. Please let us know if you have changed address during the past year, or if you don't currently have envelopes and would like some. Put your name and address in the Offertory basket. If you want to start giving by Standing Order please pick up details from the porch. Thank you.

If you prefer to make a Bank Transfer, please use the following details:
A/c Name: Parish of St. Anthony, Preston A/c No: 81335308 Sort Code: 40-27-02
Please make sure you add your name to the payment, especially if you are a Gift Aider so we can claim back the tax.

Palm Sunday

Weather permitting we'll start outside next Sunday and process into church.

Holy Week & Easter

We are planning the same Services at the same time and in the same places as in previous years. i.e. Maundy Thursday at 7pm at Holy Family; Good Friday 3pm in both churches. Easter Vigil at 8.00pm in St. Anthony's.

Lent Service of Reconciliation

There will be a Service of Reconciliation in St. Anthony's Church on Thursday 7th April at 7.00pm As in recent years we will be joined by priest and people from St. Gregory's, Holy Family and elsewhere.

Becoming a Catholic

One of the teachers in our school, Mrs Lillie Carroll, has been preparing for reception into the Catholic Church this Easter. At the beginning of Lent she took part in the Rite of Election in our Cathedral and is now looking forward to full participation in the church. We offer her our congratulations and welcome — and ask that you keep Mrs Carroll in your prayers.

Sunday 5pm Mass

We started the extra Mass on Sundays when we were having to keep 2-metre distancing in church. As we are now getting back to normal there isn't the same need for this Mass at 5.00pm. So the Mass on Palm Sunday will be the last one.

Fairtrade stall

The Fairtrade Stall is open after 9.30 Mass today, with a few 'recycled' Easter cards on sale for Rwanda.

Castlerigg Easter Retreat

April 14th – 17th, £85. Open to Year 10 and up to age 25. A chance to journey together through the Easter Triduum. Fun, Faith, Food, Friendships, with a few walks in the Lake District. Email jack@castleriggmanor.co.uk

Salvation Army Foodbank - URGENT

We really are desperate for everything apart from pasta and Easter Eggs at the moment. Demand will increase over the next month or so with all the rising food and fuel costs. We are also really short on toiletries, tinned or packet foods also. Thank you.