

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 Covenant Books: 07396 796969

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Another Day at the Office

An important key to the meaning of this Gospel story is the movement from shore to shallow water to deep water. If we think of Jesus' teaching from the solid ground of the shore as an introduction to the Gospel, then we might think of his teaching from the shallow waters as going a little deeper. We could liken the shore and the shallow water to the tip of the iceberg. But Jesus is about to call the first of his 12 disciples. If they are to truly become 'fishers of people,' Peter and the other disciples must come to know the 90% of the iceberg which is below the surface of the water. [1] Jesus' mentioning of the "deep water" implies that there may be unexplored areas of potential beyond our perceived limits of resources, knowledge and energy. Today's gospel invites us to dig deeply into our souls for parts of who we are that we don't know yet. [2]

We all know what's it's like to pour ourselves into a job, a relationship, a ministry, a dream — and come away exhausted, frustrated, thwarted and feeling that we have nothing to show for our efforts. But if Simon's experience is representative, maybe Jesus has a penchant for 'showing up' at precisely such moments of loss and defeat. Maybe he has good reasons for asking us to return to old places of pain and failure. In any case, when he asks, he doesn't stand at the shore and wave us forward; he steps into the boat and ventures into the deep water with us. [3] 'Miracles meet us at our point of need, but they don't leave us there. They call us to move from being recipients to being participants, to share in the ways that God pours out God-self for the life of the community and the healing of the world.' [2]

'Jesus met Simon where he worked. Simon, James and John were commercial fishermen. They were on this beach every morning, cleaning their nets. It was just another day at the office when Jesus showed up.' [4] 'We don't follow Jesus in the abstract. We don't heed his call in general, as if Christianity comes down to nothing more than attending church or being a nice person. If we're going to follow him at all, we do it in the particulars of the lives, communities, cultures, families and vocations in which we find ourselves. The story honours the 'same old same olds' of our individual lives and assures us that God blesses and multiplies the daily stuff of our lives for his purposes.' [3]

Adapted:[1] christchurchcanoncity [2] Sherry Deets [3] D.Thomas [4]Steve Thomason

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C
9th February 2025 Eucharistic Payer 2 Missal 983

DIARY and MASS INTENTIONS

for the week beginning Saturday 8th February 2025

Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Ray & Doris Wilson	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	Margaret Baldwin Kathleen Connolly	5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Mon 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Robert Devlin	<i>Feast: St. Scholastica</i>
Tue 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Claire Boyce	<i>Feast: Our Lady of Lourdes</i>
Wed 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Kevin Embery	
Thur 9.15pm	<i>H.Family</i>	For our parish	
Fri 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Maurice Black	<i>Feast: Ss. Cyril & Methodius</i>
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Terry Robertson	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	Paddy Carberry For our parish	6th Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Racial Justice Day</i>

Last Weekend: Offertory: £513.40 + £142.50 card. Attendance: 242 (82+160).
Thank you for your generosity.

Masses received this week: Maurice Black, Kevin Embery, Maurice Black, Terry Robertson.

Fairtrade

Thank you to all who supported the Fairtrade stall, helping farmers to receive a fair price for their goods: £55.60 sales; £4.20 CAFOD donations; £29 Rwanda donations,

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: Kevin Murphy, Pauline Payne, Maria Christina Wragg;

and those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Harry Billington. Agnes Embery, Ivor Hilton, Irene Oldham, May Eccles, Maureen Berry, Mary Radcliffe, Ian Holmes, Gabrielle Sudell, Eric Ridge, Malcolm Brindle, Gertrude Docherty, Canon Leo Harrison, Maureen Stella Cox, Olive Hughes, William Etherington, Catherine Mary Holmes, Thomas Riding, Joan Wane, Margaret McKeown, May Rigby. May they rest in peace.

Palms and Ashes

Ash Wednesday is on 5th March. You are invited to return last year's palms to provide the ashes for this year.

Lancaster Diocese Lourdes Pilgrimage 2025 23rd – 30th July.

Please see the posters in church for both the main pilgrimage (from £949) and the youth section (from £795). Youth bookings prior to 11th February will receive a grant of £100. Includes flights from Liverpool, transfers, full board hotel accommodation, religious programme, levies and taxes. We have a few booking forms for both groups and you may also be able to check on: www.joewalshstours.co.uk For more details contact the Director of Youth by email: youth@lancasterlourdes.co.uk

Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes

11th February marks the patronal feast of our diocese. The Bishop will celebrate Mass at 12.15 in the Cathedral (at which the choir from the Cathedral primary school will sing). He will also celebrate vespers at 6pm. Everyone is invited to attend.

Wednesday Film Nights - 7.00 to 8.00pm

Join us on February 12th, 19th and 26th in the Padua Room. We will be watching "Peter: Keeper of the Keys" , a film that explores the life of St Peter and visits the places associated with him. In the final session, we will take a virtual 3D tour of St Peter's Basilica.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham

In this Jubilee Year our annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham, the National Shrine to Our Blessed Lady, will take place 20-24 October 2025. I invite you to join me! This year of favour, this Jubilee Year, will find the Church proclaiming the Gospel afresh, proclaiming liberty from the darkness of sin and healing, both physical and spiritual, for those who are oppressed (Lk 4:18-19). Our pilgrimage to Walsingham is therefore an excellent way to mark this time of grace, both as a diocese and individually. It will be your first visit. In the Middle Ages, the Shrine at Walsingham. was one of the great ancient Marian places of pilgrimage in the whole of Christendom. It is known as England's very own Nazareth and is a place where the incarnation of Jesus is particularly remembered. Like Lourdes in France, it is a place of reconciliation, conversion, peace and healing.

The all-inclusive cost is £475.00-£550.00 (dependent on accommodation type). Coach collection/drop-off will take place in Workington, Carlisle, Penrith, Lancaster and Preston. For more information and booking details contact the pilgrimage organiser Deacon Charlie Conner on 07895 742 732 or email charlie.conner@lrdc.org.uk

Church Notice Boards

Thanks to Bernadette the Notice Boards in the porch are updated every week. There's lots of new and current information on them.

Offertory / donations giving

Thanks to everyone who has indicated if they would still like Offertory envelopes or if they prefer to use a standing order or the card machine.

For those who are setting up a standing order on their phone, the parish bank account details are as follows: It's a bit tricky! The name of the account in LRC DTR Parish of St Anthony-Preston. That's probably too long for the space allowed but St. Anthony-Preston should be acceptable along with the account number 81335308 and the sort code 40-27-02. Put your name down as the reference.