

# 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 9.30-5pm Monday to Saturday and 11.30-6pm on Sundays

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

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Registered Charity Number 1158507

# Downside Abbey St Benedict's Parish Newsletter

28th SUNDAY YEAR B – 14th October 2018

“The word of the Lord is alive and active” (Heb. 4:12)

Pope Francis has asked us all to pray the Rosary this month, and to add the prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel. He is well aware that the crisis through which the Church—and the world—is now passing requires urgent measures. The Rosary is our special weapon, our source of strength and grace. It is, of course, a most beautiful meditation upon the mysteries of our faith, and is rightly recognised as having an unimaginable effect on world affairs. Austria, for example, avoided Communist oppression and occupation by the crusade of prayer to the Blessed Virgin. Let us try to find time therefore to follow the Holy Father's guidance, for it is not simply for ourselves that we pray today. Let us also recall that St Dominic saved Europe from widespread heresy through his promotion of the Rosary, which he established in its present form.



And the Pope wishes us to recognise the need we have of angelic protection. It is not just secular human powers against whom we fight. The prayer to the Prince of the Heavenly Host is traditionally added at the end of the final decade. Our Lady is Queen of the Angels and ultimately victory will be achieved, for she has stated, 'In the end, my heart will triumph' We must turn to her with the greatest confidence. She has been given to us by Her Son as our mother in the order of grace.

Dom Michael Clothier  
Parish Priest

### October Needs

The food bank is getting ready for Christmas and is still desperately short of many items.

Please see the list in the church porch for what is needed. Many thanks for your help and support.



### 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](mailto:sparsons@downside.co.uk) or call (01761 235323)

[WWW.DOWNSIDE.CO.UK](http://WWW.DOWNSIDE.CO.UK)  
[MONKS@DOWNSIDE.CO.UK](mailto:MONKS@DOWNSIDE.CO.UK)  
01761 235100

**The 9am music group** will be learning the new Stratton Mass after the 9am Mass on 14th and 21st October. The new Mass setting will be introduced gradually over the coming weeks and anyone is welcome to join the music group to learn the music.

**A Religious Freedom Retreat** is taking place at Downside from 19th-21st October focusing on the right to social and civil freedom in matters of faith. Speakers are Bishop Michael Nazir-Ali, Sir Edward Leigh, John Pontifex, Hugh Walters and Dom Boniface Hill. For more information and to book contact Rina Bird at rinabird@outlook.com

**Bishop Robert Barron's Catholicism** course will begin at 7pm on 7th November in the Visitor Centre. This is a highly acclaimed and popular video series, filmed in various locations across the world, which will help us to deepen our faith and to discuss it together.

**'Living a Liturgical Life' Vocation Retreat** will take place from 16th – 18th November. Based around the liturgy, it will allow men aged 18-35 to spend time considering whether they may have a vocation to the priesthood or religious life. There will be time to think, and also talks about praying the Mass and the Divine Office. If you know anyone who might be interested, tell them to contact Dom Anselm by e-mail (downsidevocation@downside.co.uk).

**We have been given a generous donation** to help with the renovation of the parish hall and (funds permitting) the kitchen. It would be helpful if the parish could also raise some money toward the cost. The Parish Council has already agreed to install a data projector and blinds in the hall, which can be used for parish courses, children's liturgy and other groups that use the hall. A dishwasher has also been donated, which you may have seen. If you have ideas for fundraising, please contact a member of the parish council.

**If you have a child in Year 3 or above** who has not made their First Holy Communion, then contact Dom Michael so that a preparation course can be arranged.

**If you or someone you know wishes to be confirmed**, then contact Dom Michael.

**Watch Br John on iPlayer.** The programme is called *Living the Life* and accompanies the interview that was aired a few weeks ago on Katie and Cel's "Life Hacks" show on Radio 1. It is well worth watching.

**Adoration Update** Following a reduced Rota over the Summer months, there is now Adoration in the Crypt Church after Abbey Mass until 5pm Monday to Friday, and until 6pm on Saturday and Sunday. There is always a copy of the Rota giving times when Adorers will be present on the blue notice board outside the Chapel. If you would like to be a part of this great project, could you please contact Rina at rinabird@outlook.com. Very many wonderful things have occurred since Adoration began a year ago, and many thanks to all of those who have assisted in keeping the Crypt Chapel open.

**Martyrology: St Luke** was a Greek doctor, probably born of a pagan family. He became a disciple of St Paul and accompanied him on some of his missionary journeys. He wrote the third Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles. He was traditionally believed to be a gentile, writing for a gentile community, but more recent scholarship has suggested that he may have himself converted to Judaism (and then to Christianity) and that many of his readers were Jewish, since his Gospel shows a very good knowledge and understanding of Jewish Law and customs. His Gospel emphasises compassion, purity of heart, prayer and the end of time (eschatology). He is usually depicted with a winged ox, or painting the Virgin Mary.



**Downside School** has an immediate opportunity for a part-time Minibus Driver, who has experience in a similar role, to drive one of our School minibuses on our day pupil route (from Chew Valley/Chewton Mendip). You will be reliable, approachable and able to work on your own initiative. It is important to be able to remain on schedule and provide an excellent service to our pupils. For more information and to apply visit [www.downside.co.uk/working-with-us](http://www.downside.co.uk/working-with-us)

**If you, or someone you know, would like to become a Catholic**, then please get in touch with Dom Michael. The forthcoming *Catholicism* course would be a good introduction!

**We pray for the sick of our parish**, especially Brian Auty, Basil Durnford, Margaret Reynolds, Dolores Niles, Sheila Noad, 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.

**Please pray for** Maureen Coombs who has just died.

**Diocesan prayer intention:** Holy Family, Patchway.

**Ecumenical prayer intention:** Trinity Westfield.

If you would like to receive the **newsletter by email**, please contact Steve Parsons [sparsons@downside.co.uk](mailto:sparsons@downside.co.uk)

**The Parish Collection:** Last week raised: £450.35 and £352.61 raised for CAFOD