

**ST DOMINIC'S, DURSLEY
&
ST JOSEPH'S, NYMPFIELD**

Parish Priest: Father Philip Thomas
St Dominic's Presbytery Jubilee Road Dursley GL11 4ES 01453 542039

Permanent Deacon: The Revd. Domenic Bucci
01453 542136

Parish email: dursley.stdominic@cliftondiocese.com

website: dursleynympsfieldrparish.co.uk

Parish priest email: philip.thomas@cliftondiocese.com

**7TH APRIL 2024
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
THOMAS OR LOW SUNDAY**



WE ARE UPDATING OUR CONTACT DETAILS FOR BOTH PARISHES!! WE NEED YOUR PERMISSION TO HOLD AND USE THIS INFORMATION. SOME HAVE MOVED. SOME HAVE ARRIVED AND SOME HAVE CHANGED THEIR EMAIL ADDRESS. PLEASE FILL IN THE SIMPLE FORM AND RETURN IT, EVEN IF YOU THINK WE ALREADY HAVE YOUR DETAILS

EASTER GREETING TO OUR LADY, BEFORE THE LAST HYMN AT SUNDAY MASS

Joy to thee, O queen of heaven. Alleluia!
He Whom thou wast meet to bear, Alleluia!
As He promised, hath aris'n, Alleluia!
Pour for us to God thy prayer, Alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad, o virgin Mary, Alleluia!
For the Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia!



Let us pray.

O God, Who has brought joy to the whole world, grant that through the prayers of His mother, the Virgin Mary, may be brought to the glory of the glory of the Resurrection. Through the same Christ Our Lord. **AMEN.**

Sat 6 th Apr	EASTER SATURDAY	1.00pm	Holy Baptism	Nympsfield
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER – THOMAS OR LOW SUNDAY				
Sat 6 th Apr		5.30pm	Sunday Mass	Nympsfield
Sun 7 th Apr		10.30am	Sunday Mass	Dursley
		3.00pm	Divine Mercy Devotions & Benediction	Dursley
Mon 8 th Apr	ANNUNCIATION OF OLJC TO THE BVM, Transferred Solemnity	9.30am	Mass	Dursley
Tue 9 th Apr	Easter Feria	No Public Mass, because of Fr. P's Day Off.		
Wed 10 th Apr	Easter Feria	9.00am	Mass	Dursley
Thu 11 th Apr	Easter Feria	10.00am	Mass with the School	Nympsfield
Fri 12 th Apr	Easter Feria	6.00pm	Exposition of the Bl. Sacrament & Confessions	Dursley
		7.00pm	Mass	Dursley
Sat 13 th Apr	Easter Feria	Noon	Mass	Dursley
		3.00pm - 4.00pm	Confessions	Dursley
THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER				
Sat 13 th Apr		5.30pm	Sunday Mass	Nympsfield
Sun 14 th Apr		10.30am	Sunday Mass	Dursley

CAFÉ DOMINIC If you would be willing to help set up before or clear up after the 10.30 Sunday Mass, probably for only once a month, please speak with Father Philip or Laura Gardiner. **WE RE-OPEN THIS WEEKEND.**

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

The Recently Dead: PLEASE PRAY for those who have recently died: Denis Owen Slater, David John Duncan-Skingle.

Diocesan Prayer Link: Bishop Declan on his medical retirement, our new Bishop Elect Bosco McDonald, Wincanton with Castle Cary, Bruton and Milbourne Port. Woodchester on their patronal festival

Churches Together: Easter week *For the resurrection and renewal of the worshipping life of all our churches.*

Parish Prayer Rota: The young people of our parishes, thanksgiving for the prayers and intercession of our religious sisters and our housebound parishioners.

SUNDAY MASS PROPERS

Entrance Antiphon Like new-born infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in Him, you may grow to salvation. Alleluia!

Responsorial Psalm Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His love has no end.

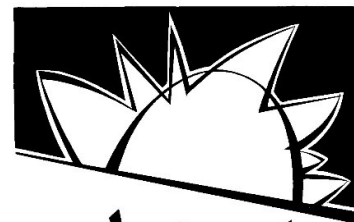
Gospel Acclamation Jesus said, "You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.

Communion Antiphon Bring you hand and fell the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing. Alleluia!

RED BOXES Please return all red boxes for emptying by NEXT SUNDAY 14th April. Thank you. *Mary Cryan*

FORTHCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

- The Annunciation, normally kept on 25th March, is transferred out of Holy Week and the Easter Octave to the Monday after Low Sunday 8th April.
- Tuesday 1st May Feast of St Joseph the Worker in Nympsfield, Secondary Patronal Feast. Those who were unable to join us on 19th March get a second chance on this day.
- Friday 3rd May, Feast of Saints Philip and James the Apostles, Fr. P's name day
- 5th May will be Greek or Orthodox Easter this year.
- **Wednesday 8th May at Noon in Clifton Cathedral Episcopal Ordination and Enthronement of Bishop Bosco McDonald as Tenth Lord Bishop of Clifton.**
- 25th May, Saturday at Noon, Annual Celebration Mass for Family and Marriage in Clifton Cathedral



CHRIST
IS
RISEN

THE POPE'S INTENTION FOR APRIL: FOR THE ROLE OF WOMEN We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.

200 CLUB DRAW FOR MARCH

1st prize, number 48, Norman Long. 2nd prize, number 70, Susan Terry. 3rd prize, number 3, Sean Macdonald
If you would like to sign up for this, please speak to Sue Whitney. You have to be in it to win it!



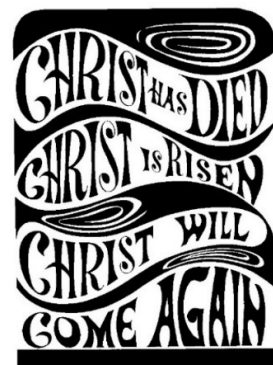
'INVITED' A FORMATION COURSE This is a course running from April to July, on Wednesday evenings. It is organised by and taking place in the parish hall at our neighbours, Immaculate Conception in Stroud. It is for anyone wanting to learn more about their faith and passing it on to others. It will suit experienced catechists and those relatively young in the Faith.

PUTTING OUR THANKS ON RECORD Susan Terry has faithfully served the parish of Dursley as Parish Secretary for the last 5 years, putting up with two Parish Priests called Philip. Easter Sunday marked her retirement from the post as she and her husband seek to relocate to be nearer to their family. It is extremely important that we record publicly our gratitude and appreciation for all that she has done.

**ALLELUIA, CHRIST IS RISEN!
HE IS RISEN INDEED, ALLELUIA!**

'BEHOLD, I MAKE ALL THINGS NEW' This verse from the Apocalypse, the Revelation of St John, fits so well for Eastertide. Resurrection is not the old life restored. Christ truly died and was buried, lying inanimate in the grave, wrapped in the Holy Shroud. He moved forward to new life. He did not move backwards. We need something bigger and better and longer lasting than what this earthly existence affords. Christ makes things new. He changes lives, hearts, souls, minds, (bodies too)! Death is not the end, with Christ, it is the gateway to glory.

St Thomas the Apostle missed meeting the Risen Lord in person on Easter Day, and, like many folk, refused to believe. Perhaps he didn't want to get hurt



again by some kind of April Fool, but when he did meet Him, he was the first Apostle to acclaim the divinity of the Lord unequivocally, "My Lord and my God". He hailed the New Life and gave his own life as a martyr to the Faith in India.

One way of looking at Lent, the season we have just finished, is as spiritual retreat in which we prepared for Easter by carefully examining our consciences to look at our bad habits, besetting sins and defects of character. This would be depressing and unhelpful, unless it were followed by Eastertide and an examination of how to live Christ's New Life. One half of Christian Conversion is looking at those



things from which we need to turn away; the other half is looking joyfully at those things towards which must turn. On the First Sunday of Easter, St Paul told the Colossians that this was setting their minds and hearts on things in heaven where our life is hidden with Christ in God. We are to keep meeting the Lord, Crucified and Risen Again in the

Holy Mass. Our Easter living is Eucharistic Living.

St Peter's faults and failings are evident to anyone who reads the Four Gospels. He was hot headed, unreliable and fickle. However, the Resurrection of the Saviour was his turning point, his moment of conversion, like St. Paul on the road to Damascus. Peter's new life starts with Christ's. He embraces change and a spiritual awakening within. From now on, he will be what Christ wants him to be, the rock on which the Church is built. He will teach and preach and travel to spread the Faith, eventually dying for the Lord in Rome by crucifixion in the Sixties AD. The legend of 'Quo Vadis', is his Thomas moment – He chooses Christ over disbelief and dejection. The story goes that, old and tired, Peter had had enough of what he thought was unsuccessful preaching in Rome and he was leaving on the Via Appia Antica. Legend says he met the Risen Lord coming into the city and so he asked him, "Lord, where are you going? Domine quo vadis?" On being told that the Saviour was on His way to die in the city, Peter decided he could not run away and must go back instead of His Master. The legend concludes with the account of St. Peter's crucifixion taking place upside down on the site of the present Vatican complex, because he didn't think he was worthy of dying exactly the way His Master had done.

In its own little way, the martyrdoms of Peter and Paul gave new life to the infant Church of Rome. The emperors Nero, Marcus Aurelius, Decius and Diocletian could not stamp us out by persecution and missionaries from Rome would spread the Living and Life-giving Faith wherever they could. Peter's Successor, St Gregory the Great, would even send a Benedictine mission to the barbarous British Isles in the late Fifth Century, by then known as Anglia or Angleland/England.



St. Peter

We must accept the gift of New Life, bestowed in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar, and put new heart and soul into our mission to the world and especially to Dursley and Nympsfield. May they see the Lord alive and dynamic in us and share what we have.