

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

www.downside.co.uk
monks@downside.co.uk
01761 235100

Registered Charity Number 1158507

Downside Abbey St Benedict's Parish Newsletter

FIFTH SUNDAY YEAR B – 4th FEBRUARY 2018

That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick

The newsletter always contains a list of items that are needed for the Somer Valley Food Bank, and we are glad that parishioners are so generous. Janet Curwen co-ordinates the parish relationship with the Food Bank and here is an extract from her report to the parish council:

Three centres in Midsomer Norton,

Radstock and Peasedown serve the area,

welcomg people who have been directed to it by various agencies; another is envisaged for Paulton. The Food Banks aim to help people in short term need by providing them with food and other necessities for three days in the first instance and then to point them toward people who can offer advice on debt, benefits etc.

The Trussell Trust suggests that 3 vouchers should be the maximum, but sometimes more is needed. Food donations are taken to the warehouse where they are sorted by type and date. Food items must have a minimum of 3 months left on the label. At the warehouse they are put together before delivery to the distribution centres. In the run up to Christmas about 2000kg were sent out and on a Wednesday in December, having already delivered to Radstock, we had a phone call to say that they had run out of food, so we had to put up an emergency order and deliver it. You will find more information on the website: www.somervalleyfoodbank.org.uk



Dom Anselm Brumwell
Sub Prior

January Needs

Instant Mash/Tinned potatoes,
Long grain rice, Kitchen rolls,
Toilet rolls, Toothbrushes,
Multipurpose cleaner/Washing up liquid,
Fruit juice/squash, Tinned vegetables/Sponge puddings

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

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

Please pray for **Mary Driscoll** who died last week.

The funeral of Peggy Grant will be on Tuesday, 6th February at 1.30pm at Holy Ghost church, Midsomer Norton.

The monthly Latin Mass in the Extraordinary (1962) Form will be this Sunday, 4th February at 11.15am in the abbey crypt. All are very welcome.

Parish Maintenance Team Again thanks for all your hard work last week. Please book into your diaries Saturday 17th February for the next Maintenance Team day.

The Downside school pupils would like to bring the Downside communities together as missionaries of Christ. We would like to offer Parishioners three **Lectio Divina** evenings so we would be able to encounter and listen to Christ together. Lectio is a way of listening and discovering how God is loving and acting in our lives today. The pupils of Downside would like to share the joy of faith and our own encounters with God. This will commence at St Benedict's Parish hall in the week of 19th February at 7-8pm (the exact days will be decided soon). Please bring some food to share. All age groups are welcome to join, you've got nothing to lose! For more details, contact Belen Iglesias (biglesias@downside.co.uk) or Dom Michael.

St Vincent de Paul (SVP) Our parish SVP are pleased to say that, following our training, we can now begin visiting. 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 Fr Michael or Fr Boniface. If you would like any information on the SVP please contact Rosemary Tatar via email on bluerabbit70@hotmail.co.uk

Offertory Collection Parish Collection last week raised: £429.44

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. The day is based on exploring themes of Pope Francis' teaching for the Church today and will be led by Michelle Moran a leading lay Missionary who has been personally appointed by Pope Francis to work on establishing new structures for the service of renewal and mission in the Church.

Tickets £10 (£5 for students) available through **Eventbrite**.

Search: www.Eventbrite_Bath_Catholic_Deanery and available from your own Parish Event Promoters.

Martyrology: St Scholastica (feast on 10th February) was the sister of St Benedict and the first Benedictine nun, sometimes referred to as "our holy aunt". Her monastery was about five miles from Monte Cassino. Benedict would go to see her once a year and on his last visit she asked him to stay longer so that they could continue their discussion of "the joys of heaven". He refused, saying that he could not stay away overnight, but she placed her head in her hands and prayed. Suddenly it began to rain so heavily that he could not leave. She died three days later, Benedict having seen a vision of her soul going up to heaven in the form of a dove and she was buried in Benedict's monastery in the tomb he had prepared for himself. The community from the Chilean Manquehue Apostolic Movement that lives at Downside is named after St Scholastica, and so we wish them a happy feast.



If you wish to book the parish hall for an event, please check the diary in the sacristy to make sure the date is free. If so, write in the details (including any preparation time needed), and please include a contact name and telephone number. Alternatively ring Bridget de Salis on 01761 232323.

Diocesan Prayer Intention: St Peter's, Westfield

Ecumenical Prayer Intention: St Dominic, Dursley & St Joseph, Nympsfield

There is a possibility of running the **Sycamore Course** in the parish. This course's main aim is to introduce people to the Catholic Faith, but it is also known to be helpful for Catholics who wish to understand their faith better. It consists of ten films that explore some of the core questions often put to Christian believers: How can I find true happiness? What is the meaning of life? Does God exist? Who is Jesus Christ? It deals with topics such as the Holy Spirit, the Church, the Bible, the Christian Tradition, faith, prayer, love, vocation, and the purpose of life. If you are interested, please contact Dom Michael or Dom Anselm (domanselm@downside.co.uk) so that we can establish whether such a course is viable and which day and time would work best.