

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

Lectio divina group on Mondays at 10am in the abbey visitor centre

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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SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR B – 25th February 2018

“Since God did not spare his own Son, we may be certain that he will not refuse anything he can give” (Rom. 8:32)

A message from the CAFOD

website. By fasting, we can focus on what really matters – our relationship with God and love for our brothers and sisters.



Marian and her two sons live in Zimbabwe. The older son, Tawanda, lived his childhood without enough to eat. Marian used to leave him in the morning to find work. She would return hours later to find him sitting in the same place. “I didn’t have enough food to give him,” she said. “He hadn’t played, or even walked. It was very painful to see him like that.” When Tawanda was a teenager, Marian had another son, Svondo. He was brought up on fresh vegetables, beans and peanut butter. Now seven years old, Svondo is growing healthy and strong. He plays with his friends. He’s happy. These two brothers both had dreams. But one was prevented from reaching his God-given potential. Funds from CAFOD helped to give Marian some seeds. And she did the rest. She worked hard month after month to grow a vegetable garden and she didn’t stop until it flourished. So unlike Tawanda, Svondo didn’t go hungry. But no child should have to go hungry. The lack of good food makes children vulnerable to everyday infections.

On Family Fast Day, as we pray and fast, we bring to mind all God’s children.

We remind ourselves that as God’s family, we are all connected – when one child goes hungry, we all go hungry.

Please be generous.

Dom Anselm Brumwell
Sub-Prior

February Needs

Instant mash/Tinned potatoes

Sponge puddings

Shampoo/Conditioner/Toothbrushes

Ketchup/Brown sauce

Cleaning materials/Washing Up Liquid/Detergent (clothes)



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
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Fairtrade Fortnight Monday 26th February to Sunday 11th March

2018 Fairtrade products such as tea, coffee, cocoa, bananas and thousands of other top quality goods have been bought by companies for sustainable prices. Fairtrade ensures the world's poorest growers and producers are able to earn a decent living and earn a premium they can put back into their communities. We believe we are all part of the global food system - which means we have the power to change it. Changing the food we buy and choosing products from Fairtrade companies is one of the ways we can help tackle poverty. Perhaps you could consider buying a Fairtrade product at your supermarket when you shop during the next two weeks?

Lent Worship Every Friday until 23rd March from 11.30am-12pm there will be a short act of reflective worship at Midsomer Norton Methodist Church. On Good Friday 30th March at 9.45am there will also be a Walk of Witness.

Downside School Pupils would like to offer Parishioners three **Lectio Divina** evenings so we would be able to encounter and listen to Christ together. This will commence at St Benedict's Parish hall on **27th February from 7-8pm for 3 weeks**. Please bring some food to share. All age groups are welcome to join. For more details, contact Belen Iglesias (biglesias@downside.co.uk) or Dom Michael.

Lenten Lunch, soup and cheese on Wednesday 28th February in the Parish Hall at St Benedict's Church in aid of CAFOD from 12 - 2pm. There will be a bring and buy stall and a raffle. Please do come and support and taste our delicious soups.

There will be a **Penance service organised by Bishop Declan** at St John's in Bath on Thursday, 1st March at 7pm. Confessions will be heard by priests who are not members of our deanery. This would be an ideal opportunity to return to the sacrament of confession if you have not been for some time. You can be genuinely anonymous and make your confession to a priest that you might never see again!

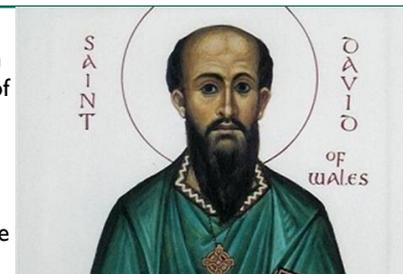
The **Women's World Day of Prayer** has this year been prepared by the women of Suriname. Our local celebration will be at the Salvation Army Church in Midsomer Norton on Friday March 2nd at 2pm. All are welcome, not only women.

We are All Called.....How are we to Respond. The Parishes of the Bath Catholic Deanery are collaborating to promote and sponsor a special day for our faith formation on **Saturday 3rd March**, 10am for 10.30am until 3.30 pm at the Apex Hotel in Bath. Refreshments and a light lunch are provided. Tickets £10 (£5 for students) available through Eventbrite.
www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/we-are-all-called-how-are-we-to-respond-tickets-42598783107

The Parish Maintenance Team will meet again on Saturday 10th March. If you have any maintenance issues to report please get in touch with Lee Rogers on w900lee@yahoo.co.uk

St Patrick's Party On Saturday March 17th in the Parish Hall at 7pm. Tickets are £5 a head to include an Irish supper. Come and sing along to all your Irish favourites. Please add your name to the list at the back of the church.

Martyrology: St David (1st March) is best known as the patron saint of Wales. He lived from about 500-589 and was a monk. He was the son of St Non and the grandson of Ceredig ap Cunedda, king of Ceredigion. He is said to have travelled to Brittany and Cornwall after the plague of 547AD and is said to have founded 10 monasteries, including those in Menevia and Glastonbury, where the monks lived a life of extreme hardship, with a strict regime of prayer, heavy manual labour and study, following the example of the monks of Egypt. St David's Cathedral stands on the site of the monastery he founded in the Glyn Rhosyn valley of Pembrokeshire. Around 550, he attended the Synod of Brefi, where his eloquence in opposing Pelagianism caused his fellow monks to elect him primate of the region. Tradition holds that he died on March 1, which is the date now marked as Saint David's Day. The monastery is said to have been "filled with angels as Christ received his soul." His last words to his followers were "Lords, brothers and sisters, be joyful, and keep your faith and your creed, and do the little things that you have seen me do and heard about. And as for me, I will walk the path that our fathers have trod before us." He was buried at St David's Cathedral at St Davids, Pembrokeshire, where his shrine was a popular place of pilgrimage throughout the Middle Ages



Today's collection is for the CAFOD Lent Fast Day. Please use the envelope and fill in the gift aid section if you are a UK tax payer. This means that the government will match your offering and CAFOD can claim the tax back.

We pray for the sick of our parish, especially Peggie Woods, Eve Nuttall, Dolores Niles, Sheila Noad, 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.

The **funeral of Joseph Zacharias** will be on Friday, 2nd March at 10:30am in St Joseph's Church, Fishponds.

The **funeral of Mary Driscoll** will be on Friday, 9th March at 11am in St Benedict's.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament has continued so far throughout 2018 and is a good way of keeping Lent this year. If you can commit to a regular slot (even if only for Lent), please contact Rina Bird (rinabird@outlook.com).

Diocesan Prayer Intention: Our Lady St Mary, Glastonbury and St Michael, Shepton

Ecumenical Prayer Intention: Radstock Baptist Church

Offertory Collection Parish Collection last week raised: £180.67

The Easter Retreat at Downside takes place from Thursday 29th March until Sunday 1st April. To find out more and to book visit our website at www.downside.co.uk/shop/events/easter-retreat-2018/