

# 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

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## *Following Jesus*

'Of all the gospels, Luke's presents the following of Jesus in the most radical terms. In following Jesus, we have to go with him the whole way. We have to accept totally his way of seeing life and then put that into practice in the way we live. Are we ready for that? That is the meaning of the two parables, which Jesus gives as illustrations. "Great crowds" were following Jesus with enthusiasm but were they ready? Did they realise what it really meant to follow Jesus? If not, they are like a general who goes out to war totally unprepared to deal with the opposing side. They are like a man who started out to build a house and then ran out of funds for material. We also have an incomprehensible contradiction when Jesus, who told us to love our enemies, now tells us to hate our nearest and dearest! [1]

'For Jesus, hating another is about re-ordering relationships. This is not about rejection but establishing new priorities.' [2] 'Yes, we find love in God's gifts of relationships, of possessions and of life itself. We are grateful for all of them but we do not become attached to them. They are but indications of an infinitely greater love that alone will satisfy us. Can we 'take up our cross' and say "Yes" to surrendering to the transformative process of becoming one with this love?' [3] 'We can't love and live on our own terms.' [4] 'We can't get to where we want to go and stay where we are. There is a kind of death to everything less than infinite love.' [3]

Surrendering to this transformative process is how we show our readiness, our willingness to become followers of Jesus. 'With God, a little sincerity goes a long, long way.' [4] 'Whenever we set aside time to consciously choose to be in the presence of God who is always present to us, we are part of a great crowd of people growing in awareness of who we are in God. Our growth in awareness of who we are in God will lead us to see others in their deepest essence and we will truly love "father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself." [5]

Adapted: [1] Living space [2] Michael Marsh [3] James Finley [4] Thomas Merton  
[5] Christopher Page

***23rd Week in Ordinary Time***

*Year C*

7th September 2025

Eucharistic Prayer 3

Missal page 1052

# DIARY and MASS INTENTIONS

## for the week beginning Saturday 6th September 2025

Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Rev. Bill Bootle	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	For our parish Mary Teresa Hardman	<b>23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
Mon 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Peter Sunderland	<i>Feast: Birthday of Our Lady</i>
Tue 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Joan Whelan	
Wed 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Special Intention (W)	
Thur 9.15am	<i>H.Family</i>	John Murray	
Fri 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Frank Stanton	
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	For our parish	<i>Feast: St. John Chrysostom</i>
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	Peter Hothersall Joe Connolly	<b>The Exaltation of the Cross</b> <i>Catholic Education Service Collection</i>

**Last Weekend:** Offertory: £339.28 + £208.50 card. Attendance: 239 (90, 149).  
Catholic Trust: £55.00. Thank you for your generosity.

**Masses received this week:** Peter Sunderland, Joan Whelan, John Murray, Special Intention (W), Peter Hothersall.

### 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** - stall is open again next weekend at the back of church.

**Catholic Voice** - A new issue is available this weekend from the back of church.

### St. Anthony's 9.30am Sunday Mass is Live Streamed every week

To watch the Mass live (or later) look up St. Anthony of Padua, Fulwood on Youtube and follow it from there.

#### PRAYER INTENTIONS

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

We pray for those who have died recently: Margaret Patricia Summers, Paul Watson, Gerard Moore;

and those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Michael Gielty, John Howarth, Joan Penney, Lora Noon, Joseph Horan, Robert Clarkson, Derek Lynch, Maureen Howard, Peter Hothersall, Patrick Parr, Bill Ash, Frank Stanton, Norman Abram, Marie Cooper, Catherine Game. May they rest in peace.

### A Reet Good FAREWELL do! Sunday 28 September

To mark Fr Peter leaving, this parish event is now entirely FREE. If you would like a hotpot (free) please pick up a ticket at the back of church, otherwise just come along on the day (1 - 4pm) and help celebrate Fr Peter's service in our parishes Raffle (bring cash!). The Bar will be open.

### Clergy Appointments

Fr. Andrew Dawson will take over as parish priest of St. Anthony's and Holy Family parishes at the beginning of October. Fr. Peter is moving into semi-retirement, based in the family home in Lytham St. Annes but acting as 'locum' in other parishes when required.

### 'A Reet Good Lunch' Social event

On Sunday 28 September, 1pm - 4pm in the Parish Centre. Tickets £7.50 will go on sale from next weekend Saturday 6 September at the back of church. There will be a charity raffle - donations of prizes please, into the box at the back of church.

### The Season of Creation

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

### Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes at Cleator

Sunday 7th September - this year's theme is Mary, Mother of the Church. It will have a special focus for the Cumbrian Saints Deanery celebrating the centenary of the Diocese. Tea and coffee provided - bring a pack lunch. A beautiful replica of the Lourdes grotto and Cleator statues in the grounds. Mass and blessing of the sick at 3pm with Bishop Paul Swarbrick. Email stmandstj@gmail.com / 01946 810324.

### 'The Martyr-Saints of the North-West'

At The Christian Heritage Centre at Stonyhurst, 12 - 14 September 2025.  
A weekend studying some of the Reformation-era martyrs of the North-West region. Part-retreat, part-biographical, the weekend will be led by Mgr John Allen of Salford Diocese.

### Castlerigg Manor Open Day

On Sunday 14th September from Midday. Mass with Bishop Paul will be at 2pm

### "The Chosen" - Series 5

From 17th September, 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 Wednesday 17th September 7.00 - 8.00 pm.

### Diocesan Pilgrimage to Ladyewell

Saturday 20th September, starting with Mass at 11.00am, followed by procession to the Shrine for Benediction.

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

Sat 18th October at 11.30am will be celebrated by the Bishop at the Cathedral. Each church has been allocated 2 tickets. For the chance to get a ticket: put your name and church on an envelope, put in the large envelope in the sacristy and, if necessary, a public draw will be held.