

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

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ORDINARY SUNDAY VII (Year C) Sexagesima

Sat 22 nd Feb		5.30pm	Sunday Mass (Pro Populo)	Nympsfield
Sun 23 rd Feb		10.30am	Sunday Mass ()	Dursley
		3.00pm	Holy Baptism	Dursley
Mon 24 th Feb	Feria of Week 7	NO PUBLIC MASS		
Tue 25 th Feb	Feria	9.30am	Mass ()	Dursley
Wed 26 th Feb	Feria	11.00am	Requiem Mass for Bobby Milczarczyk	Dursley
Thu 27 th Feb	St Gregory of Narek	10.00am	Mass with Year (Catholic Armenians)	Nympsfield
Fri 28 th Feb	Feria	6.00pm	Holy Hour & Confessions	Dursley
		7.00pm	Mass ()	Dursley
Sat 1 st Mar	ST DAVID OF WALES, Feast	Noon	Mass ()	Nympsfield
		12.30pm	Burial of Ashes	Nympsfield
		3.00pm - 4.00pm	Confessions	Dursley

ORDINARY SUNDAY VIII (Year C) Quinquagesima

Sat 1 st Mar		5.30pm	Sunday Mass (Pro Populo)	Nympsfield
Sun 2 nd Mar		10.30am	Sunday Mass ()	Dursley
3 rd Mar	Feria of Week 8	NO PUBLIC MASS		
4 th Mar	St Kasimir of Poland – Shrove Tuesday	9.30am	Mass (C.P.F-X. Wadsworth's birthday intentions)	Dursley
5 th Mar	ASH WEDNESDAY	9.00am	Mass & Ashing	Dursley
	Start of Lent	Noon	Mass & Ashing	Nympsfield

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.

POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR MARCH For families in crisis. Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECOVERY OF THE HOLY FATHER

MASS PROPERS FOR ORDINARY SUNDAY VII – (Year C)

Entrance Antiphon O Lord, I trust in Your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in Your salvation. I will sing to the Lord, Who has been bountiful with me.

First Reading – 1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9,12-13, 22-23 *In the midst of a civil war, David spares the Lord's anointed, Saul, his enemy, when given into his hand.*

Responsorial Psalm **The Lord is compassionate and gracious.**

Second Reading – 1 Corinthians 15:12, & 16-20 *St Paul points us from Adam, the man of dust to the second Adam, Christ, the man of heaven, that we should bear His image and be like Him.*

Alleluia Verse **A new commandment I give to you, says the Lord, that you love one another, just as I have loved you.**

Gospel Reading – Luke 5:1-11 *Continuing the Sermon on the Plain, St Luke records that Christ asks us to aim high, to be merciful even as Our Heavenly Father is merciful.*

Communion Antiphon **I will recount all Your wonders, I will rejoice in You and be glad, and sing psalms to Your Name, O Most High.**



FORTHCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

- Shrove Tuesday 4th March – 6.00pm Pancake Evening in St Dominic's Parish Hall – PLEASE SIGN UP AT THE BACK OF CHURCH
- Ash Wednesday 5th March – Mass & Ashing in St Dominic's @ 9.00am & in St Joseph's @ Noon
- Friday 7th March [Women's] World Day of Prayer at 2.30pm in Cam Methodist church. The order of service this year is drawn up by women in the Cook Islands of the Pacific
- Saturday 8th March in Clifton Cathedral with the Bishop, the Rite of Election & Call to Continuing Conversion.
- Sunday 9th March Lent I – both Sunday Masses will begin as last year, with the traditional Penitential Procession, with the Litany of the Saints, asking them to support us in our disciplined journey to Easter
- Sunday 9th March at 3.30pm in Bristol Anglican Cathedral, Bishop Bosco is to be installed as an honorary ecumenical canon. We thank our neighbours for recognising Bishop McDonald in this way.
- Friday 10th February – CAFOD Family Fast Day and Collection the following Sunday
- Sunday 16th March Lent II – Soup Lunch in the hall after Café Dominic
- Sunday 30th March Lent IV – Laetare or Mothering Sunday, Marian Service and Benediction in St Joseph's, Nympsfield
- Thursday 22nd May to Wednesday 28th May **St Wulstan's Southern Way Catholic Walking Pilgrimage** from Worcester Anglican cathedral to Clifton RC Cathedral – Walk, Talk, Pray, Celebrate. You are invited to join all or part of the walking, as well as the evening celebrations in the church where they stop overnight. More details will follow. This is part of the Jubilee Year 'Pilgrims of Hope'.
- Sunday 7th September [Sunday closest to Our Lady's Birthday] Annual Clifton Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Glastonbury

RAISING THE ROOF Our fun and fund raising for the replacement of Dursley's parish hall roof



continues. We are getting detailed costs at present so that the plans can go out to tender. Things are moving forward quietly. On Thursday last, 20th February, Pat Uglow and helpers put on a most enjoyable Coffee Morning. We record our thanks to her and her "staff". The ladies and gentlemen attending had wonderful eats and coffee/tea, a raffle and very good company. The result was that we raised a splendid £175.85. As we thank Mrs. Uglow, we are seeking other willing volunteers for similar "at home" events in the coming months, indoors and out (if British weather will allow!).

LENT PRAYER COURSE 6 sessions on the Lord's Prayer, led by Revd. Jimmy Cullingford, the Minister at Dursley Methodist church each Tuesday either at 10.30am or in a house group in the evening. The Prayer Course is a 6-week journey through the Lord's Prayer, with 24-7 Prayer founder Pete Greig and co-host Poppy Williams. Each session includes a video, a guide for small group discussion and practical ideas for prayer. The Prayer Course is based on Pete Greig's book *How To Pray: A Simple Guide for Normal People*.

"AGING GRACEFULLY" - LENTEN SERIES Come and join in with the Ageing Gracefully course. It starts on 5th March, running for 6 weeks from 2pm to 4pm, during Lent. The course is led by Ian Donald, a retired Doctor and Christian. It is designed for those who are ready to confront the process of ageing, blending medical expertise with biblical insight and practical Christian wisdom. I enclose a flyer to book onto the course or please do feel that you can just turn up. For more information please look at this link, <https://gloucester.anglican.org/2024/ageing-gracefully-course-practical-theology-of-later-life/>

EVENING PRAYER FOR THE SUNDAYS IN LENT Last year, we met in the dark, and Dursley's Methodist community played host at their chapel. This year, we shall be meeting in the light, each Sunday @ 4.00pm, moving around some of the various churches of the Ecumenical Partnership, for whose hospitality we are grateful in advance:-

9th March – Dursley Tabernacle URC church, GL11 4BW

16th March – St George's Anglican church, [Upper] Cam GL11 5PQ

23rd March – St Giles Anglican church, Uley GL11 5SN

30th March Dursley Methodist church GL11 4BS

6th April – St Bartholomew's Anglican church, [Lower] Cam GL11 5JX



THE -GESIMAS - THE RUN-UP TO LENT The Gesimas derive their name from Latin numbers. Lent is Quadragesima from the number 40 [As in the Italian Quaresima] and Septuagesima is 70. The other Sundays are named from there. We no longer use the -gesima titles for the Sundays leading up to Lent. There are no special readings or mass propers for these 3 Sundays and it is possible, though deeply inadvisable, to hit Ash Wednesday like a train, crashing into the buffers. For this reason, we are adding the -Gesima titles on the front cover of our bulletin to remind ourselves the season is on the way. You will find in this bulletin

SEPTUAGESIMA SEXAGESIMA
QUINQUAGESIMA

SHROVE
TUESDAY



ASH
WEDNESDAY



details of events and worship to facilitate your fruitful participation in the coming season of prayer, fasting and works of charity.

Because Lent first appeared as we would recognise it as the final period of preparation of candidates for Baptism and Confirmation at Easter, the season has become for the rest of us a refresher course in Christianity and a time of renewal of our faith. We aim by His grace, to deepen our relationship with God. This is why we have

Lent courses, buy books and pamphlets to help us, join groups and attend special events.

It is for this reason that our Catholic Community and ecumenical partners provide opportunities for growth and cleansing. Nevertheless, you still must think for yourself about what you are giving up (Vice) and what you are taking on (Virtue). Each individual Christian's observance will be different. That is quite right and proper. If you want help, the parish clergy (both of us) are more than willing to help.

Christ came to comfort the troubled and to trouble the comfortable.

INDULGENCES FOR THIS HOLY YEAR OF JUBILEE These are gainable under “the usual conditions” i.e. Prayer for the Pope’s intentions, receiving Holy Communion within a few days before or after the good act to which the indulgence is attached and also going to Sacramental Confession likewise within a few days either side of the good act. It is also asked that as far as possible, we be detached from sin, as these good works are meant to help with our conversion to God. The Good Works recommended are:-

1. pilgrimages to the four Papal Basilicas and their Holy Doors in Rome, Jubilee Shrines in Italy and the Holy Land, the Cathedral Church of SS Peter & Paul, Clifton, Bristol [see the walking pilgrimage above], and the Shrine of Our Lady St Mary of Glastonbury, Somerset.
2. A) The corporal and spiritual works of mercy,
B) taking part in parish & diocesan catechetics,
C) fasting from futile distractions.

Examples of these recommended activities include the following : Visiting prisoners, the sick, lonely or elderly, Helping those who are in need • Giving a generous gift of your time or money, participating in spiritual exercises [Retreats], Formation activities on the documents of the Vatican II or the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Abstaining for at least one day a week from social media, video games, apps or television.

SIMPLE WAY TO REMEMBER SOME OF THE VITAL ELEMENTS OF PRAYER

Almost all of us learned an Act of Contrition by heart, when we prepared for First Confession. Older prayer books give other acts. One way to remember some of the most important elements of prayer is the word ACTS

A = Adoration. This is praise and the acknowledgment of God’s glory

C = Contrition. This is sorrow for sin and the acknowledgment of that we are sinners in need of His mercy

T = Thanksgiving. This is self-evident

S = Supplication. This is asking for things if they are in accord with God’s will for us and others.

A NEW SAINT IN THE CALENDAR FALLS THIS WEEK Grigor Narekatsi



is anglicised as Gregory of Narek. He lived from around 950AD to 1003/1011AD. He was an Armenian mystical and lyrical poet, monk, and theologian. He is venerated as a saint in the Armenian Apostolic and Catholic Churches and was declared a Doctor of the Church by Pope Francis in 2015.

His presence in our calendar allows us to remember Armenia’s contribution to Christianity in general and in particular those Armenians in communion with the Holy See under the Armenian Patriarch of Cilicia. The Armenians were the victims of attempted genocide in 1915 under the Turkish Ottoman Empire. Artists like Cher (born Cheryl Sarkisian) and Charles Aznavour are of Armenian descent, the survivors of the massacres having been scattered all over the world.

Gregory was the son of a bishop, educated, ordained, and later stationed at Narekavank on the southern shores of Lake Van (modern Turkey). Scholars consider Gregory the most beloved and significant theological and literary figure of the Armenian religious tradition. He is best known for his Book of Lamentations, a significant piece of mystical literature which serves as a confessional prayer book in many Armenian religious households. His works have inspired many Armenian literary figures and influenced Armenian literature in general throughout the ages.