

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

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SUNDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2021
TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B



Collect

O God, who founded all our commands of your sacred Law upon love of you and our neighbour, grant that, keeping your precepts, we may merit to attain eternal life.

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 9: 30 – 37)

After leaving the mountain Jesus and his disciples made their way through Galilee, and he did not want anyone to know, because he was instructing his disciples; he was telling them, 'The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of men; they will put him to death, and three days after he has been put to death he will rise again.' But they did not understand what he said and were afraid to ask him.

They came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the road?' They said nothing because they had been arguing about which of them was the greatest. So he sat down, called the Twelve to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself last of all and servant of all.' He then took a little child, set him in front of them, put his arms round him, and said to them, 'Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name, welcomes me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'

Reflection

Mark paints a vivid picture in today's Gospel. Having arrived at Capernaum, Jesus and his disciples enter a house. In this private place, Jesus asks his disciples about the argument they had while they were journeying. The disciples are uncharacteristically silent and afraid to answer. They have been found out. Jesus then summons the Twelve and to this select group of disciples Jesus teaches that those who would be first in God's kingdom must be servants of all.

Jesus then calls forward a child and teaches the Twelve that to receive a child in Jesus' name is to receive both Jesus and the One who sent him. We might easily fail to understand the significance of this action. In first-century Palestine, children were without status or power, possessing no legal rights. In this action, Jesus is teaching his disciples and us that when we serve the least ones among us, we serve Jesus himself.

Who are the people without power or status in our society that Jesus is calling us to serve? Do we do so willingly? Jesus teaches that God's judgment of us will be based on this criterion alone.

Celebration of Mass

You no longer need to contact the office and book a place but we shall continue to record names as a precaution. We shall try to ensure that anyone who wishes to be "distanced" can be – in which case please arrive early

Hand sanitisers will still be used and face coverings are strongly recommended

Saturday 18 September: Mass at St Joseph's at 5.30pm

Sunday 19 September: Mass at St Dominic's at 10.30am

Wednesday 22 September: Mass at St Dominic's at 9.00am

Friday 24 September: Mass at St Dominic's at 7.00pm

Confirmations

It is hoped that there will be Confirmations in the Deanery in June next year. If anybody in year 9 or above, that is born on or before 31 August 2008, is interested in being Confirmed, please speak to Fr Philip on or before Sunday 26 September.

Celebration of Marriage

Bishop Declan is celebrating Mass in the Cathedral on Saturday 2 October (12 noon) and is inviting all married couples to join him.

He will send a personal invitation to those couples who are celebrating significant anniversaries during 2021 or those who will marry during this year.

If you are celebrating 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, 65th, or 70th anniversaries during 2021 or getting married this year please email (*adult.education@cliftondiocese.com*) leaving details of your names, address, and the number of years you are both celebrating.

“Dare to Dream” Autumn Series

There has been much talk about everything getting back to normal now that the pandemic appears to be receding. However, to simply believe that we just go back to how we were, has the potential for us to miss an opportunity to ‘refresh, renew and re-engage’. We are all different people because of the pandemic. Lives have changed. It is true to say that the pandemic has made many of us stop and think. Do we just want to return to how things were? What might we hold onto and what might we let go of? There is much to ponder. If we do want to embrace the new world, we are being offered, we will need to have open hearts and open minds, confidence, hope and above all faith that God is on this journey with us. The resources for this series are available on the Clifton Diocese website and will be added each week during the months of September and October at <https://cliftondiocese.com/dare-to-dream/>. Each session has a similar framework to follow. We are encouraged to read a short passage and then follow the reflections which come with a video. Each new video and reflection will be available on the Friday before each Sunday.

CAFOD

The poorest and most vulnerable people in the world are being hit hardest by the climate crisis. Harvests are failing. Cities are flooding. Entire communities are finding it harder and harder to survive in the place they call home. CAFOD are reaching out to the most vulnerable and supporting people who are giving their all to protect our world.

In their Pastoral Letter for Pentecost 2021 the bishops remind us of Pope Francis’ words – that global politics must look beyond our own needs to the needs of all,

most especially those who are poor and excluded. Friday 1st October is Family Fast Day and we are all encouraged to eat only a very simple meal that day and to donate any money we save to CAFOD either online at: cafod.org.uk/climatecrisis , or by supporting the 2nd Collection on the weekend of 2nd/3rd October. A number of Gift Aid envelopes will be available

This is a crisis that will affect each and every one of us, and is damaging our world. Our common home. God's Creation.

Wanted – School Governors

There are 62 maintained schools in Clifton Diocese, educating 21,673 pupils. They are supported by a 'volunteer army' of school governors, including 350 Foundation Governors appointed by Bishop Declan. The Bishop wishes to recruit new candidates to join the governing bodies, to help grow and sustain Catholic education in the Diocese for current and future generations, and so has produced a new promotional video where the Bishop and current governors and Headteachers, talk about the importance and value of school governors. Visit <https://schools.cliftondiocese.com/governance> and click on the Recruitment tab to watch the video to discover some of what being a school governor is about. If you would like to support catholic education and so would like to apply to be a governor, please complete the online application form <https://schools.cliftondiocese.com/form-2> or contact Bill McEntee, Governance Officer via bill.mcentee@cliftondiocese.com or call 07710094976 for more information – he would love to hear from you!

Churches Together – St Bartholemew's Church, Coaley

St Bartholomew's Coaley invite you to join them for Harvest Songs of Praise with member of Frampton Silver Band on Sunday September 26th at 6pm.

Our Parish

PLEASE PRAY for those who have died recently: Valerie Organ whose funeral will be at St Joseph's Church, Nympsfield on Thursday 23rd September at 1.30pm.

Diocesan Prayer Link:

Salisbury Parishes

Churches Together Prayer Rota:

Dursley Methodist Church

Parish Prayer Rota:

Members of the UCM