

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 6pm; 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

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Registered Charity Number 1158507

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BIRTH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST – 24th June 2018

"I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth" (Isaiah 49:6)

The life of Saint John the Baptist was brief and brutal: it is an account of heroic failure in the face of impossible odds. He is surely in the great prophetic tradition of courage in the face of cruelty and rejection. In worldly eyes he simply paid the obvious penalty for political outspokenness in a land of tyrants.

However, (and this is a big but) in real terms his work was a complete success. The way was prepared, the population alerted, the call to repent broadcast, the Messiah identified. All that remained was to sign off with a fine flourish. 'Greater man has not existed.'

Now, the prophetic charisma must never be lost in any Christian heart. Each of us must be ready to proclaim the gospel by word and especially by our daily life. Not for us the diet of locusts perhaps, the honey is ok, but all of us surely must have felt with Isaiah that 'we have toiled in vain.' On this Feast of the Birth of the last and greatest prophet, allow the Holy Spirit to empower you once again, and to fill your heart with joy and peace and hope. You too have been loved and known and chosen long before you were born. A task lies before you and only you can tackle it. The Lord is at hand to help you, so give Him your life this day. Amen.

Dom Michael Clothier,
Parish Priest



June Needs

Tinned meat pies
Sponge puddings/Tinned rice pudding
Long life fruit juice
Tinned vegetables /Tinned tomatoes/Tinned spaghetti (pasta)
Tea 40's and 80's/Tinned potatoes
Shaving foam



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)

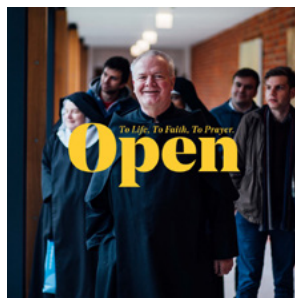
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There will be a **healing service** at St John's in Bath at 7pm on Wednesday, 27th June. It will be led by Fr Suarez.

There will be a meeting of the **Parish Pastoral Council** on Wednesday, 27th June at 7.30pm in the parish hall. All are welcome to attend.

29th June is the Solemnity of SS. Peter and Paul. This is a holyday of obligation and Mass will be in the abbey at 10am and in St Benedict's at 6.30pm.

On **Saturday, 30th June** the English Benedictine Congregation is organising a day called "Open" for men and women aged 18 – 29, who are interested in learning more about vocations, discernment and prayer. It will be held at Douai Abbey near Reading, from 10.45am until 5pm. There will be talks and workshops and lunch is included. Contact Dom Anselm for more details domanselm@downside.co.uk or go to www.benedictines.org.uk/post/open to register.



The monthly Extraordinary Form Mass will be on **Sunday, 1st July** at 11:15am in the Crypt Chapel. The Mass will be of the Most Precious Blood of Our Lord.

On **Monday, 2nd July** the monastic community will sing Vespers at 6pm with the St John's Festival Choir in the chapel of St Michael Within, Broad Street, Bath BA1 5LJ. All are welcome.

This year's **Glastonbury Pilgrimage** will be on **Sunday, 8th July**. Please put the date in your diary. The timetable for the day is: 12-3: Confessions and Healing Prayer; 2.15pm Rosary Procession from the abbey grounds; 3.30pm Mass in the abbey grounds celebrated by the Bishop.

Lectio Divina Group A small group of Parishioners, and others, meets in the Visitor Centre at 10am every Monday to prayerfully read the following Sunday's Gospel passage. If you would like to join them, please do! Lectio Divina is not difficult, and training will be given. It is a good way to get to know other people too!

St Vincent de Paul Society update Our conference group has been meeting fortnightly since January and visiting regularly since February. If you know of anyone who is in need of and would like visits or practical help, such as shopping, please can you give their name(s) and contact number to either Fr Michael or Fr Boniface. Thank you. If you would like any information on the SVP please contact Rosemary at bluerabbit70@hotmail.co.uk

Martyrology: The feast of **SS. Peter and Paul** is on Friday, 29th June and is a holyday of obligation. They are the secondary patrons of our Diocese and the cathedral in Clifton is under their patronage. **St Peter** was the first of the disciples and was called by Christ to lead the Church as his representative: 'You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church' (Mt 16:18). Peter spread the Gospel to the Jewish people and was martyred in Rome, being crucified upside-down on the Vatican Hill, the site of St Peter's. **St Paul** is perhaps the most famous convert to Christianity and spread the Gospel to the gentiles throughout the ancient world. He was a tent maker (Acts 18:3) and a Roman citizen (Acts 22:28), who exercised his right to be tried by the Emperor himself. Being found guilty he was beheaded outside Rome, and the legend says that his head bounced three times, whereupon three springs arose. Both St Peter and St Paul were martyred in 64AD.



We pray for the sick of our parish, especially 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.

Diocesan prayer intention: St John the Baptist, Trowbridge with Westbury

Ecumenical prayer intention: Bath City Church local group

Adoration Update. The Crypt Chapel is open to anyone to pray in front of the Blessed Sacrament during the following extended hours; Monday to Friday after Mass until 6pm; Saturday after Mass until 7pm; Sunday after Mass until after Benediction, about 5.45pm. On week days, a small group has now formed to recite the Rosary in the Crypt Chapel. If you would like to join them, please just turn up! If you would like to help with the rota as a Regular or Occasional Adorer, please contact Rina rinabird@outlook.com. The only Regular slots left are Monday 10am and 11am, Tuesday 10am, Wednesday 10am and 2pm, Friday 12pm, and Saturday 10am.

During the weekend of the 7-9 September 2018, **Young Catholic Adults will be running a retreat at Douai Abbey**, featuring Fr Lawrence Lew O.P. and Canon Poucin. The weekend will be full-board. YCA will be running the weekend with the Schola Gregoriana of Cambridge who will be holding Gregorian Chant workshops. There will also be a Marian Procession, Rosaries, Sung Masses, Confession, talks (on the beauty of silence in the Mass plus social media and evangelization) and socials. All Masses will be celebrated in the Extraordinary Form. Please note to guarantee your place this year Douai Abbey have requested that everyone books in 3 weeks before the start of the weekend i.e. 17th Aug 2018. To book visit bookwhen.com/youngcatholicadults-douai2018

The Parish Collection: This week was £437.59