



## Welcome to the Parish of St Anthony of Padua

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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 8<sup>th</sup> January: Feast of the Baptism of the Lord: Mass 9.00 am**

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January: Morning Prayer 9.40 am; Mass at 10.00 am**

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January: Adoration in the hall 10.00 am – 3.00 pm**

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December: Divine Mercy Chaplet – 3.00 pm**

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> January: Requiem Mass Mr Gerry Ellis, R.I.P. 10.00 am**

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.

*Readings at end of newsletter*

**Our Heartfelt thanks** go to Chris Clifton, who after many years faithful service to our music ministry steps down as our parish organist this Sunday. Please join us in the hall after Mass as we mark the joy his music has given us in our worship at St Anthony's.

### PARISH NEWS

**Gerry Ellis, R.I.P:** The funeral of Gerry Ellis will take place on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January at 3.30 pm, at West Wiltshire Crematorium. A Requiem Mass for Gerry will be held at St Anthony of Padua on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> January at 10.00 am

**Time to start school?** If you have a child born between **1<sup>st</sup> September 2018 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019**, 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 **2023-24** school year. You **must** also provide a copy of your child's baptism certificate to your preferred school. Our parish school is St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, Corsham [Home | St Patrick's Catholic Primary School \(stpatricks-wilts.co.uk\)](http://www.stpatricks-wilts.co.uk) - contact them also on **01249 713125**, email [admin@st-patricks.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-patricks.wilts.sch.uk) Please ensure you apply by the closing date of **15<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

**Mothers' Prayers:** Mothers' prayers in the hall on Mondays at 10.30 am.

**Breaking Open and Sharing the Word:** After Mass on Wednesdays.

**Fridays:** Divine Mercy Chaplet 3.00 pm

**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 – at the same time due to increased utility costs that we all face, church heating cannot be set to as high a temperature as we would like. Thank you.

### OUR PARISH FAMILY

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** Please pray for: Geoff Blwyddin, Mrs Jeanette Allsop, 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. 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 to receive Holy Communion, please telephone 01225 824039 and leave a message, or Email [ruh-tr.chaplaincy@nhs.net](mailto:ruh-tr.chaplaincy@nhs.net)

**Melksham Family of Churches' Crisis Support** for those who need emergency relief. This fund is seeing increased demand; if you would like to contribute, please contact Melksham Foodbank or Sharon (Parish office) for further information.

**AND FINALLY –**

**Did you know?**

In AD536 there was a worldwide dust cloud that blocked out the sun for a year.

It takes the Solar System about 240 million years to complete one orbit of the Galaxy.

**Wordsearch: Baptism of the Lord**

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

- |            |         |           |
|------------|---------|-----------|
| BLESS      | HEAVENS | RESTS     |
| CAPTIVES   | JOHN    | SERVANT   |
| CAUSE      | JUDAEA  | SHOUT     |
| CORNELIUS  | JUSTICE | SPIRIT    |
| DESCENDING | LAW     | THUNDERED |
| DOVE       | LIVE    | TRUE      |
| EYES       | LORD    | WATER     |
| FLAME      | OPENED  | WAVER     |
| FULL       | PLEASED |           |
| GLORY      | RECENT  |           |

Eliminate only the listed Christmas scripture words. No word should be entirely inside another. The remaining letters give a wonderful quotation:

— — — — — / — — —

The remaining letters from previous wordsearches are:  
 Christmas Day – GOD IS WITH US;  
 Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God – BETHLEHEM;  
 Christmas Celebrations and Traditions – FAIRY LIGHTS and FILMS;  
 Christmas Food and Drink – CHEESE BOARD with CRACKERS.  
 Our thanks as always to Hilary Clifton for tirelessly compiling new wordsearches for our entertainment.

**Prayer for Melksham** will be held at 'that meeting space' on Tuesday January 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm. Regardless of background or stream, we join in praying for our town and surrounding villages and for a fresh outpouring of the Lord's grace and mercy. Melksham is a place of change and there may be people you know, perhaps new to town, who don't know about this time of united prayer, and would like to be involved. Please help get the word out about this time. We look forward to this time of praying together.

**OTHER NEWS**

**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 2/3 allocated to Presbytery repairs, and 1/3 to Wiltshire Air Ambulance.

**Melksham Food Bank** Is grateful for the help from St Anthony's parishioners. 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.

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January**  
**Feast of the Baptism of the Lord**  
**Sunday Year A; Psalter 1**

**Reading 1:** Is 42: 1-4, 6-7

**Psalm Refrain: The Lord will bless his people  
with peace.**

**Reading 2:** Acts 10: 34-38

**Gospel:** Mt 3: 13-17

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January: Word:** Heb 1: 1-6; Ps 96;  
Mt 1: 14-20 **Hours:** Psalter 1

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January: Word:** Heb 2: 5-12; Ps 8;  
Mk 1: 21-28 **Hours:** Psalter 1

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January: Word:** Heb 2: 14-18;  
Ps 104; Mk 1: 29-39 **Hours:** Psalter 1

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January: Word:** Heb 3: 7-14; Ps  
94; Mk 1: 40-45 **Hours: Hours:** Psalter 1

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January: Word:** Heb 4: 1-5, 11; Ps 77;  
Mk 2: 1-12 **Hours: Hours:** Psalter 1

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> January: Word:** Heb 4: 12-16;  
Ps 18; Mk 2: 13-17 **Hours:** Psalter 1