



# Welcome to the Parish of St Anthony of Padua

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Follow us on Instagram: [@stanthony0fpaduachurch](https://www.instagram.com/stanthony0fpaduachurch)

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

Alternative phone numbers for emergencies: Trowbridge 01225 752152 or Corsham 01249 712136

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March: Fifth Sunday of Lent: Mass 9.00 am**

**St Edmund's, Calne: Mass 11.00 am**

**20<sup>th</sup> March: - Morning Prayer 9.45; Mass at 10.00 am**

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March: Adoration 10.00 am – 3.00 pm**

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March: Stations of the Cross 11.30 am, followed by soup lunch at 12.00 pm**

**Divine Mercy Chaplet - 3.00 pm**

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March: Mass 10.00 am**

**St Edmund's Calne: Mass 6.00 pm**

Please be aware that the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales states:  
"The Roman Rite does not permit that communicants themselves dip their host into the Precious Blood"

**Reconciliation after Mass on Saturdays, or by arrangement with Fr Vincent**

*Daily readings at end of newsletter*

## **Resignation of Bishop Declan and Appointment of New Bishop**

On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March, the Holy Father, Pope Francis, accepted the resignation of the Right Reverend Declan Lang as Bishop of Clifton. Rev. Canon Bosco MacDonald, a priest of the Diocese of Clifton, has been appointed as the tenth Bishop of the Diocese of Clifton. The Episcopal Ordination of Bishop-Elect MacDonald will take place in the Cathedral Church of Saints Peter and Paul in Clifton, Bristol. The date will be announced in due course. Further details can be found at [Resignation of the Bishop of Clifton and appointment of a new Bishop | Clifton Diocese](#)

## **PARISH NEWS**

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March: Children's Liturgy of the Word**

**Refreshments after Mass on Sunday**

**This week– retiring collection for Easter flowers**

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March:** Finance meeting in the hall after Mass.

**Mrs Maureen Green, R.I.P.** The funeral service of Maureen Green will take place at West Wilts Crematorium at 2.45 pm on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March.

**Chrism Mass Transport:** If you would like to join us on the coach to the Chrism Mass at Clifton Cathedral on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March, please sign up **as soon as possible** on the sheet in the porch. The estimated cost is £16 each; the coach will depart King St Car Park at 9.00 am on the day.

**Easter Services:** Details of St Anthony's Easter Services are at the end of the newsletter.

**Stations of the Cross continue Fridays at 11.30 am,** followed by a Lent lunch in the hall at the usual time of 12.00 pm. Donations go to our parish charities.

**Easter cards** are now available to purchase – please see Sheila Likely-Ayling.

**Our Lent Courses "We Dare to Say" end this Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> March:** For those who have been unable to attend a Lent group, copies of the "We Dare to Say" booklet are available for £1 each, for personal study and reflection. Please see Sharon (in the parish office) if you would like a booklet.

**CAFOD's Big Lent Walk:** Hilary and Chris Clifton will be taking part in CAFOD's Big Lent Walk, the challenge to walk 200km over 40 days to help people overcome poverty; any donations will be gratefully received! If you would like to sponsor them, please use this link:

[Chris and Hilary Big Lent WalkRun is fundraising for CAFOD](#)

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March - Prayer for Melksham,** 7.30pm in “that meeting space”, 31a Market Place, Melksham. Please do come and join local Christians pray for Melksham and our surrounding villages.

**The Bereavement Journey:** The next Bereavement Journey course begins on **April 5<sup>th</sup> (10:00 am - noon)** at that meeting space. This course is ideally suited to those who have suffered bereavement in the last year or two who have found it difficult to find the way forward with their lives, especially after the initial wave of sympathy has passed and they feel like everyone else is expecting them to 'just move on'. If there is anyone that you would think could benefit from the course, please get them to contact John Firth through that meeting space - 07389 866714

[thatmeetingspace@gmail.com](mailto:thatmeetingspace@gmail.com). Demand for this course is always high, **and registration closes on 28<sup>th</sup> March.**

**Also this week:**

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March: Mothers' Prayers** in the Hall, 10.30 am.

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March: “Move it or Lose It”** keep fit exercises in the hall, 1.30 pm.

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March:** Breaking Open and Sharing the Word in the church after Mass.

**Melksham Foodbank is currently in need of donations of UHT milk, dried pasta, pasta sauce, and tinned tomatoes. Items can be left in the basket in the porch.**

#### OUR PARISH FAMILY

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please pray for:** Geoff Blwyddin, Zofia Clarke, Chris Bate, Patrick Egan, Rebecca Matthews, Paul Hogg, Keith Healy, Tricia Rigg, Henie Dixon, Brian Hillhouse, Janice Kuranlu, Anne Doyle, Sheila Likely-Ayling, Anne O'Mahony, Lorraine Pavey, Francis Ballinger, Shireen Doyle, Fr John O'Toole, Tess Jones, Kelvin Boorer, Maureen Westlake, Liz McGrane, Isaac Anderson, June Carey, Michael Bramwell, Dawn Holt, Gay Harris, Fr Vincent, David Harris, Hilary and Alan McFall, Lijimol Chacko, Mirna Rodriguez, Mary Hardy. All who are suffering from illness, 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 Holy Communion, please telephone 01225 824039 and leave a message, or Email [ruh-tr.chaplaincy@nhs.net](mailto:ruh-tr.chaplaincy@nhs.net)

#### DIOCESAN NEWS

**Lourdes Pilgrimage 2024 – 23<sup>rd</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> August:**

The Clifton Diocese Pilgrimage to Lourdes is taking place this year in late August, with pilgrims coming from all over the Diocese to embark on this journey. Details are on the Diocesan website [Lourdes | Clifton Diocese](https://www.cliftondiocese.com) or contact [lourdes@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:lourdes@cliftondiocese.com) or

0117 902 5590 for an information pack. Please be aware the **deadline for deposits is 31<sup>st</sup> March**, with payment in full by 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024.

**Essential Online Training for Catechists:** Clifton Diocese in partnership with '[Light of Truth](https://www.lightoftruth.org)' are offering

an introduction to the fundamental aspects of catechesis: What it is, how to use the catechism and Scripture as foundations, and what methods to use. This training is for seasoned or new catechists working with children, young people or adults, for everyone involved in Children's liturgy of the Word, and for anyone interested in passing on the faith. The six sessions begin at 7.30pm on a Thursday evening: 11<sup>th</sup> April: What is catechesis? An introduction to the ministry of catechesis

18<sup>th</sup> April: Proclaiming the Good News: Jesus Christ at the heart of catechesis

25<sup>th</sup> April: The Faith of the Church: discovering the sources of our faith

2<sup>nd</sup> May: The Word of God: opening the treasure of Scriptures

9<sup>th</sup> May: Methods and Resources: a joyful work of charity

16<sup>th</sup> May: Preparing a Catechetical Session.

To sign up for the series, please click on the Zoom link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81225824039?pwd=ZGZjR0N37LSeebdWnINfmSvURJRVk#registration>

#### OTHER NEWS

**Safe Families UK** are recruiting a Community Volunteer Manager in Wiltshire. It is a part-time, flexible position. The recruiting manager is Dawn Holmes, and she would be delighted to chat with anyone about the role if they have any queries before applying. Details can be found at this link: [Wiltshire Community Volunteer Manager - Safe Families](https://www.wiltshirecommunityvolunteer.org.uk)

**SJOG Homes for Ukraine** acts as a matching, training, and support pathway for guests from Ukraine and hosts in the UK who are willing to provide much-needed support. We offer a range of services to ensure fulfilling experience for both guests and hosts. These services include matching, training for hosts and guests, transportation assistance, and support during the placement. **More information on the project can be found at the following links**

Website: <https://sjog-homesforukraine.uk>

E-mail: [homesforukraine@sjog.org.uk](mailto:homesforukraine@sjog.org.uk)

Facebook: [facebook.com/sjoghomesforukraine](https://www.facebook.com/sjoghomesforukraine)

YouTube: [youtube.com/@sjoghomesforukraine](https://www.youtube.com/@sjoghomesforukraine)

#### CHARITIES and PARISH PROJECT

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

us if your circumstances change and you no longer pay sufficient income Tax to cover your donation.

**Our Parish Charity is Wiltshire Air Ambulance.** You can donate by using this link:

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

**Our Parish Project is the repair and refurbishment of the Presbytery.** Funds raised will be split between our+ charity and our project, with  $\frac{2}{3}$  allocated to Presbytery repairs, and  $\frac{1}{3}$  to Wiltshire Air Ambulance.

**Melksham Food Bank:** A basket for donations is in the church porch. Items particularly needed – cans of meat, vegetables, fruit and rice pudding, squash, sugar. Do not send chilled, or frozen foods or fresh fruit or vegetables as these cannot be stored. Thank you.

**Melksham Family of Churches' Crisis Support** is for those who need emergency non-food relief. If you would like to contribute, please contact Melksham Foodbank or Sharon (Parish office) for further information.

## Wordsearch: Fifth Sunday of Lent

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

### Dates for your diary

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May:** Marriage Celebration, Clifton Cathedral, midday.

### AND FINALLY –

#### Did you know?

**'Sea level' isn't actually level.** As the strength of the force generated by the Earth's spin is strongest at the equator, the average sea level bulges outward there, putting it further from the centre of the Earth than at the poles. Differences in the strength of the Earth's gravity at different points also cause variation.

BBC Science Focus

ALoud	HARVEST	RESCUE
BETHSAIDA	HOuR	SALVATION
BRING	JOHN	SEE
CHRIST	JOY	SILENT
COMPASSION	LAW	SINGLE
ENTREATY	LESS	STRENGTH
FOLLOW	MINE	SUBMITTED
GALILEE	NAME	TRANSGRESSORS
GLORIFY	NEW	TROUBLED
GROUND	<b>oVERTHROWN</b>	VOICE
HAND	REASON	WORLD

Eliminate only the words listed. The remaining letters make a word which describes the examinations of catechumens. There are three of them.

— — — — —

The word from last week (4th Sunday Lent) was (surprise surprise) "LAETARE" Hilary Clifton

Please send any comments or items for the newsletter to the email address below or put a note through the Presbytery door. Thank you.

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

Newsletter/contact – email:

[comms.melksham.stanthonyofpadua@cliffondiocese.com](mailto:comms.melksham.stanthonyofpadua@cliffondiocese.com)



## **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March**

### **Fifth Sunday of Lent**

**Sunday Year B; Psalter 1, Proper of Season**

**Reading 1:** Jer 31: 31-34

**Psalm Refrain: A pure heart create for me, O God.**

**Reading 2:** Heb 5: 7-9

**Gospel:** Jn 12: 20-30

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March: Word:** Dn 13: 1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62; Ps 22; Jn 8: 1-11 **Hours:** Psalter 1, Proper of Season

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March: Solemnity of St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

**Reading 1:** 2Sam 7: 4-5, 12-14, 16;

**Psalm Refrain: His dynasty shall last forever.**

**Reading 2:** Rom 4: 13, 16-18, 22

**Gospel:** Mt 1: 16, 18-21, 24

**Hours:** Proper of Solemnity

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March: Word:** Dn 3: 14-20, 24-25, 28; Dn 3; Jn 8: 31-42 **Hours:** Psalter 1, Proper of Season

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March: Word:** Gn 17: 3-9; Ps 104; Jn 8: 51-59 **Hours:** Psalter 1, Proper of Season

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March: Word:** Jer 20: 10-13; Ps 17; Jn 10: 31-42 **Hours:** Psalter 1, Proper of Season

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March: Word:** Ez 37: 21-28; Jer 31; Jn 11: 45-56 **Hours:** Psalter 1, Proper of Season

## **Holy Week Services**

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March: Palm Sunday:** Mass 9.00am

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March:** Chrism Mass, Clifton Cathedral 11.00am

**Holy Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March: Mass of the Lord's Supper 7.00 pm,** followed by vigil and Night Prayer until 10.00 pm

**Good Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March:** Office of Readings and Morning Prayer 10.00 am

**The Celebration of the Lord's Passion 3.00 pm**

**Holy Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March:** Office of Readings and Morning Prayer 10.00 am

**The Easter Vigil 7.30 pm**

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March: The Resurrection of the Lord:** Mass 9.00 am

**Retiring collections:**

**Holy Thursday** – We invite you donate an item of food for Melksham Foodbank (*leave in basket in the porch*)

**Good Friday** – Holy Places and Christian Communities in the Holy Land

**Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday** – Fr Vincent