

DOWNSIDE ABBEY

ST BENEDICT'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)
1ST SEPTEMBER 2019

'For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted' (Luke 14, 11).

A S CATHOLICS we have to be alive to the events, challenges and opportunities of our time. But if we are to make a truly Catholic contribution, if we are to act as salt and light for our world, then we have to know our own tradition as well as we can. A good way to start is to learn something of the



Church's Ecumenical or Universal Councils, which really began after the Emperor Constantine had made Christianity the official religion of the Roman Empire ten years after the Edict of Milan in AD 313. The Councils summoned Bishops and theologians to settle disagreements about vital elements of Christian doctrine that arose as the Church developed. In Catholic tradition Ecumenical Councils are only valid if they are presided over by the Pope as Successor of St Peter, either in person or through his representatives. Here are the first seven Ecumenical or world-wide Councils for us to memorise. The First Council of Nicaea (325), the First Council of Constantinople (381), the Council of Ephesus (431), the Council of Chalcedon (451), the Second Council of Constantinople (553), the Third Council of Constantinople from 680–681 and finally, the Second Council of Nicaea (787). In the coming weeks we will look briefly at each Council. The problems they tackled are not remote from our times. The Councils keep us open to the mystery of our redemption in Christ rather than permitting human ways of thinking (flesh and blood) to become an obstacle to God, our Father in Heaven (cf. Matthew 16, 17).

Dom Leo Maidlow Davis

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Registered Charity Number 1158507

Medical Missionaries of Mary Appeal: Sister Linda of the Medical Missionaries of Mary will be at our Masses on Saturday 31 August and Sunday 1 September, appealing for their work. The Medical Missionaries of Mary are a religious institute of the Catholic Church dedicated to providing health care to the underdeveloped regions of the world. They follow a Benedictine spirituality, with its focus on life in community, shared prayer and hospitality. We look forward to welcoming Sr Linda, who will join us for our Parish Barbecue and Parish Life Exhibition.

Evening Retreat & Healing Service: will take place at St Alphege's Catholic Church on Monday 23rd September from 5 to 8 p.m. Fr Antony Parankimalil, VC, will lead. There will be music, confessions, scriptural talks, Mass and Eucharistic Adoration. For more information contact Sara 01225 332 202; stalphege@cliftondiocese.com Our Lady & St Alphege's RC Church, Oldfield Lane, BATH BA2 3NR

St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) Awareness Month

2019: 'Love your neighbour' Week | *'Charity is certainly greater than any rule. Moreover, all rules must lead to charity.'* St. Vincent de Paul.

The Christ-centred SVP was founded in 1833 by Blessed Frédéric Ozanam and has almost 10,000 volunteers in England and Wales. The mission is 'to seek and find those in need, to help them in the spirit of justice and to tackle the causes of poverty where we can'.

Nationally, SVP staff/members visit, befriend, assist in SVP shops, volunteer in community projects and support work overseas. Over the next month there will be new posters on both notice boards and information in the newsletters about our SVP at St. Benedict's.



Heritage Open Days: On Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th September Downside Abbey will be taking part in Heritage Open Days. This is a national event run by the National Trust to open the country's historic places to the public. Downside will be running guided tours of the abbey church and also of the monastery gardens. There will also be opportunities to see items from the monastic library and some of our wonderful vestment collections. For more details visit www.heritageopendays.org.uk/visiting/event/downside-abbey

Learning Latin: In December 2017, Pope Francis called for young Catholics to learn Latin to help them reflect 'on the inner and intimate essence of the human being'. He also urged Latin teachers to 'know how to speak to the hearts of the young, know how to treasure the very rich heritage of the Latin tradition to educate them in the path of life, and accompany them along paths rich in hope and confidence'.

Duolingo is now launching a Latin course that you may like to try. A Duolingo spokesman says, 'Learning Latin allows people of Roman Catholic faith to gain a deeper connection with their religion.' Duolingo lessons are bitesize and can be taken at any time, wherever you are. If you are learning Latin, please let Dom Michael or Dom Leo know how you are getting on.



Have you ever wondered what God is calling you to do with your life?

If so, please read on! A three day Vocations Discernment Retreat organised by Clifton Diocese and Downside Abbey for Catholics aged 18 to 35 years old, will be held at Downside from Friday 18th to Sunday 20th October, 2019.

The talks during the Retreat will consider all vocations; the consecrated life; priesthood; and lay life. Speakers include Sr. Elizabeth Mary Mann, Fr. Nicholas Crowe OP and Prof. Gavin D'Costa. Fr. Colin Mason, the newly appointed Director of Vocations for Clifton Diocese, will also be giving one of the talks.

The residential cost with all meals included is £50 in shared accommodation in a Retreat House or £70 in an en-suite twin room in the Monastery Guest Wing. The non-residential cost with all meals included is £40. No one should feel unwelcome if they cannot meet these costs, so please discuss this with the organiser. For more information and to book please contact rinabird@outlook.com

Your Parish Priest has the full programme should you wish to see it. The last Discernment Retreat attracted nearly 40 young Catholics who found the weekend hugely beneficial, so do please join us!

We pray for the sick of our parish: Eileen Barrett.

Diocesan Prayer Link: Corpus Christ/Our Lady of Lourdes/St Joseph, Weston-Super-Mare

Ecumenical Prayer Link: Trinity, Radstock

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.

September Needs Coffee, Custard, Tinned fruit, Fruit juice, Ketchup/brown sauce, Milk (UHT or powdered), Macaroni cheese, Meat soup, Dry pasta, Pasta sauce, Rice puddings, Snacks (sweet and savoury), Sponge puddings, Instant mashed potato, Tinned potatoes, Tuna



Shakespeare Weekend:

The Tempest

Shakespeare, Prospero and the Island

Join writer Clare Asquith, scholar Gerard Kilroy, and lawyer Cyril Kinsky to discuss the play over a drink and a meal.

SATURDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER | 6:30PM
MELLS BARN, MELLS, FROME, BA11 3PN
TICKETS £15.00, TO INCLUDE FOOD AND DRINK

Tickets from office@theelizabethanplayhouse.com | 01373 832113
All proceeds to community run Mells Village Shop Ltd

The Tempest

The Play, Performed by Ilyria

Award Winning Theatre Company with introduction by scholar Gerard Kilroy

SUNDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER | 3:00 PM
THE ELIZABETHAN PLAYHOUSE
MANOR FARM, CORSLEY, WARMINSTER, BA12 7QE
TICKETS £30.00, TO INCLUDE CHAMPAGNE TEA
OR £25 WHEN BOOKED WITH THE EVENT AT MELLS ON SATURDAY 7TH

Tickets from office@theelizabethanplayhouse.com | 01373 832113
All proceeds to The Shakespearean Authorship Trust

www.theelizabethanplayhouse.com

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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: Wednesday 4th September is the Feast of **St Moses**, a major Old Testament saint. He was the prophet chosen by God to lead his people out of Egypt to the Promised Land. God revealed himself to Moses on Mount Sinai, saying, 'I am who am', and gave him the Law that would rule the life of the Chosen People. Moses died on Mount

Nebo in the land of Moab, looking out towards the Promised Land, into which he was not himself to enter. Incidentally, Sunday September 1st is the Feast of St Joshua, who actually led the Chosen People across the Jordan into the Promised Land. Christians see in both these holy leaders foreshadowings or 'types' of Jesus, who was their 'antitype'.



Moses by Rembrandt

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