



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/>

Follow us on Instagram: [@stanthonyofpaduachurch](https://www.instagram.com/stanthonyofpaduachurch)

Facebook: [St Anthony of Padua Melksham](https://www.facebook.com/StAnthonyofPaduaMelksham)

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

Masses

Face coverings/masks must be worn in places of worship. Please record your attendance on entry, sanitise your hands, and respect social distancing.

Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday 15th December and Saturday 18th December at 10.00 am, and Sunday 19th December at 9.00 am.

Sunday 12th December – Third Sunday of Advent
(Gaudete Sunday)

Sunday Year C; Psalter week 3, Proper of Season
Reading 1 – Zep 3: 14-18

Psalm refrain: Sing and shout for joy, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Reading 2 – Phil 4: 4-7

Gospel – Lk 3: 10-18

Monday 13th December: Memorial of St Lucy,
Virgin, Martyr

Word: Nm 24: 2-7, 15-17; Ps 24;

Mt 21: 23-27 Hours: Psalter 3, Proper of Season

Tuesday 14th December: Memorial of St John of
the Cross, Priest, Doctor of the Church

Word: Zep 3: 1-2, 9-13; Ps 33; Mt 21: 28-32

Hours: Psalter 3, Proper of Season

Wednesday 15th December: Word: Is 45: 6-8, 18,
21-26; Ps 84; Lk 7: 19-23

Hours: Psalter 3, Proper of Season

Thursday 16th December: Word: Is 54: 1-10; Ps 29;

Lk 7: 24-30 Hours: Psalter 3, Proper of Season

Friday 17th December Word: Gn 49: 2,8-10; Ps 71;

Mt 1: 1-17 Hours: Psalter 3, Proper of Season

Saturday 18th December: Word: Jer 23: 5-8; Ps 71;

Mt 1: 18-24 Hours: Psalter 3, Proper of Season

Reconciliation after Mass on Saturday or by
arrangement with Fr Vincent

This week and next week: Retiring collection for
Christmas Flowers

Please only use the Gift Aid envelopes if you can Gift
Aid your donation

PARISH NEWS

Fr Nicholas Tranter, RIP: The Funeral Mass for Fr Nicholas Tranter will be held on Friday 17th December at 12.00 pm at St Joseph's, Wroughton. Please remember him in your prayers.

Christmas Masses: St Anthony's and St Edmund's

December 24th - Christmas Eve

St Anthony's: 5.00 pm Family Mass - children are invited to dress as characters from the Nativity for this Mass; 8.00 pm Night Mass.

St Edmund's: 5.00 pm family Mass, 10.00 pm Night Mass

December 25th - Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

St Anthony's: 9.00 am; St Edmund's 11.00 am

December 26th - Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus Mary and Joseph

St Anthony's: 9.00 am; St Edmund's 11.00 am.

Christmas Cards: Available to purchase in the hall.

Ministry of Reading: Fr Michael Fountaine, parish priest of Chippenham and Corsham, will be leading a session for all readers in St Anthony's and St Edmund's parishes on the ministry of reading, on Saturday 15th January at St Edmunds School, Calne, from 11.30 am until around 2.00 – 2.30 pm with a "bring your own" picnic lunch.

WHAT'S ON:

Sunday: Children's Liturgy of the Word; refreshments after Mass.

Monday: Mothers' Prayers 10.30am in the hall. First Holy Communion class, 5.30 pm in the hall.

Wednesday: Breaking Open and Sharing the Word after Mass at 10.45 am.

Thursday: Eucharistic Adoration from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm.

DEANERY NEWS

Wednesday 15th December – Reconciliation

Service: A Deanery Reconciliation Service will be held at St John's, Trowbridge, at 7.00 pm.

DIOCESAN NEWS

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land 2022: Only a few spaces remaining! Bishop Declan is leading a

pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 2022 (Monday 26th September - Tuesday 4th October 2022) staying three nights in Galilee, two nights in Bethlehem, and three nights in Jerusalem. The estimated costings indicate a figure of £1,879 per person (based on two people sharing). We currently have **19 places remaining** on the pilgrimage, please do let us know as soon as you can if you are interested. If you are, please contact Sarah Adams in the Adult Education & Evangelisation at adult.education@cliftdiocese.com where we can send you a booking form or contact Gill Didino directly at Tangney Tours on **01732 886666**.

OTHER NEWS

Pam's Prayers and Poems: Pam Muller has published a sequel to her poetry book "Through the Years," called "Travelling On." Completed during the Covid pandemic, the poems range from 2018 to 2021. A copy is in the hall for browsing, with an order form. Please add your name to the form if you would like to buy one (£6.00 per copy or 5 for the price of 4). Please give your payment to Sharon (cheques payable to Melksham Team Ministry)

Right to Life – Crisis Pregnancy Support: Next Tuesday, the All-Party Parliamentary Pro-Life Group is holding a parliamentary meeting where MPs will hear from people on the frontline who provide support to women facing unplanned pregnancies. Speakers will address the challenges faced by these women, and the practical and emotional support that they make available to them. Please click the link here to [contact your MP now](#) asking them to attend this meeting. It only takes 30 seconds.

Medjugorje Irish Centre Pilgrimages April – Oct 2022: 7 Nights Apartment B&B and return Airport transfer from Dubrovnik or Split from €315 per person sharing. Guaranteed Airport transfer price for any flight. Contact us for details and book the dates that suit you. Tel. 020 3239 8662 or email reservations@med-irishcentre.com
Website: www.med-irishcentre.com

CHARITIES

Our Parish Charities: If you would like to make a donate to **Wiltshire Air Ambulance**, please use the following link:

<https://www.wiltshireairambulance.co.uk/donate/>

Mary's Meals: Every donation to Mary's Meals will be doubled until 31st January 2022 through their Double the Love campaign – they also have an internet "Giving Page":

<https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/donate>

Gift Aid: Your Parish Gift Aid contact is Tricia Hoy, phone number **01225 704805**.

Melksham Food Bank Is grateful for the help from St Anthony's parishioners: Christmas goods would be particularly appreciated now, please. A basket for donations is in the church porch, or you can use designated trollies in the Supermarkets, or deliver to the Baptist Church. Items needed – cans of meat, vegetables and fruit, pots of jam, crisps. Do not send chilled, or frozen foods or fresh fruit or vegetables as these cannot be stored. Thank you.

CERTIFICATE of THANKS

ON BEHALF OF ALL OUR CLIENTS TO

Church of St. Anthony of Padua, Melksham

FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATION TO
MELKSHAM FOODBANK



Melksham Family of Churches' Crisis Support: This is for those who need emergency relief (items such as energy meter payments, uniform costs for school children etc.). If anyone would like to contribute to this, please contact Melksham Foodbank or Sharon (Parish office) for further information.

OUR PARISH FAMILY

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please pray for: Don d'Cruz, Geoff Blwyddin, Mrs Jeanette Allsop, Zofia Clarke, Chris Bate, Andrew Bate, Katja Lubina, Patrick Egan, Rebecca Matthews, Paul Hogg, Keith Healy, Alan Glass, Tricia Rigg, Henie Dixon, Brian Hillhouse, Janet Ruddick, Judith Curtis, Janice Kuranlu, Alan McFall, Alistair Strudwick, David Elliot, Callum Ford, Anne Doyle, Sheila Likey-Ayling, Anne O'Mahony, Lorraine Pavey, Francis Ballinger. All who are suffering from coronavirus, and those finding life difficult.

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.

If anyone in the Royal United Hospital would like to receive Holy Communion, please telephone **01225 824039** and leave a message, or email: ruh-tr.chaplaincy@nhs.net

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

15th January – Readers' session at St Edmund's School, Calne, 11.30 am -14.30 pm
18th – 25th January: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

AND FINALLY –

Did you know?

A duck's feet have no nerves or blood vessels, enabling them to swim in freezing water.

Just For Fun...

I was playing football on a plane. It was amazing, I was running up the wing.

I went down my local ice-cream shop and said, "I want to buy an ice-cream." He said, "Hundreds and thousands?" I said, 'We'll start with one.'

Both courtesy of Tim Vine

Words of Wisdom

Miracles are not contrary to nature but only contrary to what we know about nature. St. Augustine

Wordsearch – Third Sunday of Advent (Year C)

M	I	D	S	T	C	N	T	S	U	R	T
Y	P	P	A	H	R	T	W	G	G	H	A
G	N	R	A	B	U	U	A	O	A	G	L
N	A	F	G	N	I	W	O	N	N	I	W
I	F	G	I	R	H	D	K	I	U	K	A
M	I	C	L	E	O	S	K	F	V	E	Y
O	S	S	A	O	G	W	R	A	C	A	S
C	D	T	R	I	R	E	N	I	E	S	S
S	A	L	V	A	T	I	O	N	R	E	D
N	O	I	Z	S	E	J	O	T	A	N	N
E	N	N	A	M	E	L	T	U	H	T	A
G	E	M	G	R	C	H	R	I	S	T	H

ALWAYS	HAPPY	SENT
BARN	ISRAEL	SHARE
CHAFF	KING	SONG
CHRIST	KNOWN	THANKSGIVING
COMING	MASTER	TRUST
FAINT	MIDST	TUNICS
GLORIOUS	NAME	WHEAT
GOOD	REJOICE	WINNOWNGFAN
GROWN	SALVATION	ZION
HANDS	SAVIOUR	

Eliminate only the words listed. No word should be entirely inside another. The remaining letters give another name for this Advent Sunday when the priest can wear rose coloured vestments:

— — — — —

The completed phrase from last week was:

The Joy of "SALVATION"

Hilary Clifton

Is there anything you would particularly like to see included in the weekly newsletter? Help us make our newsletter an enjoyable read!

Please send any comments to the email address below, 'phone the office on **01225 702128** and leave a message or put a note through the Presbytery door. Thank you

If you know of any parishioners who do not have access to email, please print this newsletter for them.

Newsletter/contact email:

comms.melksham.stanthonyfpadua@cliffondiocese.com



For a synodal Church

communion | participation | mission