



Welcome to the Parish of St Anthony of Padua

Parish Priest: Fr. Vincent Curtis
Tel: 01249 813131

Email: vincent.curtis@cliftondiocese.com

Diocesan Website: www.cliftondiocese.com

Parish Office: 22, West End, Melksham, SN12 6HJ Tel: 01225 702128

Email: admin.melksham.stanthonyofpadua@cliftondiocese.com
Parish Website: <https://st-anthonyofpadua.weebly.com/>

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

Diary

Sunday 23rd February **Seventh Sunday of the Year; 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 24th February Mothers' Prayers 10.30 in the Hall
Tuesday 25th February The Church will be open for Rosary, 10.30 am.
Wednesday 26th February **Ash Wednesday: Morning Prayer 9.40 am; Morning Mass 10.00 am; distribution of Ashes.** Breaking open and sharing the Word in the Hall
Thursday 27th February Adoration 10.00 am to 7.00pm
Friday 28th February **Morning Prayer 09.40 am.** Prayer Group 7.30 pm
Saturday 29th February **Morning Prayer 9.40 am; Morning Mass 10.00 am.** Sacrament of Reconciliation from 10.45 am

Sundays Year A; Psalter Week 3; from Ash Wednesday Week 4 and Proper of Season

Readings: Reading 1 – Leviticus 19: 1-2, 17-18

Psalm Refrain: The Lord is compassion and love.

Reading 2 – 1Corinthians 3: 16-23

Gospel – Matthew 5: 38-48

Collections: Sunday 16th February £136.80. Standing orders to the parish total £243.00 per week.

Please note – in order to reduce the chance of spreading viral infections, everyone is asked to use the hand sanitisers on entering the church and on entering the church hall. Church cleaners – please note the cleaning advice in the hall. Thank you.

Tuesday 25th February 7.00 pm in the Hall - CAFOD Livesimply Award Presentation: All are welcome to come and hear what Liz Baldwin has to tell us - and enjoy pancakes as it's Shrove Tuesday!

Thursday 27th February – “Wisdom Group” visits St Anthony's: 7.00 pm in the hall. All are welcome.

Friday 28th February – Stations of the Cross: 11.00am, followed by a Lent lunch

Sunday 1st March - Fairtrade Stall: As it's Fairtrade Fortnight we are having a Fairtrade stall in the hall after Mass, stocking Fairtrade products including Easter eggs. Fairtrade products ensure that farmers in the developing world receive a fair price, plus an extra premium to invest in community projects.

Tuesday 3rd March - Lent Groups begin: Tuesday 3rd, 10th, 17th & 24th March in the church hall at 10.30am; Tuesday 3rd, 10th, 24th & 31st March at 16 Sherwood Avenue at 7.00pm. The theme this year is the “Joy of Hope” – please sign up on the sheet in the porch to indicate which group you will attend.

Friday 6th March 10.30 am – World Day of Prayer: Hosted by St Anthony's; devised by the women of Zimbabwe, followed by a Lent lunch.

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
Please sign up on the sheet in the porch if you are taking part in this pilgrimage.

Vacancy - Parish Secretary: Our Lady, the Immaculate Conception, Devizes & St Joseph, West Lavington: 12 hours per week. Full details on: <https://devizes.cliftondiocese.com/> closing date 29th February.

Tuesday 17th March - Reconciliation Liturgy, 7.00 pm St John's Trowbridge: Bishop Declan celebrates the Sacrament of Reconciliation in our Deanery. He invites our community to gather with him in celebration of God's merciful love as part of our Lenten journey and this Year of Communion. There will be priests available to celebrate and hear confessions.

Friday 28th February - Mass with Healing Ministry, Confession and Adoration: St John the Evangelist, Bath 7.00pm

Clifton Diocese Vacancies: RE lead Salary: £42,000 - £45,000 depending on experience Hours: 35 hours full time Permanent. The **closing date for applications - 13th March**. The job description, person specification and an application form are all available on the website: <https://schools.cliftondiocese.com/> Also: **Safeguarding Officer, part-time** – 21 hours per week (Wednesday to Friday) For further information/informal discussion about this role please contact Becky Cawsey, Safeguarding Co-ordinator, Clifton Diocese on 0117 954 0993. **Closing date for applications: 13th March**

October 22nd - 29th - Diocesan Pilgrimage to Northern Spain: Bishop Declan is leading this year's **diocesan pilgrimage to Northern Spain** as part of our celebration for the Year of Communion. A poster is in the porch with details. You will also find on this [link](#) the booking forms and terms & conditions for the pilgrimage. 40 places are available. If you are interested in attending please complete the booking form and return with a deposit to Gill Didino at Tangney Tours (*Pilgrim House, Station Court, Borough Green, Kent, TN15 8AF*). For further information contact Gill on 01732 886666 or Sarah Adams on 0117 9025595 / adult.education@cliftondiocese.com.

All EU, EEA and Swiss citizens living in the UK: The Bishops' Conference has reminded us that following the UK's exit from the EU, there is a settlement scheme that non-UK nationals need to be aware of. For further info, please contact Anne or Sharon or visit <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/eu-settlement-scheme-applicant-information>

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.

Wednesday 26th February – Prayer for Melksham: 8.00 am, St Andrew'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:

“Catholicism” Film screenings - St Patrick's, Corsham: are screening Bishop Barron's 'Catholicism' series of films over several months on a big screen in their church hall. All screenings will be at 7.30pm (though people are asked to arrive in plenty of time). It's completely free, and there will be popcorn and other cinema-type drinks and snacks laid on. **Dates are 27th Feb, 5th March, 23rd April, 30th April, 7th May, 14th May, 28th May, and 4th June.**

Family Fast Day: Friday 6th March 2020: This Lent, CAFOD's Family Fast Day is an opportunity to reach out to some of the poorest, most marginalised of our sisters and brothers.

Your donations go to highly-trained, highly-skilled local experts around the world who save and support the health of the world's poorest families. Sister Consilia is one of these people. She is a nun in an out-of-town health centre in Zimbabwe. Sister Consilia is a trained pharmacist who saves lives each and every day. Without support like yours, her brilliant work just couldn't continue as there wouldn't be enough funding to support it.

But we urgently need your help to fund more local experts like Sister Consilia to reach out to even more people who need treatment, care and love.

On Friday 6 March, will you eat a simple meal in solidarity and give what you save to help people like Sister Consilia to continue her life-saving work – helping the health of the world's poorest people?

Please collect your Family Fast Day envelope from church this week and give whatever you can.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter – 6th – 8th March, Swindon: For the past 50 years Worldwide Marriage Encounter has been offering marriage enrichment retreats all around the world. Focused on couples who want to enrich their relationship and gain a deeper understanding of the Sacrament of Marriage, the retreat offers a unique experience. It's a chance to explore your relationship at a deeper, more intimate level, regardless of how long you have been together. Thousands of couples in the UK have benefited from a Marriage Encounter weekend retreat, why not find out more at wwme.org.uk

All EU, EEA and Swiss citizens living in the UK are required by the government to apply through its Settlement Scheme to continue living, working and accessing services here. Deadline for applications is 30th June 2021. Details and links to the application process can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/eu-settlement-scheme-applicant-information> Please bring this to the attention of friends, family members and fellow parishioners who may need to apply. Information on assistance for those who may have difficulty applying is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families> The Catholic Church in England and Wales stands in solidarity with all European citizens who have made their homes here. They are a valued part of our parishes, schools and communities.