

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

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SUNDAY 11 JULY 2021

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B



Collect

O God, who show the light of your truth to those who go astray, so that they may return to the right path, give all who for the faith they profess are counted Christians the grace to reject whatever is contrary to the name of Christ and to strive after all that does it honour.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen

Gospel (Mark 6:7 – 13)

Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out in pairs giving them authority over the unclean spirits. And he instructed them to take nothing for the journey except a staff – no bread, no haversack, no coppers for their purses. They were to wear sandals, but, he added, ‘Do not take a spare tunic.’ And he said to them, ‘If you enter a house anywhere, stay there until you leave the district. And if any place does not welcome you and people refuse to listen to you, as you walk away shake off the dust from under your feet as a sign to them.’ So they set off to preach repentance; and they cast out many devils, and anointed many sick people with oil and cured them

Reflection

Mark’s Gospel tells us that Jesus sent out the Twelve. These twelve were selected from among Jesus’ disciples and named by Mark in chapter 3. Mark notes that these twelve are also called “apostles.” The word *apostle* means “one who is sent.” The number twelve is also a symbolic number, representing the twelve tribes of Israel. By naming twelve apostles, Jesus shows his mission to be in continuity with the mission of God’s people, Israel.

Jesus’ instructions to the apostles are very specific. He repeats the mission that they are sent to preach and to share his authority to heal and to drive out demons. Jesus sends them in pairs, establishing his mission as a communal endeavour. Jesus also instructs them to travel lightly, without the customary food, money, and extra set of clothes. These instructions mean that the Twelve will be dependent on the hospitality of others, just as Jesus depended on others to provide for his needs.

Jesus continues to send us into the world as his disciples. But like the first disciples, we are not sent alone. Jesus has given us the community of the Church, which strengthens our life of discipleship. The Christian message can only authentically be proclaimed in and through the community of faith that is the Church. In our work with others, we build this community of faith and can invite others to share in it.

Celebration of Mass

Saturday 10 July: Mass at St Joseph’s at 5.30pm

Sunday 11 July: Mass at St Dominic’s at 10.30am

Wednesday 14 July: Mass at St Dominic’s at 9.00am

Please remember to wear masks, use sanitiser and maintain social distancing. Thank you

Local History

We are currently asked to help with two very different local history projects:

Our Parishes

In a letter to priests, Bishop Declan refers to the need to plan for the future. He writes, 'I think one thing we need to do is celebrate who we are while recognising the challenges we have to face. A suggested way to do this is for each parish to tell its story from its foundation until the present day. Parishes can also share with one another or their immediate neighbour the story they have to tell, so that we might recognise ourselves as being in communion with one another, with the purpose of mission.'

Many of you have been in the parishes for a long time and will have much knowledge of how the churches have developed. We would love to hear from you! So the Parish Council would like to begin by asking you for your memories of the histories of our parishes, and your thoughts on how they should move forward.

If you have anything that you would like to contribute, it would be very helpful if you could write it down and pass it on to a member of the Parish Council. (As a reminder, current members of the Council are Father Philip, Deacon Domenic, John Hudson (Chair), Colin Archer, Laura Gardiner, Louisa Rubin, Peter Tarski, Pat Uglow, Sue Whitney)

Thank you

GL11 Community Hub Oral History Project

GL11 Community Hub has been funded by the Heritage Lottery to record the memories and reminiscences of local residents who worked for past companies such as Listers, Mawdsleys, Baileys or Bymacks in order to provide an archive of a significant period of working life in GL11. We are particularly interested in hearing from people who came from other countries and moved to the Dursley/Cam area to work in these local industries. We are aware that a significant number of people have come to the area from countries such as Poland, Italy and Ukraine for instance.

Paul Rummer, a Dursley resident of 28 years and a trustee of GL11 Community Hub is coordinating the project with staff at GL11 Community Hub. If you would like to know more about the project and perhaps have your memories recorded for the archive, please contact Paul by email paulrummer8@gmail.com.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Pope Francis on Friendship, Prayer Intention for July

Friendship is one of the great gifts that life gives us. Being able to count on friends, during good times as well as bad, is a gift from God. Wouldn't it be stupendous if we could "go beyond (our) groups of friends and build social friendship, which is so necessary for living together well," as Francis tells us? We need to seek friends instead of enemies, understanding each other instead of fighting—in the Pope's words, "leaving polarization behind."

We pray for a speedy recovery for Pope Francis following his recent surgery

Churches Together Summer Service

Summer Songs of Praise

6 pm on Sunday 25 July at St Bartholmew's, Coaley GL11 5EB.

The service will be held outside if weather permits.

Note: These arrangements are conditional on Covid restrictions having been relaxed

Sea Sunday: 11 July

Stella Maris is our 2021 Parish Charity

I was a stranger and you welcomed me

Seafarers work long shifts, seven days a week, often for nine months at a time. In these times of pandemic, many haven't been home for over a year. They are far away from their family and loved ones, always at sea or a stranger in a foreign land. And what happens when something goes wrong? When they are exploited or abused? When they are abandoned by their employer or their wages unpaid

For hundreds of seafarers a ship visit from Stella Maris provides critical support, supplying food, clothes, phone cards, and medical supplies, and working with the port authorities and ship owners

Next week is Sea Sunday, when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. There will be a second collection for Stella Maris (the Apostleship of the Sea), the official maritime welfare agency of the Catholic Church. For an appeal talk from Bishop Paul Mason, and a video showing some of what Stella Maris does, please visit

www.stellamaris.org.uk/SeaSunday

To donate and for more information, please visit: www.stellamaris.org.uk/donate or text 'SEA' to 70460 to donate £5. Stella Maris is dependent on voluntary donations, so please give generously. Thank you.

Our Parish

PLEASE PRAY for those who have died recently:

Marie Dykes

Diocesan Prayer Link:

The Abbey Church, Downside

Churches Together Prayer Rota:

St Cyr, Stinchcombe

Parish Prayer Rota:

The congregation at Nympsfield