

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 5pm; 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

DOWNSIDE ABBEY ST BENEDICT'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

TRINITY SUNDAY YEAR B – 27th MAY 2018

“Go, make disciples of all nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” (Mt 28:19)

“Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one” (Deut. 6:4). Judaism and Christianity have always been strictly monotheistic. They are insistent that there is only one God, who created the world and who interacts with his creation. Christianity teaches that there is indeed only one God, who exists in three Persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. These persons are co-equal, co-eternal and



consubstantial (100% God). This belief is often explained using a number of analogies. Ben may be a father to his children, a son to his own father and a brother, but he always remains Ben. He interacts in different ways according to relationships, but he is fully himself. H₂O can be liquid (water), gas (steam) or solid (ice), but it remains H₂O. So whilst some people try to claim that the doctrine of the Holy Trinity is illogical, the idea is borne out in nature. The essential feature of the Trinity is relationships. We participate in the Trinity as a Church, for as God is relational, so are we. We are Christians as a group, not only as individuals, and through our baptism we are united with all the people we see at Mass, and those in other parishes. Maybe we might try to reach out to them, as the Father sent the Son into the world to save us, and the Holy Spirit to be with us and to sanctify us. If this still seems a bit of a mystery, then it is worth remembering the saying of St Anselm in his *Proslogion*: “I believe that unless I do believe, I shall not understand”.

Dom Anselm Brumwell
Sub-Prior

May 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)

WWW.DOWNSIDE.CO.UK
MONKS@DOWNSIDE.CO.UK
01761 235100

This week's **Sycamore course** will be on Tuesday, 29th May in the Abbey Visitor Centre. We gather from about 7pm, and begin the formal part of the evening (the film and discussion) at 7.20pm, finishing at about 8.45pm. This week's topic is "The Power of Prayer." All are welcome, whether you have been before or not. Why not come and give it a go?

Forthcoming Extraordinary Form events: on **Friday, 1st June** there will be a session for boys and men who would like to learn how to serve the Extraordinary Form. Please contact Dom Boniface for more details and to register your interest. On **Saturday, 2nd June**, the annual High Mass will take place in the abbey church at 11am. All are very welcome. On **Sunday, 3rd June** the monthly low Mass will take place in the abbey crypt at 11.15am as usual.

The annual Corpus Christi procession will be at 3pm on **Sunday, 3rd June**. We will begin with Vespers in St Benedict's at 3pm and process to the abbey church for Benediction. All are welcome for tea afterwards. **Please make every effort to come along and bring someone with you**, so that this can also be an opportunity for outreach to our friends and neighbours.

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.



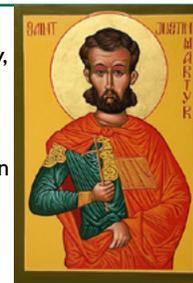
This year's **Glastonbury Pilgrimage** will be on **Sunday, 8th July**. Please put the date in your diary. More details nearer the time, or see the poster on the parish notice board.

The Adorers had a fantastic evening on Pentecost Sunday when many of them met up in the Visitor Centre. The evening was filled with chat, laughter, food and wine. It was great to see everyone getting to know one another, and exchanging stories from the Crypt! Fr. Michael's talk was both informative and inspirational, and provoked much discussion. There was great enthusiasm to meet up again as the group goes from strength to strength!



The Parish Collection was £470.15

Martyrology: St Justin was born in about 100 AD in Nablus in Samaria of pagan parents. Well educated in rhetoric, poetry and history, he studied philosophy at Ephesus and Alexandria. He became a Christian and is commonly regarded as the first Christian philosopher. He gives us the earliest description of the rite of baptism and of a Sunday Mass in his *Apology* (meaning 'Defence'). He describes baptism in water, in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and says that the newly baptised Christian is then admitted to the eucharist, where "there is brought to the president of the brethren bread and a cup of wine mixed with water; and he taking them, offers up praise and glory to the Father of the universe, through the name of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Not as common bread and wine do we receive these; but [it] is the flesh and blood of that Jesus who was made flesh." He was martyred in about 165 AD with six others during the reign of Marcus Aurelius. His feast is on 1st June.



We pray for the sick of our parish, especially 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 Peter, Swindon; Sacred Heart, Wootton Bassett.

Ecumenical prayer intention: St Nicholas, Radstock.

Adoration/Vacancies for Regular Adorers. Adoration in the Crypt Chapel of the Abbey Church has restarted and anyone is welcome to join the Regular Adorers in the Chapel between the following hours: -after Mass until 5pm Monday to Friday; from after Mass until 7pm on Saturday; and after Mass until after Vespers and Benediction (about 5.45pm) on Sunday.

The Chapel can only remain open for prayer with the help of Regular Adorers, who volunteer to cover one hour slots. There are currently vacancies for Regular Adorers on Tuesday at 2pm, Wednesday 3pm, Friday 11am and Saturday 10am. If you can help with this very valuable ministry by taking one of these slots, please contact Rina by emailing rinabird@outlook.com

Over the past few months, **St Benedict's Catholic Primary School** has been working in connection with our local Catholic Partnership Schools – The Camino Partnership. This has recently included the creation of a school banner celebrating what is special about our school and its heritage. Each school in the partnership has created their own banner and these will be brought together at various celebrations over the coming months and years. Several children from across KS2 worked with Andrew Jackson, a local artist and ex-head of art at St Gregory's to create our banner. As part of The Camino Partnership, we are working together to organise and share a Mass to celebrate the Partnership, the banners and our work around Refugee Week in response to the Pope asking us to think about the plight of these displaced people around the world. This Mass will take place on Sunday 24th June 2018 at All Hallows School, Cranmore. The Mass will be at 12.30 followed by a short walk to represent 'The journey of the refugee'. There will then be a bring-your-own family picnic starting at approximately 1.30 – 1.45pm.