



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: [@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 Chippenham 01249 652404

Mass will be celebrated Wednesday 24th March at 10.00 am, and Sunday 28th March at 9.00 am.

Easter Services

Please book to attend Easter Services through Anne Doyle. Bookings will be taken on the following days: Monday 22nd March, Tuesday 23rd March, Thursday 25th March, Monday 29th March and Tuesday 30th March. No Easter bookings can be taken after 30th March.

Easter Mass times

Holy (Maundy) Thursday – 7.00 pm (Fr Malcolm)

Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday) – 3.00 pm (Fr Malcolm)

Easter Vigil – 8.00 pm (Fr Vincent)

Sunday of the Resurrection – 9.00 am (Fr Vincent)

Please do not arrive at church hoping to attend Mass if you have not booked in advance. Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, the obligation to attend Mass on Sunday is currently suspended.

It is mandatory for face coverings/masks to be worn in places of worship unless you have an exemption from wearing one (Children under 11, illness, disability, etc.)

Please note that Covid regulations require young children to be supervised by an adult, remaining with them at all times in and around the Church. Thank you.

To pre-book your attendance at Mass and Stations of the Cross, contact Anne Doyle telephone 01225 707486 or email anne.doyle16@blueyonder.co.uk on the following days:

Monday, Tuesday or Thursday of each week

Please note: Toilet facilities will remain closed; please remember this when planning your visit. Heartfelt thanks to all our volunteer stewards and cleaners who make reopening possible.

Sunday 21st March: Fifth Sunday of Lent
Sunday Year B; Psalter week 1, Sundays of Lent
Reading 1 – Jer 31: 31-34
Psalm refrain: A pure heart create for me, O God
Reading 2 – Heb 5: 7-9
Gospel – John 12: 20-30

Prayers of the Faithful, Fifth Sunday of Lent

We ask our Father to hear these and all our prayers:

For Pope Francis, Bishop Declan and all church leaders as they make their own Lenten journey;

For all victims of hate, and the perpetrators;

For those in physical, mental or spiritual need;

For the parishes of St Teresa, and St Vincent de Paul in Bristol and for the United Church in

Melksham;

For all candidates for the sacraments as they become closer to the Church, especially Hannah;

For more people to choose unity and truth rather than division and falsehood;

We ask Mary our Mother to be with us during these difficult times;

God, our Father, as we continue on our Lenten journey, help us to always keep in mind the greatest gift that we will receive at the end of it – the Easter resurrection of Your Son.

We make this prayer through the same Christ, Our Lord. Amen

Hilary Clifton

Monday 22nd March: Word: Dn 13: 1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62; Ps 22; Jn 8: 1-11
Hours: Psalter 1, Mondays of Lent

Tuesday 23rd March: Word: Nm 21: 4-9; Ps 101; Jn 8: 21-30
Hours: Psalter 1, Tuesdays of Lent

Wednesday 24th March: Word: Dn 3: 14-20, 24-25, 28; Dn 3; Jn 8: 31-42
Hours: Psalter 1, Wednesdays of Lent

Thursday 25th March: Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord
Word: Is 7: 10-14, 8:10; Ps 39; Heb 10: 4-10; Lk 1: 26-38
Hours: Psalter 1, Thursdays of Lent

Friday 26th March: Word: Jer 20: 10-13; Ps 17; Jn 10: 31-34
Hours: Psalter 1, Fridays of Lent

Saturday 27th March: Word: Ez 37: 21-28; Jer 31; Jn 11: 45-56
Hours: Psalter 1, Saturdays of Lent

Forthcoming Collections: This Sunday 21st March, Wednesday 24th March and Sunday 28th March (Palm Sunday) – Easter Flowers;
Wednesday 31st March – Fr Vincent;
Holy Thursday 1st April – Fr Danny;
Good Friday 2nd April – Holy Places and Christians in the Holy Land;
Easter Vigil, Easter Sunday and Wednesday 7th April – Fr Vincent.

Mr Thomas Hunter: The funeral of Mr Thomas Hunter will take place at St Anthony of Padua on Tuesday 23rd March at 11.00 am. Attendance is restricted due to Coronavirus restrictions, but your prayers are welcome.

Stations of the Cross: Every Friday during Lent, we will be observing the Stations of the Cross at 10.00 am. Attendance must be pre-booked – please contact Anne Doyle (contact details above) on Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday of each week. Please note that to ensure Covid restriction measures are maintained, there will be no movement around the church, and everyone must stay in their pew until asked to move by a steward.

CAFOD's Big Walk for Water: Tricia Hoy is joining CAFOD's Big Walk for Water this Lent. This involves walking 10,000 steps every day during Lent totalling over 400,000 to raise money to provide clean, safe water in Ethiopia. She is looking for sponsors for this great cause - please give through the Just Giving link: [Tricia | Walk for Water | CAFOD](#). If you would prefer to give without using the internet, a basket will be available at the back of the church for you to put an envelope containing your donation addressed to Tricia. Thank you.

Parish Charities: Zofia Clark still has some facemasks to sell for our charities; they are 3 layered. If you would like to buy some, please contact Zofia direct on **01225 340998**. If you would like to make a donation to **Wiltshire Air Ambulance**, please use the following link: <https://www.wiltshireairambulance.co.uk/donate/> **Mary's Meals** also has an internet "Giving Page": <https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/donate>

Traidcraft: A limited number of Traidcraft catalogues are available in the church to take home and browse. Orders can be placed with Adrienne Dart, the Fairtrade Agent from St Edmund's Church **01249 740604**, email amdarts1@gmail.com with the item description and quantity required and preferably the catalogue number. You can also browse online <https://www.traidcraftshop.co.uk/christmas>, and order through Adrienne.

Missio: We have received a message of thanks from Missio for the contribution of £167.14 raised by St Anthony of Padua parishioners: "Thank you from Missio and the Mill Hill missionaries. Through your Red Box or regular gifts, you are a missionary, helping spread God's word and share God's love for all his people. Thank you for your time, gifts and prayers for our brothers and sister across the world. You will be held in prayer at Mass each day by the Mill Hill community and at Missio's chapel in London. Find out more about how your gift are transforming lives at: missio.org.uk"

Tuesday 23rd March – National Day of Reflection and Prayer: Tuesday 23rd March has been designated a National Day for Reflection to mark the anniversary of the first national lockdown. Our Bishops have asked us to also make this a day of prayer. Please pray and pause to reflect at midday and at 8.00 pm. A suggested prayer is at the foot of the newsletter.

Could you be a School Foundation Governor? St Edmund's school in Calne, urgently needs more governors. If you might be willing to help by becoming a school governor, and would like to find out more about what is involved, please contact the Chair of governors at St Edmunds, Ross Swan, either by email at rswan@st-edmunds-pri.wilts.sch.uk or by phone on **07906 918373**. Our parish school, St Patrick's in Corsham also requires Governors; contact Clerk to the Governors Sharon Gilbert, **01249 713125**, email admin@st-patricks.wilts.sch.uk . Alternatively contact Bill McEntee at Clifton Diocese bill.mcentee@cliftondiocese.com **07710 094976** for more information – he would be delighted to hear from you.

Melksham Food Bank: There has been a huge rise in the number needing the Food Bank. To donate food items, please use either the 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.

Melksham Family of Churches' Crisis Support: Melksham Family of Churches also supports those who need emergency relief help (non-food items such as fuel meter payments, etc.). If anyone would like to contribute to this, please contact Sharon (email as at foot of newsletter) for further information.

Please pray for the following: Don d'Cruz, John Doyle, Geoff Blwyddin, Mrs Jeanette Allsop, Zofia Clarke, Chris Bate, Andrew Bate, Katja Lubina, Patrick Egan. Deacon David Wakefield, Rebecca Matthews, Paul Hogg, Keith Healy, Alan Glass, Tricia Rigg, Henie Dixon, Brian Hillhouse, June Carey, Janet Ruddick, Judith Curtis, Janice Kuranlu, Merv Pearce, Marie and Bill Jowett, Alan McFall, Alistair Strudwick. All who are suffering from coronavirus, and those finding isolation 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
Wordsearch – Fifth Sunday of Lent

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

ABBAFATHER	FLINT	PREPARATIONS
ALAS	HOLES	REPLY
BARABBAS	ISAIAH	SACRIFICED
BEARD	JAR	SALOME
BODY	LAMB	SAVE
BREAD	MARY	SOLEMNLY
CHEEKS	MEMBER	SONS
COUNT	NUMBER	STAY
CUP	PALACE	TEARS
EYES	PASSERSBY	
FEET	PASSOVER	

Eliminate only the words in the list. Ignore any others, which are coincidental. No word should be entirely inside another. The remaining letters give a well-known place in the story of the Passion:

– – – – – The word from last week was "SCRUTINIES" Hilary Clifton

Just some thoughts:

I told my friend I was going to open a shop in Saudi Arabia. He said "Dubai?" I said "Yes, and sell, too".

I told my girlfriend I had a new job in a bowling alley. She said "Tenpin?" I said "No, permanent". Tim Vine

Words of Wisdom:

Speak to Him for He heareth;
Spirit and spirit can meet.
Closer is He than breathing,
Nearer than hands and feet.

Anon

Any Comments? *Is there anything you would particularly like to see included in the weekly newsletter? 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.*

Contact: comms.melksham.stanthonyofpadua@cliftondiocese.com

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

Diocesan Prayer

Prayer for the elect and the Candidates, as they begin their period of final preparation for the celebration of the Sacraments

God of love and power,
It is your will to establish
Everything in Christ,
And draw us into his all-embracing love.
Guide these chosen brothers and sisters of ours,
Strengthen their vocation,
Build them into the kingdom of your Son,
And seal them with the Spirit of your promise,
We ask this through Christ our Lord,
Amen

Prayer and Reflection for 23rd March

(Catholic Bishops' Conference)

We reflect in sorrow on all those who have died, whether family members, friends or those unknown to us personally. We pray for them, asking our Father to welcome them into their heavenly home, the destiny for which God first gave us the gift of life.

We reflect with compassion on all those who have suffered during this last year, whether through illness, stress, financial disaster or family tensions. We pray for their ongoing resilience, courage and capacity to forgive.

We reflect with thanksgiving for the generosity, inventiveness, self-sacrifice and determination shown by so many in this most difficult of times. We pray for them, thanking God for their gifts and dedication, whether they are scientists, politicians, health workers, public servants of every kind, community leaders or steadfast family members and friends who continue to show such love and compassion.

We reflect in hope that, as the pandemic is controlled and we open up our lives again, we will gather in the lessons we have learned and build our society into a better shape, more compassionate, less marked by inequalities, more responsive to needs and deprivation.

We ask for the inspiration of the Holy Spirit to guide and strengthen us in this endeavour, whether we are focussing on overcoming family breakdowns, economic recovery, or building political consensus.

We pray with Jesus, in him and through him, for he is the one who carries us, and our prayers, into the embracing presence of his Father. He is our comfort in sorrow, our strength in the face of need, our rejoicing in the gifts we celebrate and our hope in the face of the weighty darkness of death. Amen.