

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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Registered Charity Number 1158507

DOWNSIDE ABBEY ST BENEDICT'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY YEAR B – 4th November 2018

“You must love the LORD your God...and your neighbour as yourself” (Mk 12:30.31)

November is the month of the Holy Souls, when we pray especially for the Faithful Departed. If we should come to the end of our life here on earth, and the task of our perfection is not complete, then God in His love and mercy makes good our purification.

This we call purgatory. It is yet another sign of God's great longing to have us with Him in heaven. This process of healing and cleansing is greatly helped by our prayers. The work is concluded

the sooner, for our requests are powerful. The souls in purgatory are indeed holy: they are heading to paradise. They can, in their turn, pray for us. Let us not forget that they are our family in the Lord and perhaps our own flesh and blood.

In years to come, we may in fact hope for help in our own time in purgatory and so it is only right to heed the call to prayer in November. Furthermore, the All Souls Day Indulgence is a real gift of grace and pardon from God through His church. Let not a watery liberalism suggest that indulgences are no longer valuable.

If you wish your departed relatives to be remembered in Mass, please give me all their names on a slip of paper. No cash is involved. May God bless you.



Dom Michael Clothier
Parish Priest

November 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 or call (01761 235323)

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

The monthly Mass in the Extraordinary Form is today in the Abbey Crypt at 11.15am. The readings and prayers will be from the Fourth Sunday remaining after Epiphany.

Robert Barron's Catholicism course will begin on Wednesday, 7th November at 7pm in the Abbey Visitor Centre. We will begin the DVD at 7.15pm and it will be followed by discussion. The first session is called, "Amazed and Afraid. The Revelation of God Become Man". We will finish by 8:45pm. All are welcome.

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 or 01179 428 328

Marking the centenary of the Armistice that ended the First World War, the Mendip Male Voice Choir are holding a **Remembrance Concert** at St John's Church on Saturday 10th November at 7.30pm. Besides the choir performing, there will be some congregational singing, readings and a performance by soloist Hannah Drury. Entrance is free but there will be a retiring collection for the local Royal British Legion.

Next Sunday, 11th November, is **Remembrance Sunday** and the 100th Anniversary of the end of the First World War. Parishioners are invited to attend a brief Remembrance Service at the War Memorial in Stratton-on-the-Fosse starting at 10:45am. After the short service, led by the new Rector of Stratton, Rev. Esther Smith, the sounding of the Last Post and the customary silence parishioners can return to St Benedict's for the 11am Mass, which will start once the service at the War Memorial is finished.

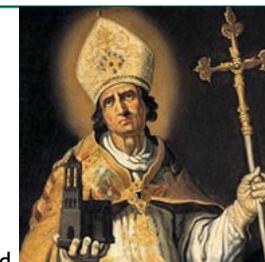
There will be a **Soup and Cheese lunch in aid of CAFOD and the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal** on Wednesday 14th November in St Benedict's Parish Centre from 12 Midday-2pm. Entrance £4.

CAFOD Mass of Remembrance at 7pm on Wednesday 14th November 2018 at Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Cheltenham Road East, Churchdown, Gloucester. Everybody is welcome to attend. If you would like to remember a loved one please send their names to clifton@cafod.org.uk or phone 0117 942 8328 by 9th November.

'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).

The **Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)** is holding its **Annual General Meeting** in the Parish Hall after the 5pm Mass on Saturday 24th November. This will give parishioners the chance to hear what the PPC has done during the year and what is being planned for the year ahead. All parishioners are invited to come along.

Martyrology: St Willibrord was born in Northumbria in about 658. He studied at the monastery in Ripon under St Wilfrid and spent 12 years studying in Ireland at Rathmelsigi Abbey under St Egbert and St Wigbert. After his ordination he set out for Frisia with a dozen companions in 690. He founded the monastery of Echternach in Luxembourg, which served as a missionary base, and from there the mission spread into Denmark and Upper Friesland. He was ordained a Bishop by Pope Sergius and in 695 he founded the See of Utrecht. He faced many dangers from pagans and one nearly murdered him when he tore down a pagan idol. In 714 Duke Radbod reclaimed the extensive territories and Willibrord had to watch his work being virtually undone. After Radbod's death he started again with great enthusiasm and received much assistance from St Boniface. He is known as the Apostle of the Frisians. He died at Echternach on 7th November 739.



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: St Augustine of Canterbury, Frenchay; St John Fisher, Kingswood; Our Lady of Lourdes and St Bernadette, Chipping Sodbury; St Lawrence, Yate.

Ecumenical prayer intention: St Benedict's, Stratton on Fosse.

If you would like to receive the **newsletter by email**, please contact Steve Parsons sparsons@downside.co.uk

The Parish Collection: Last week raised: £418.78

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.

The **Red APF boxes** are now ready for collection.

Christmas raffle tickets are now available to purchase.

We have been given a generous donation towards the Foodbank, very many thanks!!