

St Anthony of Padua

Presbytery: Cadley Causeway, Fulwood, Preston PR2 3RX
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Website: www.stanthonys-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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Finding the “Yes”

Whenever we set aside time to consciously choose to be in the presence of God who is always present to us, we are part of a great crowd of people 'longing for all that is best, deepest and most real in the human condition.' [1] 'Our prayer unfolds out of the knowledge that we belong to God.' [2] We have all had an 'awe' moment when we experience a 'heightened sense of presence and oneness with infinite love and we experience the very essence of who we are.' [3] It is during our time of prayer that we open ourselves to discovering how to grow in awareness of who we are in God.

Richard Rohr says that people often ask him how long they should pray to which he replies, "As long as it takes you to get to "Yes". If your heart and emotions are still saying "No!" to the moment right in front of you, don't leave your place of prayer until you find "Yes," until the flow begins to happen and the constriction begins to lose its hold on you. Then you're abiding in a place of abundance where you can let love flow—to you and through you—toward all the world around you." When we read today's gospel, like the people who followed Jesus, our response to Jesus' words is surely a resounding "No!" Jesus, who tells us to love our enemies, now tells us to 'hate' our nearest and dearest and even our own life! Let's take Richard Rohr's advice and look for the "Yes!"

'For Jesus, hating another is about reordering relationships. This is not about rejection but establishing new priorities.' [4] 'Yes, we find love in God's gifts of relationships, of possessions and of life itself. We are grateful for all of them but we do not become attached to them. They are but indications of an infinitely greater love that alone will satisfy us. Can we say "Yes" to surrendering to the transformative process of becoming one with this love? We are betwixt and between two worlds: the earthly plain of God's infinite love given in finite ways, and on the brink of a precipice of God's infinite love given in infinite ways.' [3]

Adapted :[1] Christopher Page [2] Thomas Merton [3] James Finley [4] Michael Marsh

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
4th September 2022

Year C
missal 1052

DIARY AND MASS INTENTIONS

for the week beginning Saturday 3rd September 2022

Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Elizabeth Anne Allen	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H. Family</i>	For our parish Mollie Chapman, Mary Teresa Hardman	23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Mon 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Douglas Green	
Tue 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	<i>Eucharistic Service</i>	
Wed 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Herbert & Joan Rushton	Film Night: The Chosen 7.00pm
Thur 9.15am	<i>H. Family</i>	Special Intention	<i>Feast: Birth of Blessed Virgin Mary</i>
Fri 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	For operation success	
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Tony O'Connor	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H. Family</i>	For our parish Mary Cecilia Park	24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Special Collection for Catholic Edu- cation service

Last Weekend: Attendance: 174 (86,88) Offertory: £646.62.
Catholic Trust: £88.50. Thank you for your generosity.

Masses received this week: Douglas Green, Herbert & Joan Rushton.

Tea, Coffee, cake etc. served after weekend Mass in the Padua Room.

Film Nights – The Chosen

Starts again this Wednesday at 7.00pm. Details from Jackie on 07934 667292.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for those who are sick, especially Mary Lawler, Mandy Davis, Frank Stanton, Jo Counsell, Alice Myerscough, Chris Goldsmith, Theresa Wilkinson, Bill Embery, Carole & Gary Adnitt, Les Farrer, Rev. Tom Butler, Maureen Cafferkey, baby Mairead.

We pray for the souls of those who have died recently: Gerard Cafferkey, George Hall; and those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Elizabeth Lawler, Frank Smith, Harold Wareing, John & Gwen Cracknell, Margaret Wearden, baby Rooney, Doreen Dunderdale, Terrence Gregson, Mary McCormack, Joan Walsh, Victoria Chester, Michael Gielty, John Howarth, Joan Penney, Lora Noon, Joseph Horan, Robert Clarkson, Derek Lynch, Peter Hothersall, Maureen Howard, Patrick Parr, Bill Ash. May they rest in peace.

The Season of Creation

A time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through celebration, conversion, and commitment together. During the Season of Creation, we join all our Christian brothers and sisters in prayer and action for our planet. Christians worldwide have embraced this season as part of their annual calendar. Pope Francis made the Roman Catholic Church's welcoming of the season official in 2015. The season starts on 1st Sept, the Day of Prayer for Creation, and ends on 4th Oct, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of ecology beloved by many Christians.

Pakistan Flood Disaster

You will have seen on the news about the devastating floods that have hit Pakistan, leaving millions in need of urgent help to survive. Families have lost their homes, their cattle, their lands, and their livelihoods, and are totally dependent on humanitarian assistance. Thirty million people are affected as a third of the country is now submerged (that's almost the size of Great Britain).

The Disaster Emergency Committee have launched an Appeal and we will be sending donations via CAFOD. The local Pakistani organisation that CAFOD works with in the area is Community World Service Asia (CWSA) and they are already responding. These local experts are working in Sindh, which is one of the worst affected regions and they desperately need more funds to help more families survive.

There are buckets at the back of church if you wish to donate. Or to donate online go to the CAFOD website. Thank you.

Knit & Natter group

We are holding an early Christmas sale in the Padua room after Mass 25th September. If you have any unwanted gifts/presents/ the odd bottle of alcohol! they would be much appreciated. All proceeds are to go to this year's charities, which are LIFE and RWANDA. Donated items can be left at the back of the church. Thank you.

New Programme of Day Retreats

Our Lady of Lourdes & St Gerard Majella in Lostock Hall has launched a new programme of day retreats exploring a range of topics including prayer, scripture and other religious texts. First retreat will take place on Saturday 10th September when attendees will be invited to explore John of the Cross' remarkable Spiritual Canticle.

If you are interested in attending this or any of our other retreats, please register your interest before Monday 29th August. Visit <https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/retreat-programme-2022-2023/> for more information on upcoming retreats.

Notice Board: New items every week. Take a look at it in the porch.

Fair Trade stall at 9.30am Mass today. Also a few greetings cards for Rwanda.

New Rwanda Group Trust newsletter is on the table at the back of church and on the 'Charity Board'.

Cadley Causeway Traffic

Lancashire County Council Highways Department are proposing significant changes to traffic management outside the church and presbytery. Amongst the proposals are a new zebra crossing where the bus stop is currently; the bus stop to move very close to the exit from the church car park. There will also speed humps on either side of the bridge. The speed camera will be moved further down Cadley Causeway. These changes will impact anyone using the car park. There is a plan at the back of church.