

# 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 9.30-5pm Monday to Saturday and 11.30-6pm on Sundays

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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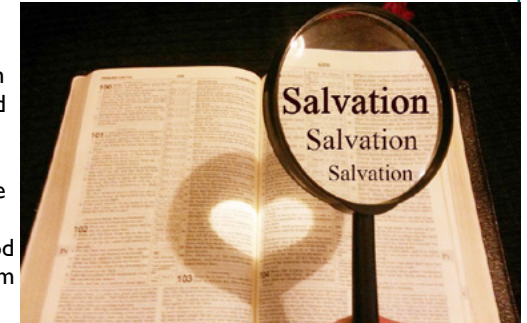
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# DOWNSIDE ABBEY ST BENEDICT'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

## THIRTIETH SUNDAY YEAR B – 28th October 2019

“The LORD has saved his people, the remnant of Israel!” (Jer. 31:7)

One of the key themes of the Bible is salvation. The more we read, the more we see that God does everything he can to give his people the means to be saved and to enjoy life with him in heaven. He wishes his people to love him of their own free accord and this is why we have free will, whereby we can genuinely do what we want. Throughout the Bible God gives his people guidelines that help them to know how to live – the Law, the teaching of the prophets, the teaching and life of Jesus Christ, the letters of St Paul and the other New Testament authors. He established the Church, founded on the papacy in the person of St Peter, and gave the Church the sacraments as the means of grace, which help us to come to be closer to Christ. If we pick and choose the parts of the Bible that we read, then we sometimes come up with a very unbalanced image of God – the strict, vindictive, wrathful and vengeful God, or the God who always loves, forgives and welcomes. It is important that we read any passage within the context of a whole biblical book and indeed the whole of the Bible in order to try to come to a deeper faith, for God is depicted in all these ways, and yet so many more. The name of Jesus means ‘he saves’, and we may consider this to be one of the core messages of Sacred Scripture. The more we read it, the more this should be clear.



Dom Anselm Brumwell  
Sub-Prior

### October Needs

The food bank is getting ready for Christmas and is still desperately short of many items.

Please see the list in the church porch for what is needed. Many thanks for your help and support.



### 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

**Thursday, 1st November is All Saints Day**, which is a **holyday of obligation**. There will be Mass in the Abbey at 10am and in St Benedict's at 6.30pm.

**Friday, 2nd November is All Souls' Day** and Mass will be at 8.35am as usual in the Abbey and at 9.45am in Holy Ghost, Midsomer Norton.

**The monthly Mass in the Extraordinary Form** will be on **Sunday, 4th November** in the Abbey Crypt at 11.15am. The readings and prayers will be from the Fourth Sunday remaining after Epiphany.

**Bishop Robert Barron's Catholicism** course will begin at 7pm on 7th November in the Visitor Centre. 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.

Midsomer Norton & Radstock Community Service Vehicle Trust **Annual General Meeting** will take place on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at 7.30pm at Midsomer Norton Methodist Church Centre.

Marking the centenary of the Armistice that ended the Great War, local folk group the Hotwells Howlers, are presenting their show, **'Stony Broke in No-Man's Land'** at 8pm on Friday 9th November 2018 at the Old Down Inn, Emborough. There will be no charge on the door but there will be a collection for the British Red Cross. Contact David Byrne on 01761 419224 for more information.

**CAFOD Retreat Saturday 10th November** at Downside Abbey, looking at 'Countering Consumerism: Lessons from Gaudete et Exultate: What does it mean to be holy? How can we find holiness given our busy modern lives?' A simple lunch will be provided and donations would be welcome. Booking ESSENTIAL as there are limited spaces. Contact Liz Baldwin at CAFOD Clifton - [clifton@cafod.org.uk](mailto:clifton@cafod.org.uk) or 01179 428 328

**Lest we Forget.** On Armistice Day, Sunday 11th November at 10.45 there will be a short service, laying of wreaths and sounding of the Last Post at Stratton war memorial. This will be led by the new rector, Rev'd Esther Smith and followed by more prayers and hymns at St Vigor's.

**'Living a Liturgical Life' Vocation Retreat** will take place from 16th – 18th November. Based around the liturgy, it will allow men aged 18-35 to spend time considering whether they may have a vocation to the priesthood or religious life. There will be time to think, and also talks about praying the Mass and the Divine Office. If you know anyone who might be interested, tell them to contact Dom Anselm by e-mail ([downsidevocation@downside.co.uk](mailto:downsidevocation@downside.co.uk)).

**Farrington Gurney Methodist Church** hosts Springs Dance Company's production of 'Journey of the Magi' at Farrington Gurney Memorial Hall on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2018 at 7.30pm. Adults £10 and children £5 tickets from Margaret Pierce on 01761 452695 or email [moultram@talktalk.net](mailto:moultram@talktalk.net)

**Martyrology: St Vigor** is the patron of the Anglican parish church in Stratton, which is one of only 2 churches with this dedication in England. He was a French bishop and missionary, who died in 537AD. He studied at Arras, under St Vedast (patron of the community in Douai, that enabled the Downside community to begin) and as Bishop of Bayeux he destroyed a pagan temple and built a church on the grounds. His feast is on 3rd November.



**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, Dolores Niles, Sheila Noad, 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:** Holy Cross, Bedminster; St Mary on the Quay with St James' Priory, Bristol

**Ecumenical prayer intention:** Radstock Baptist Church

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

**The Parish Collection:** Last week raised: £228.01 and £89.10 for World Mission Sunday

**We have been given a generous donation** to help with the renovation of the parish hall and (funds permitting) the kitchen. It would be helpful if the parish could also raise some money toward the cost. If you have ideas for fundraising, please contact a member of the parish council.

**St Benedict's St Vincent de Paul.** If you would like to donate to our Parish SVP funds, please put your donation in the black collection box on the wall at the back of the church by the door. Thank you in advance. 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. Thank you.

**Minutes from the September meeting of the Parish Council** are on the notice boards.

**CAFOD Harvest Fast Day** Thank you so much for supporting CAFOD's Family Fast Day. Our Parish raised a magnificent £552.66 which will mean families around the world will have what they need to survive and thrive, now and into the future. Thank you to everyone who gave. Your gifts will change lives.