

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

DOWNSIDE ABBEY ST BENEDICT'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

CORPUS CHRISTI YEAR B – 3rd JUNE 2018

“This is my body... This is my blood” (Mk 14:23-24)

We all know that if we are fortunate enough to have a dear friend, we wish to be with them as much as possible. Indeed, what is important to them becomes important to us and we wish profoundly to share all their joys, and all their sorrows. Simple activities such as a short walk are somehow different if we are in their company. Now the Lord Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Redeemer, loves us so much that he is interested in every aspect of our life, no matter how seemingly trivial or unremarkable. But this love goes



further still, for Jesus wishes to indwell us, to make His home in our hearts and souls on a permanent and absolute basis. No friend on earth can ever achieve this, but God can if we will allow Him. He knock and awaits our reply.

This unity begins, of course, in Baptism and is brought to a beautiful and mysterious perfection in the Holy Eucharist. We truly receive, as the body receives food, the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Our Lord, under the appearance of bread and wine. It is this wonderful gift, the Magnum Mysterium, which we celebrate today. Deep gratitude must be joined to firm faith in this amazing sacrament. We are struck by the humiliation of Jesus Christ in His love and concern for us. It follows that our hearts must be pure and holy, loving and forgiving, fully prepared for so great a guest. Let us thank Jesus for this gift of Himself today: 'Make your home in Me, as I make Mine in you.'

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)

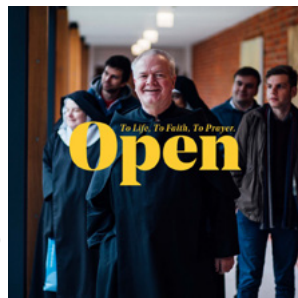
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This month's **Mass in the Extraordinary Form** takes place today, Sunday 3rd June, in the Abbey Crypt at 11.15am. All are welcome. The Mass is followed by coffee in the Visitor Centre.

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.

This week's **Sycamore course** will be on Tuesday, 5th June 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 Meaning of Love." All are welcome, whether you have been before or not. Why not come and give it a go?

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.



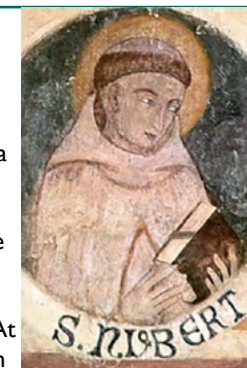
This year's **Glastonbury Pilgrimage** will be on **Sunday, 8th July**. Please put the date in your diary. More details nearer the time, or see the poster on the parish notice board.

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!

Mass at Farleigh Hungerford Castle on 26th May raised £134.56 so thank you very much to all that attended. It really was a moving event and God's presence was felt by all.

The Parish Collection was £373.76

Martyrology: St Norbert was born in Germany in 1080. In his youth he pursued a life dedicated to bodily pleasures, although he had been ordained a subdeacon due to his family's influence, a task that required him to recite the Divine Office in the church in Xanten. He paid someone to do this for him, since he had gained a more lucrative position as the chaplain to Emperor Henry V. In about 1115 he had a riding accident in a storm, and a conversion experience, which completely changed his life and he then became a priest, dedicating himself to preaching. He was a charismatic figure and others soon came to join him, although his asceticism was so extreme at the start that his first three companions died. At the Council of Rheims in 1119 Pope Calixtus II asked him to begin a new Order the Premonstratensian Order, following the Rule of St Augustine. He later became Bishop of Magdeburg, in Germany, and died in 1134.



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 George, Taunton; St Teresa of Lisieux, Wellington; St John Fisher, Wiveliscombe

Ecumenical prayer intention: Radstock Baptist Church

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.

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. 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.