



Welcome to the Parish of St Anthony of Padua

Parish Priest: Fr. Vincent Curtis

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Diocesan Website: www.cliftondiocese.com

Parish Office: 22, West End, Melksham, SN12 6HJ Tel: 01225 702128

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Parish Website: <https://st-anthonyofpadua.weebly.com/>

 Follow us on Instagram: @stanthony0fpaduachurch

 Facebook: St Anthony of Padua Melksham

Alternative phone numbers for emergencies: Trowbridge 01225 752152 or Corsham 01249 712136

Sunday 26th March: Fifth Sunday of Lent: Mass 9.00am

Wednesday 29th March: Morning Prayer 9.40 am, Mass 10.00am

Thursday 30th March: Adoration in the hall 10.00am - 3.00pm

**Friday 31st March: Stations of the Cross 11.00 am, followed by Lent Lunch in the Hall
Divine Mercy Chaplet - 3.00 pm**

Saturday 1st April: 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

This weekend there will be a retiring collection for the Easter Flowers

Next week's newsletter will be for two weeks – 2nd and 9th April

Easter Services: We are pleased to welcome Canon Michael Fitzpatrick who will celebrate the Easter triduum with us. Our services will be as follows:

Holy Thursday: 7.00pm - Mass of the Last Supper followed by vigil and Night Prayer until 10.00 pm.

Good Friday: 10.00am - Office of Readings and Morning Prayer
3.00pm - Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Saturday: 10.00am - Office of Readings and Morning Prayer
8.00pm - Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday: 9.00am Mass

There will be a practice for Easter services on Wednesday 29th March and Monday 3rd April in the church at 7.00pm. Please come and join us.

Thank you from CAFOD: Thank you for giving to CAFOD's Family Fast Day appeal this Lent. Your generous donations, rooted in love, will support families around the world grow in strength to fight the climate crisis and ensure that our church network can quickly

respond to emergencies like the recent earthquake in Syria and Turkey.

Easter Cards are available to buy in church; please see Sheila Likely-Ayling

Traidcraft: Adrienne Darts will host a Traidcraft stall in the hall after Mass today, **26th March**.

Lent Courses: We continue 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.

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

Wednesdays 29th March: Breaking Open and Sharing the Word After Mass.

Musicians and Singers – come and join us!

Even if you can only commit to an occasional Sunday, we would love to hear from you. Please speak with Anne or contact Sharon in the parish office if you can help us.

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, Chris Harvey, Isaac Anderson, June Carey. 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

CLIFTON DIOCESE

Clifton Diocese Permanent Diaconate – Vocations and Formation Programme: Are you a man of prayer with a heart to serve the community? Have you ever thought you might have a vocation to be a deacon? It's time to explore whether God might be calling you. The Lord calls men from all walks of life to serve the Church through the diaconate. We work in parishes and deaneries, in charities, hospitals, schools and prisons. We work in all sorts of jobs day to day; we balance our lives between family, work and church. Might you be called to use your faith and experience to serve? If you are open to the prompting of the Holy Spirit and willing to explore a call to service as a deacon, **please speak to your parish priest to begin a conversation.** After that if you want to go further, please contact Deacon Steve Boughton from the Diocesan Vocations Team steve.boughton@cliftondiocese.com for an initial discussion to learn more.

Vacancy for Adult Formation and Evangelisation Officer, Clifton Diocese: The person appointed to this role will be someone committed to the mission of the Church, a confident communicator, able to promote the Gospel and support parishes to grow in their capacity to be places of mission and outreach. He or she will work closely with the Officer for Caritas and Environment, particularly in the area of Youth Ministry. If you are interested in such a role and would like to work for Clifton Diocese, please send your application to sarah.adams@cliftondiocese.com. For more information and an informal conversation prior to applying, please contact Sarah Adams, Director for the Department of Adult Education and Evangelisation, on

0117 902 5595. Further Information and an application form can be found at

<https://cliftondiocese.com/diocese/working-for-us/>

Closing Date for Applications: Friday 14th April.

OTHER NEWS

Prayers for the King: The Presidents of Churches Together in England invite all Christians to join together in a period of daily prayer for both the King and the nation, from Easter Day to 6th May. The Church of England is publishing a book of Daily Prayers for the Coronation of King Charles III, which can be used as a guide to reflection, and can be ordered via [Coronation Prayers \(chpublishing.co.uk\)](http://CoronationPrayers.chpublishing.co.uk) The Presidents comment that "The Coronation will be a time to celebrate community, faith and service – values that are reflected in these prayers."

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: 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 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?

Human bones are composed of 31% water.
The first computer mouse was made of wood.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 5th April – Chrism Mass

Clifton Cathedral

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

Wordsearch: Fifth Sunday of Lent



BONES	JUSTIFIED	SOIL
BROTHER	LOUD	SON
COUNT	LOW	SOUL
DAYBREAK	MARK	STONE
DIE	PHRASE	TEARS
EYES	PLEADING	TOMB
FORGIVENESS	PRAYER	TWIN
FREE	REDEEM	VOICE
GOD	RESURRECTION	WATCHMAN
GUIDE	RISE	
JESUS	SIGH	

Eliminate only the listed words. No word should be entirely inside another. The remaining letters give two important people in today's scriptures

— — — — — and — — — —

The completed phrase from 12th March (3rd week of Lent) was: "GIVE ME A DRINK"

The word from 19th March (4th week of Lent) was "BANQUET"
Hilary Clifton

Sunday 26th March

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Sunday Year A; Psalter 1, Proper of Season

Reading 1: Ez 37: 12-14

Psalm Refrain: **With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.**

Reading 2: Rom 8: 8-11

Gospel: Jn 11: 1-45

Monday 27th March: Word: Dn 13: 1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62; Ps 22; Jn 8: 1-11 **Hours:** Psalter 1, Proper of Season

Tuesday 28th March: Word: Nm 21: 4-9; Ps 101; Jn 8: 21-30 **Hours:** Psalter 1, Proper of Season

Wednesday 29th March: Word: Dn 3: 14-20, 24-25, 28; Dn 3; Jn 8: 31-42 **Hours:** Psalter 1, Proper of Season

Thursday 30th March: Word: Gn 17: 3-9; Ps 104; Jn 8: 51-59 **Hours:** Psalter 1, Proper of Season

Friday 31st March: Word: Jer 20: 10-13; Ps 17; Jn 10: 31-42 **Hours:** Psalter 1, Proper of Season

Saturday 1st April: Word: Ez 37: 21-8; Jer 31; Jn 11: 45-56 **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

