

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

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**SUNDAY 4 OCTOBER 2020**

**TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A**



**Collect**

Almighty ever-living God, who in the abundance of your kindness surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you, pour our your mercy upon us to pardon what conscience dreads and to give what prayer does not dare to ask.

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 (Matthew 21: 33 - 43)**

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son" he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance." So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read the scriptures:

It was the stone rejected by the builders  
that became the keystone.  
This was the Lord's doing  
and it is wonderful to see?

'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

## **Reflection**

Over the past few weeks, we have heard a series of parables about the Kingdom of Heaven. God calls us to work for His Kingdom and rewards us beyond what any of us deserves, or can imagine.

Today, we hear about the vineyard that has been given to each of us. God excludes no one. Work, families, our community, the environment; are all elements of our vineyard. Our job is to look after our vineyard and in doing so to produce good fruits.

In this 'Season of Creation' we have been reminded of the need for us to care for our world, our immediate environment, our brothers and sisters. We are also in the middle of a pandemic – how well are we using our gifts to do this?

In the parable we are God's tenants. God gives us total freedom to run the vineyard as we wish but we should never forget that it is God's vineyard. What fruits will we produce for the Lord?

### **Opening of our Churches for Private Prayer**

St Dominic's Church will be open for individual private prayer on Thursdays, 2 pm to 3 pm.

### **The Sacrament of Reconciliation**

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at St Dominic's Church on Saturdays 3.30pm to 4.00pm or by arrangement

## Celebration of Mass

We will be celebrating Mass again at St Joseph's at 5.30 pm on Saturdays and at St Dominic's at 11 am on Sundays and at 9 am on Wednesdays

Because we are following the guidelines set down by the bishops, whose chief consideration is to create a safe environment for everyone, fewer people will be able to attend the Mass each week.

### How can I attend Mass?

As numbers will be limited, you will have to contact the Church Office in advance with your name and contact details: 542039 or [dursley.stdominic@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:dursley.stdominic@cliftondiocese.com)

Be sure to arrive early for the Mass; stewards will be on hand to help with the seating

You will need to bring a mask and wear it

### Prayer for the Season of Creation (St Francis)

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:

where there is hatred, let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek

to be consoled as to console,

to be understood as to understand,

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Amen.

### Special Collection on Sunday 4 October for Peter's Pence

#### Baptism

We welcomed Maia Victoria Cummings on Sunday. Congratulations to her family and friends

#### Our Parish

PLEASE PRAY for those who have died recently

**Diocesan Prayer Link:** Sacred Heart, Tisbury

**Churches Together Prayer Rota:** St Dominic, Dursley

**Parish Prayer Rota:** The congregation at Nympsfield

#### 200 Club for September

1st prize £40 Kate Lissenden

2nd prize £30 Helena Tarski

3rd prize £20 Tonia Bucci

## Pat's Hymn Challenge

Pat Uglow has been our Church organist for over 50 years. At the age of 84 she has decided to retire, but not before she has completed an exciting but exhausting challenge that she has set herself: playing 84 hymns on the organ, one for each year of her life! The aim will be to raise money for our Parish Charity, Clifton Refugee Sponsorship, so whilst you are invited to come and listen to the hymns, you are also encouraged to give.

### What is Clifton Refugee Sponsorship?

A group of parishioners associated with Clifton Cathedral in Bristol (UK) who have spent the last two years working towards obtaining sponsorship status within the Home Office's *Community Sponsorship Scheme* in order to be able to sponsor a family of refugees from the wars in the Middle East. They welcomed a family to Bristol in early October 2019

More information at [www.cliftonrefugeesponsorship.co.uk](http://www.cliftonrefugeesponsorship.co.uk)

### When is Pat playing the hymns?

Pat will play more of the hymns after Mass on Sundays 4 and 11 October and Wednesday 7 October

### Can I come and listen?

Of course, but the usual rules for Church attendance will apply – social distancing and masks. **Please also contact the Church Office in advance to book a place for a particular session**

### How can I give?

The preferred way is through JustGiving at

[https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/stdominicsdursley?utm\\_id=1&utm\\_term=m38QW7Q5N](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/stdominicsdursley?utm_id=1&utm_term=m38QW7Q5N)

Other ways of donating are by cheque (made out to M P Uglow) or by cash left in the basket at church after Mass or posted to church at any time – if you pay using either of these methods please indicate clearly that the donation is for CRSS

**Many thanks to Pat for undertaking this marathon for our Parish Charity!**

**Please give generously**

## CAFOD Family Fast: 8 – 11 October



This week our parish is marking CAFOD'S Family Fast Day to help people facing the worst of the coronavirus crisis. We've all felt the impact of this terrible disease – let's come together to help the poorest and most vulnerable people in the world survive, rebuild and heal.

Please pray for all those affected and donate online through the CAFOD website, or by using one of our envelopes.