

Holy Family Church

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Priest: Fr. Peter Draper (Tel: 725193)



Sunday Mass: 11.00am.
Weekday Mass: Thur: 9.15am. (Other weekdays: 9.15am at St. Anthony's)
Exposition: Friday 6.30pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation: on request

Holy Family Primary school: 727471 **Covenant Books:** 735993
Lancaster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity Number 234331

Homecoming

Home is not a place. We can experience a profound feeling of homesickness while sitting in the physical place we call home. When we look for a reason for our restlessness it will be easy to find an answer in obvious self-centred choices we have made but we may be surprised to find the answer in even ostensibly other-centred choices. It's not what we do but why we do it. Whatever our choices, our motivation behind them is usually our search for fulfilment, our longing to be one with all that is good and true and beautiful, our deep desire to love and be loved – unconditionally. Each feeling of homesickness is prompting us to reflect on the possibility that we are hoping to find fulfilment in *what we do* rather than in a desire to grow in awareness of *who we are*.

There are fleeting moments when we experience an unexplainable homecoming in our heart: pausing to absorb the beauty of a sunrise or sunset; seeing children's expression of wonder as they explore their world; finding that the creative works of poets, artists and authors help us 'calibrate our hearts to a fine scale so that we learn to be grounded in the presence which is sustaining us and is shining through the ordinariness of everything. We are also comforted in knowing that God's oneness with us is in no way dependent on our *awareness* of God's oneness with us. These are moments of being restored and of rediscovering what is always there.' [1] 'This endless task of finding your true home within you is not narcissistic, for as soon as you rest in the house of your own heart, doors and windows begin to open outwards to the world: your connections with others become real and creative. You no longer need to covertly scrape affirmation from others or from projects outside yourself.' [2]

When I look for a 'home' in the choices I make it is 'as though I do not already have a home, and must look far and wide to find one. Home is the centre of my being, where I can hear the voice that says, "Make your home in me as I make mine in you." It is where I hear that voice saying, "You are my beloved." I return home in the very moment that I allow myself to be embraced by unconditional love and reclaim my original goodness.' [3]

Adapted: [1] James Finley [2] John O' Donohue [3] Henri Nouwen

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time
11th September 2022

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DIARY AND MASS INTENTIONS

for the week beginning Saturday 10th September 2022

Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Tony O'Connor	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	For our parish Mary Cecilia Park	24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Special Collection for Catholic Education service.
Mon 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Elizabeth Lawler	
Tue 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Patrick Madden	<i>Feast: St John Chrysostom</i>
Wed 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Lionel Devaney	<i>Feast: The Exaltation of the Cross</i> Film Night: The Chosen 7.00pm
Thur 9.15am	<i>H.Family</i>	Peter Raw	<i>Feast: Our Lady of Sorrows</i>
Fri 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Mary Gilligan	<i>Feast: Ss Cornelius & Cyprian</i>
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Norman Mercer	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	Maureen Howard For our parish	25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Last Weekend: Attendance: 50 Offertory: £130.00.
Thank you for your generosity.

Masses received this week: Patrick Madden, Mary Gilligan, Maureen Howard.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for the sick, and the elderly, especially Harold Slack, Ray Mannion, Maya, Trevor Hughes, Vera, Claire, Patsy Jarvis, David Tyers.

We pray for those who have died recently: Gerard Cafferkey, George Hall, Peter Raw, Winifred Dorothy Smith;

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Esther Taylor, Bert Rogers, Mary Cecilia Park, Annie Beck, Annie Short, Walter Hollinhurst, Kathleen Holmes, Eric Jones, Richard Jackson, Elizabeth Nickson, Frank Daly, Derek Monk, George Henry Ronson.
May they rest in peace.

Covenant Books phone & fax 01772 735993

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

WINGS 'Smile Train' donation

I recently received a very generous donation to WINGS, with a specific request to benefit 'Smile Train', a charity that provides treatment and transforming free surgery for many impoverished children born with a cleft. WINGS have been supportive of this charity for well over 15 years now and we have provided finance to give smiles and second chances in life to many boys and girls that would otherwise have had very different lives. I am very pleased therefore to announce that WINGS have made a further donation of £600.00 in August to provide more 'smiles' and enhance life opportunities for four more children born with a cleft. Thank you to all in our community for the amazing donations and continued prayer and support to WINGS - John Scarborough.

Mount Everest - Base Camp Trek

Rachel Hesketh (in our choir band) will be setting off in October to complete her ambition of trekking to Mount Everest Base Camp! This arduous 130km plus journey involves very high peak climbing and plenty of stamina! Rachel is asking for sponsorship from the Holy Family congregation and beyond for WINGS, to specifically provide support to Nymbani Children's Home, a place of hope and happiness where over 1,000 plus children affected by HIV/Aids can live in a family environment with education and be provided with sponsorship programmes. Please can you sponsor Rachel to help Nyumbani by just going onto her 'Just Giving Sponsorship' page: <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/rachel-hesketh-everest-base-camp> or alternatively you can simply sponsor her in person by signing her 'Sponsorship Form'.

The Season of Creation

A time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through celebration, conversion, and commitment together. During the Season of Creation, we join all our Christian brothers and sisters in prayer and action for our planet. Christians worldwide have embraced this season as part of their annual calendar. Pope Francis made the Roman Catholic Church's welcoming of the season official in 2015. The season starts on 1st Sept, the Day of Prayer for Creation, and ends on 4th Oct, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of ecology beloved by many Christians.

Annual Pilgrimage to Cleator - Sunday 11th September

The principal celebrant and preacher for the Annual Pilgrimage this Diocesan shrine will be Bishop Paul. The theme is 'Our Lady, Help of Christians.'

New Programme of Day Retreats

Our Lady of Lourdes & St Gerard Majella in Lostock Hall has launched a new programme of day retreats exploring a range of topics including prayer, scripture and other religious texts. First retreat will take place on Saturday 10th September when attendees will be invited to explore John of the Cross' remarkable Spiritual Canticle. If you are interested in attending this or any of our other retreats, please register your interest before Monday 29th August. A minimum of 15 people is required for the retreat to be offered. Visit <https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/retreat-programme-2022-2023/> for more information on upcoming retreats and how to register your interest.

Ruth's Metanoia Appeal

for people who are homeless. Thank you for all your generous donations.