

St Anthony of Padua



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Website: www.stanthonys-rc-church-preston.org.uk/

Priest: Fr. Peter Draper. (Tel: 725193)
Deacon (retired): Rev. Tom Butler

Sunday Masses: 6.00pm (Saturday Vigil), 9.30am.
Weekday Mass: Mon-Wed, Fri: 9.15am. (Thurs 9.15am at Holy Family)
Confessions: 5.30—5.50pm

Annexe: 725544 Social Centre: 735963 Primary school: 726621
Playgroup/Preschool 07963 700591

Lancaster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity Number 234331

Living in Readiness

Jesus introduces today's parable by saying, "The kingdom of heaven will be like this..." We have learned from many other places where Jesus speaks of the kingdom of heaven that it is far more than just a place good people go to when they die. The kingdom of heaven is a state of consciousness, a mindset which resonates with Jesus' own consciousness and mindset. "Have this mind in you that was in Christ Jesus," St. Paul famously exhorted the Philippians. When we live in Christ then we are rooted in that spiritual Source which sustains us when circumstances in our life become difficult or when what we hope and long for never seems to happen. [1]

'Keeping in mind that symbolic language seems to be Jesus' preferred way of teaching spiritual realities, we could understand the oil to symbolise living in readiness and this oil is also clearly a metaphor for something that we and only we can do, that someone else can't do for us and can't give us.' [2] 'The oil symbolises our own distinctive inner connection to the Source of eternal life. The truth of this oil is that you have to have your own. One cannot develop spiritually by taking the consciousness and action of another as your own.' [3] So it is not that the wise virgins are selfish and refuse to share their oil; it's that it simply cannot be done. Yet we persistently seek to buy or borrow things "out there" when we don't believe we have them "in here." We think that the answer to a problem arising in our soul or our spirit can be solved by obtaining something from outside ourselves. But if having extra oil symbolises having access to that never-ending flow of life that comes when we live in Christ, in the kingdom of heaven – then this is not something that can be obtained from outside one's self. It has to come from within. [1]

When we continually let go of what dims the light within us (when we trim the wicks) we will experience a deepening of our oneness with the true Source of life and light. 'Each one of us makes our own journey; each one of us 'meets the Bridegroom' in our unique wonder-filled moments that come our way. We cannot make that journey for anyone else.' [3] No one can make that journey for us. 'The question is not, "Do I have time to prepare?" but "Do I live in a state of preparedness?" [4]

Adapted: [1] christchurchcanoncity.com [2] Martha Kirkpatrick [3] John Shea [4] Henri Nouwen

32nd Sunday of the Year
12th November 2023

Year A
Missal: p803

DIARY AND MASS INTENTIONS

for the week beginning Saturday 11th November 2023

Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Tom & Marie Gardner	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H. Family</i>	Patricia & Robbie Hasson For our parish	32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Remembrance Sunday</i>
Mon 10.30am	<i>St. Ant</i>	<i>Funeral Mass:</i> Dennis Taylor	
Tue 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Patrick Joseph Bolger	
Wed 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Philip Brady	" <i>Testament - the Parables retold</i> "
Thur 9.15am	<i>H. Family</i>	John Talbot	
Fri 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Ned Galvin	
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Maureen Skeldon	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H. Family</i>	Warwick family For our parish	33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>World Day of the Poor</i>

Last Weekend: Attendance: 231 (93 + 138). Offertory: £615.15
Thank you for your generosity.

Masses received this week: Francis O'Gara, Robbie & Patsy Hasson, Ian Talbot, Patrick Joseph Bolger, Christina Bolger, John Talbot, Ned Galvin, Philp Brady, Warwick fam.

Tea, Coffee, cake etc. is served in the Padua Room after both weekend Masses.

Catholic Voice Newspaper

Copies of the November issue are at the back of church – please take one.

Welcome into the family of faith:

Lucas James Hefferan who was baptised in St. Anthony's last week.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for those who are sick, especially Jo Counsell, Bill Embery, Marie Morris, Carole & Gary Adnitt, Maureen Cafferkey, Les Farrer, baby Mairead, Angela Russell, Jack Morton;
We pray for those who have died recently: Dennis Taylor, Frank Kelly, Teresa Ribchester;
and those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Julie Butler, Joseph Etherington. Eva Cookson, Stephen Slater, Lilly Morrison, Kathleen Cummins, Elizabeth Clune, Alfred Kenneth Craven, Sean Finn, Thomas McTigue, Keith Yates, Mary Balshaw, Sylvia Wilcock Taylor, Christopher Burscough, Francis Farr, Maree Denise Evans. May they rest in peace.

Poppies!

The Knit & Natter ladies have worked really hard making banners and a poppy display for Remembrance Day. They are a striking display in church this week!
Knit & Natter are selling handmade poppies after each Mass this weekend. The cost is a minimum donation of £1.00. All monies to go to the British Legion. Next weekend Remembrance Weekend they are hosting the refreshments in the Padua room after each Mass and having a sale of work. Monies raised will go to the parish charities.

"CAFOD Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal

Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at cafod.org.uk/ipc or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers."

Parish Charities 2024

We have a number of charity fund-raisers during the year and the proceeds go to our two nominated charities. The current charities are Water Aid and The Hygiene Bank. You are invited make your nominations for the Parish Charities 2024 - one at home, one overseas. Forms and ballot box at back of church. The 3 most popular suggestions in each category will be put to the parish vote during December.

Lancaster Diocesan Missio Mass

– Bishop Paul will be celebrating a mass at Sacred Heart Church in Ashton on Saturday 18th November at 11.15am followed by a buffet lunch and presentations by Bishop Paul and a missionary priest. All Red Box holders and Missio supporters in our parish are invited and to assist with planning, please RSVP by 6 November either by email – redbox@missio.org.uk – or tel. 07593 544625

Advent Activities in the Padua Room

- The Nativity** - Wednesdays during Advent from 29th November to 20th December. 7.00 - 8.00pm - reflect on the familiar story as told in this 2010 BBC drama series. All are welcome.
- Stop and Breathe** - Saturday 16th December 11.30 - 3.30pm. An opportunity for reflection in the run up to Christmas. Booking essential for this mini retreat - please contact Jackie on 07934 667292 or Theresa on 07788 402606.

"Testament: The Parables Retold"

On Wednesday 15th November in the Padua Room 7.00 to 9.30pm (PG13). The film is set in the modern world, where the resurrection only happened 20 years ago. It follows Luke as he hears some well loved parables told by followers of Jesus.

The Fairtrade stall - November Fair Trade sales were £53 with donations to CAFOD £5.75. Rwanda sales were £16.50. Thankyou again to all who so kindly supported this.

CAFOD World Gifts catalogues now available at back of church.

Christmas toys

Once again the Salvation Army are collecting Christmas toys. There will be a collection box at the back of church from next weekend (12 November) until the end of November. Toys should be new, unwrapped, and for children from birth to early teens. Thank you for your generosity.