



Welcome to the Parish of St Anthony of Padua

Parish Priest: Fr. Vincent Curtis
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Parish Office: 22, West End, Melksham, SN12 6HJ Tel: 01225 702128

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Parish Website: <https://st-anthonyofpadua.weebly.com/>

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

Diary

Sunday 16th December: Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)- Mass 9.00 am (St Edmund's Sat. 6.00pm; Sun. 11.00 am)

Joint Advent Prayer Service, St Anthony's, 3.00 pm – 4.00 pm

Children's Liturgy, all children welcome up to 12 years old. Refreshments in the hall

Monday 17th December

Mothers' Prayers 10.30 in the hall

Tuesday 18th December

Rosary in the Church 10.30

Wednesday 19th December

Morning Prayer 9.45am; Morning Mass 10.00am

Thursday 20th December

Refreshments, Breaking Open & Sharing the Word

Friday 21st December

Adoration 10.00am – 7.00pm

Morning Prayer 9.30am

Prayer Group 7.30pm

Saturday 22nd December

Morning Prayer 9.45am; Mass 10.00am

Sacrament of Reconciliation 10.30-11.00am

Sundays Year C-1; Psalter Week 3 and Proper of Season

Readings 3rd Sunday of Advent: Reading 1 – Zephaniah 3: 14-18

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

Reading 2 – Philippians 4: 4-7, Gospel - Luke 3: 10-18

Prayer for Priests refrain: Pray for more priests

Last Sunday Collection: £183.90 – Collection for Christmas flowers: £ 135.00

Envelopes available at the back of the church for our Christmas offering to our priest

First Reconciliation and Communion – Parents - if your child is over 7 years of age (Yr 3) or over, and you wish them to be prepared for First Reconciliation and Holy Communion, please sign up on the clipboard in the porch. Sign up sheet will be removed this week.

Christmas Masses:

December 24th Christmas Eve: Children and Families' Mass 5.30 pm – Fr Malcolm,

Night Mass 9.30 pm – Fr Malcolm

December 25th Christmas Day: 9.00 am – Fr Vincent

Christmas Ministries' rota – Please sign up on the clipboard in the porch

Parish Secretary – Mrs Sharon Pearce has been appointed as our Parish Secretary from 1st January.

Melksham Foodbank – Please see the free Foodbank Advent calendars in the porch – a different way to contribute during the season of Advent.

CAFOD's World Gifts are alternative charity gifts that transform lives. Perfect for Baptisms, birthdays and anniversaries and especially for Christmas, you can choose a unique, virtual gift that will make a real difference to a family living in poverty. They make a difference to some of the poorest communities around the world, and each gift comes with a Christmas gift card that you can choose. See the catalogues at the back of the church or <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/> ..

New Liturgy Course for 2019

The Liturgy Office is hosting a new course entitled 'Understanding and Praying the Liturgy', for our Diocesan Year of Prayer. It will seek to enable us to enter more deeply into our understanding of the Mass both as an encounter with the Risen Christ and as prayer itself. Beginning with Bishop Declan we will be guided through the course by a number of excellent speakers. Full details can be found on <https://cliftondiocese.com/departments/adult-education/liturgy-office> or by phoning Richard Williams or Doreen Wyatt on 0117 902 5595.

Prayer for Melksham 2019 – Please note from January 2019, monthly Prayer for Melksham will be held on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 08.30 am. The locations will be announced after Christmas as the first occasion will be on 30th January.

Good Council Network - Richmond Council have started the consultation process to bring a Public Spaces Protection Order in Twickenham. The object of this is to stop pro-lifers praying there and offering women alternatives to abortion. Please take a few minutes to fill in the Council's online consultation after reading the notes here; <https://behereforme.org/richmond-consultation/>

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.

Please pray for the following – Mrs. Rosa Menghini, Vilma D'Sousa, Don d'Cruz, Mrs Kathleen Murphy, Charlie Canavan, John Doyle, Mrs Marian Frawley, Geoff Blwyddin, Mrs Jean Irwin, Mrs Jeanette Allsop, Mrs Bridie Liddle, Mrs Adderly, Zofia Clarke, Chris Bate, David Coughlin, Katja Lubina, Mrs Audrey Tickner, Patrick Egan, Mrs Jonasz. Deacon David Wakefield, Rebecca Matthews, Les Warren, Anna Prangle, Paul Hoff

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.*

RUH Bath Chaplaincy - Contact Mandy Baker 07775 895814, email - mandybaker@live.co.uk

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

Items for the newsletter should be sent to:

comms.melksham.stanthonyofpadua@cliftondiocese.com or given to Anne Doyle by each Thursday. *Please send to the above address if you would like the newsletter emailed to you.*