



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 401265

Email: 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 4th February: Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Mass 9.00 am
St Edmund's, Calne: Mass 11.00 am

Wednesday 7th February: Morning Prayer 9.45, Mass at 10.00 am

Thursday 8th February: Adoration 10.00 am – 3.00 pm

Friday 9th February - Divine Mercy Chaplet - 3.00 pm

Saturday 10th February: 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 4th February - Children's Liturgy of the Word

Refreshments after Mass on Sunday

Lent Course - Tuesdays from 20th February to 19th March:

Pope Francis has named **2024 the Year of Prayer**, a year spent in preparation for the **2025 Jubilee Year**. He has called on all Catholics to spend this year deepening their prayer lives. Our Lent Course this year is "**We Dare to Say**" a Clifton Diocese resource enabling us in faith-sharing groups to explore together the prayer our Saviour gave us, The Our Father. We will be running two Lent groups every Tuesday from 20th February to 19th March; 10.30 am in the Hall, and 7.00 pm at 16, Sherwood Avenue. All welcome – please sign up on the sheet in the porch.

Liturgy of Reconciliation, Wednesday 21st February:

We are delighted that Bishop Declan will visit St Anthony of Padua for one of this year's Diocesan Penitentiary Services. The service will start at 7.00 pm, and there will be priests available to celebrate sacramental reconciliation.

Stations of the Cross will take place at 11.00 am every Friday during Lent, followed by a Lent lunch in the hall at 12.00 noon. Donations will go to our parish charities.

Also this week:

Monday 5th February: Mothers' Prayers in the Hall, 10.30 am.

Tuesday 6th February: "Move it or Lose It" keep fit exercises in the hall, 1.30 pm.

Wednesday 7th February: Breaking Open and Sharing the Word in the hall after Morning Prayer.

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

Head of Theology Vacancy, St Bernadette

Catholic Secondary School: Would you like to be part of a forward-thinking, supportive school community where your professional development is a priority? Governors of this outstanding 11-16 Catholic school are seeking to appoint for September 2024, a practising Catholic who is a dynamic and inspirational Head of Theology and PSHE to lead an 'outstanding' RE Faculty (Section 48 inspection October 202). To discuss the post or to arrange a school visit, please contact Mr Daniel Leiblich, Deputy Headteacher, on 0117 3772050 or email recruitment@stberns.bristol.sch.uk.

Application packs are available on the school website www.stberns.bristol.sch.uk

The Rite of Election of Catechumens, and the Call to Continuing Conversion will be celebrated by Bishop Declan in **Clifton Cathedral** on the first Saturday of Lent, Saturday 17th February, at 11.00am. All are most welcome to the cathedral, so please do join this celebration.

Lenten Retreat – Online Sessions

“Transformed by Love”: Clifton Diocese in partnership with ‘Light of Truth’ are offering a [Lenten retreat: ‘Transformed by Love’](#) in six online sessions, contemplating God’s grace at work in the lives of six persons, through scripture and artworks. The six sessions begin at 7.30pm on a Tuesday evening: 20th February, 27th February, 5th March, 12th March, 19th March and 26th March. To sign up for the series, click on the Zoom link: [Meeting Registration](#) or go to the [diocesan website](#).

2024 – Year of Prayer: Pope Francis has given us the Year of Prayer in 2024, in preparation for the Holy Year of 2025. St John the Evangelist, Bath, is hosting a series of sessions to draw us into the school of prayer, so that we might grow closer to the Lord. **The next session is Tuesday 20th February at 7.00 pm, when Fr Dermot Power will speak on the theme “The Prayer of Jesus”.** All are welcome.

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

Medjugorje Irish Centre Pilgrimages, April – October 2024: Apartment B&B 7 nights from €273 per person sharing. Airport transfer on request, Contact them for details. Tel 020 3239 8662 or go to reservations@med-irishcentre.com

Retrouvaille – Do you need help in your marriage?

Retrouvaille has helped many couples find new hope, nourishment and growth in their marriages. If you want to uncover or reawaken the love, trust and commitment that brought you together and work through difficult times in your marriage contact Retrouvaille confidentially for more information about our 2024 programmes. There is no group therapy or group work. Our next programme commences with a Virtual weekend on 8th – 11th February 2024, or there is a Face-to-Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 14th-16th June 2024. Call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443, email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

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?

The Moon looks upside down in the Southern Hemisphere. Compared to the Northern Hemisphere, anyway. This means that the ‘Man in the Moon’ is upside down in the Southern Hemisphere and looks more like a rabbit.

BBC Science Focus

Wordsearch: Fifth Sunday

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

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|----------|--------------|-------------|
| ABLE | GOSPEL | REMEMBER |
| ALLOW | HEALS | RESTLESSLEY |
| BREATH | HELPED | REWARD |
| CHOSEN | HOUSE | SEARCH |
| COMES | LIGHT | SHUTTLE |
| CURED | NAME | SICK |
| DISEASES | NEIGHBOURING | STARS |
| DUTY | PRAISE | WEAVERS |
| FEVER | PREACHING | WISDOM |

Eliminate only the listed words. The remaining letters tell us that Christ makes us...

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The words from last week (4th Sunday) were "HIS VOICE"
Hilary Clifton

**Sunday 4th February
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Sunday Year B; Psalter 1

Reading 1: Jb 7: 1-4, 6-7

Psalm Refrain: Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

Reading 2: 1Cor 9: 16-19, 22-23

Gospel: Mk 1: 29-39

Monday 5th February: Memorial of St Agatha, Virgin, Martyr

Word: 1Kgs 8: 1-7, 9-13; Ps 131; Mk 6: 53-56

Hours: Psalter 1, Proper of Memorial

Tuesday 6th February: memorial of Ss Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs

Word: 1Kgs 8: 22-23, 27-30; Ps 83; Mk 7: 14-23

Hours: Psalter 1, Proper of Memorial

Wednesday 7th February: Word: 1Kgs 10: 1-10; Ps 36; Mk 7: 24-30 **Hours:** Psalter 1

Thursday 8th February: Word: 1Kgs 11: 4-13; Ps 105; Mk 7: 24-30 **Hours:** Psalter 1

Friday 9th February: Word: 1Kgs 11: 29-32, 12: 19; Ps 80; Mk 7: 31-37 **Hours:** Psalter 1

Saturday 10th February: Word: 1Kgs 12: 26-32, 13: 33-34; Ps 105; Mk 8: 1-10 **Hours:** Psalter 1

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