

DIARY

- SAT** 1st Mass of Sunday at 5.30 pm.
- SUN** **SUNDAY 5 LENT**
Mass at 9.30 am, followed by refreshments in the hall.
- MON** Morning Prayer at 9.15 am; Mass at 9.30 am.
Mothers' Prayers in the hall, 10.30 am
- WED** Morning Prayer at 9.15 am; Mass at 9.30 am, followed by refreshments and Breaking Open and Sharing the Word.
- THU** Adoration 10 am – 7 pm.
- FRI** Morning Prayer at 9.15 am; Mass at 9.30 am.
Prayer Group, hall, 7.30 pm.
- SAT** Requiem Mass for Don Mackenzie at 10.30 am.
Sacrament of Reconciliation, **11.30 am – 12 noon.**
1st Mass of Sunday, (Passion Sunday) at 5.30 pm.
Sundays Year B; Psalter Week 5 + Lent readings etc.

MASS COMMEMORATIONS: Wed: Bernard Kelly.

READINGS

Reading 1: Jeremiah 31: 31-34.

Psalm (50) Refrain: ***A pure heart create for me, O God.***

Reading 2: Hebrews 5: 7-9.

Gospel Reading: John 12: 20-33.

Please pray for the following who are sick: Mr Frank Manning, Mr Richard Eades, Mrs R. Menghini, Mrs Bridie Liddle, Mrs Jonasz, Fr Lloyd, Zofia Clarke, Vilma D'Souza, Don d'Cruz, Mrs Audrey Tickner, Mrs Kathleen Murphy, Charlie Canavan, Ann O'Mahony, John Porter, Faith Wheat, Mrs Rebecca Matthews, Gail Ballinger, Eric Conn, Joyce Alford, Chris Bate, John Doyle, David Coghlan, Helen Krause, Derek Dyer, Michael Lees, Elizabeth Travers, Nuala Barron, June Carey, Tom & Claire Hunter, Mrs Marian Frawley, Geoff Blwyddin.

Richard Eades is very ill at present – please keep him and Margaret in your prayers; also Eric Conn.

PLEASE PRAY FOR Don Mackenzie, who died during the week. May he rest in peace. Please keep Coral and the family in your prayers also. There will be a Requiem Mass for him at 10.30 am on Saturday; so the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be at 11.30 am.

Welcome to The Parish of St Anthony of Padua



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SUNDAY 18 MARCH, 2018

Dear Friends,

A week ago Fr. Vincent Curtis, parish priest of St. Edmund's, Calne, visited Bp Declan, who asked him to take on responsibility for St. Anthony's parish as well as for St. Edmund's from September.

I know that we asked to be "twinned" with St. Patrick's parish, and that when a priest retired or was moved, it was expected that we would link up with them. St. Patrick's is 2-3 miles closer to us than St. Edmund's, and the road easier; and we share a school. However, Fr. John is not in good health, and older than I am, and he made it clear at one of our joint meetings that he would not be capable of extra Masses, more travelling, and so on; so joining with St. Patrick's was no longer really an option, though it is a shame that our sharing in meetings and activities is not able to bear the fruit that we had hoped. I think at that time we had assumed that my health would outlast Fr. John's and that I would take responsibility for both parishes; unfortunately that was not to be.

The bishop's wish is for us to form a joint PPC with Calne; but for the finances to remain separate. We will probably need a part-time secretary to deal with correspondence, newsletters, etc. We will only be able to have one Sunday Mass, and that at 9 am because of Fr. Vincent having to get back to Calne. We should have plenty of space for everyone at one Mass, though the time might be a problem for the sick and elderly and disabled. Fr. Vincent is going to look at the possibility of getting permission for a later Mass one day each week which would take the place of a Sunday Mass for the sick and disabled. Let us keep our parishes in our prayer at this time that everything may work out well for us. We have a good little parish here; let us pray that with all the upheaval we may remain united and continue to carry out to the best of our ability our mission from God.

In the love of Christ,

Richard Northey

LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION: £219.65; Building/Maintenance Fund: £230.75

LENT FAST DAY: Now up to £797.95

EASTER FLOWERS: Retiring collection *this* weekend. Our team of flower arrangers do us proud year after year; but flowers are expensive, and they need our financial support to buy flowers for their arrangements. So please support generously.

MOTHERS' PRAYERS: Monday, 10.30 am in the hall.

BREAKING OPEN & SHARING THE WORD: Sharing on next Sunday's Gospel. Wednesdays, after Mass & refreshments.

ADORATION: Thursday, 10 am – 7 pm.

PRAYER GROUP: This week, Friday, 7.30 pm in the hall; none for the following 3 weeks; resumes 20 April.

NEXT WEEKEND: Passion Sunday, when we commemorate the Lord's entry into Jerusalem and listen to the reading of the Passion. On Saturday evening we will gather as usual in the church; on Sunday morning we will gather in the church hall for the blessing of palms & palm procession. Both celebrations will be a bit longer than usual; please come prepared to spend a little longer in church. It is customary to stand for the Passion reading; but if any health issue prevents you from standing for that length of time, please feel free to sit.

LITURGY ROTA FOR EASTER: in the porch. Please fill in with your names to assist with the Easter liturgies. Please try to ensure that every place is filled.

LENT GROUPS: These will continue on the appropriate days this week.

CHRISM MASS: A 28-seater bus has been arranged to take us to Clifton Cathedral for the Chrism Mass at 11 am on Wednesday 28 March. The people who go normally enjoy this occasion, when the holy oils for sacramental use in parishes for the year are blessed. There are a few places left in the bus – do consider joining us this year. It is probably the most important diocesan celebration of the year.

RECONCILIATION: Please try to come to make your pre-Easter Reconciliation well before the end of Lent to avoid last-minute queues! As usual, the final opportunity before Easter will be on Holy Thursday morning.

SICK OR HOUSEBOUND: Please let Fr. Richard know of anyone who is sick, elderly or housebound who would like to be visited and receive Holy Communion.

RUH BATH RC CHAPLAINCY: Mandy Baker – 07775895814, email: mandybaker@live.co.uk please contact Mandy if you have a relative or friend in hospital.

PRAYERS FOR THE PARISH every third Thursday at 9:30 am in church before Adoration begins. Prayer intentions: for God's guidance, a smooth transition and for a new parish priest and thanksgiving to God for our parish priest. All are warmly welcome to join in at church or home if you can.

LIFTS TO/FROM MASS: Anyone willing to offer lifts to/from Mass when required, please let Mary Harris know.

SUMMER CAMPS: The annual Clifton Diocese Summer Camps have launched for 2018 and bookings are now being taken. This year, the camps have moved to a new location at the Viney Hill Adventure Centre in the Forest of Dean and are being held between 13-17 August (ages 7-11) and 20-24 August (ages 12-16). The camps promise to be a week full of fun, faith and friendship. If you are interested in finding out more, or to book a place for your child, please visit <http://livingyourfaith.co.uk> or email livingyourfaith@hotmail.co.uk.

PARKING: a) Could those parking on the corner of the car park please pull in tightly? It can be difficult for other cars to get past. b) As Christians, consideration of our neighbours is of primary importance. If you park in the street, please take care not to block our neighbours' parking areas, or park on yellow lines. If our church car park is full, there *is* a nearby public car park; please try to avoid upsetting our neighbours.

MELKSHAM FOODBANK: (www.melkshamfoodbank.org.uk). They are most in need of potatoes (instant), peas (canned), carrots (canned), sugar, pasta. They no longer use boxes – thank you to those who have donated boxes, but please do not leave them in the church porch any more. Does anyone know anyone who is going through a difficult time and might be in need of the help of the Foodbank?

PARENTS PLEASE NOTE: for safety reasons, unaccompanied children are not allowed in the church hall during Mass.

DRIVERS: Please drive with great care when entering or leaving the car park, so that the lives of children – and adults – may not be put at risk.

NEWSLETTER: Any please send to the supplied on the front of

information, articles, etc, presbytery at the address the newsletter.

