

DOWNSIDE ABBEY

ST BENEDICT'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

TRINITY SUNDAY (C) 16TH JUNE 2019

'Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, the God who is, who was, and who is to come' (Cf. Revelation 1, 8)

THE FEAST OF THE TRINITY does not celebrate any particular event in salvation history. Such feasts are latecomers to the Roman calendar. The feast of the Trinity was added to the universal calendar only in 1334 by Pope John XXII while the Papacy was in Avignon. Nonetheless belief in the Trinity is the mark of all orthodox Christian believers and the revelation that is the distinctive glory of our faith, a gift of revelation that has not been received by the other great monotheistic traditions.

This Sunday is the appropriate time to honour the mystery of the Trinity. At Easter we celebrated the death and resurrection of God the Son; at the Ascension we recalled the Son's returning to the right hand of his Father, and at Pentecost we received the Holy Spirit who, Jesus promises, will lead us to the complete truth. We could never have discovered the mystery of the Trinity by our unaided reason, even though the divine Trinity is the source and origin of ourselves and everything that exists, so that it is in the Trinity that we live and move and have our being (Acts 17, 28). St John's assertion that 'God is love' shows us that God the Father has never been without a relationship of complete reciprocity with his Son, and, because there is nothing impersonal in God, that relationship is itself a person, the Holy Spirit. The Trinity shows us that we are called to live out a love of complete self-gift in which we hand over everything but never lose our unique personal identity. Indeed it is only in this self-emptying that we will finally discover our true identity and enter fully into the glorious life of the Trinity.



Dom Leo Maidlow Davis

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Registered Charity Number 1158507

Corpus Christi: Sunday 23rd June is the Feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. There will be special events to mark the day which start at 3 p. m.

- Vespers with the monastic community in St Benedict's Church
- Procession with hymns to the Abbey Church for Benediction
- Tea in the Weld Refectory

We hope to see you there!



Join CAFOD and many other charities at an unforgettable event in London on 26th June. Get involved in action for the **campaign against the climate and environmental crisis**, with CAFOD, and tell our leaders that Britain should no longer contribute to the destruction of our common home. You **can** make a difference by joining in – a coach is going from our Clifton Diocese to the Lobby in London. Please register if you would like to attend - see <https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Climate/Climate-lobby> For more details or contact Liz Baldwin at the CAFOD office in Bristol: ebaldwin@cafod.org.uk / 01172 428 328.

The next **Parish Maintenance Day** will be **Saturday 29th June** from 8.30 a. m. onwards

St Augustine's Catholic College, Trowbridge: On Monday 1 July 2019, Year 5 students are invited for a day of fun and reflection if they are contemplating St Augustine's for secondary education. Contact the School Chaplain, Faith Wheat at wheatf@st-augustines.wilts.sch.uk On Wednesday 10th July 2019 there will be an Open Evening at St Augustine's from 6-8 p.m.

Diocesan Day: On **Saturday 6th July** there will be a day for formation, prayer, reflection and conversation at St Brendan's Sixth Form College, Bristol. The Bishop is encouraging all who can to participate.

Parish Pilgrimage to Belmont Abbey and Hereford Cathedral, Saturday July 6th

- 08.45 Coach departs from Abbey Road by St Benedict's Church
- 11.00 Arrival at Belmont Abbey; followed by coffee and tour of Abbey Church
- 12.00 Mass in Belmont Abbey Church; followed by picnic lunch (please bring your own)
- 14.00 Coach to Hereford Cathedral and the Shrine of St Thomas of Hereford
- 15.30 Coach leaves Hereford, stopping for tea on way home (bring money for tea)
- 18.00 Estimated time of return to St Benedict's Church

To celebrate the 40th anniversary of ordination and 25th anniversary as vicar of Midsomer Norton with Clandown of Fr Christopher Chiplin, there is a **celebration of flowers** at St John's, MSN. The event takes place **10am-5pm on Friday 21st and Saturday 22nd June and 2pm-4pm on Sunday 23rd June**. Entry is free but donations are welcome and there will also be refreshments.

Young Catholic Adults Pilgrimage to the Holy Land: Clifton Diocese and Downside Abbey are organizing a Young Catholic Adults Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, **23rd July to 1st 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. For more information and to book, please contact Rina rinabird@outlook.com

Solemn High Mass in the Abbey Church on **Saturday 22nd June** at 11 a. m. In conjunction with the Latin Mass Society, the Mass will also feature the St John's Festival Choir from St John the Evangelist Church, Bath. Tickets are not required and all are welcome to attend.

Safeguarding Officer for the Parish: Paul Justin is now the Safeguarding Officer for our Parish. His photograph and details are available on the Parish Notice Board in the porch. We thank David Stone for the service he has given us in this important role.

We pray for the sick of our parish: Eileen Barratt, who is in Paulton Hospital. Robert Wiseman and James Wiseman are also both in hospital and would appreciate prayers.

Basil Durnford's Requiem Mass will take place in St Benedict's Church at 1.30 p.m. on **Monday 17th June**.

Diocesan Prayer Link: St Joseph, Stonehouse; Annunciation, Woodchester

Ecumenical Prayer Link: Trinity, Westfield

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.

June Needs Meat pies, Corned beef, Coffee, Sponge puddings, Rice puddings, Fruit juice, Instant mash, Milk (UHT AND POWDERED), Shampoo, Toothpaste, Tooth brushes, Deodorant (M/F), Shaving foam, Toilet rolls, Tinned pasta, Kitchen rolls, Ketchup, Brown sauce



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)

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

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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 10.15-11 a.m.

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

Sundays in the Abbey church 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.

Parish Priest: Dom Michael

Clothier. Tel: 01761 235111

Assistant Parish Priest: Dom

Leo Maidlow Davis. Tel: 01761 235107

Martyrology: St Alban is celebrated as the first British martyr, and as such is a protomartyr. St Bede records him as a Roman soldier converted to Christianity, but there is much debate around his life and the dates in which he lived. Many chronicles mention him and it is thought he was martyred by beheading in the now city of St Albans in around AD304.

It is said that St Alban was converted after sheltering a priest in his home for several days and being so impressed with his piety, became a Christian himself. When Roman soldiers came to search for the priest, Alban pretended to be him and was himself arrested.

When told to recant his faith St Alban replied 'I worship and adore the true and living God who created all things.' He was whipped, but after bearing his torture patiently he was sentenced to beheading. The current cathedral now stands on the supposed site of his execution.



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