

# St Anthony of Padua

Presbytery: Cadley Causeway, Fulwood, Preston PR2 3RX  
Tel: 01772 725193 E-mail: [stanthonyhollyfamily@gmail.com](mailto:stanthonyhollyfamily@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.stanthonys-rc-church-preston.org.uk/](http://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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## *Holding the mountain and the valley as one*

The mountain top experience referred to in today's gospel is a unique peak experience for Peter, James and John. It is another revelation of Jesus as the Beloved Son and an invitation for us to rediscover our belovedness. 'Each one of us has our own venue of transformation/transfiguration. For some it might be art, for others it might be poetry or gardening or silence or whatever experience takes us to the deeper place where we experience the presence of and our oneness with the One in whose image we are created.' [1]

'Like Peter, we may want to build our home on our 'mountain peak'. We may want to make our fleeting experience permanent. [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. But this blessing is built for leaving. This blessing is made for coming down the mountain. This blessing wants to be in motion, to travel with you as you return to level ground.' [3a]

'God is not in the business of offering us permanent real estate on the mountaintops. 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 transformation now resides eternally within us, helping us to see and hear the sacred both in our mountaintop and our valley experiences. Finding God in the valley requires dwelling in the valley. Can we hold the mountain and the valley as one — denying neither and embracing both?' [4]

From the comfort of our own homes it is easy to relate to the beauty and truth of these words. But what will they mean to all who are suffering worldwide from war and climate crisis, for those who find it difficult to hear God's voice in their cloud of darkness and confusion? With Jan Richardson we pray 'for every place broken by violence and hatred, for every person in pain and grief. This blessing is for you, from me, in sorrow and hope. There is nothing a blessing is better suited for than an ending, nothing that cries out more for a blessing than when a world is falling apart. This blessing will not fix you, will not mend you, will not give you false comfort; it will not talk to you about one door opening when another closes. It will simply sit itself beside you among the shards and gently turn your face toward the direction from which the light will come, gathering itself about you as the world begins again.' [3b]

Adapted: [1] James Finley [2] Michael Marsh [3a] Jan Richardson : Dazzling. A Blessing for Transfiguration Sunday [3b] J.Richardson: Blessing when the world is ending [4] Debie Thomas

***Second Sunday in Lent*** Year C

16th March 2025

Eucharistic Prayer 3

Missal 212

# DIARY and MASS INTENTIONS

## for the week beginning Saturday 15th March 2025

Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Rosalinde Forrest	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	For Pope Francis For Pope Francis	<b><i>Second Sunday in Lent</i></b>
Mon 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Paddy O'Donnell	<i>Feast: St. Patrick</i>
Tue 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	In thanks (new home)	
Wed 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Elizabeth Murphy	<i>Feast: St. Joseph</i> <i>7pm. 'Celebrating Jubilee' Padua</i>
Thur 9.15am	<i>H.Family</i>	Eileen Jackson	
Fri 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Marie Hooper	6pm Stations of the Cross
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	George Keane	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	Roy & Marjorie Garside For our parish	<b><i>Third Sunday in Lent</i></b>

**Last Weekend:** Offertory: £418.60 + £196.00 card. Attendance: 259 (90+169).  
Thank you for your generosity.

**Masses received this week:** In thanks (new home), George Keane, Roy & Marjorie Garside, Eileen Jackson.

### Rosary

We pray the rosary, as Our Lady requested, for World Peace, every Monday and Friday in church, after morning Mass. All are welcome. Take a card from the back of church.

### Tea/ Coffee after Sunday Mass

Our school MiniVinnies group - raised an amazing £150 for the St. Vincent de Paul group. Thank you for your support. Well done to the children.

### St. Clare's Messy Church

- On Saturday 29th March, 1-30-3.30pm. For children of all ages and denominations with a responsible adult. An afternoon of activities, games & bible stories.

### PRAYER INTENTIONS

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

We pray for those who have died recently: Doreen Welsby, George MJ, Myra Greenwood; and those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Joan Bleakley, Margaret Rawcliffe, Elizabeth Murphy, Joseph Madden, Marie Hooper. May they rest in peace.

## THE SEASON OF LENT

### Lent Stations of The Cross— Fridays at 6pm

Each Friday evening in Lent we will have The Stations of The Cross.

### Lent gatherings to reflect on Jubilee Year 2025

Are you wondering what the 2025 Jubilee Year is all about? Join us, as together with the parish CAFOD group, we explore the biblical background to the Jubilee Year and what the theme Pilgrims of Hope means for us today. The final gathering is this Wednesday 26th March in the Padua Room from 7-8pm. You are most welcome to join us.

### Join CAFOD's Big Lent Walk in the Jubilee Year

You are invited to join CAFOD's Big Lent Walk and journey together with Catholics in England, Wales and Scotland as Pilgrims of Hope in this Jubilee Year - walking 200km over 40 days during Lent. Journey to one of the churches or shrines designated as places of pilgrimage in our diocese as part of your Big Lent Walk. Every £1 you raise will support communities like Lokho's in Kenya, experiencing the worst impact of the climate crisis, to rebuild their lives in hope. Sign up here: <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/>

### CAFOD Lent Appeal – Family Fast Day collection

Please donate to our Family Fast Day parish collection and be a pilgrim of hope with CAFOD this Jubilee Year. You'll be supporting communities experiencing the impacts of war, poverty and climate change to find solutions and hope. Use the CAFOD envelope in church, donate online at [cafod.org.uk/envelope](http://cafod.org.uk/envelope) or call us on 0303 303 3030. You can also text: CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10.

### Fulwood Farmers' Market - Sat 22nd March

- from 9.30am-1pm at Fulwood Methodist Church, Watling Street Road, PR2 8EA. We have some new stalls - come and take a look. Stock up on fresh local produce and fairly traded products. Find a bargain on the New to You stalls. Why not bring a friend or neighbour.

### Altar Servers' National Mass

This is being held here for the first time to coincide with the Diocesan Centenary. On Saturday 17th May, 12.15pm at Lancaster Cathedral with Bishop Paul Swarbrick. More details to follow.

### Youth Ministry Internship Scheme at Castlerigg Manor

Castlerigg is the retreat centre of the diocese of Lancaster, based in Keswick. The youth ministry internship scheme offers solid experience and training, formal qualifications, and gives participants the chance to live in the Lake District, be part of a dynamic team, make friends for life, and really impact the lives of young people. Interested? Contact [jack@castleriggmanor.co.uk](mailto:jack@castleriggmanor.co.uk)

### Easter Retreat for Teens & Young Adults

During the Triduum – from April 17-20th. Castlerigg Manor will once again be running their Easter Retreat for teens and young adults. A chance to journey together through the Triduum and make some friends along the way. The programme offers a combination of fun, relaxation, prayer, talks, and of course the beautiful liturgies. The cost is £85, but anyone who can't afford that is invited to get in touch ([director@castleriggmanor.co.uk](mailto:director@castleriggmanor.co.uk)) and we will probably be able to help out. For more information or to sign up... [castleriggmanor.com](http://castleriggmanor.com) >> what's coming up?

**Covenant Books at Holy Family, Ingol. phone 07396 796969**

Opening hours: Thursday & Friday 10am-4.00pm; Saturday 10.00-12noon