

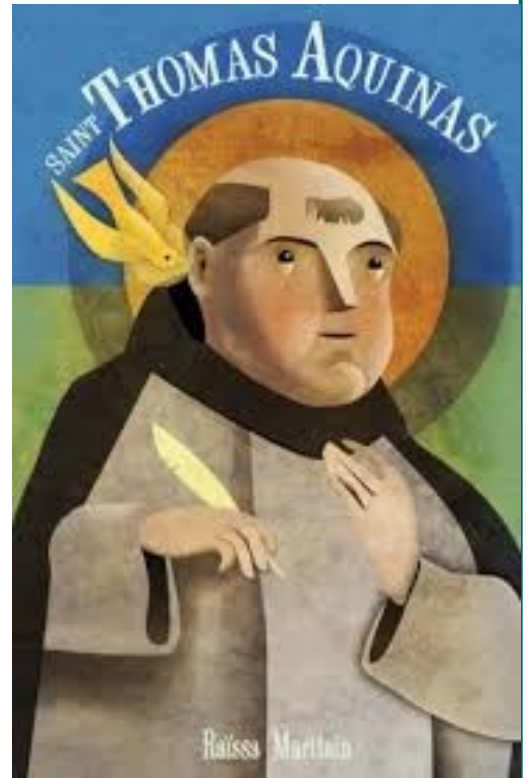
DOWNSIDE ABBEY

ST BENEDICT'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C) 28TH JULY 2019

So I say to you: 'Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you...' (Luke 11, 9).

A T A TIME of long-term political uncertainty it is helpful to remind ourselves of what the Church teaches about politics. First, the Church sees political life as natural and ideally a noble activity for achieving what cannot be done by private individuals. As citizens Catholics have a moral obligation to be involved in public life and, in a democracy, where voting is a primary form of political engagement, Catholics should vote. This can be a messy business, but Pope Francis encourages us to get involved and not step away from the mess that comes from getting stuck in. Secondly, Catholics should work to advance the common good of all, not just their own special interests. Especially we should be concerned for the poorest, weakest and most vulnerable in our society; a truth of which Pope Francis constantly reminds us. As voters we should be concerned about candidates' understanding of and practice of the virtues. As far as possible we should choose leaders who are ready to humble themselves for the common good and who will practise servant leadership. Prudence is the virtue of making wise choices about things that are not certain. St. Thomas Aquinas thought prudence was the essential virtue for politics and government. So tradition, custom, precedent, due process, and the rule of law are valued and respected. Lastly, Christians must not forget their baptismal dignity and responsibility. Truth is what the ancient prophets lifted up in times of falsehood and confusion. Prophets are those with the grace not to be fooled by lies and the courage to bear witness to inconvenient truths. Prophecy is fearlessly speaking truth to power. With the resurrection, all Christians are called to be prophets.



Dom Leo Maidlow Davis



12th - 16th August 2019

Noah's Camp



www.noahscamp.co.uk

Noah's Camp is a Catholic family camp open to all denominations. It is an amazing five days for the whole family to grow in faith together. Set in rural Gloucestershire, with daily worship, teaching, prayer, sacraments and endless opportunities to encounter God.

The speakers this year include Christie Wimber, Charles & Sue Whitehead, Pippa Barker, Fr Gabriel CFR, and Rob Cates, with worship led by international worship leader Steve Tebb, from Catch the Fire London. For more information or to book, go to www.noahscamp.co.uk or see the poster on the church notice board.

Tamsyn Richardson-Aitken

Family Pilgrimages (No. 2) St Aldhelm was the patron Saint of our chapel in Chilcompton. He was born in Wessex in 639 and died at Douling near Shepton Mallet in 709. Famous for his learning, he became Abbot of Malmesbury and was appointed the first Bishop of Sherborne. He is therefore one of the Apostles of our diocese, and was famous for enticing the reluctant to Church by playing his harp outside. You can make a pilgrimage to the attractive town of Bradford-on-Avon to venerate St Aldhelm. The little church of St Lawrence is the most complete surviving Anglo-Saxon church in the country. Some think the building goes back to St Aldhelm himself, though it is probably later than that. However, you will feel his presence as you pray there. Don't miss the chapel of St Mary Tory (tor = hill), which is magnificently placed on a terraced hillside overlooking the town. It is sometimes referred to as a hermitage and sometimes as a pilgrim chapel located, as it is, on the pilgrim route between Glastonbury and Malmesbury. You should also see the great tithe barn that belonged to the nuns of Shaftesbury Abbey. There are plenty of places to eat in Bradford-on-Avon; but the numerous hills can make invalid access difficult.



Fr Thomas Atthill's Golden Jubilee of Ordination will be celebrated in Downside Abbey Church on Wednesday 21 August 2019 at 6.30 p.m. There will be refreshments afterwards in the Weld Café. All parishioners will be most welcome. RSVP thomasratthill@gmail.com or Stoneleigh Cottage, Pound Lane, Oakhill, Radstock, Somerset BA3 5BG.

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 and James Wiseman

Please pray for Mary Preston, who has died; funeral details to be arranged. Pray also for Clive Whitcombe, who has died.

Dr Stephen Rye: the funeral will take place on Friday August 2nd at 2 p.m. in the Abbey Church. The burial, for family only, will be at Ashwick. The family invite the congregation to tea in the Weld Refectory straight after the funeral Mass. May he rest in the peace of Christ.

Diocesan Prayer Link: St George/St Teresa of Lisieux, Taunton; St John Fisher, Wellington, with Wiveliscombe

Ecumenical Prayer Link: St Peter's, 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.



July Needs Meat pies, Corned beef, Coffee, Sponge puddings, Rice, Puddings, Fruit juice, Instant mash, Milk (powdered & UHT), Ketchup, Tinned pasta, Pasta sauce, Tinned vegetables, Tinned tomatoes, Chocolate, Deodorants (M/F), Kitchen rolls, Shampoo, Shaving foam, Tooth brushes, Toothpaste

DOWNSIDE ABBEY

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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.

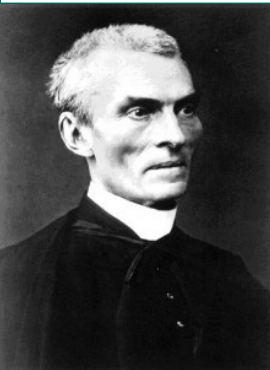
Mass 10 a.m.

Midday Office 12.30 p.m.

Vespers/Benediction 5 p.m.

Parish Priest: Dom Michael Clothier. Tel: 01761 235111

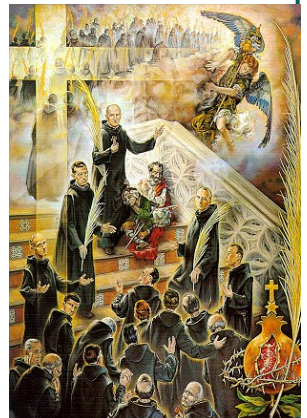
Assistant Parish Priest: Dom Leo Maidlow Davis. Tel: 01761 235107



Martyrology: St Peter Julian Eymard's memoria falls on Friday 2 August. St Peter was born in La Mure, France, becoming a parish priest in 1834. Five years later he joined the Marists. He fostered Eucharistic adoration throughout his life and founded a religious order of priest-adorers of the Holy Eucharist, who came to be known as the Priests of the Blessed Sacrament.

Tuesday 30 July is the memoria of **Blessed Braulio Maria Corres Dias de Cerio** and

his fourteen companion martyrs. They were all members of the Order of St John of God, who were put to death at Calafell near Tarragona in Catalonia in 1936 during the Spanish Civil War. Nine of them were novices. Before being killed they forgave their executioners.



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Registered Charity Number 1158507