

# 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: 07792 256592 Social Centre: 735963 Primary school: 726621  
Playgroup/Preschool 07963 700591 Covenant Books: 07396 796969

*Lancaster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity Number 234331*

## *True wealth and true poverty*

'Today's parable is not meant to be taken literally but it is meant to be taken seriously.' [1]  
'The gospel tells us that how we live today has consequences for tomorrow, not just for ourselves but for others too. Our choices matter. Our priorities set a direction for where we are headed. Our values and actions shape what is becoming of us.' [2] 'The story is meant to make us call into question our evaluation of things. The way we look at things is not God's way. "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways." (Isaiah 55:8) The goal is to look at things through God's eyes. More than telling us exactly *what to see*, Jesus taught us *how to see*. To use the text in a spiritual way is to allow it to change us as we ask: "What does this ask of me? How might this apply to my life, to my family, to my church, to my neighbourhood, to my country?" [3]

'It hurts to see what God wants us to see. Which is why, perhaps, the unnamed rich man in our reading chooses *not* to see who is right in front of him. To see is to risk the vulnerability of relationships. To see as Jesus sees is to implicate ourselves fully in the stories of other people's hunger, illness, terror and shame.' [4]

The gate which separated the rich and poor man developed into a chasm. What are the closed gates in our lives? What gates are separating us from one another as we continue to preserve whatever we consider to be our 'wealth': possessions, security, popularity, esteem, position? 'It might be fear, anger, resentment, jealousy, indifference, guilt, grief, old wounds, loneliness, cynicism, prejudice or a thousand other things. Those gates are not a condition of circumstances or categories. They are a condition of the human heart. The gate that becomes a chasm always exists within us before it exists between us.' [2] 'God is not the one who builds the chasm. We do that all by ourselves.' [4]

Gates destroy relationships. But every time we become beggars for the things of the spirit, every time we open our hearts to what we have been taught from the very beginning, that we are all created in the image and likeness of God, we will discover the true identity and worth of each person. We will realise that we are one with all others and with God. We will experience true wealth and abundance.

*Adapted: [1] Richard Rohr [2] Michael Marsh [3] Richard Rohr [4] Debbie Thomas*

***26th Sunday in Ordinary Time***

*Year C*

28th September 2025

Eucharistic Prayer 3

Missal page 1065

# DIARY and MASS INTENTIONS

## for the week beginning Saturday 27th September 2025

Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Jack & Mabel Willacy	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	Mark Blinkhorne For our parish	<b>26th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> <i>Bishop's Admin Fund Collection</i>
Mon 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	In thanksgiving	<i>Feast: Ss Michael, Gabriel, Raphael</i>
Tue 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	For the people of our parishes	<i>Feast: St. Jerome</i>
Wed 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Fr. Edward Moore	<i>Feast: St. Therese of the Child Jesus</i>
Thur 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Sr. Vera Hamilton FCJ	<i>Feast: The Holy Guardian Angels</i>
Fri 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Manus O'Manus	
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Eliz Anne Allen & Eliz Lawler	<i>Feast: St. Francis of Assisi</i>
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	For our parish Special Intention	<b>27th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> <i>CAFOD Harvest Fast envelopes.</i>

**Last Weekend:** Offertory: £289.41 + £179 card. Attendance: 181 (76 + 105).  
Home Missions: Thank you for your generosity.

**Masses received this week:** Fr. Edward Moore, Sr. Vera Hamilton FCJ, Manus O'Manus.

### Adoration / Exposition

Each Friday, after morning Mass, we will begin, as usual, with our rosary, as requested by Mary, for peace in the world and continue with private prayer before the Blessed Sacrament until 11a.m. Feel free to stay throughout or to pop in for a short visit.

### Fairtrade

The Fairtrade stall is next week with a fresh supply of the very popular honey as well as tea, coffee, chocolate etc. Please help to give needy farmers a fair price for their goods.

### Daily and Weekday Missals are now available at Covenant Books

Prices £70.00 and £55.00 respectively.

### Messy Church

In St. Clare's Church Hall on Saturday 4th October from 1.30-3.00pm. Come and enjoy an afternoon of activities, games and bible stories. All ages and denominations welcome.

#### PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for those who are sick, especially Jo Counsell, Bill Embery, Marie Morris, John Mulholland, Deacon Tom Butler, Fr. Peter Foulkes;

We pray for those who have died recently: Maureen Osbourne; Delia Madden, Fr. John Baron, Ceciley Wilson;

and those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Michael Crompton, Jack Kilshaw, Thomas Gielly, Agnes & Joseph Billington, James Nickson, Kathleen Morton, Raymond Whittle, George Fegan, Aaron Junior Worgan, Patricia Davies. May they rest in peace.

### A Reet Good **FAREWELL TODAY!**

With hot pot. From 1pm-4pm in the Parish centre. To mark Fr Peter's service in our parishes. Raffle (bring cash!). The Bar will be open.

### CAFOD *Family Fast Day* Appeal this Harvest

Please donate to our Family Fast Day parish collection to share God's abundant gifts with our global neighbours as they find lasting solutions to poverty and climate challenges. Your generosity offers "signs of hope" in this Jubilee Year, helping build more water tanks in communities like Waré's in Ethiopia where women have to walk for hours to get water. Use the CAFOD envelope in church, donate online at [cafod.org.uk/envelope](http://cafod.org.uk/envelope) or call 0303 303 3030. You can also text CAFOD to 70560 to donate £10.

### Pilgrimage to Lourdes with HCPT in Summer 2026

Some members of Holy Family parish are planning to take part in a HCPT pilgrimage to Lourdes next year. If you would be interested in joining them, whether as a carer or an assisted person, or though helping to fund-raise to enable others to go, please speak to Ruth Potts or contact Richard McDowell on [northwest@hcpt.org.uk](mailto:northwest@hcpt.org.uk)/ 07721 925595 for more information.

### St. Anthony's Annexe

Please note the new number for bookings / enquiries about the Annexe. Ros Holland has administered the Annexe for many years and we are grateful for her dedicated work. She has now stepped down and a new team have taken up the job. Tel 07792 256592

### The Season of Creation

- a time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through celebration, conversion, and commitment together. The season started on 1st September and ends on 4th October, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology, beloved by many Christian denominations.

### "The Chosen" - Series 5

Over eight weeks, we will follow the story of Jesus and his disciples from Palm Sunday to Good Friday. Join us in the Padua Room on Wednesdays. 7.00 - 8.00 pm.

### Mass of Thanksgiving for the Centenary of the Diocese

On Sat 18th October at 11.30am will be celebrated by the Bishop at the Cathedral. Our tickets are still available.

### Catholic Voice

A new issue of our free Diocesan newspaper is available this weekend with lots about the Diocesan centenary.

### Last word from Fr. Peter

This is my final weekend in St. Anthony and Holy Family parishes. Its hard to realise that my life with you is coming to a close: there's almost a sense of bereavement. In each of the parishes I have served I have always been so impressed and moved by the kindness and goodness of people every day. When there are so many worries in the world and in our own lives, we find our strength in God and one another. These are your parishes—they have a great history and will have a great future, however it unfolds. I hand over to Fr. Andrew confident that you will support him as you have supported me and let God's Spirit inspire and guide you.

All I can say is a most sincere 'Thank-you' for your great kindness and generosity and ask that you pray for me as I enter a new stage of my life. I don't know what challenges lie ahead but it will be quite different. May the grace of God be with us all always.