

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. Andrew Dawson. Deacon (retired): Rev. Tom Butler

Sunday Masses: 6.00pm (Saturday Vigil), 9.30am.

Weekday Mass: Mon, Tues, 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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‘We do not wait *for* God. We wait *with* God.’^[1]

Faith is a strong theme in the gospel of Luke and this is the third week in succession that the Sunday Gospel readings have emphasised the power of faith. The widow in the Gospel wanted something badly and she had faith in her perseverance to get what she wanted. We’re told that ‘she kept going’ to the judge. All three readings today emphasise persistence.

We have reflected on faith as having confidence in our *experience* of the presence of God within us. Prayer is our response to that experience. When we want to continually grow in awareness of God’s presence we will find ways to make that happen. We will surrender to transformation in ourselves and in whoever and whatever we bring to God in prayer.

We all have our own understanding of prayer. Our prayer can sometimes resemble the negotiation of a transaction. We make our repeated requests for help but we have our own preconceived ideas about what that help should look like. Another misconception of prayer is that our persistent requests could change God. ‘Prayer is meant to be an interior practice *to change the one who is praying*. Prayer does not change God. Prayer changes us.’ [2] ‘If we always keep open that channel of surrender to transformation, then we are always praying.’ [3]

And there are ‘all ways’ of praying. Throughout the course of our lives we may make several changes to the way in which we surrender to God’s transforming love. ‘Our task is to find the way which moves us to love and to give ourselves to it in love.’ [4]

‘I have come to realise more and more that prayer is just being in the presence of one who loves you deeply, who loves with a love that will not let you go. And so when I get up in the morning I try to spend as much time as I can being quiet in the presence of this love. It’s like I’m sitting in front of a warm fire on a cold day. I don’t have to do anything. All I have to do is be there. And after a while, the qualities of the fire may change me: I may have the warmth of the fire; I may have the glow of the fire. So it is also with me and God. I just have to be there, quiet. [5]

‘It is not that God answers our prayer, but that God *is* the answer.’ [2]

Adapted: [1] Michael Marsh [2] Richard Rohr [3] Fr. John Shea [4] James Finley [5] Archbishop Desmond Tutu

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C 19th October 2025

First Preface of Sundays Eucharistic Prayer 3 Missal page 1076

DIARY and MASS INTENTIONS

for the week beginning Saturday 18th October 2025

Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Frank Routledge	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	Matilda Newton (Anniversary) The people of the parishes	<i>29th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> <i>World Mission Sunday</i>
Mon 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Marie Hooper (Anniv)	
Tue 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Angela Russell	
Wed 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	<i>No Mass</i>	<i>Pope St John Paul II</i>
Thurs 9.15am	<i>H.Family</i>	Special Intention (L.E.)	
Fri 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Maureen O'Connor (Sick)	
Sat 6.00pm Vigil of Sunday	<i>St. Ant</i>	The People of our Parishes	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	Private Intention Vincent & Barbara Cookson	<i>30th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>

Last Weekend: Offertory: £405.24. Attendance: 75+147=222. Thank you for your generosity.

CAFOD The recent CAFOD Family Fast Day collection raised £404.16. Thank you for your generosity.

Table Top Sale: Thank you to all who supported the recent Rwanda Group Table Top Salee, which raised £670, our best total yet. After room hire cost, we have £621, all of which goes directly to the poorest of the poor in Rwanda.

Letters to the Lords The Preston branch of the Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child warmly invites you to their friendly letter-writing gathering! There they'll be handwriting letters to members of the House of Lords to encourage them to vote against the Assisted Suicide and Abortion up to Birth bills. Saturday, 1 November at 15:00 at the Lancaster Room, St Joseph's Church, Skeffington Road, Preston, Preston, PR1 5UQ. Stationary, stamps, and letter templates ready for you to use or personalise will be available. For more information, contact Nicola on 07523 183758 or email spucpreston@gmail.com

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 as an assisted person, or through helping to fund-raise to enable others to go, please speak to Ruth Potts or contact Richard McDowell on northwest@hcpt.org.uk or 07721 925595 for more information.

“The Chosen” Series 5. Over 8 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 7-8:00pm

Thinking of Becoming a Priest? If so, then you’re invited to a day of recollection and discernment! The day is for single man aged 16 or over and will be held at the Cathedral in Lancaster on 22nd November 10:00am to 4:00pm. The day will include Mass, Adoration, Guided Prayer, talks to assist discernment and lunch. To book please email Heather.Watts@lrcd.org.uk or Tel 01524 841190. There is no charge.

Safeguarding Training: If your role within the church requires an Enhanced DBS certificate and you have not yet completed your mandatory online training, please see the poster on the noticeboard for a local opportunity to complete this training in person. If you have any questions, please speak with Fr Andrew or the Parish Safeguarding Rep.

Bishop’s Certificate in Catechesis 2025-27 This two-year course, offered in collaboration with the Diocese of Southwark, is an exciting opportunity to assist those engaged in catechesis in parishes to deepen their understanding of the faith and to grow closer in their relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church. Taught through an online programme of study and occasional in-person study days (held at Lancaster University Chaplaincy Centre) each student will be allocated a tutor to assist them in their studies. It is hoped that those completing the Bishop’s Certificate will be equipped to lead faith formation and evangelising initiatives across our parishes and deaneries going forward. For further information please see the website <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/lancaster> or contact Jackie Broadley at the Education Centre for more information (Jackie.broadley@lrcd.org.uk or 01524 841190).

Parish email address: With Fr Peter’s departure the old BT Internet email address is now not recoverable. Please note anything sent to that address will not be received. Please use either stanthony.preston@lrcd.org.uk or stanthonyhollyfamily@gmail.com

Prayer intentions

We pray for the sick and the elderly, especially Jo Counsel, Bill Embery, Marie Morris, John Mulholland, Deacon Tom Butler, Fr Peter Foulkes
and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Pat Nolan, Joe Bowers, Richard and Mary Penney, Margaret, Martin McMurrough, Gordon Elliott, William Cosgrove, Lily Morrison, Catherine Mallon, Maria Wilson, Mollie Curry, Roland Catlow, John Gardner.

Father, may these, and all whom we have known who have gone before us, be received into the glory of the resurrection, won for us by your Son, Jesus, the Risen Lord.

First Reading

Exodus 17:8-13

In those days: Amalek came and fought with Israel at Rephidim.

So Moses said to Joshua, ‘Choose for us men, and go out and fight with Amalek.

Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the staff of God in my hand.’ So Joshua did as Moses told him, and fought with Amalek, while Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. Whenever Moses held up his hand, Israel prevailed, and whenever he lowered his hand, Amalek prevailed.

But Moses’ hands grew weary, so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it, while Aaron and Hur held up his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side. So his hands were steady until the going down of the sun. And Joshua overwhelmed Amalek and his people with the sword.

Responsorial Psalm

℟ Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

1. I lift up my eyes to the mountains; // from where shall come my help?

My help shall come from the LORD, // who made heaven and earth.

2. He will keep your foot from stumbling. // Your guard will never slumber.

No, he sleeps not nor slumbers, // Israel’s guard.

3. The LORD your guard, the LORD your shade // at your right hand.

By day the sun shall not smite you, // nor the moon in the night.

4. The LORD will guard you from evil; // he will guard your soul.

The LORD will guard your going and coming, // both now and for ever.

Second Reading

2 Timothy 3:14-4:2

Beloved: Continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching.

Gospel

Luke 18:1-8

At that time: Jesus told his disciples a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. He said, ‘In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, “Give me justice against my adversary.” For a while he refused, but afterwards he said to himself, “Though I neither fear God nor respect man, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.”’

And the Lord said, ‘Hear what the unrighteous judge says. And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?’

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