

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 Leo Maidlow Davis. Tel: 01761 235107

www.downsideabbey.co.uk

monks@downside.co.uk

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Registered Charity Number 1158507

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Sixth Sunday Year C - 17th February 2019

'A blessing on the man who puts his trust in the Lord, with the Lord for his hope' (Jeremiah 17, 7).

Bishop Declan hopes that St Luke's Gospel 'will shape and fashion us in prayer' during this year in which the Diocese is dedicating itself afresh to prayer in Christ. In his last letter to priests, Bishop Declan has asked us to keep the people of Yemen in our prayers as they are living in a desperate



situation. Their suffering is one of the greatest humanitarian crises in the world today. After nearly 4 years of war, more than 14 million people are facing starvation and 85,000 children may have already died from extreme hunger since 2015. Now there are some signs of hope dawning, and food and medicine may be allowed in. Bishop Declan asks us to say this prayer: *Giver of Life, who hears the cries from Yemen; of mothers choosing between medicine or food, of parents grieving for children lost to starvation, of those who have given up everything in hunger. Hear our cries for hope, for change, for peace. In your mercy break political deadlocks, soften hardened hearts, change closed minds, open unhearing ears. Let people come before power; let life be holy again; let your justice and peace shape the nation of Yemen and the lives of all people. Amen.*

Dom Leo Maidlow-Davis
Assistant Parish Priest

February Needs

Long life fruit juice
Brown sauce, Ketchup
Tinned vegetables, Tinned spaghetti
Coffee
Tinned rice pudding.



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.downsideabbey.co.uk
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Ash Wednesday, 6th March. We begin our celebration of Lent with Mass and the distribution of ashes in St Benedict's at 7pm.

St. Vincent de Paul National Raffle tickets are available to buy in the church porch in aid of raising funds to support the SVP's 'work with people facing isolation, loneliness and a daily struggle with poverty' in England and Wales. Tickets cost £1 each and there are various cash prizes.

The life of Dom Joseph Coombe-Tennant is the subject of a talk by historian Bernard Lewis on Wednesday 27th February at 11am. Join us for tea & pastries in the Abbey Visitor Centre and hear the incredible stories of a man who escaped a German POW camp, joined Special Operations, worked for MI5 and eventually became a monk and parish priest of St Hugh's, Radstock. Donations will be welcomed and for more information email sparsons@downside.co.uk or call 01761 235323

The Downside Heritage Department is running its latest exhibition *Voices from the Cloister* every second and fourth Thursday of the month from January until 11th April. The next exhibition is 28th February. Material exhibited will include medieval manuscripts, vestments and reliquaries. Tickets cost £10 per person and include a tour of the abbey church and must be bought through our website. www.downsideabbey.co.uk/product-category/events/library-events/

CAFOD Planning Meeting will take place on Saturday 2nd March at St John the Evangelist Church Parish Hall in Bath from 11am-1pm. A free meal is provided as are ideas for your parish for Lent. RSVP to Liz Clifton@cafod.org.uk

Healing Service at St John's Bath at 7pm on Friday 22nd February. These healing Masses take place in St John's on the last Friday of every month.

The annual **St Patrick's party** will take place in the parish room on Saturday 16th March from 6.30pm. Tickets cost £5 a head to include a supper of Irish stew and a drink. There will be music to sing along to and a raffle so come and join us for a fun evening. Add your name to the list at the back of the church for catering purposes and if you can help in any way there is a separate list for volunteers.

Children's Easter Egg Hunt will take place after 11am Mass on Easter Sunday 21st April. Please add your children's names to the list at the back of the church so that we know how many prizes we need to buy.

Maytime Quiz and supper. Date to be arranged. Watch this space!

First Communion Prayer Sponsors. We are looking for people who would be willing to be prayer sponsors for the children doing their First Holy Communion. Please speak to Emily at the end of the 9am Mass or call her on 01761 751774. Thank you.

Martyrology: St Peter Damian's feast falls on Thursday 21st February. He was born in Ravenna in 1007. He suffered as a child through lack of parental affection. He joined the hermit monks of Fonte Avellana, seeking a life of solitude and prayer. However, he was made Bishop of Ostia, and worked strenuously by his writing and preaching to reform abuses in the Church. He died in 1072.



We pray for the sick of our parish, especially Laurence Bloom-Davis, Sarah Molony, Elizabeth Green, Annie Carter, Brian Auty, Basil Durnford, Margaret Reynolds, Dolores Niles, Sheila Noad, Marie-Louise McGarvey 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 Link: Please pray for the churches of the Immaculate Conception, Clevedon with Yatton, St Francis of Assisi, Nailsea, and St Joseph, Portishead.

Ecumenical Prayer Intention: Please pray for the Rev Martin Slocombe and for Trinity Radstock and Westfield

The Parish Collection: Last week raised: £279.96

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

If you are new to our parish or are visiting, please make yourself known to Dom Michael or Dom Leo. If you are at the 10am Mass in the Abbey, please make yourself known to the priest saying the Mass.

If you are in Year 9 or above and would like **to be confirmed** this year, please contact Dom Michael or Dom Leo in order that a suitable preparation course can be organised. The Bishop will come to administer the sacrament of confirmation on Friday, 17th May at 6.30pm. Please also get in touch **if you are an adult** who has not been confirmed – it is never too late!

Internships for Young Catholics: The Catholic Parliamentary and Public Affairs Internship Scheme is recruiting at least six recently graduated Catholics to learn from an intensive experience of political and social action in a spiritual context. The scheme will run from September 2019 until July 2020. The closing date for applications is 28th February 2019. For more information go to: www.faithinpolitics.org.uk