

St Anthony of Padua

Presbytery: Cadley Causeway, Fulwood, Preston PR2 3RX

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

Deacon (retired): 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

Lancaster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity Number 234331

Aah moments

'The Baptism of Jesus is the third of three great epiphanies or revelations of God-with-us which characterise the liturgical Christmas season: **the birth of Jesus**, made known to the shepherds, representing the poor and the marginalised; **the visit of the Three Wise Men**, which reveals that Jesus was born not only for his own people but for people of every country and every race everywhere'; [1] and **the Baptism of Jesus** which is 'the great epiphany of the Trinity on the day when Jesus' identity is revealed.' [2] All these epiphanies are manifestations of what has always been, revelations of 'the invincible loving presence of God, welling up and giving himself unexplainably, permeating us through and through.' [3]

'What we experience and celebrate in all these epiphanies is that it is God who is manifest, not our formulations of God! An epiphany is not an idea. As D. H. Lawrence said, people can do anything they want with an idea, but a truly new experience changes everything. Before you can do anything with it, it does something with you! God is someone to be personally experienced, and not just mentally agreed upon, proven, accepted or argued about. Like Jesus, all that we undertake must flow from our experience of who we are - God's beloved. It is the experience of who we are in God that enables us to carry out our mission in life even in those times when it is difficult to experience love because of experiences of failure, humiliation, suffering and difficulties in relationships.' [4] At the beginning of a new year, today's gospel tells us that 'being the beloved constitutes the core truth of our existence. Our main mission in life is to embrace our belovedness and to become who we are. When we claim and constantly reclaim the truth of being the beloved, we soon discover within ourselves a deep desire to reveal to others that they are also beloved.' [5]

It's great to have an epiphany, an "Aah!" moment, but what we do with that new clarity is what matters most. 'Each choice we make creates the road that will take us to the place where at last we will kneel before mystery.' [6]

Adapted: [1] *Living space* [2] *Pope Saint John Paul II* [3] *James Finley* [5] *Henri Nouwen*
[6] *Jan Richardson*

The Baptism of the Lord

9th January 2022

Year C

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DIARY AND MASS INTENTIONS

for the week beginning Saturday 8th January 2022

Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Gerard Allen	
Sun 9.30am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Stany Rodrigues	<i>The Baptism of the Lord</i>
11.00am	<i>H. Family</i>	Patrick Sweeney	
5.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Doris Wilson	
Mon 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Rev John Kilshaw	
Tue 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Special Intention (TB)	
Wed 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Driver & Norris families	<i>Feast St Aelred of Rivaux</i>
Thur 9.15am	<i>H. Family</i>	For our parish	<i>Feast St. Kentigern</i>
Fri 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Frank Burscough	
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Margaret Smethurst	
Sun 9.30am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Kevin O'Neill & O'Neill family	<i>2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
11.00am	<i>H. Family</i>	Special Intention	
5.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	For our parish	

Last Weekend: Offertory £701.13. Attendance 168 (6.00pm 48, 9.30am 71, 5.00pm 49)
Thank you for your generosity.

Masses received this week: Joan & Leonard Airey, Liz & Dave Smith, Tom & Marie Hooper, Rev. John Kilshaw, Peter Gillett.

Welcome into the family of faith: Ralph Parkinson who was baptised in St. Anthony's last Sunday

PLEASE NOTE: Face coverings

Face coverings are now compulsory in most public indoor venues including places of worship except for those with medical exemption.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for those who are sick, especially Mary Lawler, Mandy Davis, Deacon Tom Butler, Jo Counsell, Alice Myerscough, Chris Goldsmith, May Rigby, Theresa Wilkinson, Bill Embery, Lawrence Dunnagan, Carole Adnitt, Les Farrer, Frank Stanton. May God bring them health and strengthen their faith.

We pray for the souls of those recently departed this life, in particular, Peter Gillett (USA); and those whose anniversaries fall about this time: George Anderton, Joan Rushton, Mary O'Connor, Sheila Arkwright, William Mason, Paul David Stanley, Jack Cocker, Jean Dunn, Dominic McDonnell, Margaret McCann, Jenny Smethurst, Margaret Devereux, Dennis Ball, Alice Moxham, Cynthia Nightingale, Winifred Alty, Irene Lyon-Hayes, Liam Breslin, Frank Burscough, Irene Mary Cottam, Joseph Welsby. May they rest in peace.

First Reconciliation & Holy Communion. And Confirmation

We will be starting preparation for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion in the New Year. Any children not in St. Anthony's school should have a word with Fr. Peter. We'll also be arranging preparation for the Sacrament of **Confirmation**. This time it will be for Years 8 & 9 and we expect to have Confirmations for current Year 7 & 6 the following year.

Fair Trade stall - this will be open this weekend.

St Anthony's After school club position

We are looking for a friendly, reliable and energetic playworker to join our team. The ideal candidate should have some experience of working with children and preferably a childcare qualification although this is not essential. Common sense, a willingness to get stuck in and a sense of humour are essential. Post hours are 3pm till 5.30pm Monday to Friday, 38 weeks of the year. The club is open term time only so wages are on a pro rata basis. Training (including Safeguarding, First Aid, Food Hygiene, Health and Safety) and induction will be provided as well as a uniform. Pay is £8.91 per hour. For further details about the duties involved and to visit the club, please call 07507304908 to speak to the manager.

Day of reflection Exploring Vocation to the Priesthood.

Saturday 22nd January 10.30am - 4pm. A day for any men, from 18yrs old, who are thinking about a priestly vocation. The day will include Mass, some time for reflection, discussion, adoration. Lunch will be provided. The venue is Our Lady and St Joseph, Warwick Square, Carlisle, CA1 1LB. There is no expectation of commitment. If you would like to join us please book a place by email: fr.ruscillo@carlislecatholicchurch.org

Omicron virus

We've had this note from the Diocese: "Both London and the North West areas have relatively high numbers of un-vaccinated or not fully vaccinated individuals, especially in city and densely-populated areas, so it is not difficult to imagine why a new wave of the highly-transmissible Omicron variant may hit the North West region. At this stage we have had no additional guidance from the Bishops' Conference but it makes sense to exercise prudence and to reinforce the current mitigations we have in place, including ventilation of churches. Maybe any planned parish social events, due to take place in enclosed spaces should be postponed or suspended at this time." With this in mind we'll suspend Coffee after Mass for a month to see how things pan out.

Lancaster Diocesan Directories

The Directories have now arrived - £5.25 for the ring-bound, £4.50 for the ordinary copies. Please put money in the slot in the green safe marked "Books". Thank you.

Vacancy—Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator

The diocese is looking to recruit a suitably qualified individual with significant safeguarding experience to the post of diocesan safeguarding coordinator. This vacancy has arisen due to the forthcoming retirement of the current post holder. The post will be advertised w/c 3rd January 2022 on www.indeed.co.uk and through other internal channels. Application packs will also be available via the Diocesan Safeguarding Office please email safeguarding@lancasterdiocese.org.uk

Relics of St. Bernadette

The Bishop's Conference has arranged for relics of St Bernadette to be brought to England in 2022. It is hopeful as our Lady of Lourdes is a patroness of the diocese that one of the Cathedrals chosen for the visitation will be Lancaster. Further details later.