

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

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10 th May	EASTER IV – Good	5.30pm	Sunday Mass (Pro Populo)	Nympsfeld
11 th May	Shepherd Sunday	10.30am	Sunday Mass ()	Dursley
		6.00pm	Christian Aid Service	St George, Cam
12 th May	Easter Feria	No Public Mass		
13 th May	Our Lady of Fatima	9.30am	Mass	Dursley
14 th May	ST MATTHIAS, Apostle, Feast	9.30am	Mass	Dursley
		3.30	First Confessions	Nympsfeld
15 th May	Easter Feria	10.00am	Mass	Nympsfeld
16 th May	Easter Feria	1.00pm	Funeral Mass of Enza Di-Leo	Dursley
		6.00pm	Holy Hour, Rosary & Confessions	Dursley
		7.00pm	Mass	Dursley
17 th May	Easter Feria	Noon	Mass	Dursley
17 th May	EASTER V	5.30pm	Sunday Mass	Nympsfeld
18 th May		10.30am	Sunday Mass	Dursley

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.**

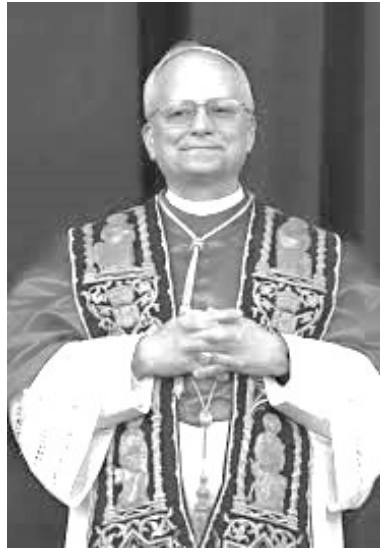
POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR MAY For working conditions Let us pray that through work, each person might find fulfilment, families might be sustained in dignity, and that society might be humanized.

SOME OF THE TITLES BORN BY THE HOLY FATHER

1. The affectionate and respectful title HOLY FATHER is directly related to the title POPE. Pope comes from Greek Papa. Technically, he is the Pope of Rome, because the Patriarch and Archbishop of Alexandria is referred to as the Pope of Alexandria. The Orthodox and Coptic Patriarchs are so known.
2. The BISHOP OF ROME & ROMAN PONTIFF. All Bishops are called Pontiffs or Bridge Builders. Our Pontiff is Bosco McDonald, approaching a year in office. The Holy Father is the Bishop of the City of Rome, and as such is the Roman Pontiff. This latter is what the 2 Codes of Canon Law call him, Eastern and Western. He is not just a Diocesan Bishop like any other. The ministry he performs as Peter's Successor makes him the **chief of all Bishops, the Supreme Pontiff**. He is the **Archbishop and Metropolitan of the Roman Province**, which is why he wears a pallium at his installation.
3. THE SOVEREIGN PONTIFF, this refers to the fact that he is the ruler of the State of Vatican City. This tiny enclave in the middle of Rome is a separate country. It was created in 1922 by the Lateran Treaty. For centuries, the Popes were masters of much of the Italian peninsular and deeply embroiled in the politics of Italy. The creation of the

unified country of Italy in 1870 brought the end of the extensive Papal States but did not resolve the territorial integrity and independence of the Holy Father. This was achieved by the Lateran Treaty.

4. **THE PATRIARCH OF THE WEST** – this title leader of all Latin Christians, Roman, Anglican. It also has an ecumenical aspect in existence of other Patriarchs in the East. The Patriarch and Archbishop of Constantinople Pope Francis' funeral in a place of pre-Patriarchates are Constantinople, Antioch,
5. **THE UNIVERSAL PONTIFF** – This title Father's Petrine Ministry. He is the Successor of orthodox teaching and of ecclesial than the leader of Western or Latin all Christians, Eastern and Western. It is for Pope Benedict XVI introduced the farewell by his funeral. Pope Francis continued this at his
6. **VICAR OF CHRIST** – this title needs to be not Christ on earth, nor yet the regent of the Regent of the Father, and the Holy Father is the Saviour but is His deputy until He returns in majesty to judge the living and the dead. Henry VIII of England hated this title and the inalienable prerogatives of the Roman Pontiffs. By act of parliament, he took to himself the title of Head of the Church in England. Only Christ is the Head! And no Catholic could say he was! No English monarch since has used this title. They have carefully selected the title Supreme Governor. In fact, however, it is not King Charles III who exercises this role, but the Prime Minister. Largely, the C of E is self-governing through the General Synod.
7. **THE SERVANT OF THE SERVANTS OF GOD** – This title was first used by Pope Gregory the Great, the Apostle of the English in the Sixth Century. It sets service above earthly greatness and power. It is meant to speak of lowliness and humility. Theologically, it presents rule as a service performed for the well-being of the People of God, rather than as gratuitous power or just lording it over us. Various popes over the centuries have struggled with this title and dropped it from the list. It is up to each Holy Father to choose, but to many today it is amongst the most fitting of any of the Papal titles.



makes the Holy Father the Ambrosian, Bragan, ex- that it acknowledges the first among them is the [the current one attended eminence]. The most ancient Jerusalem and Alexandria. relates directly to the Holy of St Peter, the guarantor both communion. In this, he is more Christians. He is the leader of this very important reason that Eastern Catholic leaders into funeral last Saturday. approached with care. He is Almighty. Christ Himself is the only the Vice-regent. He is not

MASS PROPERS FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Entrance Antiphon The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made. Alleluia!

1st NT Reading Acts 13:14 & 4:43b-52 *After rejection by Jewish hearers, the Apostles turn to preach to the Gentiles.*

Resp. Psalm We are His people, the sheep of His flock.

2nd NT Reading Revelation 7:9, 13a, 14b-17 *The Lamb will be their shepherd.*

Gospel Acclamation I am the Good Shepherd, says the Lord. I know My own and My own know me.

Gospel – John 10:27-30 *The Good Shepherd gives eternal life to His sheep.*

Communion Antiphon The Good Shepherd has risen, Who laid down His life for His sheep and willingly died for His flock. Alleluia!



CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE MASS Bishop Bosco will offer Mass in the Cathedral on **Saturday 17th May (12 noon)**, asking all families to join him to acknowledge the joys and challenges of family life. Also, it will celebrate those couples with significant anniversaries this year. It is always a wonderful Mass at the Cathedral, and it is always good to see so many of you there.

FORTHCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

- Saturday 10th May – The Big Garden Tidy in St Dominic's church grounds and presbytery garden. Lots of volunteers needed. Bring own secateurs!!
- Sunday 11th May at 6.00pm in St George's, Upper Cam, Christian Aid & Sunday Soul service.
- **Tuesday 13th May [Our Lady of Fatima] at 11.30am - Our Osma Group will have its next meeting. Please put this time and date into your diary. The Guest Speaker is Claire Greenwood Entertainment.**
- Friday 16th May @ 1.00pm – Funeral Mass of Vincenza Rosario 'Enza' Di-Leo, followed by burial at 2.00pm in Dursley Cemetery
- Saturday 17th May, noon Mass with Bishop Bosco in Clifton Cathedral in celebration of marriage and family life.
- **Monday 19th May at noon in Westerleigh Crematorium – Funeral of Margaret Mary Christina Cullimore**
- **Saturday 21st June – 5.30pm First Holy Communions at Sunday Mass in Nympsfield**
- Saturday 28th June at noon in Clifton Cathedral – Thanksgiving for the priestly ordinations of Bishop Crispin Hollis [Diamond] and Declan Lang [Golden].
- Saturday 5th July from noon at St Dominic's BBQ
- Sunday 7th September [Sunday closest to Our Lady's Birthday] Annual Clifton Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Glastonbury

Good works and social events do not just happen. They do not organise themselves and they don't work without someone lending a hand and turning up. There simply isn't a "SOMEBODY ELSE" to do these things. Parishioners sometimes comment that, "Something should be done" and "Our parish needs a social life". Both of these things are true, but there is no magical or invisible parish apart from us!

1. We are particularly keen to hear from volunteers who would consider hosting a coffee morning. In Nympsfield, it would be in aid of church funds and in Dursley it would be in aid of the hall refurbishment and new roof.
2. Could you organise or take part in a sponsored walk or cycle ride in June, July or August?

PASTORAL LETTER FOR EASTER 4C - VOCATIONS SUNDAY 2025

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you on this Fourth Sunday of Easter, traditionally known as Good Shepherd Sunday. Today's Gospel (John 10:11–18) gives us those deeply consoling words of Jesus: "I am the good shepherd... I know my own and my own know me...". In this Easter season and in our Jubilee Year of Hope, we hear those words not only with comfort but with conviction. We are reminded that every Christian life is born from the loving and personal call of the Shepherd who knows us by name and calls us to follow.

As we mark Vocations Sunday - a day of prayer and reflection on God's call in every life, we think especially of vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life, which our Church continues to need. But more deeply still, we are invited to rediscover that each one of us is called. No one is excluded from this divine summons.

This month of May marks the tenth anniversary of *Laudato si'*, Pope Francis' powerful letter to all people of goodwill, urging us to rediscover our role as stewards of the earth. That message is more urgent now than ever.

Laudato si' is not just an "environmental document." It is a profoundly spiritual vision of vocation. It reminds us that our relationship with God, with one another, and with the natural world is deeply interconnected. To hear God's call is also to hear the cry of the poor, and the cry of the earth. And people are listening. Across our country and our diocese, individuals, parishes, schools, charities and communities are responding. The Guardians of Creation project and CAFOD LiveSimply programme are just two beautiful examples of faith put into action. These efforts show us that care for the planet is not some optional extra - it is a holy responsibility, a vital part of living our vocation in the world today.

The word vocation comes from the Latin *vocare* - to call. In the Scriptures, God's call is often quiet but persistent. Like young Samuel in the night, we may hear it only when we slow down enough to listen: "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening...".

Many today - especially young people - carry deep and pressing questions about direction, identity, and purpose. In an age of constant connectivity, comparison, and distraction, it's not always easy to hear the still, small voice of God. The world offers answers - often loud, immediate, and appealing - but they are frequently shallow, short-lived, and ultimately unsatisfying. Success is equated with status. Identity is confused with image. Fulfilment is promised through consumption. And yet, in the midst of this noise, Christ still speaks. His voice does not compete for attention. He does not shout above the din. But He never stops calling. He calls us into deeper life - not just to do more, but to be more. And most of all, to be His. Perhaps vocation is not primarily about what we do, it's more about who we are becoming. And that journey of becoming is not undertaken alone. Christ walks with us. He speaks our name. And He never stops calling us into the fullness of life.

And so I ask each of you, especially our younger brothers and sisters: have you asked the Lord what He is calling you to do with your life? Have you asked with an open heart? Could He be calling you to the priesthood, the diaconate, the religious life? Could He be inviting you to a deeper, more deliberate discipleship in your daily life?

Please pray with me today for vocations in our diocese - for our seminarians, for our priests and deacons, for our religious, and for all those quietly discerning. Pray too for those who live the single life with fidelity, offering their gifts in hidden and generous service.

And if you feel even the faintest whisper of a call in your own life - listen. The Shepherd is near. He knows you. And He is calling you by name.

With my prayers and blessing in this Jubilee Year of Hope,

+ *Bosco*

Rt Rev Bosco MacDonald

Bishop of Clifton

To be read and made available in all churches and chapels on the Fourth Sunday of Easter

10/11 May 2025

A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP BOSCO ON THE ELECTION OF POPE LEO XIV

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

With great joy and renewed hope, we welcome the election of Pope Leo XIV, the new Bishop of Rome and successor of St Peter. His election is a gift to the whole Church, and I invite everyone in the Diocese of Clifton to keep him in our hearts and prayers in these first days of his ministry.

In his first words to the world, Pope Leo XIV greeted us with the timeless blessing: "Peace be with you all." He reminded us that this was the first greeting of the Risen Christ, the Good Shepherd who gave His life for the flock of God. He expressed his desire for this peace to enter our hearts, reach our families, and extend to all people, everywhere on earth.

By choosing the name Leo, our new Holy Father aligns himself with a towering figure in our tradition: Pope St Leo the Great, the first pope in history to be honoured with the title "the Great." He earned it not through power or prestige, but through his holiness, wisdom, and tireless defence of the faith during times of crisis. He reminded Christians not just who we are, but whose we are: "No one, however weak, is denied a share in the victory of the cross. No one is beyond the help of the prayer of Christ."

That same call echoes in our own time. Pope Leo XIV takes up his role as shepherd of the universal Church at a moment when the world is yearning for unity, meaning, and mercy. We pray that, like his namesake, he will lead with courage, clarity, and deep pastoral love.

Here in the Diocese of Clifton, as we continue to listen, renew, and go out in mission, we offer Pope Leo our loyalty and affection. May he know that the people of this diocese are with him, walking together in faith and in friendship with Christ.

O Holy Spirit, strengthen our new Pope, guide him in wisdom and peace, and bless the Church he now leads.

Oremus pro Pontifice nostro Leone – let us pray for Pope Leo.

Rt Rev Bosco MacDonald, Bishop of Clifton



ST WULSTAN'S PASTORAL AREA WALKING PILGRIMAGE FROM WORCESTER TO CLIFTON – ARRIVAL AT CLIFTON Pilgrimage Coach - Clifton

Cathedral Wednesday 28th MAY 2025

- GLOUCESTER COACH (53 seats) The coach will pick up at CINDERFORD Dockham Rd at 12:10 Other pick-ups: BRUTON WAY GLOUCESTER AT 12:45; TUFFLEY LANE AT 13:00 Return journey leaves Clifton at 17:45 COST: £8.50 per adult: £3 per child under 16 Payment in CASH will be collected on both coaches. SIGN UP LISTS AT THE BACK.
- STROUD COACH (53 seats) The coach will pick up at STROUD AT 12:30 Other pick-ups: STONEHOUSE 12:45; DURSLEY 13:10 Return journey leaves Clifton at 17:45 COST: £8.50 per adult: £3 per child under 16 Payment in CASH will be collected on both coaches.