

St Anthony of Padua

Presbytery: Cadley Causeway, Fulwood, Preston PR2 3RX
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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

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The True Temple

Today's first and third readings speak about rules, sacred buildings and rituals which 'are meant to bring us into the awareness of the divine presence in us and in all of those around us.' [1] 'The gospel isn't about what is **present** in the temple but is about Jesus' deep concern with what is **missing**.' [2] 'The gospel tells us that the temple had become totally aligned with the king, the collecting of taxes and monies and the selling of forgiveness. It had become a place of transaction rather than transformation, a wholesale marketplace rather than a holy meeting place. Jesus takes a revolutionary approach to religion: from an emphasis on **sacrifice** by which we **earn** God's love, to **trust** through which we **know** God's love. Jesus is redefining 'the temple': the new temple is the human person. 'I am the temple.' The temple is transferred from any kind of physical building to the human person. Years later, Jesus' words will echo in Paul's first letter to the Corinthians. "Do you not know," the apostle will ask them—and us— "that **you** are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?" [3]

'The temple was the centre of Jewish life. It is what structured their community. It gave identity and meaning. We all have temples: things that we think give structure and order to our lives, provide security and stability. At least we think they do, until they fall.' [2] 'When we have the courage to face our spiritual clutter we learn to recognise God's presence in the midst of our lives.' [4]

*In a building that is not a building but the dusty halls of my spirit,
in a heart that is not just a heart but an intended-to-be-holy temple,
there are sheep and there are cattle that are not sheep and cattle
but the worries and concerns and the sorrows of life,
and there are dulled coins and doves that are not coins and doves
but the tarnished hopes and dreams of an aging mind,
and they clutter and crowd the courtyard,
cloud the air with their smells and voices,
their noises of stress and hunger overpowering the words of prayer.
Lord, come into the spaces of this yearning-to-be-holy temple,
cleanse this heart of distractions, help me clear the clutter, the noises.
Make it more of a place of listening, open to the mystery of your presence. [5]*

Adapted: [1] Brian McLaren [2] Michael Marsh [3] Richard Rohr [4] Pastor Asher [5] Andrew King

Third Sunday of Lent Year B

3rd March 2024

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DIARY AND MASS INTENTIONS

for the week beginning Saturday 2nd March 2024

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	<i>Third Sunday in Lent</i>
Mon 9.15am 2.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>St. Ant</i>	Terence Robertson <i>Funeral Service:</i> Terence Robertson	
Tue 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Pete Beirne	
Wed 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Gerard Knight	
Thur 9.15am	<i>H.Family</i>	Special Intention	
Fri 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Special Intention	<i>6pm: Stations of the Cross</i>
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Joan Taylor	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	Irene Atherton For our parish	<i>Fourth Sunday in Lent</i> <i>(Laetare Sunday)</i>

Last Weekend: Attendance: 244 (104 + 140). Offertory: £657.66.
Thank you for your generosity.

Masses received this week: Ann Lister, Leonard Airey, Pete Beirne.

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, Canon Dunstan Cooper, Fr. Gerard Dakin, Marie Kilshaw, Michael Connors;

We pray for those who have died recently: Barbara Cairns, Terry Robertson, Catherine Anderton, Leonard Airey;

and those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Francis O'Gara, Barbara Twine, Hettie Miller, Teresa Holden, Joe Gornall, Ellen Horan, Gerard Knight, May Smith, Tom & Daisy Walmsley, Bill Heaps, Geoffrey Nickson, George McMillan, Catherine Welsby, Richard Clegg, Sandy. 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 23rd February. Please return any remaining envelopes. Thank you.

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. 6th March - Catherine of Siena and 13th March - St Patrick. For further information contact Jackie on jackie.stopyra@gmail.com or 07934 667292.

Via Crucis—the Way of the Cross in Words & Music

Sung by Octavius at St. Walburge's Church on Friday 8th March at 7pm.

Sacrament of Confirmation

We've asked bishop Paul to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation in the parish soon. There will be a meeting for young people from Year 7 and above in St. Anthony's Padua Room at 10.00 next Saturday morning to discuss arrangements.

First Reconciliation and Holy Communion

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

Knights of St. Columba

The Knights of St. Columba are the largest lay Order of Catholics in the UK and have been serving the Church and communities for over 100 years. If you would like the opportunity to help fundraise for charitable causes and make a difference, to have a purpose in life and make lifelong friends, then come and join us!

To find out more about the Knights of St. Columba contact Andrew Fowler on 07914 751020 or Philip Wilcock on 07710 225868 or go to www.ksc.org.uk.

Night of Mystery & Intrigue— WhoDunnit HotPot Supper

Next 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.

Would you like to be a Youth Ministry Leader in the Lake District?

Castlerigg Manor (Diocese of Lancaster Retreat Centre) are looking for a Programme Leader to join their youth ministry team. The work involves working on retreats in the heart of the Lake District, and occasionally working on outreach visits around the area. The post is residential and comes with a salary package in the range of £26-28k, made up of paid salary, accommodation, food etc. Would suit somebody with youth ministry experience perhaps recently graduated. Interested – jack@castleriggmanor.co.uk

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