

# St Anthony of Padua

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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 Covenant Books: 07396 796969

*Lancaster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity Number 234331*

## *Beloved*

"The baptism of Jesus reminds us of our identity. It reminds us of who we are and whose we are: "You are my Beloved." It is because Jesus knows who he is that he does as he does. Like Jesus, all that we undertake must flow from who we are - God's beloved.' [1] 'We don't need to do anything to earn God's love. The point is to surrender to it, to fully allow it to become the deepest meaning, purpose and direction of our lives. This is the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and Fire. It is the moment of conscious awareness, of conscious choice, of saying, "This is how I want to live my life." [2]

'It is the experience of who we are in God that enables us to carry out our mission in life even in those times when it is difficult to experience love because of experiences of failure, humiliation, suffering and difficulties in relationships. It is true that we not only are the Beloved, but also have to become the Beloved. If that is true, how then can we get a grip on this process of becoming? If the spiritual life is not simply a way of being, but also a way of becoming, what then is the nature of this becoming?

Could it be that:

- our growing awareness of being the beloved will gradually lead us to stop identifying ourselves with our jobs, our emotions, our life situations? These are not who we really are.
- in finding people and places where we are reminded of our deepest identity, we will renew our experience of what is already within us?
- in celebrating our belovedness with gratitude and wonder for our many daily experiences of love, we will fully live even when life is full of hurt?

Once we deeply trust that we ourselves are God's beloved, we are able to recognize that each person is beloved.' [3]

'Beloved. Is there any other word needs saying, any other blessing that could compare with this name, this knowing?

Beloved. Keep saying it and though it may sound strange at first, watch how it becomes part of you, how it becomes you, as if you never could have known yourself anything else, as if you could ever have been other than this: Beloved.' [4]

[1] Vatican news [2] Richard Rohr [3] Henri Nouwen [4] Jan Richardson

***Feast of the Baptism of The Lord***

12th January 2025

Year C

Missal 139

# DIARY and MASS INTENTIONS

## for the week beginning Saturday 11th January 2025

Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	For our parish	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	Dr. Sean Bradley May & Jack Noblett	<b><i>The Baptism of the Lord</i></b>
Mon 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Andrew Sugden	
Tue 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Bill Gornall	
Wed 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Robert & Bernadette Banks	
Thur 9.15am	<i>H.Family</i>	Martin Banks	
Fri 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Ulrike	
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Harry Jones	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	John O'Donnell For our parish	<b><i>2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time</i></b> <i>Day of Prayer for Peace</i>

**Last Weekend:** Offertory: £500.05 + £70.00 card. Attendance: 165 (87+78).  
Epiphany £88.50. Thank you for your generosity.

### Alice Myerscough

We gratefully acknowledge a gift of £200 from the estate of the late Alice Myerscough. We will put this towards the cost of the new Lectionaries. May she rest in peace.

**Masses received this week:** John O'Donnell, Kevin Embery, Alice Myerscough.

### Rosary

We pray the rosary, as Our Lady requested, for World Peace, every Monday and Friday in church, after morning Mass. All are welcome. The Rosary is said once a month at various churches. Please see dates on the board and take a card from the back of church.

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

### PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for those who are sick, especially Jo Counsell, Bill Embery, Marie Morris, Michael Connors, John Mulholland, Deacon Tom Butler, Deacon Michael Dolan, Deacon Jim Maguire, Karen Hardman;

We pray for those who have died recently: Dorothy Smith, Marjorie Hindle, Nick Bryson, Kevin Embery;

and those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Christopher Goldsmith, Joan Rushton, George Anderton, Sheila Arkwright, William Mason, Mary O'Connor, Paul David Stanley, Jack Cocker, Dominic McDonnell, Margaret McCann, Jenny Smethurst, Alice Moxham, Margaret Devereux, Dennis Ball, Jean Dunn, Cynthia Nightingale, Winifred Alty, John Key, Irene Lyon-Hayes, Liam Breslin, Frank Burscough, Irene Mary Cottam, Joseph Welsby, Veronica Bolton, Ann Thornton. May they rest in peace.

### Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

Christmas-time officially ends with this celebration and we return to Ordinary Time on Monday. We thank all those who decorated our church so wonderfully. We'll notice a real difference when the decorations are taken down.

### Week of Prayer for Christian Unity : 18th - 25th January

As in recent years there is just one Service in our area. This year it is at Our Lady & St. Edward's church next Sunday at 3.00pm. The theme is 'Peace I Leave you: my peace I give to you' (John 14:27) We are encouraged to pray together for the unity of Christ's church.

### SPUC White Flower Appeal

A White Flower Appeal for SPUC will take place on the weekend of 18th/19th Jan. The theme this year is: "Every Life Matters". SPUC will be asking the UK Government to support all life, however small, vulnerable or marginalised, in accordance with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of the Child which states: "The child by reason of their physical and mental immaturity, needs special safeguards and care, including appropriate legal protection, before as well as after birth".

### Parish Charities 2024

Belated thanks to all involved in the Advent Carol Service and the following Social Gathering in the Parish Centre. Well over £500 was raised for our parish charities. A lot of practice and the nwork by many people produced a wonderful occasion and a great total. Thank to all who gave their time and energy for this.

### Lancaster Diocesan Directory 2025

Standard copy is £6, ring bound copy is £7. Please put money in the green safe or use the card reader.

### Donating by Card

The contactless card reader is now in use. Donations can be Gift Aided. A growing number of people now donate through direct debit or the card reader so we do not need to buy so many boxes of offertory envelopes. Next week we'll start to re-organise these and to make sure that Gift Aid is up to date. Thank you again for your generosity in the on-going support of our parish.

### 100 Years of the Diocese of Lancaster

On 22nd November 1924 Pope Pius XI created the Diocese of Lancaster to care for Catholics in Cumbria & North Lancashire. St Peter's in Lancaster was made a cathedral.

### The Jubilee Year: "Pilgrims of Hope"

CAFOD have lots of resources and opportunities for us to enter into the Jubilee, a special year of forgiveness and reconciliation, in which all are invited to return to a right relationship with God, with one another, and with creation. See their Jubilee webpage on: <https://cafod.org.uk/pray/jubilee-2025> This includes:

**Introducing Jubilee** – online session on Sat 18th Jan 2025. Hear what Jubilee years are about, how we are celebrating as a global and national Church and how we can be tangible signs of hope and build a better world together throughout this holy year.

**Jubilee Reflection Guide** – four sessions to help us explore the Jubilee. They can be run at any time in the year or even as a single one-off session.

**Praying with the Jubilee Icon** - created by an Ethiopian artist, the Icon is based on Luke 4:18-19. The icon will be visiting dioceses during the year, arranged by the Bishops' Conference and the Diocesan Jubilee Coordinators