

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

Casting and Mending

'Simon and Andrew were casting a net into the sea - for they were fishermen. That was their livelihood. James and John were mending their nets - for they were also fishermen. That was their life. One day looked like another, as it does for us. Life is routine, often lived on autopilot. Nothing changes. We don't expect much to happen. We 'cast and mend our nets' to make a living, to hold our family together, to gain the things we want, to gain security and get to retirement, to make our way through another day of loneliness, sadness or illness.

Whatever the circumstances of our lives, they are the circumstances in which Jesus comes to us, the context in which we hear the call to new life and the place where we are changed, where the ordinary becomes the extraordinary. "Follow me" is Jesus' invitation to a new life. It is the call to change and grow. (The Greek word 'metanoia' means change your mind/heart, but it is often translated as meaning 'repent'.) This is an inner journey, a journey into the deepest part of our being. Jesus doesn't offer a map, an itinerary or a destination; only an invitation. It's not about planning and organising, making lists or packing supplies. If anything, this journey is about leaving things behind. More often than not our spiritual growth involves some kind of letting go. We never get anywhere new as long as we're unwilling to leave where we are. We accept Jesus' invitation to follow, not by packing up, but by letting go.' [1]

'The word *change* normally refers to new beginnings. Transformation invites and sometimes forces the soul to go to a new place because the old place is not working anymore.' [2] So what are the nets that entangle us? What are the little boats that contain our life? Who are the fathers from whom we seek identity, value, or approval? What do we need to let go of and leave behind so that we might follow Jesus? As for the disciples, the call of Jesus does not always require that we leave our jobs. It is a call to discover God's divinity within us, so that we may become aware that the Kingdom of God is 'at hand', is in this moment. [1]

Adapted: [1]Michael Marsh [2] Richard Rohr

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

21st January 2024

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DIARY AND MASS INTENTIONS

for the week beginning Saturday 20th January 2024

Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	For our parish	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	Special Intention (SA) Kathleen Connolly	Third Sunday of the Year <i>Sunday of the Word of God</i>
Mon 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Mary	
Tue 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Fran Cartlidge	
Wed 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Mary Whittle	<i>Feast: St. Francis de Sales</i>
Thur 9.15am	<i>H.Family</i>	Fr. W. Bootle	<i>The Conversion of St. Paul</i>
Fri 12.45am	<i>St. Ant</i>	<i>Funeral Mass:</i> Virginia Curwen	<i>Feast: Ss Timothy & Titus</i>
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	For our parish	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	Kevin O'Neill & O'Neill family Bruce Hunt	Fourth Sunday of the Year <i>Racial Justice Day</i>

Last Weekend: Attendance: 226 (107 + 119). Offertory: £532.38.
Thank you for your generosity.

Masses received this week: Mary (sick), Fran Cartlidge, Mary Whittle;

Diocesan Directories

New Directories are at the back of church. Ringbound are £7 and ordinary bound are £6. Please put money in the Directories slot in the green safe.

Crib offerings

Thank you for the crib offerings which amounted to £191.87. They will be sent to the Holy Family parish in Gaza.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for those who are sick, especially Michael Connors, Jo Counsell, Bill Embery, Marie Morris, Angela Russell, Tom Butler, Carole & Gary Adnitt, Maureen Cafferkey, Les Farrer, baby Mairead, Fr. Harry Holden, Fr. Jim Allen, Canon Dunstan Cooper;

We pray for those who have died recently: Ann Maureen Wright, Virginia Curwen;

and those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Robert Dobson, John Garvey, May Mee, John Cooper, John Howarth, Alan McLaughlin, Catherine Brennan, Elsie Gallagher, Celia Cherry, Gervase & Alice Bamber, John Kellett, James Robinson, Robert Taylor, Bill Moon, Bertha Frances Dawson, John Philips, Lena Carling, Helen McBride, Agnes Long, Brian Newsham, Margaret Newsham, Margaret Robinson.

May they rest in peace.

Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity—TODAY

This year will be held at Christ Church (Victoria Road) today Sunday 21st January at 3pm. The theme is 'Go and do likewise' and will take the form of a Songs of Praise.

St. Anthony's Social Committee

The next Social event is "Murder on the Golf Course" with a hotpot supper on Friday 8th March.

First Reconciliation and Holy Communion

We will soon be re-starting sessions of preparation for parents and children. If you have a child in a school other than St. Anthony's have a word with Fr. Peter as soon as possible.

Palms

Lent and Easter come early this year. Ash Wednesday is 14th February and so you are invited to return last year's palms for burning to provide the ash we use in church.

St Walburge's Open Doors

During January you can climb the spire. Afterwards, tours of the church and refreshments are available. 13th, 20th, 27th January 1-5pm. Tickets available on TicketTailor: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/stwalburgesshrinechurch/1082309#>
No ticket sales on the door. All proceeds go to the restoration project.

Wednesday Evening Film Night

We will be watching 'AD Kingdom and Empire' over the next few weeks. This drama tells the story of the first few chapters of Acts of the Apostles. Wednesdays 7.00pm in the Padua Room, starting on 10th January 2024. For further information, contact Jackie on 07934 667292 or jackie.stopyra@gmail.com

Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage 2024

with Bishop Paul Swarbrick, 23rd – 30th July 2024. There is a leaflet at the back of church or visit www.lancasterlourdes.co.uk

Parish Charities 2024

The total raised for the 2023 Parish charities is £4192.70, to be split 50/50 between the Hygiene Bank and WaterAid. Thank You to all who contributed through various charity events during the past year, including the coffee after Mass. The charities for 2024 are The Mary O'Gara Foundation and Sightsavers. Details of both are on the board at the back of church.

Fulwood Farmers' Market

The first market of 2024 will be held on Saturday 27th January from 9.30am-1pm at Fulwood Methodist Church, Watling Street Road, PR2 8EA. Come and stock up on fresh local produce and Fairtrade products, and stay for a drink and a snack.

CAFOD: Our parish, our community, our world needs you

Could your New Year's resolution be getting more involved in the life of our church? Could you give a bit of time to help things flourish? CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, are looking for people to give some time and join them in their mission. See cafod.org.uk/Volunteer or get in touch with lancaster@cafod.org.uk or could you take part in The Big Lent Walk? cafod.org.uk/walk.