



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 25th February: Second Sunday of Lent: Mass 9.00 am

St Edmund's, Calne: Mass 11.00 am

28th February: - Morning Prayer 9.45; Mass at 10.00 am

Thursday 29th February: Adoration 10.00 am – 3.00 pm

Friday 1st March: Divine Mercy Chaplet - 3.00 pm

Saturday 2nd 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

PARISH NEWS

Sunday 25th February:

Children's Liturgy of the Word;

Refreshments after Mass on Sunday

**This week – retiring collection for CAFOD Fast Day,
Friday 23rd February**

This Lent your donations to CAFOD Family Fast Day appeal will help hardworking people like James the fisherman in Liberia with resources, tools and training to feed their families for good. Give today using the envelopes in church or donate online at <https://cafod.org.uk/>. Please pray that our brothers and sisters around the world have what they need to feed their families.

Our Lent Courses continue on Tuesdays to 19th March: Our Lent Course this year is "We Dare to Say" a Clifton Diocese resource exploring the prayer our Saviour gave us, The Our Father. For those unable to attend a Lent group, there are a few copies of the "We Dare to Say" booklet available for £1 each, for personal study and reflection. Please see Sharon (in the parish office) if you would like a booklet.

There will be no Stations of the Cross or soup lunch this Friday, 1st March. This will recommence next week, **Friday 8th March with Stations of the Cross at the later time of 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.

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](https://www.cafod.org.uk/cafod-big-lent-walk)

World Day of Prayer, Friday 1st March, 10.30 am, St Barnabas Church, Beanacre, SN12 7PT. This year's service has been prepared by the Christian women of Palestine, and the service will be led by members of Melksham Churches, including St Anthony's; everyone is welcome, so please do come and join this ecumenical service. **The churches of Calne are also holding a service for World Day of Prayer on Friday 1st March at 10.30a.m. at the Methodist Church, Calne SN11 0UD.** You all are welcome to come and support this event.

Also this week:

Monday 26th February: Mothers' Prayers in the Hall, 10.30 am.

Tuesday 27th February: "Move it or Lose It" keep fit exercises in the hall, 1.30 pm.

Wednesday 28th February: Breaking Open and Sharing the Word in the hall after Mass

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 McFall, Lijimol Chacko, Mirna Rodriguez. 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

DIOCESAN NEWS

Vacancy for Finance and Property Support Officer:

The Clifton Diocese Curia offices are recruiting a Finance and Property Support Officer. The role is a part-time, 2year fixed term contract, to be worked over 25 hours per week, based at Alexander House, Pennywell Road, Bristol. The successful applicant will need to have a comprehensive knowledge of Microsoft Office, good communication and organisational skills, to include time management and working on various tasks simultaneously. Previous administrative experience and a can-do flexible attitude are essential. For further information please go to [Working for us | Clifton Diocese](#) or contact Simon Hussey, Head of Finance on 0117 902 5591. The closing date for receipt of applications is Friday 8th March 2024.

Listening With the Heart Sessions: The department of Adult Education and Evangelisation are offering an opportunity for parishioners to develop the skills of [small group facilitation](#) in the context of parish groups. These short sessions will provide participants with a model for rooting decision making in prayer and discernment. The nearest venue to us is **Saturday 16th March, at St John's, Bath (after 9.30am Mass).** The Eventbrite link to register is <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/listening-with-the-heart-tickets-808837323207>

Lourdes Pilgrimage 2024 – 23rd to 30th 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](#) or contact lourdes@cliftondiocese.com or 0117 902 5590 for an information pack. Please be

aware the **deadline for deposits is 31st March**, with payment in full by 31st May 2024.

OTHER NEWS

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. Our programme operates collaboratively with Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN). At SJOG Homes for Ukraine, 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

Facebook: facebook.com/sjoghomesforukraine

YouTube: youtube.com/@sjoghomesforukraine

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 27th March: Chrism Mass, Clifton Cathedral, 11.00 am.

Saturday 25th May: Marriage Celebration, Clifton Cathedral, midday.

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?

Wind turbines kill between 10,000 and 100,000 birds each year in the UK. Interestingly, painting one of the blades of a wind turbine black can reduce bird deaths by 70 per cent.

BBC Science Focus

Wordsearch: Second Sunday of Lent

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

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|-------------|--------|--------------|
| BELOVED | GATES | SACRIFICE |
| BENEFIT | GIFT | SAND |
| BLESSINGS | HEAVEN | SAY |
| BOY | JAMES | SEIZED |
| BRIGHT | LISTEN | STARS |
| COURTS | MARK | SWEAR |
| DESCENDANTS | MORIAH | TEST |
| DISCUSSED | MOSES | THREE |
| ELIJAH | POINT | TRANSFIGURED |
| FACE | RAISE | VOWS |

Eliminate only the words listed. The remain letters give God's gift to us –

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The word from last week (1st Sunday of Lent) was
"COVENANT" Hilary Clifton

Sunday 25th February
Second Sunday of Lent
Sunday Year B; Psalter 2 Proper of Season

Reading 1: Gn 22: 1-2, 9-13, 15-18

Psalm Refrain: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

Reading 2: Rom 8: 31-34

Gospel: Mk 9: 2-10

Monday 26th February: Word: Dn 9: 4-10; Ps 78; Lk 6: 36-38 **Hours:** Psalter 2, Proper of Season

Tuesday 27th February: Word: Is 1: 10, 16-20; Ps 49; Mt 23: 1-12 **Hours:** Psalter 2, Proper of Season

Wednesday 28th February: Word: Jer 18: 18-20; Ps 30; Mt 20: 17-28 **Hours:** Psalter 2, Proper of Season

Thursday 29th February: Word: Jer 17: 5-10; Ps 1; Lk 16: 19-31 **Hours:** Psalter 2, Proper of Season

Friday 1st March: Feast of St David, Bishop, Patron of Wales

Word: Phil 3: 8-14; Ps 1; Mt 5: 13-16

Hours: Common of Pastors

Saturday 2nd March: Word: Mi 7: 14-15, 18-20; Ps 102; Lk 15: 1-3, 11-32 **Hours:** Psalter 2, Proper of Season

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

