

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 9.30-12.30 Monday to Saturday and 11.15-5.45 on Sundays during the summer

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.

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EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY YEAR B – 5th August 2018

“I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never be hungry.” (Jn 6:35)

The readings over the next few Sundays focus our attention on the Eucharist. The first readings from the Old Testament look at the ways in which the history of Israel prepared the Church for the sacrament; the second readings tell us of the ways in which the early Church understood holy communion and celebrated it. The Gospel readings all come from John 6, a long

speech of Jesus in which he lays out a whole theology of the Eucharist. The Fourth Gospel was probably the last to be written (c. 95 AD) and does not have an account of the institution of the eucharist at the Last Supper. This is probably because the author felt this had been dealt with in this speech, known as the “I am the bread of life discourse”, which follows the account of the Feeding of the 5000.

Today's first reading and Gospel focus on the way in which God provides food for his people. The Israelites have left Egyptian slavery and all the certainty that offered – including food. They are now in the desert, on their way to the Promised Land, and in the midst of their complaints about food God provides them with manna for their journey. This is the bread that God gives them and which gives them the strength to continue on their journey, confident that God will provide for his people. This is the food that God provides for us today and every time we receive Holy Communion. It gives us strength and the knowledge of God's presence with us.



Dom Anselm Brumwell
Sub-Prior

August Needs

Tinned tomatoes/Meat soups
Sponge puddings/Coffee
Drinking chocolate/Brown sauce & ketchup/Powdered milk/UHT milk
Deodorants (not aerosol)/Razors/ Household cleaners (not bleach)/Toilet cleaner/Washing up liquid/Kitchen rolls



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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Mass in the Extraordinary Form is **TODAY** in the Crypt Chapel at 11.15am. The prayers and readings are for the 11th week after Pentecost.

CAFOD Share the Journey: Inspired by Pope Francis' special concern for migrants and refugees, CAFOD is inviting us to join the "Share the Journey" campaign. The Church worldwide is committed to sharing the journey of people on the move. World leaders must be moved to do the same as they negotiate two global agreements on refugees and migration in Autumn 2018. As an act of solidarity to Share the Journey with our global neighbours fleeing their homes, CAFOD is asking us to help to walk 24,900 miles - the distance around the whole world. As I write, this distance has just been achieved by the Catholic parishes and schools in England and Wales. So we are now attempting to walk around the world again! We are also being asked to urge the Prime Minister to ensure the human dignity of migrants and refugees is at the heart of the UN Global Compacts (agreements) which are being negotiated in the Autumn. At St Benedict's, we are planning a 1 mile walk next week on **Sunday 12th August at 2.30pm** from the Church towards the Abbey and through the Abbey grounds, then towards Chilcompton and back. We will make sure we do not go on any roads and the walk will be as accessible as possible to wheelchairs, buggies and families. Every mile completed by every individual will count towards the CAFOD grand total. We will start off at the Parish Centre with some words of introduction and reflection, do the walk, stopping for reflective readings on the way and returning to the Parish Centre where we will invite all participants to sign the campaign cards. After the walk we will have a shared tea in the Parish Centre, so all contributions of sandwiches, scones and cakes would be gratefully received. If anyone is unable to walk the distance we would like to invite them to join us in spirit and in prayer and then to share tea with us in the Parish Centre. We would expect to finish the walk by 3.30pm. We do hope that you will put this date in your diaries and join us to "Share the Journey".

The **annual parish BBQ** will now be after the 5pm Mass on Saturday 1st September.

During the weekend of the 7-9 September 2018, **Young Catholic Adults will be running a retreat at Douai Abbey**, featuring Fr Lawrence Lew O.P. and Canon Poucin. The weekend will be full-board. YCA will be running the weekend with the Schola Gregoriana of Cambridge who will be holding Gregorian Chant workshops. There will also be a Marian Procession, Rosaries, Sung Masses, Confession, talks (on the beauty of silence in the Mass plus social media and evangelization) and socials. All Masses will be celebrated in the Extraordinary Form. Please note to guarantee your place this year Douai Abbey have requested that everyone books in 3 weeks before the start of the weekend i.e. 17th Aug 2018. To book visit bookwhen.com/youngcatholicadults-douai2018

Martyrology: St Teresa Benedicta of the

Cross was born to observant Jewish parents in 1891 on the Jewish fast day of Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement) and given the name Edith Stein. She became an atheist by her teenage years and in 1915 she interrupted her philosophical studies to become a nursing assistant and work in a hospital for those suffering infectious diseases. She completed her doctorate on "The Problem of Empathy" at the University of Göttingen, after which she went to work at the University of Freiburg. She became a Catholic on 1 January 1922 and her conversion seems to have been influenced by two factors: on a visit to Frankfurt Cathedral she saw an old lady go in, put down her shopping and pray; she read the autobiography of St Teresa of Avila. After teaching at a Dominican girls' school in Speyer, where she translated Aquinas' treatise on truth into German before moving to teach in Münster in 1932, but anti-semitic legislation meant that she had to resign her post in 1933. In the same year she entered a monastery of Discalced Carmelites in Cologne, where she took the name Teresa Benedicta of the Cross in honour of St Teresa of Avila and St Benedict, since she had spent a number of retreats at Beuron Abbey, where the Abbot had been of great help to her. As the Nazi regime began to persecute anyone who had a Jewish background the Carmelites moved her and her sister to Echt in the Netherlands, but they were arrested in 1942 with 243 baptised Jews and were sent to Auschwitz where they were gassed. She offered her sufferings "to the heart of Jesus as a sacrifice of atonement for true peace". She was declared a patron of Europe by St John Paul II.



We pray for the sick of our parish, especially Basil Durnford, Margaret Reynolds, 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: All chaplaincies to HM Forces in the Diocese.

Ecumenical prayer intention: St Nicholas, Radstock.

The Parish Collection: Last week raised: £285.77

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the crypt chapel will be from 9.30-12.30 Monday to Saturday, and from 11.15-5.45 on Sundays during the summer.