**Welcome to the Parish of St Anthony of Padua**

**Parish Priest: Fr. Vincent Curtis**

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

**Diary**

**Sunday 7th April Fifth Sunday of Lent. Mass 9.00 am** Refreshments in thehall.

 **(Mass at St Edmund’s Sat. 6.00pm; Sun. 11.00 am).**

**Monday 8th April** Mothers’ Prayers 10.30 in the hall

**Tuesday 9th April** Rosary in the Church 10.30, Lent groups 10.30 and 7.00 pm

**Wednesday 10th Morning Prayer 9.45am; No Mass today.** Breaking Open and

Sharing the Word.

**Thursday 11th April** Adoration 10,00am – 7.00pm

**Friday 12th April Stations of the Cross 11.00am,** followed by Lent lunch

 No Prayer Group this week – recommences 26th April

**Saturday 13th April Morning Prayer 9.45am; Morning Mass 10.00 am,** Sacrament of

Reconciliation

**Sundays Year C-1; Psalter Week 1 and Proper of Season**

**Readings:** Reading 1 – Isaiah 43: 16-21

**Psalm Refrain – What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.**

Reading 2 – Philippians 3: 8-14

Gospel – John 8: 1-11

**Collections: Sunday 31st March £168.50; this week – retiring collection for Easter flowers**

**Wednesday 17th April - Chrism Mass:** A bus has been arranged for those wishing to attend the Chrism Mass at Clifton Cathedral. Cost is £15.00 each, leaving King St Car Park at 8.45 am April. Please sign up on the sheet in the porch.

**Friday 12th April - Day of Prayer for Survivors of Abuse**: This will form our theme for Stations of the Cross.

**Thursday 18th April:** No adoration today

**Easter Ministries:** Please sign up on the sheet in the porch.

**Prayer Groups:** Please note that there will be no Prayer Groups on April 5th, 12th and 19th; the group will recommence on Friday 26th April.

**Gift Aid.** This year’s envelopes are ready for collection. May I remind you as a tax payer please ensure your contributions are still valid for Gift Aid. Also if you have moved house please let me know.  All queries contact Tricia Hoy 01225 704805.

**Cyclone Idai:** On the 14th and 15th March Cyclone Idai made landfall in central Mozambique near Beira City leaving almost 90 per cent of the city submerged in flood water. It is not clear how many people have died since the storm hit, also affecting Malawi and Zimbabwe. Early estimates are that more than 700 have died and thousands are homeless across the three countries. The scale of the crisis is such that the Disaster Emergency Committee (DEC) of which CAFOD is a member, has launched a full scale humanitarian appeal. Any donation you can give to this appeal is greatly appreciated, you can donate through CAFOD or the DEC. Please pray for the people affected by the Cyclone.

**Rag Bag Brooches**: The Advent course 'Global Healing' (Care for our Common Home) challenged us to reflect on our attitude to our world and how we care for it. Pope Francis has said that we must care for creation. With this in mind, as part of this year’s parish charity fundraising venture we are going to make some “Rag Bag” Brooches, using cloth, beads and baubles which would otherwise have been thrown away. Please donate any old material and we will make it into brooches. Examples are: any piece of fabric which you would otherwise have just discarded, beads, earrings, and ribbon, etc. A box is in the porch for donations.

**Pilgrimage to Lindisfarne for young Adults (20s and 30s):** from Wednesday 24th April to Sunday 28th April 2019. A time to walk along part of St. Cuthbert’s way, reflect and pray with other young adults and spend time on the beautiful island of Lindisfarne. Accommodation is in a basic bunkhouse near St Cuthbert's cave. Cost - £85 to cover food and accommodation. For more information email lynnefcj@hotmail.com or find us on Facebook (FCJ Young Adult Network)

**Melksham Foodbank:** Desperately need donations; please look on the website for further information: <http://melkshamfoodbank.org.uk/foodbox-contents/> . Please donate non-perishable food, e.g. potatoes (instant) Peas, carrots (canned) sugar, pasta, UHT milk, and ensure that these items are within the “use by” dates.

**Sick & Housebound:** Please let Fr Vincent or Mary Harris 01249 730340 know if anyone sick, elderly or housebound would like to be visited and receive Holy Communion.

**Please pray for the following:** Mrs. Rosa Menghini, Vilma D’Sousa, Don d’Cruz, Mrs Kathleen Murphy, John Doyle, Mrs Marian Frawley, Geoff Blwyddin, Mrs Jean Irwin, Mrs Jeanette Allsop, Mrs Bridie Liddle, Mrs Adderly, Zofia Clarke, Chris Bate, David Coughlin, Katja Lubina, Mrs Audrey Tickner, Patrick Egan, Mrs Jonasz. Deacon David Wakefield, Rebecca Matthews, Anna Prangley, Paul Hogg, John and Anne Dobbin, Keith Healy, George Goodwin.

***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.***

**Drivers:** Please be careful entering and leaving the car park and leave the turning area free. Please do not block neighbours’ entrances.

Please send items and information for the newsletter to: **comms.melksham.stanthonyofpadua@cliftondiocese.com**or give toSharon Pearce or Anne Doyle by each Thursday ***Please send to the above address if you would like the newsletter emailed to you, or give Sharon your email address.***

**Future dates for your diary:**

**13th April – Flower Festival Baptist Church**

**19th April - Good Friday Walk of Witness, 10.30 am start, United Church**

**20th April – Children’s games (weather permitting), Skylark Rd Park**

**24th April – Monthly Prayer for Melksham, 8.00 am, St Andrew’s Church**

**2nd May – St Anthony’s PPC meeting, 7.30 pm**

**11th May – “The Beatles” at Forest and Sandridge School, fundraiser for St Andrew’s Church**

**19th May – First Holy Communion**

**1st June – Open meeting on redeployment of priests, St John’s centre, Trowbridge**

**9th June – Ecumenical Evening Prayer, 6.00 pm St Anthony’s**

**7th July – Melksham Civic Service, St Michael’s Church**