

DOWNSIDE ABBEY ST BENEDICT'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

Mass & Office Times

Everyone is welcome

Masses in St Benedict's church

Saturday Vigil Mass 5pm

Sunday Masses 9am, 11am & 6pm

Weekday Masses in Holy Ghost church, Midsomer Norton

Tuesday, Friday & Saturday at 9.45am

Confessions

Saturdays at Holy Ghost from 10.15-11am

Sundays in St Benedict's from 10.15-10:45am

Sundays in the Abbey church from 9.35-9.55am

Regular events

Adoration Monday-Friday after Mass until 5pm; Saturdays after Mass until 7pm; Sundays after Mass until 5.45pm in the Crypt Chapel

Prayer group on Mondays at 7.30pm in Holy Ghost church

Rosary on Thursdays at 7pm in St Benedict's

The Abbey Church

Weekdays

Vigils 6am
Lauds 7.10am
Mass 8.35am
Midday Office 12.30pm
Vespers 6pm

Sundays

Lauds 7.30am
Mass 10am
Midday Office 12.30pm
Vespers/Benediction 5pm

Do you find the Newsletter hard to read?

A large-print edition is available on request by filling in a form in the church porch.

Parish Priest: Dom Michael Clothier. Tel: 01761 235111
Assistant Parish Priest: Dom Boniface Hill. Tel: 01761 235115

www.downside.co.uk
monks@downside.co.uk
01761 235100

Registered Charity Number 1158507

DOWNSIDE ABBEY ST BENEDICT'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR B – 13th May 2018

“He lets us share his Spirit” (1 John 4:13)

The day of the Ascension of Jesus was, no doubt, not a joyful occasion for the Apostles; and it seems that they dived for cover, shut doors and bolted shutters for ‘fear of the Jews.’ They then betook themselves to nine days of most heartfelt prayer. The Blessed Virgin was with them as the scripture tells us. So too we are now praying for the coming of Holy Spirit once more into our world, and into our hearts.

It seems likely that despite the promise of Jesus that they would ‘receive power from on high’, the occupants of the locked upper room were by no means prepared for what actually took place on the Day of Pentecost. We too, must be prepared for surprises when calling upon the Paraclete. He has, as we say today, a special agenda, and we are part of it. These days of prayerful preparation for His descent are not a harmless act of devotion, to be left to a few enthusiasts with time on their hands. Each of us must recognise a call to intercede for our world, lost in well informed confusion, as it is. For many of our fellow countrymen the pace is hectic, the tension is high and the destination obscure. ‘Is there a destination?’ They ask. Quick comes the reply: ‘Turn up the volume, increase the pace, and do not pause to think.’ But you and I are consecrated in the truth by Jesus himself. In our novena, allow God who is love, to live in you, so that your peace and joy and love may indeed be complete. Praise him! Amen, alleluia.



Dom Michael Clothier
Parish Priest

May Needs

Tins of vegetables (carrots, peas etc.)
Fruit juice
Kitchen rolls/Toilet rolls
Powdered milk/Instant mashed potato
Sponge pudding/Jam (not marmalade)
Tinned potatoes /Tinned meat pies



Items for the Newsletter

If you would like to contribute items for consideration for inclusion in the Parish Newsletter, please send to:
sparsons@downside.co.uk or call (01761 235323)

WWW.DOWNSIDE.CO.UK
MONKS@DOWNSIDE.CO.UK
01761 235100

The Sycamore Course continues on Tuesday, 15 May, when we will consider "Can we trust the Bible and the Christian Tradition?" Last week's session on the Church reminded us that we are not only Christians as individuals, but we are part of a community that shares in the sacraments and the leadership of the Church, a community that gets back to Christ himself. We gather from about 7pm for coffee and start the film at about 7:20pm, aiming to finish at about 8:30pm. All are welcome.

There is a gathering for all Adorers of the Blessed Sacrament on **Pentecost Sunday, 20th May** in the Visitors' Centre from 6pm. Please let Rina Bird (rinabird@outlook.com) know if you are able to come, so that catering can be arranged. There will be a brief talk and Q&A at 7pm.

The annual **Mass at Farleigh Hungerford Castle** Chapel in honour of Blessed Margaret Pole will be celebrated by Dom Boniface on Saturday 26th May at 6pm.

Forthcoming Extraordinary Form events: on **Friday, 1st June** there will be a session for boys and men who would like to learn how to serve the Extraordinary Form. Please contact Dom Boniface for more details and to register your interest. On **Saturday, 2nd June**, the annual High Mass will take place in the abbey church at 11am. All are very welcome. On **Sunday, 3rd June** the monthly low Mass will take place in the abbey crypt at 11:15am as usual.

The annual Corpus Christi procession will be at 3pm on **Sunday, 3rd June**. We will begin with Vespers in St Benedict's at 3pm and process to the abbey church for Benediction. All are welcome for tea afterwards. If you would like to serve, please contact Dom Michael or Dom Boniface.

The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from 24th – 31st August 2018. To enable the very sick members of our diocesan community to join us, a Jumbulance has been arranged to transport them from St Teresa's church in Filton to their accommodation in Lourdes. This costs £10,000. Through fundraising and donations the diocese can subsidise this cost for the sick. If you are able to donate please contact Deacon David Wakefield on lourdes@cliftondiocese.com.

CAFOD school volunteers needed! Could you spare some time to volunteer with CAFOD and help children and young people learn about global poverty, and motivate them to take action? We are looking for volunteers in the Glastonbury and Salisbury areas to visit Catholic schools and parish groups. For further information please contact Liz Baldwin at CAFOD Clifton on 01179 428 328 or email clifton@cafod.org.uk

The Parish Collection was £305.61 and £20.00 for the clergy training fund.

Martyrology: St Dunstan's feast is on 19th May. He was born in 909 at Baltonsborough, near Glastonbury, and educated at the abbey. After ordination at Winchester, he returned to Glastonbury, where he wrote the Kyrie to the plainchant Mass VII and was elected Abbot. He restored the monastic life there by beginning observance of the Rule of St Benedict. He later became Bishop of Worcester, London and eventually Archbishop of Canterbury. He died on 19th May 988.



We pray for the sick of our parish, especially Eve Nuttall, Dolores Niles, Sheila Noad, Rob Butt, Marie-Louise McGarvey, Jake Francis-Jones and Emmi di Maggio. If you know someone who would like to be added to this list, please let the priest at Mass know their name.

Congratulations to Laura Garcia and Danielle Murphy who were confirmed on Friday and those who made their First Holy Communion on Saturday.

Diocesan prayer intention: Holy Rood, Swindon.

Ecumenical prayer intention: St Peter's, Westfield.

Adoration/Vacancies for Regular Adorers. Adoration in the Crypt Chapel of the Abbey Church has restarted and anyone is welcome to join the Regular Adorers in the Chapel between the following hours: -after Mass until 5pm Monday to Friday; from after Mass until 7pm on Saturday; and after Mass until after Vespers and Benediction (about 5.45pm) on Sunday.

The Chapel can only remain open for prayer with the help of Regular Adorers, who volunteer to cover one hour slots. There are currently vacancies for Regular Adorers on Tuesday at 2pm, Wednesday 3pm, Friday 11am and Saturday 10am. If you can help with this very valuable ministry by taking one of these slots, please contact Rina by emailing rinabird@outlook.com

Over the past few months, **St Benedict's Catholic Primary School** has been working in connection with our local Catholic Partnership Schools – The Camino Partnership. This has recently included the creation of a school banner celebrating what is special about our school and its heritage. Each school in the partnership has created their own banner and these will be brought together at various celebrations over the coming months and years. Several children from across KS2 worked with Andrew Jackson, a local artist and ex-head of art at St Gregory's to create our banner. As part of The Camino Partnership, we are working together to organise and share a Mass to celebrate the Partnership, the banners and our work around Refugee Week in response to the Pope asking us to think about the plight of these displaced people around the world. This Mass will take place on Sunday 24th June 2018 at All Hallows School, Cranmore. The Mass will be at 12.30 followed by a short walk to represent 'The journey of the refugee'. There will then be a bring-your-own family picnic starting at approximately 1.30 – 1.45pm.