



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 Corsham 01249 712136

Sunday 26th February: First Sunday of Lent: Mass 9.00am

Wednesday 1st March: Morning Prayer 9.40 am, Mass 10.00am

Thursday 2nd March: Adoration in the hall 10.00am - 3.00pm

Friday 3rd March: Divine Mercy Chaplet - 3.00 pm

Saturday 4th March: Mass 10.00am

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

Government advice is that face coverings/masks can help reduce the spread of Covid.

Daily readings at end of newsletter

During the cold weather, we ask everyone to make sure they dress for warmth when they come to church. We continue to keep windows open in the church to reduce the spread of virus – and due to increased utility costs, church heating cannot be set to as high a temperature as we would like. Thank you.

PARISH NEWS

Friday 3rd March – World Day of Prayer 10.30 am at Melksham Baptist Church. Resources have been prepared by Christian women of Taiwan and the theme is "I Have Heard About Your Faith." Everyone is welcome, so please do come along.

Friday 10th March – CAFOD Family Fast Day: St Anthony's is marking CAFOD Family fast day on March 10th. This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day Appeal will help families fighting the climate crisis and ensure that our Church network can quickly respond to emergencies, like the recent earthquake in Syria and Turkey. Give using the envelope or at cafod.org.uk/give and please join us in praying for CAFOD's development and emergency response work all over the world.

Lent Courses: We are running the Lent Course "Following Christ in the Footsteps of the Saints" each Tuesday in Lent, **10.00 am** in St Anthony's Church Hall, and **7.00 pm** at 16, Sherwood Avenue SN12 7HJ. All are welcome; sign-up sheets are in the porch.



Can You Help Us? We need someone with the technical know-how to help to set up the accompanying music for congregational singing in church on Sundays in the absence of an organist. Please contact Anne or Sharon if you can help.

Rise Theatre will be performing 'Faithful Companions' at St Edmund's church on Wednesday 15th March 2023

at 7.00pm. Tickets are £10 per adult; £25 per family, and can be purchased online via St Edmund's parish website [RISE Theatre "Faithful Companions" | Saint Edmund's Catholic Church, Calne](http://www.risetheatre.org.uk) (saintedmundscalne.org.uk), or from Mary Rooney.

Also this week:

Monday 27th February: Mothers' prayers in the hall at 10.30 am.

Wednesday 1st March: Breaking Open and Sharing the Word After Mass.

Please Help Our Music Ministry! Even if you can only commit to an occasional Sunday, we would love to hear from you. **We also welcome new members to our choir.** Please speak with Anne or contact Sharon in the parish office if you would like to help.

OUR PARISH FAMILY

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please pray for: Geoff Blwyddin, Zofia Clarke, Chris Bate, Katja Lubina, Patrick Egan, Rebecca Matthews, Paul Hogg, Keith Healy, Tricia Rigg, Henie Dixon, Brian Hillhouse, Judith Curtis, Janice Kuranlu, Anne Doyle, Sheila Likey-Ayling, Anne

O'Mahony, Lorraine Pavey, Francis Ballinger, Shireen Doyle, Fr John O'Toole, Tess Jones, Kelvin Boorer, Maureen Westlake, Liz McGrane. 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 to receive Holy Communion, please telephone 01225 824039 and leave a message, or Email ruh-tr.chaplaincy@nhs.net

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday March 10th (and Fridays in Lent thereafter)– Stations of the Cross, 11.00am followed by Lent Lunch

Wednesday March 15th – RISE Theatre at St Edmund's, 7.00pm

Thursday 16th March – Liturgy of Reconciliation, 7.00pm, St Catherine's, Frome

Thursday 18th May – Ascension Mass 10.00am, followed by Adoration in the Church until 10.00 pm.

CLIFTON DIOCESE

Liturgies of Reconciliation: Bishop Declan will celebrate Liturgies of Reconciliation during the Season of Lent at four venues across the diocese. The closest one to St Anthony's will be **Thursday 16th March (St Catharine of Alexandria, Frome)**, and will start at 7pm. There will be priests available at each venue to celebrate sacramental reconciliation.

OTHER NEWS

CAFOD Syria-Turkey Earthquake Appeal: CAFOD is responding with support of provision of food, water, shelter, medical assistance and winter kits for survivors. Your donations in recent months have made that quick response possible. Let us join CAFOD in praying for our sisters and brothers affected by the earthquakes and the winter weather. Your support for CAFOD throughout the year allows our Catholic agency to act quickly when disasters strike. For more details visit CAFOD's Syria Turkey Emergency Appeal online at <https://cafod.org.uk/give>.

How Can You Help Rough Sleepers? A Message from Wiltshire Council: If you see someone on the streets, you can provide details to **StreetLink** which connects rough sleepers with local services that can support them. StreetLink will provide the council with details so

officers can talk to the rough sleeper, help them find a warm place to stay and offer ongoing support. People are also encouraged to donate to local charities in Wiltshire, which directly help those in need. If you are sleeping rough, or you know someone who is, let us know on **0300 456 0100** so we can provide accommodation and support.

CHARITIES and PARISH PROJECT

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

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 is grateful for the help from St Anthony's parishioners. A basket for donations is in the church porch, or you can use 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 for those who need emergency relief. This fund is seeing increased demand; if you would like to contribute, please contact Melksham Foodbank or Sharon (Parish office) for further information.

AND FINALLY –

Did you know?

Louis XIX was King of France for just 20 minutes.

Coffee is the world's second most valuable traded commodity, only behind oil.



Wordsearch: First Sunday of Lent

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

- | | | |
|---------|-----------|-----------|
| ACCUSED | DIVINE | OBEDIENCE |
| ADAM | DUST | PAIN |
| AGAIN | ETERNAL | SCRIPTURE |
| ALONE | FALL | SOIL |
| ANGELS | FASTED | SPREAD |
| ATE | GRACE | TEST |
| BREAD | GUILT | TOUCH |
| DAYS | HANDS | WASH |
| DELIVER | JUSTIFIED | WOMAN |
| DESERVE | LENGTH | |
| DIED | LORD | |

Eliminate only the listed words. No word should be entirely inside another. The remaining letters describe us:

— — — — — / — — — — —

The word from the previous week (7th Sunday) was "TEMPLE"
Hilary Clifton

A Prayer for Ukraine

God of peace and justice,
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.
We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.
We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.
We pray for those with power over war or peace,
for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide
their decisions.
Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at
risk and in fear,
that you would hold and protect them.
We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.
Amen

Archbishop Justin Welby
Archbishop Stephen Cottrell

Sunday 26th February

First Sunday of Lent

Sunday Year A; Psalter 1, Proper of Season

Reading 1: Gn 2: 7-9, 3: 1-7

Psalms Refrain: Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Reading 2: Rom 5: 12-19

Gospel: Mt 4: 1-11

Monday 27th February: Word: Lv 19: 1-2, 11-18; Ps 18; Mt 25: 31-46 **Hours:** Psalter 1, Proper of Season

Tuesday 28th February: Word: Is 55: 10-11; Ps 33; Mt 6: 7-15 **Hours:** Psalter 1, Proper of Season

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

Word: Phil 2: 8-14; Ps 1; Mt 5: 13-16

Hours: Psalter 1, Common of Pastors

Thursday 2nd March: Word: Est 4: 17; Ps 137; Mt 7: 7-12 **Hours:** Psalter 1, Proper of Season

Friday 3rd March: Word: Ex 18: 21-28; Ps 129; Mt 5: 20-26 **Hours:** Psalter 1, Proper of Season

Saturday 4th March: Word: Dt 26: 16-19; Ps 118; Mt 5: 43-48 **Hours:** Psalter 1, Proper of Season

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 702128** 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