

# 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 9.30-12.30 Monday to Saturday and 11.15-5.45 on Sundays during the summer

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

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## Twenty-Fourth Sunday Year B – 16th September 2018

"I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds" (Jas 2:18)

The Responsorial Psalm sometimes seems to be an intrusion into the Liturgy of the Word at best, and completely pointless at worst! Yet it is important to remember that it is a response to the first reading and usually seeks to pick up themes found in that reading. Today's first reading from Isaiah is one of the Songs of the Suffering Servant, and the response in the Psalm is



a statement of confidence in God, who is with those who suffer. The words of the Psalm affirm the love that the servant feels for God, who hears him and aids him even in the midst of his affliction. In the Christian tradition we remember that the Psalms are not only the prayers of the Jewish people, but these are texts that Jesus himself would have known and used frequently in the synagogues in Galilee, in the Temple in Jerusalem and in his personal prayer. The Psalms can also be viewed Christologically, as looking ahead to the events in the life of Christ. Today's Psalm is a reminder of the crucifixion, of the words of Christ on the cross and of the resurrection. The Psalms make up the bulk of the Divine Office, celebrated by monks, nuns and priests throughout the world. They are prayed for all the reasons outlined here, but also on behalf of the Church, as members of the Church. Even if we do not feel optimistic and joyful as the psalmist, or depressed and abandoned, we are conscious that Christ did feel these emotions, and also that many people in the Church and in our neighbourhood feel like this, and we pray for them. So when we hear or sing the Psalm at Mass, we can remember this and use it as a way of praying for those around us and uniting our prayers with those of Christ himself. If you want to learn more about the Christian meaning of the Psalms, you could try the commentaries of St Augustine or St Robert Bellarmine, which are available on the internet!

Dom Anselm Brumwell  
Sub-Prior

### September Needs

Custard, Instant mash, Powdered milk, Sponge Puddings, Meat soup, Washing up liquid, Toilet rolls, Deodorants, Sweet and savoury snacks, Macaroni cheese



### 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

**Save Our World**, an environmental event of music, singing and magic will take place in the Weld Café on Saturday 22nd September at 7.30pm. Bookings must be made by emailing Steve Parsons [sparsons@downside.co.uk](mailto:sparsons@downside.co.uk) or 01761 235323.

**The Parish Pastoral Council** will meet on Wednesday, 26th September at 7.30pm in the parish hall. All are welcome to attend.

**SVP Kerala disaster fund appeal** Thank you very much to everyone who donated towards the SVP India Kerala flood disaster appeal. A brilliant total of £310.12 was raised.

**St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) Awareness Month 2018: Beyond Boundaries Week 4** Since our September 2017 interviews, to become voluntary SVP members, we have: completed DBS; formed our group of 8; & received faith based training. We meet fortnightly and visit regularly. The soup and cheese lunch raised £143.25 in aid of our Parish SVP Funds. We are very grateful to the team of helpers and those people who attended/supported. Thank you. If you know anyone who you feel would benefit from visits or practical help please give their name and contact details to either Fr. Michael or Fr. Boniface. If you would like to join us in visiting those in need (Full member)/support (Auxiliary) role or find out more about the SVP, please ask or email Rosemary Tatar [bluerabbit70@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:bluerabbit70@hotmail.co.uk)

If you would like to make a donation, please give to the priest saying Mass. Thank you.

**The Somer Valley Foodbank** is currently in great need of items. Over recent weeks there has been a huge demand on the foodbank and as well as the short list on the front of the newsletter, a fuller list is included here. Please can you only give what is on the list as these are the items required. Many, many thanks for all your help. Custard, Instant mash, Powdered milk, Sponge Puddings, Meat soup, Washing up liquid, Toilet rolls, Deodorants not aerosol, Sweet and savoury snacks, Macaroni cheese, Tinned tomatoes, Tinned potatoes, Household cleaners, Toilet cleaner (not bleach), Kitchen rolls, Shaving foam, Razors, Shampoo/Conditioner, Shower gel, Biscuits, Ketchup/Brown sauce, UHT Milk, Coffee, Drinking chocolate, Fruit juice, Corned beef, Tinned spaghetti, Noodles, Tinned fruit

**Many thanks to the Maintenance Team** for all their hard work last weekend in re-painting the reredos behind the altar and work in the choir loft, central heating chamber and cemetery.

**Many thanks to Daniel Justin**, who has written a Stratton Mass, which we will introduce over the next few months.

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

**Martyrology: St Andrew Kim Taegon, St Paul Chong Hasan and Companions** are collectively

known as the Korean Martyrs. Korea underwent great persecutions in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and 103 Christians were martyred. St Andrew Kim Taegon (1821-1846) was the first native Korean Catholic priest and is the patron saint of Korea. Korean was unusual in that the Catholic Faith had been kept alive by lay people, among whom were St Andrew's father, who was also martyred. St Andrew was baptised at the age of 15 and trained for the priesthood in Macau, being ordained in Shanghai in 1844. He was tortured and beheaded in 1846 near Seoul by the Han River.



**We wish to thank** parishioners for their generosity at the **Parish Summer BBQ**, which took place on Saturday 1st September. £146 was raised. Together with donations taken at refreshments after Mass in July and August, the total we have been able to send to Mary's Meals is £200. Mary's Meals are currently organising emergency assistance for disaster relief in Kerala, India and are very grateful for these useful funds at this crucial time.

**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, 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.

**Bishop Robert Barron's Catholicism** course will begin soon in the parish. 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. Dates and times will be announced soon.

**Diocesan prayer intention:** St Mary's. Bath

**Ecumenical prayer intention:** St Benedict's, Stratton on the Fosse

**The Parish Collection:** Last week raised: £431.55