



Welcome to the Parish of St Anthony of Padua

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Diary

Sunday 5th January Solemnity of the Epiphany 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 6th January Mothers' Prayers 10.30 in the Hall

Tuesday 7th January The Church will be open for Rosary, 10.30 am.

Wednesday 8th January **Morning Prayer 9.40 am; Morning Mass 10.00 am.** Breaking open and sharing the Word in the Hall

Thursday 9th January Adoration 10.00 am to 7.00pm

Friday 10th January **Morning Prayer 09.40 am;** Prayer Group 7.30 pm

Saturday 11th January **Morning Prayer 9.40 am; Morning Mass 10.00am.** Sacrament of Reconciliation 10.45 am.

Sundays Year A; Psalter Week 2 and Proper of Season

Readings: Reading 1 – Isaiah 60: 1-6

Psalm Refrain: All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

Reading 2 – Ephesians 3: 2-3, 5-6

Gospel – Matthew 2: 1-12

Collections: Sunday 22nd December £190.30, Sunday 29th December £161.00. Next week, retiring collection for the Building and Maintenance fund. Standing orders to the parish total £243.00 per week.

Thank you to everyone who provided food and helped with the organisation and clearing away for our Bring and Share lunch on 1st January.

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 of candidates later in January.

Parish Charities 2020: The charities with the largest votes from the parish, and who we shall support during 2020 are: Local Charity – Wiltshire Air Ambulance; Overseas Charity – Mary's Meals.

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

Starting School? If you have a child born between **1 September 2015 and 31 August 2016**, then **now** is the time to apply for a place at a primary school for admission from September 2020 onwards. You must complete an application form that is available from the school admissions team of the **Wiltshire Council**. If your child has been baptised and you are applying for a Catholic school, you **must** also provide a copy of the baptism certificate to the school concerned – contact the school for full details. Our parish school is St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, Corsham <http://www.stpatricks-wilts.co.uk/>, telephone number 01249 713125; email admin@st-patricks.wilts.sch.uk Please ensure you apply by the closing date of **15 January 2020**.

Tackling Modern Slavery Together - HIDDEN VOICES BRISTOL: "Hidden Voices" is an exciting ecumenical and community process which aims to inform and support local communities in taking action on the challenging issue of Modern Slavery within their own communities. "Hidden Voices" will help inform us about how to spot and challenge modern slavery and then join with others in Bristol in tackling the issue. Our

aim is that our communities should 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. **Time: 10.00-12.30** **Dates: 11th January 2020, 25th January and 8th February.** **Where:** St Nicholas of Tolentino Church, Lawfords Gate, Bristol BS5 0RE Parking is available in Church Car Park on Pennywell Road. To book or for more information and please email: hybristol@gmail.com "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.

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.

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.

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 – 11.00 am Covenant Service, 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

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 28 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