

## FIRST READING

Revelation 7, 2-4,9-14

I, John, saw another angel rising where the sun rises, carrying the seal of the living God; he called in a powerful voice to the four angels whose duty was to devastate land and sea. "Wait before you do any damage on land or at sea or to the trees. until we have the seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God." Then I heard how many were sealed: a hundred and forty-four thousand, out of all the tribes of Israel.

After that I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language: they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. They shouted aloud, "Victory to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb". And all the angels who were standing in a circle round the throne, surrounding the elders and the four animals, prostrated themselves before the throne, and touched the ground with their foreheads, worshipping God with these words, "Amen. Praise and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and strength to our God for ever and ever. Amen". One of the elders then spoke and asked me, "Do you know who these people are, dressed in white robes, and where they have come from?" I answered him, "You can tell me, my lord." Then he said, "these are the people who have been through the great persecution, and they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb."

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 23

### Such are the men who seek your face, O Lord.

1. The Lord's is the earth and its fullness  
the world and all its peoples.  
It is he who set it on the seas;  
on the waters he made it firm.
2. Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?  
Who shall stand in his holy place?  
The man with clean hands and pure heart  
who desires not worthless things.
3. He shall receive blessings from the Lord  
and reward from the God who saves him.  
Such are the men who seek him,  
seek the face of the God of Jacob.

## SECOND READING

1 John 3:1-3

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children: and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is. Surely everyone who entertains this hope must purify himself, must try to be as pure as Christ.

**Alleluia, alleluia! Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord. Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1-12

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them: "How happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Happy the gentle, they shall have the earth for their heritage. Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted. Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied. Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them. Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God. Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God. Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven."

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# St Anthony of Padua

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**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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## Beggars for the things of the spirit

'Just as the Ten Commandments are the core of the Jewish way of life and a law to follow, so the Beatitudes are the core of the Christian way of life. The Beatitudes are not commandments. They are not so much things to be done or rules to be kept as deep-down attitudes of mind. And, in fact, their observance is only possible with a deep love of God and of other people. They can never be kept fully – they are goals that are always calling us further. They never leave any room for complacency. One can never say about the Beatitudes what the rich man said to Jesus, namely, that he had kept all the commandments since he was young.' [1]

It is no coincidence that the first Beatitude is: Blessed are the poor in spirit, because theirs is the kingdom of God. 'The Greek translation is "Those who become beggars for things of the spirit will live in fullness." Now what does it mean to be a beggar? A beggar is a person who has nothing and knows he has nothing. Only he will experience human fullness who experiences the freedom of searching, of looking for, of being a beggar for the things of the spirit. This is a tremendous and beautiful statement of being on the way, being on a journey and never stopping, of never being satisfied. [2]

The beggar in us learns 'to trust God more than the external circumstances of our lives.' [3] The beggar in us gratefully receives every gift of insight, every gift of each enlightened moment, every gift of each experience of unconditional love, every gift of growth in awareness of our oneness with everyone and everything. Our response will then be to live the Beatitudes, to 'cultivate and cherish what we own in common, especially in a time of fragmentation and in a time of a splintering of humanity.' [2]

Adapted: [1] Living space / Sacred Space website; [2] Pietro Archiati [3] Michael Marsh

*Thanks to Cathy York for providing these reflections for us every week.*

**All Saints** Year A

1st November 2020

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# DIARY AND MASS INTENTIONS

## for the week beginning Saturday 31st October 2020

aSt 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Lily Morrison & Joe Morrison	
Sun 9.30am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Tom & Marie Hooper	<i>ALL SAINTS DAY</i>
11.00am	<i>H. Family</i>	For our parish	<i>Collection: Sick &amp; Retired Priests</i>
5.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	For our parish	
Mon 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Gwendolyn Ward	<i>All Souls Day</i>
Tue 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Bernard Cooper	<i>Feast: St. Winefride</i>
Wed 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Private intention	<i>Feast: St. Charles Borromeo</i>
12.30pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Funeral Service: John Gardner	
Thur 9.15am	<i>H. Family</i>	Anniversary (TB)	
Fri 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Private Intention	
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Private intention	<i>Feast: St. Willibrord</i>
Sun 9.30am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Mary Pamela Hatch	<i>32nd Sunday of the Year</i>
11.00am	<i>H. Family</i>	Bogumila Osmokiewicz	
5.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	For our parish	

**Last Weekend:** Attendance 146. (6pm 41, 9.30am 67, 5pm 38.) Offertory £541.82.  
World Mission Sunday £71.00. Thank you for your continued generosity.

### BIDDING PRAYERS

We pray for the leaders of the Church, that they will be inspired by the example of the Saints in their love of God and their devotion to the service of His people.

We pray for the people of the United States of America as it falls to them this week to elect a new President and a new Congress. May their choices and decisions at this time reflect a sincere desire to promote the common good, uphold the dignity of every human life and safeguard peace and harmony among all nations.

We pray for our Parish community and especially for the children who have made their First Holy Communion in recent weeks. May they always welcome Jesus with a spirit of joy and thanksgiving.

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

**Pray for those who have died recently:** John McDermott, Sr. Cecilia ODC, John Gardner;

**... and for those whose anniversaries are around now:** Belle Duckworth, Thomas Myerscough, Maria Wilson, Joseph Morrison, Gwendolyn Ward, Matteo Marino, Derek Boyle. May they rest in peace.

### All Saints & All Souls

Today is All Saints Day. We celebrate our great communion of saints—those who have gone to heaven and those still on the way. Wherever we are we are united by the love of God. Monday is All Souls Day and traditionally it is a day for people to visit the cemetery and pray for those who have died. May they rest in peace and may we all be united in heaven.

### Mass At Christmas

The proposal at present is to add a second Vigil Mass at 8pm and to leave the 6pm Mass for families with children. There will also be the usual 9.30am Mass on Christmas Day but we do not think there would be need for an evening Mass on Christmas Day. It may still be necessary to close the doors once we have reached the maximum number we can take. Its possible we may be able to have an audio or video link, into the Padua Room for those who cannot get into church. We might yet have to take reservations and issue tickets but that would be to the detriment of those who turn up not aware of the system. Any comments or better suggestions are welcome.

### The Padua Room

- has been nominated for an award from the Chartered Institute of Architectural Technicians, and has made it through to the final shortlist of six.

### School Governor

St Augustine's Primary School are looking for practising Catholics who would be willing to give some time to serve as school governors. You need not have previous knowledge or experience. Could you help to support Catholic education in the area? Fr Peter has information.

### Job Opportunities

1. Intact and The Building Better Opportunities projects for Lancashire are seeking to recruit a **Transformational Coach**. to support those most at risk of exclusion from the labour market and to identify, reduce and/or remove barriers to engagement and employment for participants. Contact: Matthew Beck at Intact, 49 Whitby Avenue, Ingol or Tel: 01772 760760; or email: matthew.beck@intact-preston.org.uk or visit our website at www.intact-preston.org.uk
2. Community CVS are recruiting for a **Volunteer Development Officer** (30hrs per week) for the Preston area on the Strengthening Communities Passport to Health and Employment Project, otherwise known as "Action for Jobs". Details from: Steve Foden on 07547566054, or email kate.lee@communitycvcs.org.uk.

**NHS 'TEST & TRACE' PHONE APP** – Many buildings, including our Church, Padua Room, Annexe and Parish Centre now display the QR code which can be read by smart phones (with Bluetooth enabled) to record your attendance. The phone app will notify you if you have spent fifteen minutes or more near anyone who has subsequently tested positive for coronavirus. We still take phone numbers manually.

**Baptisms are now restricted to six people and Weddings to 15 people**

**Today's Virtual 'Coffee Morning'** Same log in details: on Zoom at 11.00am. Log in: Meeting ID: 819 8015 2432 Passcode: 879577

**Masses received this week:** Bogumila Osmokiewicz, Gwendolyn Ward, Mary Pamela Hatch,