

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

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

Reading with New Eyes

'The cultural lens through which we read Scripture is completely foreign to the cultural lens in which Scripture was originally written or read.' [1] It is unfortunate that the word for a denomination of money in the time of Jesus – a talent - is the same word we use for our abilities and skills. This has led us to interpret the parable of the talents as an exhortation to develop our God-given gifts. This is undoubtedly our calling. 'In this interpretation, our heroes are the slaves who returned their talents with interest and we dismiss the unprofitable slave. However, people of a peasant background recognise him as the hero of the parable. How can this be?' [2] 'He unmasks the fact that the master's wealth is derived entirely from ruthless business practices, usury and the cynical view that the rich will only get richer while the poor become destitute. Unwilling to participate in this exploitation, this third slave took the money out of circulation, where it could no longer be used to dispossess another farmer and his family. The consequence of the third slave's non-cooperation is banishment to the "outer darkness where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth" We have presumed this to be "hell," and so perhaps it is—that is, the hell on earth experienced by those rejected by the dominant culture.' [3] 'Moreover, if we assume, as does the traditional interpretation, that the master is a figure for God, it is a severe portrait indeed. The man/nobleman in the parable is Archeleus, the son of Herod, who had gone on a 3 year furlough to Rome after becoming king. He expected his stewards to collect the same unfair taxes that he had. He wanted them to oppress the poor as he had, and then he would rake in the whole profit.' [4] 'The master represents the god of this age, the one who teaches and models the morally reprehensible behaviour of stealing from the poor to make themselves rich. Jesus is teaching us that we can expect the same fate as the third slave when we try to live according to His new commandment.' [1] 'Church historians, as early as Eusebius (339 AD) have known of this interpretation of this parable and several commentators assert that it is understood more correctly as a cautionary tale about the world than as a parable about the kingdom of God. In the original Greek the words "kingdom of heaven" do not appear in v.14. These words were inserted later.' [3] 'The third slave is the one who is prepared to accept the consequences of his convictions. Nowadays we would call it civil disobedience. We would say that he is responding to a deeper truth; and this deeper truth always leads us into conflict with the superficial truth.' [4] We need the courage of the third slave to become God's compassionate presence in the midst of pain and marginality.

Adapted [1] Jeremy Myers [2] Carl Schafer OFM [3]Ched Myers &EricDeBode [4]Richard Rohr

33rd Sunday of the Year
19th November 2023

Year A
Missal: p806

DIARY AND MASS INTENTIONS

for the week beginning Saturday 18th November 2023

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>
Mon 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Allan Jackson & Monica Jackson	
Tue 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Joseph & Lydia Etherington	<i>Feast: The Presentation</i>
Wed 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Ann Thompson	<i>Feast: St. Cecilia</i>
Thur 9.15am	<i>H.Family</i>	For our parish	
Fri 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Frank Routledge	<i>Fast: Martyrs of Vietnam</i>
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Kathleen Machin,	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	Christina Bolger Ian Talbot	Christ the King <i>Youth Sunday</i>

Last Weekend: Attendance: 278 (108 + 170). Offertory: £568.55
Thank you for your generosity.

Masses received this week: Frank Routledge, Robert Swan, Vincent & Kathleen Machin, Allan Jackson & Monica Jackson, Joseph & Lydia Etherington, Ann Thompson.

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

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.

Welcome into the family of faith:

Leo Robert Wild who was baptised in St. Anthony's last week.

CAFOD World Gifts catalogues now available at back of church.

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, Teresa Ribchester, Leonardo Iozzi, Deacon Graham Lavery;

and those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Leslie Bashall, Edward Nightingale, Christina Bolger, Victoria Makishti, Jack Fitzgerald, Jim Barnes, Kathleen Machin, Frederick Langdell, Teresa Whelan, Barbara Strettle, Evelyn Eccles, Patricia Pilkington, Barbara Osbaldeston. May they rest in peace.

Remembrance

Apart from decorating the church with a fantastic poppy and banners display, the Knit & Natter group raised a total of £313.70 with their sale of work for the parish charities. They also donated £202.66 to the British Legion for the sale of their hand knitted badges. Well done ladies.

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 to 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.

Advent Activities in the Padua Room

a) **'Introduction to the Gospel of St Mark.'** On Wednesday 22nd November, 7.00 to 8.00pm. A short introduction to the Gospel we will be hearing each Sunday from December

b) **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.

c) **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.

Christmas toys

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

Christmas Carols Service

Sunday 10th December, 2pm. Followed by free refreshments, Raffle & Sing-a-long. Choir rehearsals are at 10.45 on Sunday mornings. New singers are welcome.

St. Anthony's School Key Stage 1 Advent Service in church

On Tuesday 19th December at 10am and 2pm. Parishioners are especially welcome to the 10am service.

St Anthony's Primary School - Headteacher

Mrs Ballard will be stepping down as headteacher of our school at Christmas. She has been a great leader of our school for the last 10 years and we are grateful for her work in educating the children of our parish.

Next week we shall be interviewing applicants to be the new head. Please pray for all those involved in this important process.

St Anthony's Primary School – Foundation Governor Vacancy

Foundation Governors are appointed by the Bishop to serve as his representatives on the governing bodies of Diocesan schools to ensure the Church's mission is upheld and, along with other governors, work with the headteacher and staff to support them in providing the best for our children. No specific experience is necessary. Just a commitment to help improve the life of the school and training can be provided as appropriate. If you are interested and want to know more, please speak with Father Peter or contact Paul Thompson, Chair of Governors, on 01772 865153.