



Welcome to the Parish of St Anthony of Padua

Parish Priest: Fr. Vincent Curtis

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 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 Corsham 01249 712136

Sunday 17th September: Twenty-Fourth Sunday: Mass 9.00am

St Edmund's, Calne: Mass 11.00 am

Wednesday 20th September: Morning Prayer 10.00 am: NO MASS

Thursday 21st August: Adoration 10.00 am – 3.00 pm

Friday 22nd September: Divine Mercy Chaplet - 3.00 pm

Saturday 23rd September: NO MASS

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

PARISH NEWS

We welcome Fr Tibor Szende who celebrates Mass with us.

This week there is a retiring collection for Home Missions

Sunday 17th September - Children's Liturgy of the Word

Ride and Stride – Striders' stories: Thank you to everyone who sponsored Tricia and Hilary in Wiltshire's Ride and Stride! These are their stories:

Tricia writes "Many thanks to all who sponsored me on the recent Ride and Stride in aid of the Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust. Some people said they would sponsor my little dog, Holly. To that end, I knew the weather was going to be incredibly hot, so we set out at 7.00 am to visit the churches in Melksham. Of course, the churches were not open at that hour, but I did take photos with Holly in front of the buildings as proof. I then took Holly home for her to stay there while I continued my tour. I met some lovely people and saw some amazing churches, my favourite one was St. Michael's in Atworth." Tricia.

Hilary says "As I was working (in an air-conditioned store, hooray!!) the designated day for Ride and Stride I decided to do a couple of morning walks as my contribution. Monday I walked to Mother's Prayers as usual, but by way of St Barnabas in Beanacre, the Baptist church in Melksham and St Michael's, taking in

St Andrew's on the way home. Tuesday I walked to St George's in Semington but got the bus part of the way home in the rain. In all, about 25,000 steps which is roughly 11 miles. Tiring but satisfying. And did you know that both St Barnabas and St George have Commonwealth War Graves? Thank you to all who sponsored me." Hilary

Our heartfelt thanks go to Tricia (and her dog) and Hilary for striding for St Anthony's! Please give your monies to Anne Doyle as soon as possible for the relevant supporting paperwork to be completed and dispatched.

Parish Christmas Lunch: Wednesday 6th December 12.30pm for 1.00 pm, The Water Meadow, Melksham SN12 7GS. If you are interested in coming to the parish Christmas lunch, please collect a menu from inside the church porch, or from Rebecca/John. Make your choices and return the menu to Rebecca/John, with payment in full by Sunday 19th November. Contact number 07872 058510

Confirmations 2024: We hoping to have confirmations in 2024 if we have sufficient numbers. If you are interested in being confirmed, please write to Fr Vincent to express your interest. Please note; **letters must come from candidates, not parents or guardians, please**

The St Edmund's and Harbour Project concert –

Notes of Hope: The charity concert in aid of The Harbour Project and Calne Welfare Charities is on 29th September with a superb line-up of performers from Calne and across the world, followed by a drinks and delicious Indian nibbles. Tickets are £12.50 (£5 for under 18s) and are available after Mass and via the [Parish website](#). Please invite your family and friends. We have sold 40 tickets so far and would like to fill our spacious church with another 60 at least.

Don't Forget the Holy Spirit: We have some more copies of Fr Matt Anscombe's book 'Don't Forget the Holy Spirit', £10.50 per book.

Help in the Garden: Anna Haynes will be pleased to provide paid gardening services. Contact Anna on **01225 705124** or a message will be passed to Anna via admin.melksham.stanthonyofpadua@cliftondiocese.com;

Also this week:

Monday 18th September: Mothers' Prayers in the Hall, 10.30 am

Tuesday, 19th September: "Move it or Lose It" in the Church Hall at 2:30 pm. All these keep fit exercises can be done seated or standing, depending on your ability – perfect for seniors. £5 per person with £1 deducted from each fee to go towards our Church fund. Please feel free to call Jennifer on 07341 986569 if you have any questions.

Wednesday 20th September: Breaking Open and Sharing the Word after Morning Prayer.

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, Val Stiles, Dawn Holt, Dave Disney, Gay Harris. 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

DEANERY

Catechist Formation Day, Saturday 28th October, St John the Baptist, Trowbridge; exploring the ministry of catechesis in partnership with the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph. We will celebrate Mass, take time to pray together, and examine the vocation of the catechist, how we integrate catechesis into the wider Church, the formation of the catechist and how to plan a catechetical session. This rich day

of formation is for seasoned catechists, and anyone who feels called to this ministry but might not feel equipped. We will begin with prayer at 10.00am, refreshments from 9.15am; the day will end at 4.00pm. Please bring a packed lunch. Sign up for the day via:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/668215439367>

CLIFTON DIOCESE

An Introduction to Small Group Facilitation: The department of Adult Education and Evangelisation offers an opportunity for parishioners to develop skills for small group facilitation in Parish groups, e.g., Parish Pastoral Councils, RCIA, Prayer Groups, Confirmation Preparation, etc. This short session will provide participants with a model for rooting decision making in prayer and discernment and the tools necessary for effective facilitation. Our nearest venue is (including Eventbrite link to register) **Sat 30th September, St John's, Trowbridge (2-4pm)**
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/652920301197>

We are the People of God - Journeying Together from Vision into Action: Linking with the first Session of the Synod on Synodality in Rome (October 2023), Clifton Diocese will be exploring the themes through a series of webinars (7.30-9.00pm) during September and October. For the first session of the series we are delighted to welcome **Bishop John Arnold, on 21st September**, who will set our series within the context of the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church – **Lumen Gentium**. [Click here to register](#) Each webinar will be focusing on a different element of the work of the Synod. Parishioners are welcome to [sign up for any of the sessions on offer](#).

Celebration of Marriage: Join Bishop Declan for Mass in the Cathedral Bishop as we celebrate the gift of marriage **Saturday 14th October** at 12 noon. All are welcome. If you are celebrating a significant anniversary this year, newly married, or looking forward to marriage in 2023, contact adult.education@cliftondiocese.com or 0117 902 5595 to receive a personal invitation from the bishop.

OTHER NEWS

"Scrap the Cap": The Catholic Union is encouraging people to sign an open letter to the Education Secretary calling for the 50 percent cap on faith-based admissions to new free schools to be lifted. The cap is preventing the Catholic Church in England from taking part in the free schools' programme. The letter is available at www.catholicunion.org.uk

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 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.

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

AND FINALLY –

Did you know?

Octopuses have three hearts. Squids do too. One pumps blood to their whole systems, and two are dedicated just to the gills. Readers' Digest

Wordsearch: Twenty-Fourth Sunday

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

ACCOUNT	IMPLORED	SINS
AGAINST	MEET	SOLD
BLESS	MESSAGE	SUM
COVENANT	MIGHT	THOUSAND
EXPLAINS	OTHERS	THROTTLE
FOUND	OWED	TORTURERS
GUILT	PLEAD	WHOLE
HEART	SERVANT	WIFE
HEAVEN	SEVENTY-SEVEN	WRATH

Only eliminate the words given in the list. The remaining letters describe Jesus as our...

_____ / _____

The words from last week (23rd Sunday) were "DEBT OF LOVE"
Hilary Clifton

**Sunday 17th September
Twenty Fourth Sunday
Sunday Year A; Psalter 4**

Reading 1: Ecclus 27: 30-28:7

Psalm Refrain: The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.

Reading 2: Rom 14: 7-9

Gospel: Mt 18: 21-35

Monday 18th September: Word: 1Tim 2: 1-8; Ps 27; Lk 7: 1-10 **Hours:** Psalter 4

Tuesday 19th September: Word: 1Tim 3: 1-13; Ps 100; Lk 7: 11-17 **Hours:** Psalter 4

Wednesday 20th September: Memorial of Ss Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Priest, Paul Chong Ha-sang and Companions, Martyrs

Word: 1Tim 3: 14-16; Ps 110; Lk 7: 31-35

Hours: Psalter 4, Common of Several Martyrs

Thursday 21st September: Feast of St Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

Word: Eph 4: 1-7, 11-13; Ps 18;

Mt 9: 9-13 **Hours:** Proper of Feast

Friday 22nd September: Word: 1Tim 6: 2-12; Ps 48; Lk 8: 1-3 **Hours:** Psalter 4

Saturday 17th September: Memorial of St Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest

Word 1Tim 6: 13-16; Ps 99; Lk 8: 4-15

Hours: Psalter 4, Common of Pastors

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 or items for the newsletter to the email address below, 'phone the office on **01225 401265** and leave a message 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