



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 Chippenham 01249 652404

Masses

Please record your attendance on entry. We ask that face coverings/masks continue to be worn in places of worship, hands are sanitised on entry, and social distancing respected.

Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday 8th December and Saturday 11th December at 10.00 am, and Sunday 12th December at 9.00 am.

Sunday 5th December – Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday Year C; Psalter week 2

Reading 1 – Bar 5: 1-9

Psalm refrain: What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.

Reading 2 – Phil 1: 3-6, 8-11

Gospel – Lk 3: 1-6

Monday 6th December: Word: Is 35: 1-10; Ps 84; Lk 5: 17-26 Hours: Psalter 21, Proper of Season

Tuesday 7th December: Memorial of St Ambrose, Bishop, Doctor of the Church

Word: Is 40: 1-11; Ps 95; Mt 10: 12-14

Hours: Psalter 2, Proper of Season

Wednesday 8th December: Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Word: Gn 3: 9-15; Ps 97;

Eph 1: 3-6, 11-12; Lk 1: 26-38

Hours: Psalter 2, Proper of Solemnity

Thursday 9th December: Word: Is 41: 13-20; Ps 144; Mt 11: 1-15 Hours: Psalter 2, Proper of Season

Friday 10th December Word: Is 48: 1-4, 9-11; Ps 79; Mt 11: 16-19 Hours: Psalter 2, Proper of Season

Saturday 11th December: Word: Eccles 48: 1-4, 9-11; Ps 79; Mt 17: 10-13 Hours: Psalter 2, Proper of Season

Reconciliation after Mass on Saturday or by arrangement with Fr Vincent

Next week: Retiring collection for Christmas Flowers

PARISH NEWS

Monday 6th December – First Holy Communion

Classes Start: In the hall at 5.30 pm

The Pope wants to take the temperature of the entire Church! He wants to know how all of us, and lay people especially, are feeling. He has called for a special coming-together, or Synod, in which we listen to each other, talk about and pray for our joys and hopes, griefs and anxieties. Now Christmas is coming we won't be really starting to take part in this until early next year, so don't panic! In the meantime, we will pray the special prayer at Mass, to ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit in all our listening and sharing cards at the back of the church and in the hall). So - watch this space!

Message from CAFOD: Thank you to all parishioners at St Anthony of Padua for your generous support for CAFOD this year and for your latest donation of £320.00. Thank you so much for being there for our global family.

Christmas Masses: St Anthony's and St Edmund's

December 24th - Christmas Eve

St Anthony's: 5.00 pm Family Mass - children are invited to dress as characters from the Nativity for this Mass; 8.00 pm Night Mass.

St Edmund's: 5.00 pm family Mass, 10.00 pm Night Mass

December 25th - Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

St Anthony's: 9.00 am; St Edmund's 11.00 am

December 26th - Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus Mary and Joseph

St Anthony's: 9.00 am; St Edmund's 11.00 am.

Christmas Cards: Available to purchase in the hall.

WHAT'S ON:

Sunday: Children's Liturgy of the Word; refreshments after Mass.

Monday: Mothers' Prayers 10.30am in the hall.

Wednesday: Breaking Open and Sharing the Word after Mass at 10.45 am.

Thursday: Eucharistic Adoration from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm.

DEANERY NEWS

Wednesday 15th December – Reconciliation

Service: A Deanery Reconciliation Service will be held at St John's, Trowbridge, at 7.00 pm.

DIOCESAN NEWS

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land 2022: Only a few spaces remaining! Bishop Declan is leading a pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 2022 (Monday 26th September - Tuesday 4th October 2022) staying three nights in Galilee, two nights in Bethlehem, and three nights in Jerusalem. The estimated costings indicate a figure of £1,879 per person (based on two people sharing). We currently have **19 places remaining** on the pilgrimage, please do let us know as soon as you can if you are interested. If you are, please contact Sarah Adams in the Adult Education & Evangelisation at adult.education@cliftondiocese.com where we can send you a booking form or contact Gill Didino directly at Tangney Tours on **01732 886666**.

OTHER NEWS

Pam's Prayers and Poems: Pam Muller has published a sequel to her poetry book "Through the Years," called "Travelling On." Completed during the Covid pandemic, the poems range from 2018 to 2021. A copy is in the porch for browsing, with an order form. Please add your name to the form if you would like to buy one (£6.00 per copy or 5 for the price of 4). Please give your payment to Sharon (cheques payable to Melksham Team Ministry)

Right To Life UK - Ask your MP to end 'DIY' abortion: The abortion lobby are running a media campaign to pressurise the Government to make temporary 'DIY' abortion schemes permanent before the end of the year. It is vital that as many MPs as possible write to the Health Secretary, Sajid Javid, asking the Government to end these dangerous 'DIY' abortion schemes. Right To Life UK has launched an easy-to-use tool on its website which makes it easy to send an email to your MP asking them to write to Sajid Javid. Visit www.righttolife.org.uk/endDIY to contact your MP now. It only takes 30 seconds.

Time to Start School? If you have a child born between **1st September 2017** and **31st August 2018**, then **now** is the time to apply for a place at a Catholic primary school. You must complete an application form available from the school admissions team of Wiltshire Council, for admission during the **2022-23** school year. If your child has been baptised, you **must** provide a copy of the baptism certificate to your preferred school. Please apply by the closing date of **15th January 2022**. Our parish school is St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, Corsham –contact them also on 01249 713125, or email admin@st-patricks.wilts.sch.uk

CHARITIES

CAFOD Clifton Christmas Get-Together, Dec 5th

Come and hear about the CAFOD Clifton year and how brilliant you have all been, plans as we move into 2022, say hi to your fellow Supporters and Volunteers, celebrate the wonderful Season of Advent - and enjoy some lovely Christmas cake!

Sunday December 5th: 2.30 – 4.30pm

St John the Evangelist Parish Hall, South Parade, Bath BA2 4AF

Some parking is available at the parish; it is about a 10-minute walk from Bath Spa train station. Let Liz know if you are coming so she has enough Christmas cake for

everyone: ebaldwin@cafod.org.uk

Our Parish Charities: If you would like to make a donate to **Wiltshire Air Ambulance**, please use the following link:

<https://www.wiltshireairambulance.co.uk/donate/>

Mary's Meals: Every donation to Mary's Meals will be doubled until 31st January 2022 through their Double the Love campaign – they also have an internet "Giving Page":

<https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/donate>

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

Melksham Food Bank: 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: This is for those who need emergency relief (items such as energy meter payments, uniform costs for school children etc.). If anyone would like to contribute to this, please contact Melksham Foodbank or Sharon (Parish office) for further information.

OUR PARISH FAMILY

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please pray for: Don d'Cruz, Geoff Blwyddin, Mrs Jeanette Allsop, Zofia Clarke, Chris Bate, Andrew Bate, Katja Lubina, Patrick Egan, Rebecca Matthews, Paul Hogg, Keith Healy, Alan Glass, Tricia Rigg, Henie Dixon, Brian Hillhouse, Janet Ruddick, Judith Curtis, Janice Kuranlu, Alan McFall, Alistair Strudwick, David Elliot, Callum Ford, Anne Doyle, Sheila Likey-Ayling, Anne O'Mahony, Lorraine Pavey, Francis Ballinger. All who are suffering from coronavirus, 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
Wednesday 8th December: Parish Christmas Lunch, 12.30 pm.
18th – 25th January: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

AND FINALLY –
Wordsearch – Second Sunday of Advent (Year C)

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

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------|------------|
| ARISE | GOD | PERCEPTION |
| CAESAR | GUIDE | PREPARE |
| CERTAIN | HEART | PUT |
| DECREED | JOHN | REAP |
| EACH | JOY | REIGN |
| EAST | KNOWLEDGE | REPENTANCE |
| EVERLASTING | LAI | SAFETY |
| EYES | LIPS | SORROW |
| FOOT | MERCY | TREE |
| FULL | MISS | WALK |
| GLORY | NATION | WHOLE |

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

The Joy of _ _ _ _ _

The word from last week was “PRAYING”
 Hilary Clifton

Did you know?
 The naming of hurricanes and tropical storms officially began in 1953.

Just For Fun...
 I’m against hunting. In fact, I’m a hunt saboteur. I go out the night before and shoot the fox.

This policeman came up to me with a pencil and a piece of very thin paper. He said, ‘I want you to trace someone for me.

Both courtesy of Tim Vine

Words of Wisdom

Here then is some advice for making important choices. When I do not know what to do, how to make a definitive choice, an important decision, a decision that involves Jesus’ love, what must I do? Before deciding, let us imagine that we are standing in front of Jesus, as at the end of life, before he who is love. And imagining ourselves there, in his presence, at the threshold of eternity, we make the decision for today. We must decide in this way: always looking to eternity, looking at Jesus. It may not be the easiest, it may not be the most immediate, but it will be the right one that is certain. May Our Lady help us make the important choices in life as she did: according to love, according to God.

Pope Francis

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 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 of any parishioners who do not have access to email, please print this newsletter for them.

Newsletter/contact email:
comms.melksham.stanthonyfpadua@cliffondiocese.com

