



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

Facebook: St Anthony of Padua Melksham

Alternative phone numbers for emergencies: Trowbridge 01225 752152 or Chippenham 01249 652404

The Church will be open for private prayer on Wednesday 2nd December, from 10-00 – 11.00 am.
There is no need to book to attend private prayer.

Mass will be celebrated on Saturday 5th December at 10.00 am, and Sunday 6th December at 9.00 am.

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Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, the obligation to attend Mass on Sunday is currently rescinded.

*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.)*

To pre-book your attendance at Mass, 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.

Prayer for Melksham - you are invited to spend some time on Wednesday in prayer for all who live and work in Melksham, our Council, industry and shops, hospital, care homes and surgeries.

**Sunday 29th November: First Sunday of Advent
Sunday Year B; Psalter week 1, Proper of Season**

Reading 1 – Is 63: 16-17, 64: 1, 3-8

Psalm refrain: God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

Reading 2 – 1Cor 1: 3-9

Gospel – Matthew 13: 33-37

Prayers of the Faithful, First Sunday of Advent

As we prepare for Advent, in this time of uncertainty and fear, we place our trust in our God. We know He is always with us, in our hearts and by our sides. We place our prayers before Him.

We pray for Pope Francis, the clergy, Fr Vincent and ourselves, that by the way in which we live our lives, we may bring others to Him.

We pray for guidance for all those who are called to lead and advocate in the world, that they might carry love with them always.

We pray for all refugees and migrants, that they may be treated with respect, dignity and kindness. We pray for an end to the conflict in Ethiopia, and an end to war everywhere.

We pray for those we have known and loved who have died, and for their families and friends.

We pray for those who are ill in mind or body, for the disabled, and for those who love and care for them, with compassion and selflessness.

We pray for our Church, for all Chaplaincies to H.M. Forces, and for St. Andrew's Church, Melksham.

We thank God for the new vaccines.

We thank God for the gift of life and for this day. Help us to show love, compassion and kindness to others.

We make these prayers, as with joy, we await the celebration of the birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ. In the name of The Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Gay Harris

Monday 30th November: Feast of St Andrew, Apostle

Word: Rom 10:9-18; Ps 18; Mt 4: 18-21

Hours: Psalter 1, Proper of Season

Tuesday 1st December: Memorial of Saint Alexander Briant, Martyr

Word: Is 11: 1-10; Ps 71; Lk 10: 21-24

Hours: Psalter 1, Proper of Season

Wednesday 2nd December: Word: Is 25: 6-10; Ps 22; Mt 15: 29-37

Hours: Psalter 1, Proper of Season

Thursday 3rd December: Memorial of Saint Francis Xavier, Priest

Word: Is 26: 1-6; Ps 117; Mt 7: 21, 24-27

Hours: Psalter 1, Proper of Season

Friday 4th December: Memorial of Saint Osmund, Bishop

Word: Is 29: 17-24; Ps 26; Mt 9: 27-31

Hours: Psalter 1, Proper of Season

Saturday 5th December: Word: Is 30: 19-21, 23-26; Ps 146; Mt 9:35-10:1, 6-8

Hours: Psalter 1, Proper of Season

Retiring Collections: There will be retiring collections weeks beginning 6th and 13th December for Christmas flowers for the Church.

Wednesday 2nd December: The Church will be open again for private prayer this Wednesday as there will be no Mass.

Mr John Learoyd: The funeral Mass for Mr John Learoyd will take place at 1.00 pm on Thursday 10th December. Due to Covid regulations, attendance is restricted to family and personal invitation from the family only.

CAFOD: CAFOD have sent us the following message: "Thank you to all the parishioners at St Anthony of Padua for your generous support for CAFOD this year, and for your latest donation of £377.50 which we received on 17th November. It means so much to us that you have reached out to our brothers and sisters around the world, when life here at home is so much changed. Thank you for being there for our global family".

Advent Prayer Candles: To replace our Tree of Remembrance, there will be an Advent Prayer Candle display at the back of the church from 1st December. Paper "candles" will be placed on the board, and will show names of friends, family and loved ones that you wish to pray for – especially those who you are unable to be with due to Covid regulations. Everyone is invited to write names on coloured paper candles which will be available in church for you to take away and write names, then return them to church or Presbytery, where it will be added to the display. If you are unable to attend church, please send names to Sharon (using the email at the foot of the newsletter, leave a message on the parish answer phone, or pop them through the presbytery door) who will write a candle for you. **Please do not add candles to the display yourself;** this will compromise our Covid infection control systems.

Instagram and Facebook: We are excited to announce St Anthony's new Instagram account: **stanthonyofpaduachurch**, and new Facebook page **St Anthony of Padua Melksham**. Follow us for reflections, prayers, news and events; and spread the word!

Parish Charities 2020 – Wiltshire Air Ambulance and Mary's Meals: Due to Covid restrictions, all charities are suffering reduced income. 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>

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.

Please pray for the following: Don d'Cruz, Mrs Kathleen Murphy, John Doyle, Mrs Marian Frawley, Geoff Blwyddin, Mrs Jean Irwin, Mrs Jeanette Allsop, Zofia Clarke, Chris Bate, Andrew Bate, David Coughlin, Katja Lubina, Patrick Egan, Mrs Jonasz. Deacon David Wakefield, Rebecca Matthews, Paul Hogg, Keith Healy, Alan Glass, Tricia Rigg, Henie Dixon, Brian Hillhouse, June Carey, Janet Ruddick, Judith Curtis, Keith Healy, Janice Kuranlu. 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

Starting School? If you have a child born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017, then now is the time to apply for a place at a primary school for admission from September 2021 onwards. You must complete an application form available from the school admissions team of **Wiltshire Council**. If your child has been baptised and you are applying for a Catholic school, you **must** also provide a copy of the baptism certificate to the school concerned – contact the school for full details. Our parish school is St Patrick’s Catholic Primary School, Corsham <http://www.stpatricks-wilts.co.uk/> telephone number **01249 713125**; email admin@st-patricks.wilts.sch.uk . Please ensure you apply by the closing date of **15th January 2021**.

Wordsearch – First Sunday of Advent

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

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|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| ABROAD | FATHER | MOUNTAINS |
| AGAIN | FORSAKE | PEACE |
| ANCIENT | GRACES | REBELS |
| CATCH | GUIDE | ROUSED |
| CHERUBIM | HEARTS | SHINE |
| CLAY | HOUSE | STEADY |
| CORINTHIANS | INHERITANCE | STRAY |
| DAWN | ISAIAH | TASK |
| DOORKEEPER | JOINED | THRONE |
| ENRICHED | KNOW | TRIBES |
| EYE | MELT | UNEXPECTEDLY |
| FACE | MIDNIGHT | VINE |

Eliminate only the words given in the list. No complete word should be entirely in another one. The remaining letters describe what we are doing during Advent. Apologies for any unintentional extras. Bigger grid this week.

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Last week’s words were “THE KING”

Hilary Clifton

Words of Wisdom:

He who was the Son of God, for you has become the Son of man, so that you who are children of humans, might become the children of God. What was he, who became he?

Who are you, what have you become? He was the Son of God. What did he become? The Son of man.

You are the children of humans. What have you become? Children of God.

St Augustine

Just some thoughts:

Notices in a church bulletin:

National Day of Prayer and Fasting – the cost will include meals.

The Peace-Making meeting has been cancelled owing to conflict.

Holy Joke

Could you be a School Foundation Governor? The Diocese is recruiting people to serve on school governing bodies. If you believe in Catholic education, have enthusiasm and commitment, you can make a valuable contribution to a Catholic school. It also provides the opportunity to use your life/work skills and experience for the benefit of the children in our schools. Please contact bill.mcentee@cliftondiocese.com 07710 094976 for more information – he would be delighted to hear from you.

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.