

FIRST READING

Jonah 3:1-5.10

The word of the Lord was addressed a second time to Jonah: "Up!" he said "Go to Nineveh, the great city, and preach to them as I told you to." Jonah set out and went to Nineveh in obedience to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was a city great beyond compare: it took three days to cross it. Jonah went on into the city, making a day's journey. He preached in these words, "Only forty days more and Nineveh is going to be destroyed." And the people of Nineveh believed in God; they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least. God saw their efforts to renounce their evil behaviour. And God relented: he did not inflict on them the disaster which he had threatened.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalms 24

Lord, make me know your ways.

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| 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.
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

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Brothers this is what I mean: our time is growing short. Those who have wives should live as though they had none, and those who mourn should live as though as though they had nothing to mourn for, those who are enjoying life should live as if there were nothing to laugh about; those whose life is buying things should live as though they had nothing of their own; and those who have to deal with the world should not become engrossed in it. I say this because the world as we know it is passing away.

Alleluia, alleluia! The kingdom of God is close at hand; believe the Good News. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mark 1:14-20

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. "The time has come" he said "and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News." As he was walking along by the Sea of Galilee he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake - for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men." And at once they left their nets and followed him. Going on a little further, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they too were in their boat, mending their nets. He called them at once and, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the men he employed they went after him.

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St Anthony of Padua

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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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"Follow me"

Jan Richardson offers the following reflection on today's readings.

'I marvel at how quickly they leave their nets, these fisherfolk who meet Jesus as they labour by the Sea of Galilee. What do Simon and Andrew hear in Jesus' voice as he calls; what do James and John see as Christ beckons them to cast aside all they have known? Perhaps, listening to Jesus, they remember the story of Jonah. Perhaps they think of the first time God called that reluctant prophet, and what happens when we run in the opposite direction of God's call: how we are likely to wind up in a place that is dark and dank and lonely. A place that presses clarity upon us and inspires us to respond differently when the invitation comes again. Perhaps, encountering this man who immediately compels them, Simon and Andrew and James and John already know in their bones what Paul will later write about in his first letter to the Corinthians: how following Christ will mean letting go of what they have relied upon, will mean living without what they have become attached to. In the days, weeks, years to come, these four—and the eight soon to join them—will live into that initial burst of letting go. They will learn, and learn again, what it takes to follow Christ: how they will have to continually practice the art of leaving. And in their leaving, in their letting go, they will find their sustenance and their true home.

The Jewish tradition took great pains to make clear that Yahweh doesn't require sacrifice. "I want your constant love, not your animal sacrifices. I would rather have my people know me than burn offerings to me" (Hosea 6:6) and this loving relationship entails that we "do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly before our God." (Micah 6: 8) I wonder if the people of Israel ever wondered if sacrifice might be easier than all this justice and kindness stuff. It can feel consuming, being in relationship with God: it requires so much more of our very selves than simply offering a sacrifice that's detached from us. And for all that it asks of us, following Jesus doesn't offer much in the way of earthly security, as Mark reminds us in today's gospel which begins with a mention of the arrest of John the Baptist. It's challenging at times to reconcile the seeming paradox that giving ourselves to a God of love and mercy does not always protect us from heartache and suffering; in fact, it sometimes does just the opposite. Called to engage in the world, we find ourselves drawn more deeply into the pain and despair present there—along with (thank God) the delight.'

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

24th January 2021

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DIARY AND MASS INTENTIONS

for the week beginning Saturday 24th January 2021

Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Timmy O'Donovan	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i> <i>St. Ant</i>	Maeve Walker For our parish Frances Thompson	<i>3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> <i>Sunday of the Word of God</i>
Mon 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	William Clough	<i>Feast: Conversion of St. Paul</i>
Tue 10.00am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Helen Towey	<i>Feast: Ss. Timothy & Titus</i>
Wed 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Winnie Gildea	
Thur 9.15am	<i>H Family</i>	Private intention	<i>Feast: St. Thomas Aquinas</i>
Fri 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Private intention	
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>	Johnny Greenwood Mildred Slack Marie & Tom Hooper	<i>4th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> <i>Racial Justice Day</i>

Masses received this past week:

Lancaster Diocesan Directories 2021

Price is £4.00 or £4.50 for ring-bound. Please put payment in the slot in the green safe.

BIDDING PRAYER INTENTIONS

On Monday we celebrate the Conversion of St Paul. May the Church proclaim God's word as he did – fearlessly and with compassion.

We pray ... that the Lord will give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

... for all our parish – young and old; frail and strong; those in dark places; those in need and those helping in whatever way they can – Lord bless us and strengthen us.

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

Pray for those who have died recently: Johnny Greenwood, Mildred Slack, Martin Banks;

... and for those whose anniversaries are around now: John Garvey, May Mee, John Cooper, John Howarth, Alan McLaughlin, Catherine Brennan, Elsie Gallagher, Celia Cherry, Gervase & Alice Bamber, John Kellett, James Robinson, Bertha Frances Dawson, Bill Moon, John Philips, Lena Carling, Helen McBride. May they rest in peace.

We remember in our prayers those who have been injured or lost their lives in conflict,

Livestreaming Mass

We are now able to livestream Mass from St. Anthony's church. We will start to stream the 9.30am Mass this Sunday. Go to the St. Anthony of Padua YouTube page and look for the link there. Although the sound of the priest and the reader is good you will not be able to hear the responses from the congregation - you can make those yourself!

Although you cannot obviously receive holy communion while watching this streaming you could make your own spiritual communion at this time, as follows:

My Jesus, I believe You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since at this moment I cannot receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen

Church remains open for Mass

We thought the Government might order the closure of churches but it seems that at this moment in time, the government has no intention of closing places of worship.

The Directors of Public Health identify the entrance and exit points of places of worship as potential places of infection, so please do not gather in doorways, and be sure to leave in an orderly way, dispersing immediately.

The Bible in a Year

This free American podcast guides Catholics through the Bible in 365 daily episodes, providing commentary, reflection, and prayer along the way: <https://media.ascensionpress.com/podcast/all-bible-in-a-year-episodes>

Castlerigg Youth Service

The Youth Service at Castlerigg Manor are launching two online groups for young people to come together, have a laugh, make some friends, and deepen their faith.

Overflow, an online group for 18-30s, begins on Monday 1st February. See www.castleriggmanor.co.uk/overflow to sign up.

Rise, for young people in years 7 to 9 begins in March, but sign up now to keep up to date www.castleriggmanor.co.uk/riseonline

First Holy Communions

It seems unlikely that we'll be able to celebrate first Holy Communions for the foreseeable future. We'll have another look at the situation after Easter. It is very sad for the children who are at the stage when they could be taking this great step forward in their faith. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

Virtual Coffee Morning

Join your fellow parishioners at the Zoom Coffee Morning at 11.00 am this Sunday
Meeting ID: 898 4267 4110 Passcode: 229935

Walk for Water

CAFOD has written to remind us that in 2021 the UK is set to host two major international meetings – the G7 and the UN Climate Talks (COP26). Climate change means that access to clean water is becoming more unpredictable. We know that one in three people around the world do not have access to safe drinking water. This Lent can you take on our 'Walk for Water' challenge? Sign up, get sponsored and get walking -10,000 steps a day, every day, for 40 days. Find out more at cafod.org.uk/walk

Fulwood Farmers' Market

There won't be one this Saturday, but hopefully there may be one in March.