

St Anthony of Padua

Presbytery: Cadley Causeway, Fulwood, Preston PR2 3RX
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Priest: Fr. Peter Draper. (Tel: 725193)
Deacons: (retired) Rev. John Kilshaw (07759 943667); Rev. Tom Butler (07853 777957)

Sunday Masses: 6.00 (Vigil - Saturday Evening) 9.30am, 5.00pm
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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God has joined us to Himself

'The Pharisees' question is not a pastoral question. It is a legal one, a test. They already know the answer to the question they are asking. Marriage in first century Palestine was an arrangement between families not a choice between individuals. It was more about an exchange of property, the woman, than it was about romance, mutuality, or personal fulfillment. In asking their question the Pharisees are not concerned about the spiritual or emotional well being of the couple. Their concern is Jesus. It is part of their plot to find ways to destroy him. Jesus neither accepts nor rejects the law of Moses. He reinterprets and deepens it. Marriage and divorce are not about transactions but about relationships, people and God. Jesus recognises the law of Moses for what it is, a concession to hardness of heart. The Pharisees want to talk about procedure. Jesus makes the conversation about substance. For the Pharisees the issue is the state of the law. For Jesus the issue is the state of one's heart. In that regard divorce is not limited to married persons. Divorce is an issue for everyone regardless of one's marital status.' [1]

The dictionary definition of divorce is: a separation between things which were or ought to be connected. We are connected to people in so many different ways: various family ties, social interaction, religious groups, political affiliations, professional contracts. Wherever there is division and separation within these groups there is a change of heart, our own or another's or both. Divorce is a symptom of heart dis-ease. 'We can all give reasons for our many divorces. They may be real reasons but they only justify the legality of our divorce. The reasons can leave us stuck. They offer neither life nor healing but only survival. God offers and desires more for us than mere survival.' [1] 'Somehow love has to be preserved if wounds are to be healed. Love is something we learn. Love is something we live. Love grows as it is 'forged' by the concrete situations in which we find ourselves. Love can flourish when we try not to make conflict the last word, but rather a new opportunity to draw closer to others, to draw closer to God.' [2] 'God has joined us to himself and no-one can separate us from his love, life and presence.' [1].

Adapted: (1) Michael Marsh (2) Pope Francis

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time year B
3rd October 2021 Missal page 924

DIARY AND MASS INTENTIONS

for the week beginning Saturday 2nd October 2021

Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Gary Whittell	
Sun 9.30am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Jack Mounsey	27th Sunday of the Year
11.00am	<i>H.Family</i>	For our parish	<i>CAFOD envelopes return</i>
5.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Special Intention	
Mon 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Margaret Mary Turner	<i>Feast: St. Francis of Assisi</i>
Tue 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Dec relatives Nora Rawcliffe	
Wed 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	For our 1st Reconciliation children	
Thur 9.15am	<i>H.Family</i>	Bill York	<i>Feast: Our Lady of the Rosary</i>
Fri 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Margaret Mary Turner	<i>Exposition with Holy Communion</i>
6.30-7.30pm	<i>H.Family</i>		
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Patrick Gormley	<i>Feast: St. John Henry Newman</i>
Sun 9.30am	<i>St. Ant</i>	For our parish	28th Sunday of the Year
11.00am	<i>H.Family</i>	Special Intention	
5.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Francis Kellet	

Last Weekend: Offertory £572.88. Attendance 204 (6pm 81, 9.30 81, 5.00 42)
Bishop's Admin Fund £79.60. Thank you for your generosity.

Masses received this week: Harry Thompson.

Welcome into the family of faith... George James Horvath who was baptised in St. Anthony's last Sunday.

BIDDING PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for Pope Francis as he challenges us to love and reverence our world and its peoples. May his words and actions inspire many people to act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with our God.

We pray for governments whose responsibilities affect our lives. May they take time to reflect, to evaluate their choices and to act with wisdom, insight, and compassion.

We pray for the work of CAFOD, that together we may continue to strive for a fairer world, bringing bread to those who are hungry and hope to those who are oppressed.

We ask the Lord to comfort and strengthen those of the parish who are suffering illness or infirmity especially Julie Mary Butler (Machin), Deacon John Kilshaw, Veronica Judge, May Rigby, Chris Goldsmith, Jo Counsell, Carole Adnitt, Lawrence Dunnagan, Bill Embery, Theresa Wilkinson, Frank Stanton, Alice Myerscough, Les Farrer. May God bring them health and strengthen their faith.

Let us pray for the souls of those recently departed this life, and those who mourn them, in particular William Wilson, William Ash, Jack Mounsey; and those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Helen Duckworth, Tom Turner, Jack Greenwood, George Elliott, Francis Kellett, Terry Farrell, Lily Doyle. May they rest in peace.

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day

Our parish CAFOD Group have produced a short video highlighting the work our parish has done with CAFOD. You can see it on this link: <https://youtu.be/kmUUQdjOBBA>
Please return envelopes today.

CAFOD virtual meeting with MP Ben Wallace

Our CAFOD Group has written to request a zoom meeting with our MP around the time of the Climate Conference, Cop26 -as follows: ". The coronavirus pandemic has had a catastrophic impact on the world's poorest communities, with 150 million people set to fall into extreme poverty as a result. Meanwhile, the climate crisis has again made headlines, and it is the same communities who are the hardest hit. With Britain hosting both the G7 and the COP26 this year, we think that our country has a crucial role to play in tackling global poverty, injustice and the climate crisis. We would appreciate the opportunity for our community to share our concerns with you and learn more about your work in Parliament on these issues." Ben Wallace has agreed but the date has not been fixed. Would any parishioners like to be involved in this discussion? Have a word with Fr. Peter or one of the CAFOD Group.

Fairtrade Stall

The Fairtrade Stall will be open this weekend. Christmas cards may be ordered.

Macmillan Cancer Support

The Knit & Natter group Macmillan fundraising event raised over £300 last weekend, an excellent total! Thank you for your generosity. List of Raffle winners will be in the porch.

Children's Liturgy

We are making a tentative return to Children's Liturgy at 9.30am Mass this Sunday. For the time being these will just be on the first Sundays of the month.

First Reconciliation and Holy Communion

This Wednesday the children will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

Parents of children applying for a place in St. Anthony's Primary school

Please note the closing Date: 15th January 2022. Apply online: www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools. If child is baptised a Catholic, then please complete a Supplementary Form available from school.

St. Anthony's Afternoon Tea

- with entertainment from Preston musical comedy show choir. On Sunday 14th Nov 2-4 pm at St Anthony's Social Centre. Tickets will be limited with set table allocation so you may book in groups to sit with friends if you wish. Tickets are now on sale after Mass or from Tess on 01772774554 or mtpollard24@gmail.com. We need more help on the day, and bakers! There will be a box at the back of church for raffle donations.

Coffee Mornings - on Sundays after 9.30am Mass. And now after the Saturday vigil Mass. Further help would be welcome. Virtual Coffee Morning on zoom on Sundays at 11.00am. Access codes: Meeting ID: 879 1587 6429 Passcode 766018

Exposition & Holy Communion - at Holy Family Fridays at 6.30pm

One effect of Covid was that we had to suspend the Friday Exposition and Holy Communion at Holy Family. However we have now re-introduced this weekly devotion from 6.30-7.30pm.

Knit & Natter Group

"Our next project is working with the Salvation Army Christmas Appeal. We will be knitting/crochet baby clothes 0-18 months. We request donations of wool and knitting needles. There is a box at the back of the church. You could always join us on a Monday."