

## FIRST READING

Acts 1:12-14

After Jesus was taken up into heaven, the apostles went back from the Mount of Olives, as it is called, to Jerusalem, a short distance away, no more than a sabbath walk; and when they reached the city they went to the upper room where they were staying; there were Peter and John, James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Jude son of James. All these joined in continuous prayer, together with several women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 26

**I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living.**

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| 1. The Lord is my light and my help;<br>whom shall I fear?<br>The Lord is the stronghold of my life<br>before whom shall I shrink? | 2. There is one thing I ask of the Lord,<br>for this I long,<br>to live in the house of the Lord,<br>all the days of my life,<br>to savour the sweetness of the Lord,<br>to behold his temple. |
| 3. O Lord, hear my voice when I call;<br>have mercy and answer.<br>Of you my heart has spoken;<br>'Seek his face'.                 |  |

## SECOND READING

1Peter 4:13-16

If you can have some share in the sufferings of Christ, be glad, because you will enjoy a much greater gladness when his glory is revealed. It is a blessing for you when they insult you for bearing the name of Christ, because it means that you have the Spirit of glory, the Spirit of God resting on you.

None of you should ever deserve to suffer for being a murderer, a thief, a criminal or an informer; but if anyone of you should suffer for being a Christian, then he is not to be ashamed of it; he should thank God that he has been called one.

**Alleluia, alleluia! I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord;  
I will come back to you, and your hearts will be full of joy. Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL

John 17:1-11

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said: Father, the hour has come: glorify your Son so that your Son may glorify you; and, through the power overall mankind that you have given him, let him give eternal life to all those you have entrusted to him. And eternal life is this: to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I have glorified you on earth and finished the work that you gave me to do. Now, Father, it is time for you to glorify me with that glory I had with you before ever the world was.

I have made your name known to the men you took from the world to give me. They were yours and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now at last they know that all you have given me comes indeed from you; for I have given them the teaching you gave to me, and they have truly accepted this, that I came from you, and have believed that it was you who sent me.

I pray for them; I am not praying for the world but for those you have given me, because they belong to you: all I have is yours and all you have is mine, and in them I am glorified. I am not in the world any longer, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you.

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# St Anthony of Padua

Presbytery: Cadley Causeway, Fulwood, Preston PR2 3RX

**Tel:** 01772 725193 **E-mail:** parish.priest2@btinternet.com

**Website:** www.stanthonys-rc-church-preston.org.uk/

**Priest:** Fr. Peter Draper (Tel: 725193)

**Deacons:** Rev. John Kilshaw (07759 943667)

Rev. Tom Butler (retired - 07853777957);

**Sunday Masses:** 6.00 (Vigil - Saturday Evening) 9.30am (Sunday Morning)

**Weekday Mass:** Tue, Wed, Fri: 9.15am. (Mon & Thurs 9.15am at Holy Family)

**Confessions:** Saturday: 5.30 - 5.50pm

**Annexe:** 725544

**Social Centre:** 735963

**Primary school:** 726621

**Playgroup/Preschool** 07963 700591

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## Oneness

"May they be one in us."

Groups of various sizes can experience different levels of oneness linked with a variety of common interests: religion, sport, creativity, nature. Has there ever been such a global experience of oneness which COVID-19 has thrust on us? Those moments when we sense that we are at one with the joys and sorrows of others are "sacramental glimpses. They touch eternity." [1] They remind us that "we are already one with everything. All that is absent is awareness. Awareness allows us to know this reality, and our openness to the Spirit within us allows this awareness to become transformational. To be one with everything is to have overcome the fundamental illusion of our separateness." [2] "I've often said that great love and great suffering are the universal, always available paths of transformation because they are the only things strong enough to take away the ego's protections and pretensions. Great love and great suffering bring us back to God" [3]

All over the world images of the rainbow remind us that there is hope and light to follow these days of chaos. The rainbow also reminds us of our oneness. "Everything is a facet of the one thing. Think in terms of white light shining through a prism to reveal the full spectrum of colour seen by the human eye: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet. Each of these colours is part of the original whole and cannot be separated from it. Turn off the light source and the colours disappear. Now apply this metaphor to the world around and within you. Everything you see, think, feel, and imagine is part of and never apart from the same Source. We call this Source by such names as God, Reality, Brahman, Allah, One, Krishna, the Absolute and the Nondual. The list of names is long; the reality to which they all point is the same." [4]

"We are already one. But we imagine that we are not. What we have to recover is our original unity. What we have to be is what we are." [5] "A heart transformed by this realisation of oneness knows that only love 'in here,' in me, can spot and enjoy love 'out there.'" [3] This is eternal life, experienced here, now. Adapted : [1] Daniel O'Leary [2] David Benner [3] Richard Rohr [4] Rabbi Rami Shapiro [5] Thomas Merton

**Seventh Sunday of Easter** Year A 24th May 2020

## DIARY and MASS INTENTIONS

Sat	Special Intention	
Sun	For our parish	<i>Seventh Sunday of Easter</i>
Mon	Robbie & Patricia Hasson	<i>Feast: St Bede the Venerable</i>
Tue	Michael How Cremation Service: Michael How	<i>Feast: St. Philip Neri</i>
Wed	John Lovett Cremation Service: John Lovett	<i>Feast: St. Augustine of Canterbury</i>
Thur	Mary Ann Owens Graveside Service: Mary Ann Owens	
Fri	Cassie Burling (safe delivery)	
Sat	Special Intention	
Sun	For our parish	<i>PENTECOST</i>

### Masses received this week:

Sue N. Cassie Burling.

### Acknowledgements

We gratefully acknowledge further donations for the Food Bank and Cafod.

**St. Anthony's SVP Group** have given another donation to the local foodbank to help them with their crucial work BUT this was due to your generosity and our thanks and prayers go out to you.

**CAFOD Emergency Appeal** CAFOD launched its coronavirus emergency appeal on 30th April. The effects of coronavirus on developing countries where CAFOD works are likely to be devastating. Your prayers and gifts are needed now more than ever to help protect the lives of those in poor communities. While we are not able to hold physical collections in our church, you can donate as individuals at [cafod.org.uk/coronavirusappeal](http://cafod.org.uk/coronavirusappeal), or via the Presbytery. Thank you.

**Please pray for:** Bishop Paul, Joan Anderton, Bill Embery, Lawrence Dunnagan, Teresa Clarkson, John Myerscough and Alice Myerscough, Mary Kathleen Kellest, Chris Goldsmith, Frank & Norah Stanton, Betty Murphy, Marie Gardner, Karen Hardman, Carole Adnitt, Frances & Les Farrer.

Also the isolated and lonely, all medical staff and carers, those in research, the Government and all world leaders, all who are assisting the public in any way.

**... for those who have died recently:** Bob Garlington, John Lovatt, Bill Lawley, Michael How, Mary Anne Owens;

**... and for those whose anniversaries are around now:** Hilda Doreen Myerscough, Hannah Myerscough, Stephen Green, Eileen Cummins, Dorothy Hedley, Hilda & Peter McNeela, Maureen Moss, Jack Bradley.

## Church is closed - but our parish lives!

Two new initiatives:

### 1. Virtual 'Coffee Morning'

Angie is going to host a virtual coffee morning by ZOOM this Sunday (24th) at 11.00. Just pop in online and say hello, and enjoy the best coffee & cake for miles around (because you've made it!). Just search for 'Zoom' on Google. No need to sign up, or log in. Click 'Join a Meeting' (top right of Zoom page). Enter the meeting number 884 6316 3241. Our meeting will show as 'St Anthony's Coffee Morning' Remember to allow Audio and Video (so we can hear and see you!) Our Coffee Morning (the meeting) opens at 11.00 so you will not be able to join until then. If this proves popular, we hope to make online Coffee Mornings a regular event.

### 2. Prayer Tree

A parishioner has asked if we could establish a 'Prayer Tree' since we are not able to meet and pray together in Church. We are all familiar with actual Prayer Trees where we can hang prayers written on card, and invite others to pray with us. Now we can do that virtually, online, and invite all the parish to pray with us. Prayers for ourselves, for our work, the Church and our world. Prayers for others, prayers that others have asked us to make on their behalf.

You can print out a leaf and write your prayer on it, or simply send a prayer to . Scan the leaf back [parish.priest2@btinternet.com](mailto:parish.priest2@btinternet.com) (Please do not include any identifiable personal details) and we will display it physically in church. We will post a picture of our blossoming tree on our 'Keeping Together' e-mails. We invite you to pray with and for our fellow parishioners.

### World Communications Day

It is increasingly difficult to separate truth from fiction in the media today. Who or what can we rely on to inform us? Pope Francis asks us to start with ourselves: He writes: "I would like to devote this year's Message to the theme of storytelling, because I believe that, so as not to lose our bearings, we need to make our own the truth contained in good stories. Stories that build up, not tear down; stories that help us rediscover our roots and the strength needed to move forward together. Amid the cacophony of voices and messages that surround us, we need a human story that can speak of ourselves and of the beauty all around us. A narrative that can regard our world and its happenings with a tender gaze. A narrative that can tell us that we are part of a living and interconnected tapestry. A narrative that can reveal the interweaving of the threads which connect us to one another."

### Repeat notices

- **The Catholic Voice of Lancaster:** Our Diocesan newspaper for May is available online— a smaller edition of 12 pages. See: <http://www.catholicvoiceoflancaster.co.uk/>
- **Thursday Mass** The Catholic Bishops of England & Wales are offering Mass for the Sick and their Families, NHS Workers and those working in Social Care every Thursday in their Cathedrals at 7.00pm. See Bishops' Conference webpage <http://cbcew.org.uk/>
- Fr. Peter continues to offer **Mass** on behalf of the parish every morning at 8am. If you wish Mass to be offered for any intention simply ask, either by phone or by e-mail.
- There are **Newsletters** every weekend as usual. Copies will be on St. Anthony's school website (and Holy Family website). If you would like one by e-mail send your e-mail address to [parish.priest2@btinternet.com](mailto:parish.priest2@btinternet.com)
- We can supply the usual church **Children's Liturgy sheets** by e-mail. Just ask.
- **CAFOD** are producing a Children's Liturgy: See <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/>