

DOWNSIDE ABBEY

ST BENEDICT'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

Mass & Office Times

Everyone is welcome

Masses in St Benedict's church

Saturday Vigil Mass 5 p.m.

Sunday Masses 9 a.m. 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.

Weekday Masses in Holy Ghost church, Midsomer Norton

Tuesday, Friday & Saturday at 9.45 a.m.

Confessions

Saturdays at Holy Ghost from 10.15-11 a.m.

Sundays in St Benedict's from 10.15-10.45 a.m.

Sundays in the Abbey church from 9.35-9.55 a.m.

Regular events

Adoration 9.30-5pm Monday to Saturday and 11.30-6 p.m. on Sundays

Prayer group on Mondays at 7.30 p.m. in Holy Ghost church

Rosary on Thursdays at 7 p.m. in St Benedict's

The Abbey Church

Weekdays

Vigils 6 a.m.

Lauds 7.10 a.m.

Mass 8.35 a.m.

Midday Office 12.30 p.m.

Vespers 6 p.m.

Sundays

Lauds 7.30 a.m.

Mass 10 a.m.

Midday Office 12.30 p.m.

Vespers/Benediction 5 p.m.

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

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Registered Charity Number 1158507

DOWNSIDE ABBEY

ST BENEDICT'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT C 7TH APRIL 2019

'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go away, and do not sin any more'
(John 8, 11).



Saying Grace, by Norman Rockwell

Privatisation is a constant temptation and is especially powerful in our days. It is easy to despair of others and to try to content ourselves with a private version of our Christian faith where we hide it as much as we can from the outside world and even from our fellow Christian brothers and sisters. But this is not the vocation we have received in our Baptism. St Benedict tells his monks that Jesus Christ will 'bring us *all together* to everlasting life', not singly or privately. To help us grow in our awareness of this we have been praying for our neighbour in the pew at our Sunday Masses. St Benedict also tells us to begin anything good that we attempt with prayer. We can follow this empowering advice by praying together as families, especially by saying grace together before our meals. And whenever we meet as communities within the Parish, however small the group, we should begin by praying together so that God himself will bring anything we undertake to perfection.

Dom Leo Maidlow-Davis,
 Assistant Parish Priest

April Needs

Instant Mash/Cuppa soup

Tinned vegetables

Fruit juice/Squash

Jam/Sponge puddings

Washing up liquid/Laundry liquid / powder



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

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 **6 p.m.** 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 7 p.m. at St Benedict's. It takes about fifteen minutes and all are invited to come.

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.

Easter Services – Music: Help is needed with music and singing at all the Easter services. There will be practices on Wednesday 10th April and Tuesday 16th April in the church hall at 7 p.m. If you cannot make a practice but would like to be involved, please contact Julie Justin on 07930 062552, Fr Michael or Fr Leo. Reading music is not essential.

Easter Services – Altar Servers: We would like young servers to be involved in the liturgy over the Easter period. Please contact Fr Michael, Fr Leo, Paul Justin 07723 000142 or Phil Colbourne 01749 840603. Full training will be provided.

Parish Service of Reconciliation: There will be a Service of Reconciliation in St Benedict's Church on Monday 15th April at 7.30 p.m. This service will be a special event in Holy Week and a wonderful preparation for our celebration of the Lord's Passion and Resurrection. There will be three priests available for Confessions.

School of Joy products: Religions items in olive wood or embroidery work made by children in Bethlehem with learning difficulties are newly available in the porch of the Abbey Church. Money given in exchange for these items is sent to the School of Joy, which is a lifeline for poor Christian and Muslim children with learning difficulties who live in the place where Jesus was born. Please be generous.

Vocations Discernment Retreat: A residential Vocations Discernment Retreat, organised by Clifton Diocese and Downside Abbey, will take place at Downside from 18 to 20 October 2019. The Retreat will be for both men and women between the ages of 18 and 35. Invited speakers will look at all vocations. Further information will follow after Easter, but if you would like to be added to the email contact list, please register with Rina rinabird@outlook.com

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

Martyrology: Thursday 11th April is the Feast of St Stanislaus, Patron of Cracow. Stanislaus was a brave reformer of the Church, who was made Bishop of Cracow in 1072. He excommunicated the cruel king Boleslaus the Bold and would stop services when he entered. Boleslaus himself killed Stanislaus while the bishop was celebrating Mass in a chapel outside the city on 11 April 1079. He was canonized in 1253 and is the principal patron of Cracow.



We pray for the sick of our parish especially Ron Pullen. 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 Thomas of Canterbury, Fairford, with Cricklade

Ecumenical Prayer Link: Trinity, Radstock

The Parish Collection: Last week raised: £276.48 and £421.97 for CAFOD

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

Young Catholic Adults Pilgrimage to the Holy Land: Clifton Diocese and Downside Abbey are organizing a Young Catholic Adults Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, 23 July to 1 August 2019. Bookings are still open if you would like to join the existing group of 37 young Catholic adults on pilgrimage to the Holy Land this summer. The group is accompanied by two priests, Fr. Matt Anscombe of Clifton Diocese, and Fr. Anselm Brumwell of Downside. This is an incredible opportunity for you to visit the places where Jesus was born, lived, performed miracles, died and was raised from the dead. The group will also visit historic and cultural sites, and there are opportunities for swimming, camel riding, camping out in the desert with the Bedouin, and even rafting on the Jordan river! This really is an amazing and life changing experience! For more information and to book, please contact Rina rinabird@outlook.com

Many thanks for all your **generosity to CAFOD** in March. Our parish raised a fantastic £534.04 for CAFOD's Family Fast Day and £301.20 at the soup and cheese lunch. Finally last weekend you gave £421.97 for CAFOD's Emergency Appeal for Cyclone Ildai; a magnificent total of £1257.21. Your support will help to bring us closer to a world where no one is beyond reach of the love and care they need to flourish.

St. Vincent de Paul (SVP) Thank you for the donations in our parish SVP collection box.