

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B - 27th October 2024

St Benedict's Parish Newsletter Stratton-on-the-Fosse

parish@downsideabbey.co.uk - Tel: 01761 880167 (Answer Machine)



Sunday Masses

Saturday	5.00pm	St Benedict's
Sunday	10.00am	Abbey Church
Sunday	11.00am	St Benedict's

Fr Martin will be away for a few days with the Community of St Gregory at Buckfast Abbey between Monday October 28th and the afternoon of Thursday October 31st

Confirmation This morning we welcome Fleur Turner and Richard Packer – two new Catholics – to the sacrament of Confirmation in St Benedict's. Teenage members of the parish are invited to join the group currently preparing to be confirmed on 2nd May 2025 (when Bishop Bosco will be at Downside Abbey);

Fr Martin can receive the faculty from the Bishop for the Confirmation of adults. In some Catholic countries (such as Spain and the Philippines) Confirmation is a prerequisite for Marriage in the Church and two of our current adult candidates are seeking Confirmation as part of their preparation for convalidation by the Church of an earlier civil wedding

Holy Souls From the beginning of November, we shall be remembering and praying for our loved ones who have gone before us. Please place your prayer requests in an envelope and give them to Father who will make sure they are on the altar. Holy Souls boxes will be at the back of St Benedict's and at Holy Ghost Church from 1st November for donations. If you would like your donation to be linked to a specific Mass intention, please speak to Fr Martin (your Mass intentions are now published on the notice-board near the photocopier – in the 'nuns' parlour' by the confessional – at the back of St Benedict's)

All Saints' Day – Holy Day of Obligation

As another year approaches its end, the Church reminds us that we are a Communion of Saints as well as sinners: in October we've celebrated some 'new' saints – SS John Henry Newman & Pope John-Paul II – as well as the old favourites. We shall end the Month of the Rosary with the Glorious Mysteries at 7 pm on October 31st; on November 1st there will be the usual Holy Day Masses: 9.30 am in Midsomer Norton and 6.30 pm in Stratton

Weekday Masses

Thursday 31st October— 30th week in OT	6..30pm	St Benedict's
Rosary	7pm	
Friday 1st November—All Saints—Holy Day of Obligation	9.30am 6.30 pm	Holy Ghost St Benedict's
Saturday 2nd November—All Souls,	9.30am	St Benedict's

Month of the Rosary On the remaining Thursdays of October we shall pray the four distinctive groups of Mysteries of the Rosary (joyful, sorrowful, luminous and glorious) after the evening Mass. This could provide an opportunity for all to rediscover the prayer of the Rosary in its entirety. The prayer lasts about twenty minutes starting around **7 pm on Thursday**

CAFOD-DEC Middle East Humanitarian Appeal

The conflict in the Middle East is getting worse and the families affected need our help. Please donate today to the CAFOD-DEC Middle East Humanitarian Appeal and support our local Caritas partners in Gaza and Lebanon as they continue to provide essential food, water and shelter: cafod.org.uk/give

New Sunday Missal – A new Lectionary comes into force on **1st December** this year:- the readings and psalms in the first half of Mass will have new translations (English Standard Version – Catholic Edition – and Abbey Psalter). New Missals are being published accordingly and the new Hodder & Stoughton Sunday Missal will be available for parishes at a reduced price in time for Christmas – please see notices at the back of church

Foodbank Needs— Long Life Fruit Juice (non fridge), Sponge Puddings, Coffee, Milk Powder, Brown Sauce, Red Sauce—Ketchup, Savoury Rice, Shampoo.

Parish Safeguarding – The Parish safeguarding representative is Hugh Walters and can be contacted on hughwalters64@gmail.com or 07552 467240. The safeguarding co-ordinator is Andy Kings and he can be contacted on 0136645577 or 07881 7541214

Parish Collections— A Dona Card Donation machine has been installed in the Abbey Church and is configured to take donations for St Benedict's as well as the Abbey Church, guide books and candles.

First reading—Jeremiah 31:7-9

I will guide them by a smooth path where they will not stumble

The Lord says this:

Shout with joy for Jacob!

Hail the chief of nations!

Proclaim! Praise! Shout:

‘The Lord has saved his people,
the remnant of Israel!’

See, I will bring them back
from the land of the North
and gather them from the far ends of earth;
all of them: the blind and the lame,
women with child, women in labour:
a great company returning here.

They had left in tears,
I will comfort them as I lead them back;
I will guide them to streams of water,
by a smooth path where they will not stumble.
For I am a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my first-born son.

Responsorial Psalm—Psalm 125(126)

What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
it seemed like a dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs.

2. The heathens themselves said: ‘What marvels
the Lord worked for them!’

What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad.

3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.

Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap.

4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing:
they come back, they come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves.

Second reading—Hebrews 5:1-6

**‘You are a priest of the order
of Melchizedek, and for ever’**

Every high priest has been taken out of mankind and is appointed to act for men in their relations with God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins; and so he can sympathise with those who are ignorant or uncertain because he too lives in the limitations of weakness. That is why he has to make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people. No one takes this honour on himself, but each one is called by God, as Aaron was. Nor did Christ give himself the glory of becoming high priest, but he had it from the one who said to him: *You are my son, today I have become your father*, and in another text: *You are a priest of the order of Melchizedek, and for ever*.

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
anyone who follows me will have the light of life.
Alleluia!

Gospel—Mark 10:46-52

Go; your faith has saved you

As Jesus left Jericho with his disciples and a large crowd, Bartimaeus (that is, the son of Timaeus), a blind beggar, was sitting at the side of the road. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout and to say, ‘Son of David, Jesus, have pity on me.’ And many of them scolded him and told him to keep quiet, but he only shouted all the louder, ‘Son of David, have pity on me.’ Jesus stopped and said, ‘Call him here.’ So they called the blind man. ‘Courage,’ they said ‘get up; he is calling you.’ So throwing off his cloak, he jumped up and went to Jesus. Then Jesus spoke, ‘What do you want me to do for you?’ ‘Rabbuni,’ the blind man said to him ‘Master, let me see again.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Go; your faith has saved you.’ And immediately his sight returned and he followed him along the road.

30th Sunday Today’s Gospel gives us one of the most climactic of our Lord’s miracles – the last one before his triumphal entry into the Holy City, where the miracle of His own Person would come into its own. The blind beggar, Bartimaeus, whom Jesus cured as he was leaving Jericho for Jerusalem, becomes a pivotal witness to this stage of the Lord’s long journey towards the Jewish capital and the Roman garrisons holding it in captivity. In the last moments of his blindness, just prior to the cure, Bartimaeus hails Jesus as ‘Son of David’ (anticipating the crowds who would welcome him at his entry into the great city) and invokes the deep pity of Jesus as suffering servant for suffering humanity - the key to the working of the miracle as the Lord’s pilgrimage nears its climax. Chief representative of the Remnant of Israel, Great High Priest for Christianity, ‘taken out of mankind’ as the envoy both of God and of fallen humanity, Jesus (for Bartimaeus and his other followers) is already disclosing the ingredients of his future triumph in the outskirts of Jericho. During the Month of the Rosary, we’re able to begin further back with the First Joyful Mystery (‘Let it be done .. according to thy word’): the prayer of Our Lady was also the prayer of Jesus in his ascent towards Jerusalem

Prayer Corner –

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.



Memorial Acclamation

**When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we
proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come
again**