

# 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](http://www.downsideabbey.co.uk)

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01761 235100

Registered Charity Number 1158507

# DOWNSIDE ABBEY

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### Seventh Sunday Year C – 24<sup>th</sup> February 2019

*Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. (Luke 6, 35)*



Sebastian Morello, the main speaker at last weekend's Young Catholic Adults Retreat, urged his listeners to remember that Christ instituted the Church to make the world holy. We cannot be content to merge quietly into what he described as the dictatorship of moderation that is painting our world grey. As Catholics we must not mix darkness with light or allow moderation and materialism to neutralise the astounding invasion of God's love into our world that is Jesus Christ. Grey is a forbidden colour in icons, and we are icons of Christ. Catholics should stand out as highly coloured and joyful in a grey world. We are bearers of glad tidings that Christ commands us to proclaim. To strengthen our colourfulness in our daily life, please read the item 'Your parish needs you!' and consider carefully, courageously and generously what you may be able to contribute. The more you give, the more you will be given.

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](mailto:sparsons@downside.co.uk) or call 01761 235323)

[www.downsideabbey.co.uk](http://www.downsideabbey.co.uk)  
[monks@downside.co.uk](mailto:monks@downside.co.uk) 01761 235100

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**Your parish needs you!** The Parish Pastoral Council are seeking volunteers to help with the weekly Masses. We are looking for more Readers, Servers, Eucharistic Ministers, helpers with the Children's Liturgy and Sacristans. In a new development we are also trying to create a team to be responsible for writing the Prayers of the Faithful. Our aim is to get more parishioners involved. If you are willing to help please sign the forms on the lectern in the porch.

**Soup and Cheese Lunch** on Wednesday 13th March 12pm-2pm in aid of CAFOD, in the parish room of St Benedict's Church. Entrance £4 with a raffle and bring-and-buy table. Please come and taste some of our delicious soups and support this worthwhile charity.

**Ash Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> March.** We begin our celebration of Lent with Mass and the distribution of ashes in St Benedict's at 7pm. There will also be a Mass at 10am in the Abbey Church.

Starting Friday March 8th. and every Friday during Lent, we will be praying **The Stations Of The Cross** at 7pm at St Benedict's. It takes about fifteen minutes and all are invited to come.

This year the **World Day of Prayer service** is on Friday 1st March at 2pm in St John's, Midsomer Norton. All are welcome.

**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

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!

**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/](http://www.downsideabbey.co.uk/product-category/events/library-events/)

**Martyrology: St David** Born around 500, St David is the patron saint of Wales and is renowned as a preacher and teacher. He is also known for founding monastic settlements including the site of the current St David's Cathedral in Pembrokeshire, Wales. There is also a belief that he may have been involved in the founding of Glastonbury Abbey. St David lived a simple life, refraining from meat and beer and his symbol is the leek. His feast day is the 1st March.



**We pray for the sick of our parish,** especially Ron Pullen, Laurence Bloom-Davis, Sarah Molony, 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:** St Margaret Mary, Coleford; Our Lady of Victories, Cinderford; Our Lady of Lourdes, Newent, with Blaisdon.

**The Parish Collection:** Last week raised: £358.57

If you would like to receive the **newsletter by email**, please contact Steve Parsons [sparsons@downside.co.uk](mailto: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](http://www.faithinpolitics.org.uk)

**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.