

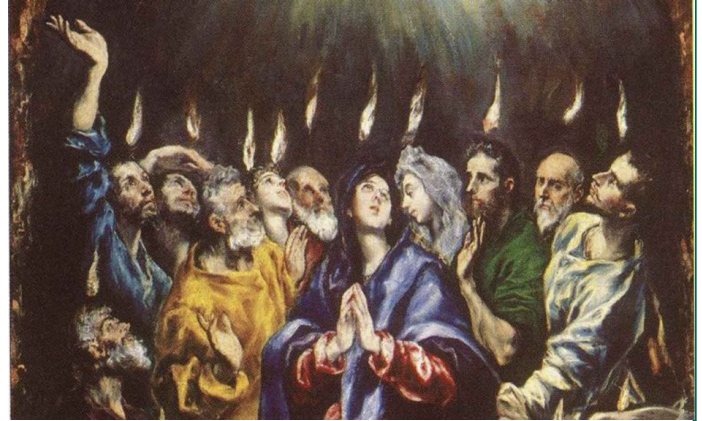
DOWNSIDE ABBEY

ST BENEDICT'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

PENTECOST SUNDAY (C) 9TH JUNE 2019

'I shall ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you for ever' (John 14, 16)

I**N THE EARLY CHURCH** the mysteries of Christ's death and resurrection were celebrated annually on a single day, probably on the day of the Jewish Passover, the 14th Nisan, much as the martyrdom of any other Christian martyr might have been celebrated. The difference was that in those first years of the Church the week was the principal cycle of time, and every Sunday was a celebration of Christ's



Resurrection, as it still is. Gradually the Paschal Mystery, and the other events of Jesus' life, were celebrated over a longer period, enabling Christians to concentrate on their different aspects, so that now a quarter of the year is devoted in this way to the Paschal Mystery, starting on Ash Wednesday and finishing on Pentecost Sunday. After Pentecost Sunday the Paschal candle is taken back to the baptistery and we revert to Ordinary Time. The sudden ending of Paschal Tide can feel abrupt. In the week after Pentecost two new celebrations have now been introduced for us.

Last year on March 3rd Pope Francis decreed that the Monday after Pentecost should be the Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church. The Pope reminds us that, 'the Virgin Mary ... is both the Mother of Christ and Mother of the Church.' This is not, of course, a new perception. St Augustine said, 'Mary is the mother of the members of Christ, because with charity she cooperated in the rebirth of the faithful into the Church' while St. Leo the Great said, 'the birth of the Head is also the birth of the body', thus indicating that Mary is at once Mother of Christ, the Son of God, and mother of the members of his Mystical Body, which is the Church.

And the Thursday after Pentecost (13th June) is now the Feast of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest. Its purpose is explained in the Collect of the Feast: 'O God, who for the glory of your majesty and the salvation of the human race, made your Only Begotten Son the Eternal High Priest, grant that, through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, those whom he has chosen as ministers and stewards of his mysteries may be found faithful in carrying out the ministry they have received.' Fr Michael and I, as your ministers, shall be especially grateful for your prayers on this Feast.

Dom Leo Maidlow Davis

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monks@downside.co.uk 01761 235100

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!



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



Ammerdown Event: Sunday 9th June 2.30 p.m. - 5 p.m. A Churches Together Event to join together in the Christian faith. We will do this by showing what Pentecost means to us and others through a display, talk, family activity and church service in the Ammerdown Chapel. Refreshments available.

Parish quiz night to be held on **Friday 14th June at 7.30pm** in the parish room. Teams of 4-6, £5 a head to include a ploughman's supper. There will be tea and coffee and squash available but no bar so please feel free to bring any alcoholic drinks required. Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 'wooden spoon' teams. There will be a raffle so raffle prizes will be gratefully received. To enter your team please add your name to the list at the back of the church or phone Liz on 01761 232040

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.

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

Vocations Discernment Retreat: A residential Vocations Discernment Retreat, organised by Clifton Diocese and Downside Abbey, will take place at Downside from 18th to 20th 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

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 Dunstan, Somerton; St Joseph, Langport; Holy Ghost, Yeovil with South Petherton

Ecumenical Prayer Link: St Peters, 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.

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 Barnabas was a Cypriot Jew who was among the earliest converts to Christianity. He became an Apostle and with Paul the Apostle took many missionary journeys. Together they took part in the Council of Jerusalem in AD50. Barnabas' stories are found in the Acts of the Apostles and he is also considered to be the founder of the Cypriot Orthodox Church.

He was martyred by being stoned to death in around AD60 in Salamis, Cyprus. He is described in Acts 11:24 as 'a good man and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith.'



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