

St Anthony of Padua

Presbytery: Cadley Causeway, Fulwood, Preston PR2 3RX
Tel: 01772 725193 E-mail: stanthonyholyfamily@gmail.com
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

Transfiguration

Transfiguration means a change of form, a metamorphosis. Yet, 'Jesus did not become what he was not already, but appeared to the disciples as he always was, opening their eyes, giving sight to those who were blind.' [1] 'Peter, John and James saw for the first time what has always been. They saw the light of divinity fully manifest in a human being.' [2] We all have our mountaintop experiences, those 'Aah' moments when we sense a oneness with the Divine – in the first snowdrops of Spring, in the face of the beloved, in the awesome sunrise. 'These are timeless moments because they touch eternity.' [3]

Like Peter, we may want to build our home on our 'mountain peak', we may want to make our fleeting experience permanent. But 'humanity can never build a dwelling place for God. It is, rather, God who makes humanity the dwelling place of divinity. This is most profoundly revealed in the Transfiguration of Jesus. [2] Jan Richardson beautifully describes how we might feel:

*'Believe me, I know how tempting it is to remain inside this blessing,
to linger where everything is dazzling and clear.*

We could stay.

But this blessing is built for leaving.

This blessing is made for coming down the mountain.

This blessing wants to travel with you as you return to level ground.'

We mustn't be reluctant or afraid to come down from the mountain. 'Each day is just as God-infused as the experiences that occur on our mountaintops. That moment of transfiguration now resides eternally within us, helping us to see and hear the sacred both in our mountaintop and our valley experiences. Can we hold the mountain and the valley as one — denying neither and embracing both?' [4]

Adapted: [1] St Gregory Palamas [2] Michael Marsh [3] Daniel O'Leary [4] Debie Thomas

Second Sunday of Lent Year B

25th February 2024

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DIARY AND MASS INTENTIONS

for the week beginning Saturday 24th February 2024

Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Vera Bolton	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	Bill Ellis For our parish	Second Sunday in Lent
Mon 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Jessica O'Connor	
Tue 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Anthony O'Connor	
Wed 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Teresa Greenhalgh	
Thur 9.15am	<i>H.Family</i>	Special Intention	
Fri 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Francis O'Gara	<i>Feast: St. David</i> <i>6pm: Stations of the Cross</i>
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Alfred Fogell	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	For our parish June Blinkhorn	Third Sunday in Lent

Last Weekend: Attendance: 234 (103 + 131). Offertory: £613.80.
Thank you for your generosity.

Masses received this week: Jessica O'Connor, Anthony O'Connor, Ann Lister.

Diocesan Directories

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

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

Catholic Voice

March edition is at the back of church. Take a free copy. For online version see: https://issuu.com/cathcom/docs/lancaster_march_2024_final

PRAYER INTENTIONS

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

We pray for those who have died recently: Barbara Cairns, Terry Robertson;

and those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Fr. Fred Hamer, Joseph Slater, Eileen Bamber, Kathleen Gielty, Arnold Horner, Phebe Billington, John Rawcliffe, Jim Whiteside, Stephen & Clare Cummings, David Walker, Gervase Bamber, John Hanlon, Francis Smith, Bill Ellis, Brucie Grace, Anthony Hanlon. May they rest in peace.

LENT

Stations of the Cross In St. Anthony's Church each Friday in Lent at 6.00pm, led by members of our parish.

CAFOD Family Fast Day — Lent appeal

The Lenten Fast Day was on Friday 23rd February. This year CAFOD is helping fishermen in Liberia to stay safe when they go out to sea in their small canoes by providing them with lifejackets, compasses and other equipment. If you would like to make a donation, please collect an envelope as you leave church or you can donate online by visiting the CAFOD website where you can also read more about this appeal.

Wednesday Evening Group - 7.00 - 8.00 pm

We have a varied programme of films and short documentaries over the next few weeks. Come and try. Check the noticeboard for further details. 21st February - The Three Temptations; 28th February - Footprints of Abraham (7.00 - 9.00 pm); 6th March - Catherine of Siena and 13th March - St Patrick. For further information contact Jackie on jackie.stopyra@gmail.com or 07934 667292.

Fairtrade Stall

The Fairtrade stall is at church next weekend. There will also be a few Easter and Mothers Day cards.

First Reconciliation and Holy Communion

We have started preparation for parents and children. Please remember them in your prayers.

Day of Renewal

At St. Clare's on Saturday 2nd March, from at 10am-4.00pm. Led by Gary Stephens, leader of the Prince of Peace Community, Walsingham. * poster

Night of Mystery & Intrigue— WhoDunnit HotPot Supper

On Friday 8th March at 7.30pm in St. Anthony's Parish Centre. £10 per person — all proceeds to the Parish Charities. Adults only. Tickets available at the back of church or from Bob & Mary Scott on 01772 715096.

'Keep Fit for Rwanda' each Wednesday morning 10am. New members are welcome. Come and see before committing! See notice board.

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.

PACT Meeting

Our local PCSO invites us to a PACT meeting at St. Martin's Parish Hall, Broadway on Tuesday 5th March at 6.30pm.