

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.

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Assistant Parish Priest: Dom Boniface Hill. Tel: 01761 235115

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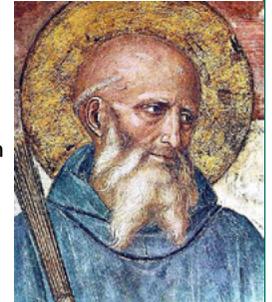
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FOURTEENTH SUNDAY YEAR B – 8th July 2018

“The Lord said, ‘My grace is enough for you: my power is at its best in weakness’
(2 Cor. 12:9)

On Wednesday July 11th, we celebrate the Feast of St Benedict, Patron of Europe. This is an important reminder that the peace and unity of our neighbour nations is not a matter of politics or economics but rather of grace. We owe our culture and our values to St Benedict and his monks, who made our lands great in a time of darkness, and provided light and hope for the ages that lay ahead. And we are indeed the inheritors of that wonderful Benedictine vision of hospitality, study, work and prayer. The cathedrals of our lands in many cases, perhaps all, bear witness to that inspiration, and the technology of building owes much to the monks and their craft tradition.

It is not too fanciful to say that, without our realising it, the finest and most enduring qualities of our society are Christian and monastic. One has only to think of our concern for the poor and weak and marginal. And of course, ecology and the environment are deeply religious matters. Nature has a dignity and value that is not to be weighed in mere cash terms. Nature exists for the glory of God. Let mankind therefore love and respect our planet, its resources and its inhabitants. In a culture of death may we protect and love the wondrous gift of life, especially in the womb. We are today faced with a direct challenge from a secular world with the not so secret agenda of the destruction of Faith. May Saint Benedict's prayers enable us to stand up in defence and proclamation of Europe and her mission to the world of our time. Amen



Dom Michael Clothier
Parish Priest

July Needs

Brown sauce & ketchup
Steam puddings/Rice puddings
Tinned meat pies/Instant mash
Long life fruit juice/Milk powder
Coffee
Conditioner/Deodorant
Shower gel/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)

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

This week there will be a **second collection for the Apostleship of the Sea**. They provide practical and pastoral care to all seafarers, regardless of nationality, belief or race. Port chaplains and volunteer ship visitors welcome seafarers, offer welfare services and advice, practical help, care and friendship. 90% of world trade is transported by ship, but the life of a modern seafarer can be dangerous and lonely. They may spend up to a year at a time away from home, separated from their family and loved ones and often working in harsh conditions. The Apostleship of the Sea relies wholly on voluntary contributions.

This weekend, 7th and 8th July, the Parish Pastoral Council would like everyone to fill in a **short questionnaire** in order to find out what you think about the parish, the Mass you attend, what we can do better and what we do well. We can then use this information in order to consider future developments. Many thanks for your help.

This year's **Glastonbury Pilgrimage** will be on **Sunday, 8th July**. Please put the date in your diary. The timetable for the day is: 12-3: Confessions and Healing Prayer; 2.15pm Rosary Procession from the abbey grounds; 3.30pm Mass in the abbey grounds celebrated by the Bishop.

Wednesday, 11th July is the feast of **St Benedict**, the parish patronal feast. Mass will be at 8:35am in the abbey as usual.

We **congratulate Tony and Jose Jones** who are celebrating 65 years of marriage on the feast of St Benedict 11th July. Mass will be offered for them.

The **annual parish BBQ** will be after the 6pm Mass on Sunday, 2nd 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

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!

Martyrology: St Benedict was born in Norcia, near Rome, in about 480. He went to Rome for his education, but left when he saw the immoral nature of life in that city. Even as a youth he performed a number of miracles, such as fixing a wheat-sifter that his nurse had borrowed and then broke. He lived for a while as a hermit at Subiaco, not even knowing when Easter was until a local priest brought him a meal in order to celebrate the feast. Three years later some local monks asked him to be their abbot. He initially refused, saying that he would be too strict for them, but eventually he gave in. Before long the monks of Vicovaro decided that they really did not want him to be their abbot and tried to poison him. They poisoned a cup of wine, but it broke when he blessed it, and they also poisoned some bread, which a raven took away. He took the hint and returned to Subiaco. Gradually men came to join him and later a community was founded at Monte Cassino. The community grew and a number of other monasteries were founded in the hills around Rome. St Gregory the Great wrote about the life of St Benedict in the second book of his *Dialogues*. He died in about 547 at Monte Cassino, where he is buried with his sister, St Scholastica, who had become a nun in a monastery nearby.



We pray for the sick of our parish, especially Kathleen Kidman, 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.

Please pray for David Evans, who died recently. His funeral service will be at 1pm on Friday, 13th July in St Benedict's.

Diocesan prayer intention: Corpus Christi, Our Lady of Lourdes, St Joseph, Weston Super Mare.

Ecumenical prayer intention: Trinity Church, Westfield.

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.

The Parish Collection: Last week raised: £419.69