

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-FIFTH SUNDAY YEAR B – 23rd September 2018

“Peacemakers sow the seeds which will bear fruit in holiness” (Jas 3:18)

England has long been known for a strong devotion to Our Lady. Indeed a special place is often claimed for this country: it has a special work to accomplish. From the thirteenth century, and probably earlier, we have been actually called the Dowry of Mary; and Walsingham (from 1061) has been a famous place of pilgrimage. There, so it is reported, the Mother of Our Saviour asked for a House of Prayer and promised particular graces to all who journeyed there to ask for her help. It is therefore right, in these anxious times in both the Church and the world, to renew our prayers to the Blessed Virgin with fervent faith and firm trust. She is our loving and gracious advocate, constantly interceding for us before the throne of God.

It would appear that this land, once an island of saints, has some task now of great moment. It is clear that intercession is part of this; and, without self esteem, we can definitely be assured of the value and effect of our humble and persevering supplication. On Monday 24th September we celebrate the ancient feast of Our Lady of Ransom, now entitled Our Lady of Walsingham. If the faith is to be restored to our land, and to Europe, then none of us should feel unworthy to offer ourselves to Jesus, through His mother. Her special prayer, the Rosary's urged upon us by many recent popes. Padre Pio called it 'the great weapon.' May we rejoice in our call to arms.



Dom Michael Clothier
Parish Priest

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 or call (01761 235323)

WWW.DOWNSIDE.CO.UK
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01761 235100

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

There will be a **Healing Service** at St John's, Bath at 7pm on Friday, 28th September.

A United Service will take place at Radstock Baptist Church on Sunday 30th September at 6pm. All are welcome.

St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) Awareness Month 2018: Beyond Boundaries Week 5 "Charity is certainly greater than any rule. Moreover, all rules must lead to charity" St Vincent de Paul.

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

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day is on 5th October. More details of this year's focus will follow.

The **International Day of Peace** was on 21st September. This is an incentive of the United Nations and was established by a unanimous resolution in 1981 as a way of encouraging all the nations of the world to commit to peace. This year we remembered the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which includes the right to peace. This is a good intention for our prayer today and every day.

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

Christian International Peace Service (CHIPS) will post a series of prayers on its website: www.chipspeace.org/blog/PeaceDay. It can also be contacted on 0207 078 7439, or info@chipspeace.org

Martyrology: St Vincent de

Paul was born in a poor family in south-western France on 24th April 1581. He showed a talent for reading and writing from an early age, but he was responsible for the family's livestock until he went to the seminary at the age of 15, which his father paid for by selling their oxen. He originally entered the seminary intending to make a career from the priesthood so that he



could gain a benefice, retire early and support his family. He was ordained in 1600 at the age of 19 (against the rules established by the Council of Trent), but when the complaints about his appointment as a parish priest at such a young age reached Rome, he resigned and continued with his studies. There are stories about his being captured whilst on a ship and enslaved in Tunis for 2 years. He converted his second master and his wife to Christianity and they fled Tunis for France. In 1612 he became a parish priest, but after a trip to Paris, he became convinced that he should devote his life to the poor. He founded the Vincentians and (with the help of St Louise de Marillac) the Sisters of Charity. He died on 27 September 1660, which is kept as his feast day. His life story inspired Blessed Frédéric Ozanam to found the Society of St Vincent de Paul to work in parishes to help those in need. If you would like to know more about the work of the SVP in our parish, contact Rosemary Tatar on bluerabbit70@hotmail.co.uk

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 Maureen Coombs, 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: Good Shepherd, Batheaston/St Thomas More, Bradford-on-Avon

Ecumenical prayer intention: Trinity Radstock

If you would like to receive the **newsletter by email**, please contact Steve Parsons sparsons@downside.co.uk