



Welcome to the Parish of St Anthony of Padua

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Alternative phone numbers for emergencies: Trowbridge 01225 752152 or Chippenham 01249 652404

Diary

- Sunday 12th January** The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Mass 9.00 am. Children's Liturgy; all children up to 12 years old welcome. Refreshments in the hall (Mass at St Edmund's Sat. 6.00pm; Sun. 11.00 am).
Monday 13th January Mothers' Prayers 10.30 in the Hall
Tuesday 14th January The Church will be open for Rosary, 10.30 am.
Wednesday 15th January Morning Prayer 9.40 am; Morning Mass 10.00 am. Breaking open and sharing the Word in the Hall
Thursday 16th January Adoration 10.00 am to 7.00pm
Friday 17th January Morning Prayer 09.40 am; Prayer Group 7.30 pm
Saturday 18th January Morning Prayer 9.40 am; Morning Mass 10.00am. Sacrament of Reconciliation 10.45 am.

Sundays Year A; Psalter Week 1

Readings: Reading 1 – Isaiah 42: 1-4, 6-7

Psalm Refrain: The Lord will bless his people with peace

Reading 2 – Acts 10: 34-38

Gospel – Matthew 3: 13-17

Collections: Sunday 5th January £165.35. Crib collection for The Little Way Association £89.10. Next week, retiring collection for the Building and Maintenance fund. Standing orders to the parish total £243.00 per week.

We welcome Nick Fogg, who will be making an appeal for Aid to the Church in Need.

Saturday 18th January – Baptism: We are pleased to welcome Harry Hard into our family

Sunday 26th January – 11.00 am Covenant Service, St. Michael's Church: This year's service is being organised by St Anthony's and St Andrew's – please come and support Melksham Family of Churches.

First Holy Communion 2020: Please enter the names of children who wish to take First Holy Communion Classes for 2020 on the clipboard in the porch. There will be a meeting for parents and candidates on Monday 19th January at 5.30 pm in the Hall.

Pilgrimage to Krakow with St Edmund's Calne – September 21st- 25th 2020: Information packs available in the porch, or email admin.melksham.stanthonyofpadua@cliftondiocese.com

A new course in Youth Ministry - starting 16th January 2020: Facilitated by Clifton Diocese, this opportunity mirrors the Liturgy Course by forming, training and preparing those in our parishes for ministry. Open to all in our parishes, those currently in ministry either through Confirmation, parish youth groups, chaplaincy, first Holy Communion, or those interested in serving young people. Each session is facilitated by experts in the field of Youth Ministry, covering topics such as Confirmation, Scriptural reflections, Catholic Social teaching and forming young disciples. If you would like to apply for this course which can be funded by the parish, please speak with Fr Vincent.

Saturday 18th January - Catechists' Day, St Brendan's College Bristol: We welcome David Wells back to the Diocese to help us explore what it means to 'share our story'. In addition to his two talks, there will be a range of workshops on offer which will help new and experienced catechists and evangelists to engage more

deeply with their role and mission. These will include: First Communion Preparation, Accompanying parents, Confirmation catechesis, Sharing our Story – Alpha, Baptismal Preparation, Liturgy and Catechesis and Sacramental Rites. All are welcome to this day; no experience necessary. The day starts at 10am (with refreshments from 9.30am) and will finish 3.30pm, please bring a packed lunch.

Thursday 20th to Saturday 22nd February - Clifton Cathedral will host a Triduum of prayer: They will receive the statue of Mary on 20th February from the Slipper Chapel at the Catholic National Shrine in Walsingham. This is part of the preparation for this year which marks the start of 'Behold, Your Mother' when the people of England are being invited to dedicate themselves to Mary, Mother of Jesus, in 2020. More information is available on the Diocesan website <https://cliftondiocese.com/events/>.

Melksham Foodbank: Desperately need donations; please look on the website for further information: <http://melkshamfoodbank.org.uk/foodbox-contents/>. Please donate non-perishable food, e.g. potatoes (instant) Peas, carrots (canned) sugar, pasta, UHT milk, and ensure that these items are within the "use by" dates.

Marriage and Family Life Co-ordinator – Vacancy: Based at Alexander House, Bristol, this role supports and promote family life within our Diocese. The role of the Marriage and Family Life worker is key in supporting the implementation of the Bishop's vision for the diocese in 'A Future Full of Hope'. This is a part-time post, three days a week (21 hours). **Closing date: Friday 31st January.** For more information please contact: adult.education@cliftondiocese.com or tel 0117 902 5595.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity - 18th – 25th January: This year, resources have been created by Churches Together in Malta, and are called "Unusual Kindness". Melksham Family of Churches invite you to join them in their programme:

Wednesday 22nd January 11.00 am St Michael's – Prayer and praise followed by communion;

Thursday 23rd January 2.30 pm Queensway Chapel – Songs of Praise;

Friday 24th January – 10.00 am St Anthony's – Prayer for the seventh day;

Saturday 25th January – 11.00 am Melksham Baptist Church – prayer and praise

Sunday 26th January – Covenant Service 11.00 am St Michael's Church

Gift Aid: Contact for all queries: Tricia Hoy 01225 704805.

Sick & Housebound: Please let Fr Vincent or Mary Harris 01249 730340 know if anyone sick, elderly or housebound would like to be visited and receive Holy Communion.

If anyone is going into the Royal United Hospital and would like to receive Holy Communion, please contact the RUH Chaplaincy; direct line 01225 428331, or email: ruh-tr.chaplaincy@nhs.net

Please pray for the following: Mrs. Rosa Menghini, Vilma D'Sousa, Don d'Cruz, Mrs Kathleen Murphy, John Doyle, Mrs Marian Frawley, Geoff Blwyddin, Mrs Jean Irwin, Mrs Jeanette Allsop, Mrs Bridie Liddle, Zofia Clarke, Chris Bate, David Coughlin, Katja Lubina, Mrs Audrey Tickner, Patrick Egan, Mrs Jonasz. Deacon David Wakefield, Rebecca Matthews, Paul Hogg, Keith Healy, Alan Glass, Fr Richard Northey, Tricia Rigg, Henie Dixon, Brian Hillhouse.

Please note – due to GDPR regulations, we are obliged to have the consent of the person you wish to pray for (or that of a close family member) before publishing their name in the newsletter.

Drivers: Please be careful entering and leaving the car park and leave the turning area free. Please do not block neighbours' entrances.

Please send items and information for the newsletter to:

comms.melksham.stanthonyofpadua@cliftondiocese.com or give to Sharon Pearce or Anne Doyle by each Thursday **Please email to the above address if you would like to receive the newsletter electronically, or complete the form at the back of church.**

Dates for your Diary:

Saturday 8th February – Ladies' Breakfast, Queensway Chapel 8.45 am

Tackling Modern Slavery Together - "Hidden Voices": is an ecumenical and community process aiming to inform and support local communities taking action on Modern Slavery in their communities. "Hidden Voices" will help inform how to spot and challenge modern slavery and join with others in Bristol in tackling the issue.

Time: 10.00-12.30 Dates: 11th January 2020, 25th January and 8th February, at St Nicholas of Tolentino Church, Bristol, BS5 0RE. To book or for more information please email: hvbristol@gmail.com

Our aim is to be equipped in understanding, detecting, and preventing slavery and trafficking, whilst also enabling those affected. The process takes place over three sessions. Please come even if you cannot manage all three sessions. Parking is available in Church Car Park on Pennywell Road. "Hidden Voices Bristol" is part of the growing <https://www.theclewerinitiative.org/> Please notify Fr Richard McKay Richard.mckay@cliftondiocese.com if you will be attending.

Faith in Politics - an internship run by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales:

Bishop John Arnold on behalf of the Bishop's Conference of England and Wales, has written a letter: 'We are looking to recruit six Catholic graduates to work for 11 months from September 2020 to July 2021 in Parliamentary and Public Affairs posts. The interns will be selected on the basis of ability and potential to gain most from the experience. The interns will all live together, with 70 other students, in More House, a Catholic Chaplaincy and Student Centre in Central London. Financial support will be provided to cover living and travel costs for the duration of the internship.

Further information is available at www.faithinpolitics.org.uk; this is also where they must submit their application. **The closing date is 5pm on Friday 28th February 2020.** I am delighted to tell you that Faith in Politics has been featured on www.laityinvolved.org, a website launched by the Holy See's Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life in November 2019, highlighting the mission of promoting and evangelizing laity. With best wishes for a peaceful Christmas and New Year.' Bishop John Arnold