Welcome to the Parish of St Anthony of Padua

Parish Priest: Fr. Vincent Curtis
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Parish Website: **https://st-anthonyofpadua.weebly.com/**
Parish Safeguarding Representative: Lauren Fletcher – email: **psr.melksham.stanthonyofpadua@cliftondiocese.com**
Follow us on Instagram: **@stanthony0fpaduachurch**
Facebook: **St Anthony of Padua Melksham**
Alternative phone numbers for emergencies: **Trowbridge 01225 752152 or 07792 859147**

Saturday 31st October: No Mass
St Edmund's, Calne: First Mass of Sunday 6.00pm
Sunday 1st November: Solemnity of All Saints: Mass 9.00am
Wednesday 4th November: Morning Prayer at 9.45am; Mass at 10.00am
Thursday 5th November: Adoration 10.00am – 3.00pm
Friday 6th November: Divine Mercy Chaplet and Rosary for World Peace 3.00pm
Saturday 7th November: Mass at 10.00am
St Edmund's, Calne: First Mass of Sunday 6.00pm
Sunday 8th November: Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time: Mass 9.00am
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

Refreshments in the hall after Sunday Mass

Children's Liturgy of the Word, Sunday 1st November

Sunday 1st November 2026 - International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church: Join churches around the World as we stand together in prayer for Christians facing persecution. Prayer cards are in church and a short prayer is at the end of the newsletter.

Alan McFall, R.I.P. We are sad to announce the death of Alan McFall, R.I.P. For many years Alan was chair of Melksham Family of Churches and chair of Melksham Foodbank and Lifeline, instrumental in achieving its status as a registered charity. The funeral service will be held at Melksham Baptist Church on Wednesday 4th November at 2.00pm, followed by a private ceremony at West Wilts Crematorium. Please pray for Alan's family and the repose of his soul.

World Youth Sunday – Sunday 22nd November: We invite the children and young people of the parish to join the welcomers, reading team, the gifts and collection on World Youth Sunday on Sunday 22nd November. There are a whole range of roles in the service so please speak with Lauren Fletcher after Mass to get involved. Your contribution no matter how small will be really appreciated!

Mass for Deceased Family Members and Parishioners: A Mass will be held for deceased family members and parishioners on **Saturday 14th November,** at **10.00 am** at St Anthony of Padua. A sheet is available in the porch for the names of deceased family and friends who have died **on or after 1st November 2025**. Those who have died before then can be named on leaves on our Remembrance Tree. Light refreshments available in the hall after Mass.

Starting School? If you have a child born between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023, then now is the time to apply for a place at a primary school for admission from September 2027 onwards. You must complete an application form from the school admissions team at Wiltshire Council. If you are applying for a Catholic school, you must also provide a copy of the child's baptism certificate to the school. Please apply by the closing date of 15th January 2027.

Parish Christmas Lunch – Wednesday 2nd

December at the Water Meadow Melksham, 12.30 for 1.00pm. If you are interested in coming, please collect a menu from Rebecca, make your choices and return the completed menu together with your payment in full by Sunday 22nd November at the latest, as Rebecca needs to input all the data. If you require any further information, please phone Rebecca on 07872 058510 Thank you.

Have You Registered? If you have not completed a Parish Registration form (available in the porch and hall) please take one for completion and return to Sharon or pop it through the Presbytery door. Thank you.

Monday 2nd November: Mothers' Prayers 10.30am in the hall.

Wednesday 4th November: Breaking Open and Sharing the Word in the hall after Morning Prayer.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please pray for: Jerry Allan, Dennis and Carolina Andrews, Isaac Anderson, Daisy Avila, Francis Ballinger, Kelvin Boorer, Charlie Bowman-Davies, Michael Bramwell, June Carey, Lijimol Chacko, Zofia Clarke, Fr Vincent, Henie Dixon, Catherine Ford, Anne Doyle, Shireen Doyle, Patrick Egan, Canon Michael Fitzpatrick, Mary Hardy, David Harris, Gay Harris, Daniel Healy, Keith Healy, Paul Hogg, Chris and Claire Holliss, Jean Hughes, Emeritus Bishop Declan Lang, Sheila Likely-Ayling, Pope Leo XIV, Hilary McFall, Alan McFall .R.I.P, Rebecca Matthews, Anne O'Mahony, Jackie O'Shaughnessy, Lorraine Pavey, Vivian Predergast, Alan and Tricia Rigg, Mirna Rodriguez, Michael and Mary Rooney, Sheila Whatley, Marie Wilcox. 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, tel. 01225 824039 to leave a message, or email ruh-tr.chaplaincy@nhs.net**

PASTORAL AREA NEWS:

Poppies for Remembrance - St Mary's Catholic church Bath: After Remembrance Day last year, the Open Church group at St Mary's Catholic Church took up the suggestion of making and creating a knitted and crocheted Poppy display for our church in 2026. We opened up the challenge to our parishioners, and many got involved including children at St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Bath. The initial ambition was to create 1000 and now - we have nearly 3400 poppies. We will open St Mary's Catholic church, Julian Road, Bath BA1 2SQ on a number of days during November from 10.00am-12.00pm and 2.00-4.00pm. Come and see the display whilst remembering all those who have fought for our country during the wars and those who have lost their lives:

Week 1: Mon 2nd, Wed 4th * and Thurs 5th
Week 2: Wed 11th, Sat 14th
Week 3: Tues 17th *, Fri 20th *
Week 4: Mon 23rd
*Mornings only, donations to the British Legion

Telling Our Story: A **Conference** to explore how our parishes can flourish in Communion for Mission and the challenges we face, will be held on **Saturday 14th November,** 10am-3pm at **St John the Baptist, Trowbridge. Telling our Story** is an opportunity to listen to each other's stories, what works and what challenges we have encountered and overcome. Please do come and take this opportunity to learn how encourage your Parish to share with each other the shoots of hope that are present. Register at: **https://shootsofhope.eventbrite.co.uk**

DIOCESAN NEWS

Celebration Mass for Marriage and Family Life - Saturday 6th February 2027; Bishop Bosco is celebrating Mass in the Cathedral on Saturday 6th February (12 noon) and is inviting all families to join him to acknowledge the joys and challenges of family life. We will also celebrate those couples with significant anniversaries in 2027. If you are, or know of a couple, newly married, looking forward to marriage in 2027, or celebrating a special anniversary during 2027 please do let us know. You just need to send names to: **hope@cliftondiocese.com** with an address so that a personal invitation can be sent out from the bishop. Please include the number of years celebrating. It is always a wonderful Mass at the Cathedral, we look forward to seeing you there.

Dates for the Diary:

Wednesday 11th November: Prayer for Melksham 7.30pm "That Meeting Space"

Friday 13th & Saturday 14th November: Melksham Baptist Church 250th anniversary celebrations – a series of events to celebrate; all welcome.

Sundays 29th November and 6th December: John Huntriss, author, visits to give scripture talks on the Nativity, 3.00pm in the hall

Saturday 19th December: Parish Carol Service, 4.00pm

CHARITIES and PARISH PROJECT

Gift Aid: Your Parish Gift Aid contact is Tricia Hoy, phone number **07840 265546.** 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 at: **Donate | Wiltshire and Bath Air Ambulance Charity** **Our Parish Project is the repair and refurbishment of the Presbytery.** Funds raised will be split between our charity and our project, with ⅔ allocated to Presbytery repairs, and ⅓ to Wiltshire Air

Ambulance.
Melksham Food Bank constantly need donations: Please see their Facebook page or website **Melksham Food Bank** If you would like to contribute financially, contact Sharon (Parish office) for details. The Foodbank also operates a **Crisis Support** fund for those who need emergency non-food relief.

Wordsearch – Solemnity of All Saints

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

ABASED	GREAT	RECEIVED
ASIDE	HEART	SCRIBES
BEST	HELP	SEEN
BURDEN	HIMSELF	SILENCE
CROWDS	INSTRUCTION	SOUL
CURSE	LEVI	TELL
DEAR	LORD OF HOSTS	TIE
DEEDS	MOSES	TOIL
FATHER	MOTHER	WAY
FINGER	ONE	WEANED
GOSPEL	PATH	

Eliminate only the listed words. The remaining letters give an important one

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The word from last week (30th Sunday) was "TEACHER" Hilary Clifton

Newsletter email:
comms.melksham.stanthonyofpadua@cliftondiocese.com

Sunday 1st November
Solemnity of All Saints
Sunday Year A; Psalter 3

Reading 1: Rev 7: 2-4, 9-14
Psalm Refrain: Such are the people who seek your face, O Lord.
Reading 2: 1John 3: 1-3
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia. Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, says the Lord, and I will give you rest. Alleluia.
Gospel: Mt 5: 1-12

Monday 2nd November: Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed (All Soul's Day)
Word: Reading 1: Is 25: 6, 7-9;
Psalm Refrain: The Lord is my light and my salvation.
Reading 2: Rom 5: 5-11
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia. I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, you have revealed the secrets of the kingdom to little children. Alleluia.
Gospel: Mt 11: 25-30
Hours: Office for the Dead and Proper of Commemoration

Tuesday 3rd November: Word: Phil 2: 5-11; Ps 22; Lk 14: 15-24 **Hours:** Psalter 3

Wednesday 4th November: Memorial of St Charles Borromeo, Bishop
Word: Rom 12: 3-13; Ps 89; Jn 10: 11-16
Hours: Psalter 3, Common of Pastors

Thursday 5th November: Word: Phil 3: 3-8; Ps 105; Lk 15: 1-10 **Hours:** Psalter 3

Friday 6th November: Word: Phil 3: 17- 4:1; Ps 1221; Lk 16: 1-8 **Hours:** Psalter 3

Saturday 7th November: Word: Phil 4: 10-19; Ps 112; Lk 16: 9-15 **Hours:** Psalter 3

Millions of Christians in sub-Saharan Africa have been driven from their homes by violence and conflict. Please pray this prayer for them:

"Holy Spirit, come upon us and do your will. Take over our lives. Our eyes, our hope, our confidence is in You. Amen

Pastor Barnabas, Northern Nigeria

Arise Africa - Open Doors UK & Ireland