

## FIRST READING

Ezekiel 18:25-28

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows : "You object, 'What the Lord does is unjust.' Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die."

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 24

### Remember your mercy, Lord

- 1, Lord, make me know your ways.  
Lord, teach me your paths.  
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:  
for you are God my saviour.
2. Remember your mercy, Lord,  
and the love you have shown from of old.  
Do not remember the sins of my youth.  
In your love remember me,  
because of your goodness, O Lord.
3. The Lord is good and upright.  
He shows the path to those who stray,  
he guides the humble in the right path;  
he teaches his way to the poor.

## SECOND READING

Philippians 2:1-11 (or 2:1-5)

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus: His state was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**Alleluia, alleluia! If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him. Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL

Matthew 21:28~32

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, "What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, 'My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not go,' but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, 'Certainly sir,' but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?" "The first," they said. Jesus said to them, "I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him."

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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/

**Priests:** Fr. Peter Draper, Fr. John Moriarty (Tel: 725193)

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

Rev. Tom Butler (retired - 07853777957)

**Sunday Masses:** 6.00 (Vigil - Saturday Evening) 9.30am, 5.00pm (Sunday Morning)

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

**Confessions:** on request

**Annexe:** 725544

**Social Centre:** 735963

**Primary school:** 726621

**Playgroup/Preschool** 07963 700591

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## Lord, make me know your ways

Lord, teach me your paths. Make me walk in your truth.

Psalm 24

In this context to 'walk' means to live each day. We have all joined the psalmist many times in our search for help to live each day guided by divine truth. [1] When we ask God to reveal His direction for us do we want to know Him, or do we just want a formula for life? When we seek God just for a formula, too often we miss knowing Him. Yes, He wants our obedience. But a beautiful thing about the Hebrew word we translate into 'obey' in English is that it is the same word in Hebrew for 'hear'. It's a hearing that brings response. What God wants is relationship. He wants us to hear Him, know Him, and respond. [2]

"Which of the two did the will of his father?" The question of 'doing God's will' ultimately brings us to a place of metanoia (i.e. change of mind and heart). This change of heart can take us in different directions, as can be seen in the decisions the two sons made. True metanoia is not about escaping the circumstances of our life but about engaging in those circumstances in a new and different way – God's way. So how do we discover what is ours to do? First, we must go through a process of discernment. Christian discernment is not the same as decision making. Reaching a decision can be straightforward: we consider our goals and options and then we choose the action that meets our goals most effectively. Discernment, on the other hand, is about listening and responding to that place within us where our deepest desires align with God's desire. As discerning people, we sift through our impulses, motives, and options to discover which ones lead us closer to divine love and compassion for ourselves and other people and which ones lead us further away. [3]

"This discernment process can go hand-in-hand with an experience of aloneness and finding ourselves lost, struggling to hold the paradox of the reality of great love and great suffering. But: 'Stand still. The trees ahead and bushes beside you are not lost. Wherever you are is called Here.' [4] In surrendering fully to being lost you will discover that, in addition to not knowing how to get where you had wanted to go, you are no longer so sure of the ultimate rightness of that goal. By trusting your unknowing, your old standards of progress dissolve and you become aware of new standards, those that come not from your mind or other people, but from the depths of your soul, revealing your life purpose: to be a visible expression of both the image and the likeness of God. [5]

[1]Website : Theology of work.org [2]Website: Christianity.com [3] Henri Nouwen [4] David Wagoner

## Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

27th September 2020

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# DIARY AND MASS INTENTIONS

## for the week beginning Saturday 26th September 2020

Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Marie Morris	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H. Family</i> <i>St. Ant</i>	Gary Whittell for our parish for our parish	<i>26th Sunday of the Year</i>  <i>Collection: Bishops' Administration</i>
Mon 9.15am 12.30pm	<i>H. Family</i> <i>St. Ant</i>	Marie Milne Funeral Service: Marie Milne	
Tue 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Agnes & Joseph Billington	<i>Feast: Archangels Michael, Gabriel, Raphael</i>
Wed 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Jack Kilshaw	<i>Feast: St. Jerome</i>
Thur 9.15am 12.00pm	<i>H. Family</i> <i>St. Ant</i>	Lena Bradley Funeral Service: Lena Bradley	<i>Feast: St Terese of Child Jesus</i>
Fri 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Stephen Cummings	<i>Fri: Guardian Angels</i>
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	For our parish	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H. Family</i> <i>St. Ant</i>	Patrick Murphy Lawrence Cartmel for our parish	<i>27th Sunday of the Year</i>  <i>Harvest Fast envelopes return</i>

**Last Weekend:** Attendance 118. (6pm 46, 9.30am 36, 5pm 36.) Offertory £442.60

### BIDDING PRAYERS

We pray for the Church. We pray that God will strengthen the Church with the Word and the Blood of Christ. Lord in your mercy ....

We pray for our troubled world. In the confusion and doubt of our world may we always remember that Jesus said "I am the way, the truth and the life". Lord in your mercy ....

We pray for our parish community, that God may guide us and strengthen us always in his love and service. Lord in your mercy ....

We pray for all those quietly and lovingly doing your will – in our hospitals and nursing homes, our schools, serving us in shops, in our own homes, and in being good neighbours.

**We pray for the sick and the housebound** of our parish and for those who care for them, particularly: Bill Embery, Lawrence Dunnagan, John Myerscough and Alice Myerscough, Kathleen Kellett, Chris Goldsmith, Frank Stanton, Betty Murphy, Marie Gardner, Joan Green, Carole Adnitt, Frances & Les Farrer.

**Pray for those who have died recently:** Celia Park, Patrick Parr, Marie Milne, Lena Bradley;

**... and for those whose anniversaries are around now:** Michael Crompton, Jack Kilshaw, Thomas Gielty, Agnes & Joseph Billington, James Nickson, Kathleen Morton, Raymond Whittle. May they rest in peace.

### First holy Communions

We have arranged final preparation Sessions for the children in their school 'bubbles'. We cannot have one first holy Communion weekend as usual because of the limited capacity in church. Instead we will have three extra Masses on Sunday afternoons. Regrettably this will mean that parishioners cannot be part of this wonderful parish occasion but we have no real option.

We will not be starting next year's first holy Communion preparation until after the New Year when things might be a bit clearer.

**NEW NHS 'TEST & TRACE' PHONE APP** – On 24th September, the NHS began to roll-out its new Test & Trace phone app, which is for use on smartphones (with Bluetooth enabled). When you arrive at a venue you simply scan the Q.R. code near the entrance to record your attendance. We have been asked to apply for a QR code at each of our buildings. We'll let you when we get these in place. We can still take phone numbers manually for anyone who finds the technology difficult.

**Virtual 'Coffee Morn'** on Zoom. Log in details: Join Zoom Meeting ID: Meeting ID: 819 8015 2432 Passcode: 879577 Thanks again to Angie.

**Masses received this week:** Patrick Murphy, Agnes & Joseph Billington, Lawrence Cartmel, Stephen Cummings, dec. members Rogers & Duffy families, Jack Kilshaw, Fr. Kevin Lowry.

**CAFOD Harvest Fast Day** - please collect an envelope after Mass for the Harvest Fast Day Appeal. Again we thank all those who gave generously to the Joint Coronavirus Appeal.

### 'The Post-Lockdown Parish'

Although our churches have now reopened, we don't know when we shall be able to gather in the way we used to. What different ways do we have to come together for prayer, conversation and Mass? What new opportunities have opened up for us? In order to answer some of these questions, there are a series of webinars which started on 21st September with Bishop David Oakley of Northampton. Book a place on the webinars, or watch the videos and see the resources afterwards:

<http://formationpathways.co.uk/exploring-the-post-lockdown-church-webinar-series>

**Offertory Counters** Thank you to our Offertory Counters for getting back into routine. We count a week in arrears and we ensure social distancing.

**S.V.P.** Traditionally, September is St Vincent De Paul Society Awareness month. St Anthony's St Vincent De Paul Society are very grateful to all the parishioners who have donated money to us during the Covid 19 outbreak. We have been able to continue to donate to food banks and people in need. We are now able to accept food donations at the back of church. We understand that not everyone wishes to be a Committee member and meet once a month. However, we would welcome help at any events we hold, delivering leaflets, helping transport parishioners to church, catering or fund raising etc in the future. Unemployment, homelessness, loneliness and food poverty are on the rise and we need help in giving assistance to those in need. If you are interested in helping please call SVP St Anthony's Secretary on 01772 723963

### September Faith & Justice E-Bulletin

This can be downloaded from <https://tinyurl.com/yyq84etu> Reports and newsletters are available at <http://www.lancasterfaithandjustice.co.uk/newsletter/>