

# 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)

[monks@downside.co.uk](mailto:monks@downside.co.uk)

01761 235100

Registered Charity Number 1158507

# Downside Abbey

## St Benedict's Parish Newsletter

### THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT C 24<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2019

*And God also said to Moses, 'You are to say to the sons of Israel: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.' (Exodus 3, 15)*

It was a privilege to be invited on Wednesday to present a monstrance to St Bede's Catholic College in Bristol so that the pupils and staff can have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the chapel at the centre of their School on Fridays. St Bede's is a school that specialises in the sciences. The calm and respectful demeanour of the pupils was inspiring, as was the realisation that they are being taught not merely to analyse creation, but, much more profoundly, to wonder and adore. After Mass more than four hundred pupils adored the Blessed Sacrament exposed, many for the first time. I was reminded of St Augustine's words: 'A life without eternity is unworthy of the name of life. Only eternal life is true'.

Adoration at Downside has been taking place daily in the Crypt Chapel since the Feast of All Saints 2017. The Chapel is open for anyone to adore because of the dedication to Adoration of regular Adorers. During Lent do come and take part in this wonderful opportunity so close to hand.



Dom Leo Maidlow-Davis,  
Assistant Parish Priest

#### March Needs

Jam, Rice pudding, Sponge puddings  
Coffee, Tuna Fish, Ketchup,  
Brown sauce, Macaroni cheese, Fruit juice, Squash,  
Cuppa soup, Tinned spaghetti, Meat pies, Corned beef.



#### 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

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[monks@downside.co.uk](mailto:monks@downside.co.uk) 01761 235100

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**Easter duties.** The Church calls upon us to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation at least once a year, if possible in the Easter season (Ash Wednesday to Pentecost).

**Triduum times:** The Triduum will be celebrated in St Benedict's at the following times:  
Maundy Thursday: 8 p.m.  
Good Friday: 3 p.m.  
The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night: 9 p.m.

The **Stations of the Cross** on **Friday 12 April** will be led by some of the young members of our parish. The service will start at **6pm** on this Friday only. If you would like your child to take part please contact Coralie O'Gorman on 07871410557 or Rosie Harrington on 07970016334.

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.

St. Benedict's Catholic Primary School **Lent Reconciliation Service** on Wednesday 27th March at 11.30am. All welcome.

Downside School's Spring Choral Concert, **Gloria!**, will be on Thursday 28th March at 7 p.m. in the Abbey Church. With repertoire from Poulenc, Elgar and Parry, the event features the Downside School Schola Cantorum, Downside Festival Orchestra and Soprano Esther Mallet, amongst others. Tickets are free and must be booked from [www.downside.co.uk](http://www.downside.co.uk)

**Children's Easter Egg Hunt** will take place after 11 a.m. 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.

On the last Friday of each month at 7 p. m. there is a **healing service at St John's, Bath**. Mass, prayers and Exposition and Confessions are all available. The service is open to all, non-Catholics as well as Catholics. Many go on behalf of others. After the Mass, those attending may come up in a line to be prayed with by the Priests and their Assistants. The next Healing Service will take place on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March.

**Syrian Refugee tells his story at the Ammerdown Centre.** You are invited to Ammerdown to hear Abdulazez Dukhan, a young Syrian refugee, tell of leaving his home as a boy of 14 and of the thousands of miles he has subsequently travelled. He is calling his talk *Through Refugee Eyes*. He will be speaking at 7 p. m. on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April. Admission will be free, but you are invited to make a donation on the night towards refugee work. Please do not miss this very special opportunity.



The **Parish Maintenance Team's** next maintenance day is Saturday 20th April.

**Martyrology: The Annunciation.** Mary says, 'Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it done unto me according to your word.' And thus, in the fullness of time, the only begotten Son of God, who was before the ages, was made flesh by the Holy Spirit for us and for our salvation and became man of the Virgin Mary. There will be a Mass in the Holy Ghost Church on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March at 9.30 a.m. Mass on Monday 25<sup>th</sup>, the actual day of the Feast, will be offered in the Abbey Church at 8.35 a.m.

**We pray for the sick of our parish.** Lent is a good time to refresh our parish list of those to pray for who are sick. If you would like to be prayed for or if there is someone else you would like to see on our list, and if you are sure they would be happy to be on the list, then please tell Fr Michael or Fr Leo.

**Diocesan Prayer Link:** St Stanislaus, Dulverton and Sacred Heart, Minehead, with Watchet

**Ecumenical Prayer Link:** Radstock Baptist Church

**The Parish Collection:** Last week raised: £456.30 and £382.52 for CAFOD

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 10 a. m. Mass in the Abbey, please make yourself known to the priest saying the Mass.

**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 March**. 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/)

**St. Vincent de Paul (SVP)** Thank you to everyone who bought National Raffle tickets. We raised £46.00 for the SVP's National work in England & Wales. The draw will take place on 28th March.

A huge thank you to all who helped to make the **St Patrick's night party** such a fantastic evening. Thanks to those who prepared or served food, decorated the hall and donated the table centres, provided the music and the Irish set dancing or contributed to raffle prizes and particularly to the 70+ people who attended and sang and danced their hearts out. A good time was had by all! The Irish Dancers have since been in touch, commenting on the warm welcome they received and how much they enjoyed the evening.

