

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

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SUNDAY 18 JULY 2021
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B



Collect

Show favour, O Lord, to your servants and mercifully increase the gifts of your grace, that, made fervent in hope, faith and charity, they may be ever watchful in keeping your commands.

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: 30 – 34)

The apostles rejoined Jesus and told him all they had done and taught. Then he said to them, 'You must come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while'; for there were so many coming and going that the apostles had no time even to eat. So they went off in a boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But people saw them going, and many could guess where; and from every town they all hurried to the place on foot and reached it before them. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them because there were like sheep without a shepherd, and he set himself to teach them at some length

Reflection

In today's Gospel, we hear the Twelve referred to as "apostles." The word *apostle* is a Greek word meaning "one who is sent." Jesus chose twelve men from among his disciples whom he sent to share in his ministry of preaching and healing. The first report of this is found in the third chapter of Mark's Gospel, where the Twelve are also called apostles and the names of this select group are listed.

We who are Jesus' disciples today have also been sent to share the Gospel with others. Perhaps our commitment to following Jesus as his disciple leaves us feeling tired and overwhelmed. In today's Gospel, we hear Jesus affirm the importance of times of rest and renewal. Jesus wanted his disciples to come away and spend time alone with him. This is what we seek and find in our life of prayer and in our celebration of the Eucharist.

Celebration of Mass

Saturday 17 July: Mass at St Joseph's at 5.30pm

Sunday 18 July: Mass at St Dominic's at 10.30am

Wednesday 21 July: **NO 9.00am MASS**

Requiem Mass for Marie Dykes at St Dominic's at 12.00pm

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

Following the lifting of many restrictions on Monday 19 July, the Bishops of England and Wales will be issuing new guidelines to churches regarding the celebration of the Mass. We will be publishing full details of how these affect us in the Newsletter and on the website. So please check before you attend! Thank you

Sunday 18 July: Collection for Clergy Training Fund

The collection taken across the Diocese enables the Bishop to support those who offer themselves for training for the Diocesan priesthood. This fund enables the Bishop to fund their training at seminary and offer them a grant during their years of formation. The fund, at times, is also used to support the on-going formation opportunities for clergy in our Diocese and formation of permanent Deacons.

Please send your donations to us in the usual way, but make sure that you clearly mark them 'Clergy Training Fund'

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

Wild Garden

The orchids have been quite a feature this summer on the grass in front of the Presbytery. Another success is the new native hedge that we have planted. If you come to St Dominic's for Mass, please do take a minute to have a look at it!

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 – in which case please bring a chair!



Father Stephen Corrigan

Stephen Corrigan was ordained priest at Clifton Cathedral on Saturday 10 July.

Stephen comes from Bristol. As a young man he spent a year working on the team at St Cassian’s young people’s retreat centre at Kintbury, Berks. It was during this year that he first started thinking about the priesthood, especially when he attended a young people’s gathering in 2010 with Pope Benedict XVI in Hyde Park.

Stephen says of his Ordination “It is a great privilege to be ordained and to serve God’s people in the Church Thank you for all the kind words of encouragement”

WOMEN IN SCRIPTURE

Faith, doubt, love, betrayal, birth, death, wealth, famine, hope, families, infertility, peace, war, joy, poverty, leadership, power, prayer.

The Archdiocese of Birmingham launches a new podcast series about our favourite Scripture heroines.

Who are they?
What can they teach us?

Be inspired across the ages with some of the greatest women of all time.

Natalie Orefice, Advisor for Parish Evangelisation, listens to dynamic women sharing the Bible for today.

www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/podcasts




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.”

Our Parish

PLEASE PRAY for those who have died recently:

Marie Dykes

Diocesan Prayer Link:

St Stanislaus, Dulverton Sacred Heart, Minehead

Churches Together Prayer Rota:

St Dominic, Dursley

Parish Prayer Rota:

The children of our parishes