

# ST DOMINIC'S, DURSLEY & ST JOSEPH'S, NYMPSFIELD

Parish Priest: Father Philip Thomas

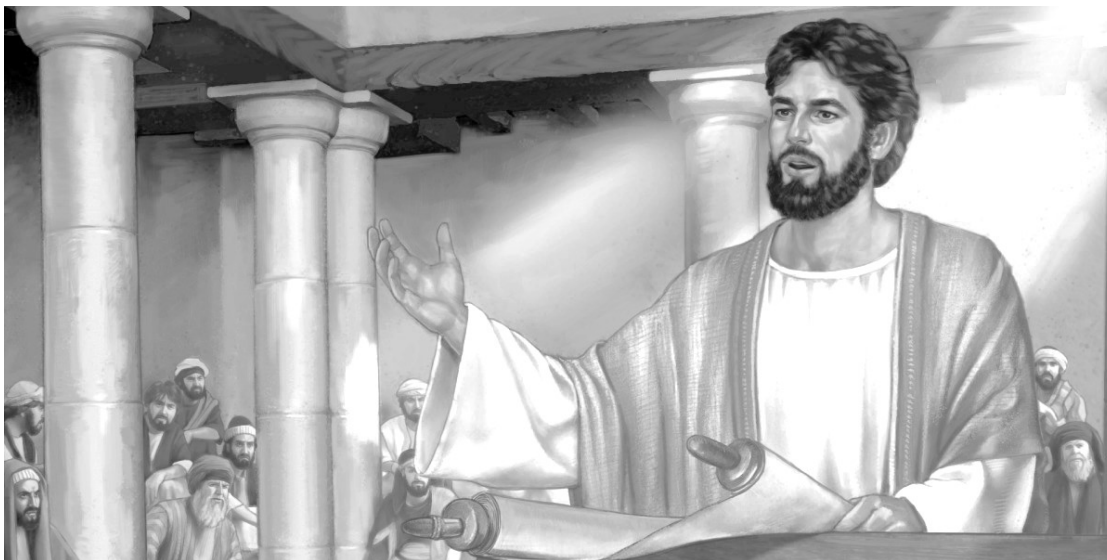
St Dominic's Presbytery Jubilee Road Dursley GL11 4ES 01453 542039

Parish Deacon: The Revd. Domenic Bucci 01453 542136

Parish email: [dursley.stdominic@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:dursley.stdominic@cliftondiocese.com)

website: [dursleynympsfieldrcparish.co.uk](http://dursleynympsfieldrcparish.co.uk)

Parish priest email: [philip.thomas@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:philip.thomas@cliftondiocese.com)



## ORDINARY SUNDAY III (Year C)

Sat 25 <sup>th</sup> Jan		5.30pm	Sunday Mass (Pro Populo)	Nympsfield
Sun 26 <sup>th</sup> Jan		10.30am	Sunday Mass (Sr Edmund Campion's Intentions)	Dursley
Mon 27 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<i>St Angela de Merici, foundress of the Ursulines. No Public Mass. Fr. P's Day Off</i>			
Tue 28 <sup>th</sup> Jan	St Thomas Aquinas	9.30am	Mass (Mary Grafton RIP)	Dursley
Wed 29 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Feria of Week 3	9.00am	Mass (Bobby Milczarczyk RIP)	Dursley
Thu 30 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Feria	10.00am	Mass with Yr 5 from school ( )	Nympsfield
Fri 31 <sup>st</sup> Jan	St John Bosco	6.00pm	Holy Hour & Confessions	Dursley
		7.00pm	Mass (The Bishop)	Dursley
Sat 1 <sup>st</sup> Feb	St Bridget of Kildare	Noon	Mass ( )	Dursley
		3.00-4.00pm	Confessions	Dursley

## PRESENTATION OF THE LORD IN THE TEMPLE (Year C)

### Candlemass and last outpost of Christmass

Sat 1 <sup>st</sup> Feb		5.30pm	Procession & Sunday Mass ( )	Nympsfield
Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb		10.30am	Procession & Sunday Mass (Pro Populo)	Dursley

### POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR JANUARY 2025 For the right to an education

Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

### POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR FEBRUARY For vocations to the priesthood and religious

life. Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious.

# MASS PROPERS FOR ORDINARY SUNDAY III – (Year C)

**Entrance Antiphon** Sing a new song to the Lord; Sing to the Lord, all the earth. In His presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in His holy place.

**First Reading – Nehemiah 8:2-4a & 5-6, 8-19**  
*Ezra the Priest and Scribe read from the Book of the Law and explained its meaning to the people.*

**Responsorial Psalm** Your words, O Lord, are spirit and life.

**Second Reading – 1 Corinthians 12:12-14 & 27** *St Paul teaches us that the Church is the body of Christ and that we as individuals are members of that Mystical Body.*

**Alleluia Verse** The Lord sent me to proclaim good news to the poor; to proclaim liberty to the captives.

**Gospel Reading – Luke 1:1-4 & 4:14-21** *St Luke's preface to Theophilus and his account of Jesus in the synagogue at Nazareth*

**Communion Antiphon** Look to the Lord and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed.



## FORTHCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

- Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February – Candlemass – The Presentation of Christ in the Temple – The last outpost of Christmas, being 40 days since we started! Blessing of Candles and Procession at the start of both Sunday Masses.
- Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February – 10.30am Coffee Morning at Pat Uglow's, 11 Stanthill Drive, Dursley GL11 4PP. Raffle, 'Bring & Buy'. Bring your friends. Parking on the drives of kind neighbours at Numbers 3, 11 & 12
- Shrove Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March – 6.00pm Pancake Evening in St Dominic's Parish Hall
- Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March Lent II – Soup Lunch in the hall after Café Dominic



**Prayer for the Jubilee Year** *Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom. May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from*

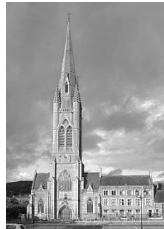
*within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally. May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.*

## HOLY HOUR, FRIDAY CONFESSIONS & MASS Friday is for



busy working folk, who can't get to morning masses during the week, but who feel they need more than just Sunday. Holy Hour (adoration and benediction) is a golden opportunity not afforded to every parish for quiet time with Jesus. Confession helps with both and makes

things easier for those who work on Saturdays. It is our custom to pray the Holy Rosary at the start of Holy Hour.



## "CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING AND OUR CALLING IN UNCERTAIN TIMES" Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 7.00pm in St. John the Evangelist Church, South Parade, Bath. An introduction to Catholic Social Teaching by Jenny Sinclair founder and director of Together For The Common Good. All are welcome.

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**RC MARRIAGE LAW** This reminder is headed RC because other, non-roman parts of the Catholic Church in communion with the Pope have their own Marriage Law. You can consult the Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches if you wish to learn more. This is not the place to spell everything out. The Gospel of the Wedding at Cana is, however, a good opportunity to remind all St Joseph's and at St Dominic's that our rules apply to everyone baptised into the Catholic Church at whatever age. It also applies to all folk who have been received into full communion with the Catholic Church. It applies to all RCs living within our two parishes, even if they go elsewhere, as is their right. If you are contemplating Holy Matrimony (the Sacrament where both parties are baptised Christians) or Matrimony (non-sacramental marriage where one or both parties is not baptised), please consult the Parish Priest of Dursley & Nympsfield before you make too many arrangements. It is possible to keep our law and be married in another Christian building attended by one of the parties.



**"ENCOUNTER 2025"** THIS IS PRESENTED BY 'DON'T FORGET THE HOLY SPIRIT MINISTRIES & is in preparation for **Pentecost 8<sup>th</sup> June 2025**. Join us as we journey together as Pilgrims of Hope, embracing the promise of the Year of Jubilee. Find out more about this and how you can get involved by attending the **Team event at St Bernadette's, Whitchurch 9.30am to 1.00pm on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February**



## **TAIZÉ FOR CANDLEMASS - AGAINST THE DARK, OUR SAVIOUR'S FACE IS BRIGHT** This

is an invitation to pray in the Taizé style and tradition in the chapel of St Monica's, Cote Lane, Bristol, BS9 3UN on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February @ 6.00pm. 4 fine musicians will lead the congregation in beautiful chants in

the Taizé tradition. The hope is that the music will speak to the heart, as we join together with our voices in quiet time and reflection on the readings. Contact Roger on 0117 462 1117 for more information and directions.



**ST. THOMAS AQUINAS** St Thomas was very clever, holy and fat! He came from a noble family, being born in the family castle at Aquino, then in the Kingdom of Sicily and now in Lazio. The family intended that he should remain wealthy and extend their influence. They wanted him to stay on at Monte Cassino Benedictine monastery after schooling there and become Abbot. He did not. Despite their protestations, imprisonment and temptations, young Thomas became a mendicant friar, a Dominican, living on what he could beg, and people gave. After his Benedictine schooling, he studied in Paris and was a student of another Dominican saint, Albert the Great.

He had a brilliant mind and was an outstanding teacher of others by word and by writing. Above all, he was master of the scholastic method of the Middle Ages, arguing in formal disputations both viva voce with other scholars and also in written form. He was able to synthesise the Greek philosophy of Aristotle with Christianity. He is

a patron of those sitting exams and of students (those who actually study, not just attend colleges and courses).

Ultimately, he is a saint not because he was clever and wrote wonderful books. We can't all do that and copy him. He is a saint because he was a good human being, who tried to live close to God. This we can all imitate. His size made it hard for him to sit close to the table and eat. In a world that is obsessed with dieting and the body beautiful, a corpulent saint is an encouragement to many of us.

He died at Fossanova Cistercian abbey as he travelled north from Naples on papal orders on the 7<sup>th</sup> March 1274. The Dominican provinces of Italy and France both claimed the body of the man they knew to be a saint. The squabble was most unseemly. The Abbot eventually gave the skeleton to the French and the flesh to the Italians after the relics were boiled to separate them out. The skeleton is in Toulouse, but the boiled flesh (and fat) never left Fossanova!

He is a Doctor of the Church and is known as the Angelic Doctor. The Pontifical University of St Thomas Aquinas (where Pope St John Paul II studied) is familiarly known as the Angelicum!!

### **30<sup>th</sup> JANUARY - ST CHARLES OF ENGLAND, KING & MARTYR?**

No! King Charles the First of England, Scotland, Ireland and France was not a saint. He was beheaded on the orders of Parliament on the 30<sup>th</sup> January 1649 at Whitehall. His wife, Henrietta Maria of France remained a Catholic on marriage and she maintained a Catholic Chapel Royal. Although he himself was not an RC, the King was tolerant of us Catholics and several of his generals during the Civil War belonged to the Catholic Church. He appointed a pro Catholic Archbishop of Canterbury, William Laud, who negotiated a scheme which would have seen the Church of England, lock stock and barrel, return to full communion, with a married clergy and an English language liturgy. The Civil War prevented this from ever happening at the time. Whilst the King kept court in Oxford, the first post Reformation statue of Our Lady was erected over the main door of the University Church of St Mary. It is still there. Charles was in many respects an arrogant and foolish man, but he believed staunchly in Apostolic Succession and Episcopacy against the Parliamentarian side who were Presbyterian. He allowed RCs freedom of worship. Both of his surviving sons became king and both died as RC's, Charles II and James II. One of his great grandsons was Bonn Prince Charlie and his brother, Henry Benedict Stewart, was a cardinal of the Holy Roman Church and presided over 3 papal conclaves.

