

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

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SUNDAY 3 OCTOBER 2021

TWENTY SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B



Collect

Almighty ever-living God, who in the abundance of your kindness surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you, pour out 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 (Mark 10: 2 – 16)

Some Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, 'Is it against the law for a man to divorce his wife?' They were testing him. He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' 'Moses allowed us' they said 'to draw up a writ of dismissal and so to divorce.' Then Jesus said to them, 'It was because you were so unteachable that he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation God made them male and female. This is why a man must leave father and mother, and the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide.' Back in the house the disciples questioned him again about this, and he said to them, 'The man who divorces his wife and marries another is guilty of adultery against her. And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another she is guilty of adultery too.'

People were bringing little children to him, for him to touch them. The disciples turned them away, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' Then he put his arms round them, laid his hands on them and gave them his blessing.

Reflection

Jesus' teaching on marriage, and the inadmissibility of divorce may be a joyful message to those who receive from God the wonderful gift of marital union but a source of anguish for those whose attempt at marriage has failed. In 'Amoris Laetitia', Pope Francis invites Christian families "to be a sign of mercy and closeness wherever family life remains imperfect or lacks peace and joy". He offers "an invitation to mercy and the pastoral discernment of those situations that fall short of what the Lord demands of us". Mercy is the love which all of us need to experience, regardless of our life-history or track record.

The teaching on marriage and adultery needs to be read alongside Jesus' reminder that the child, and the child's receptiveness to love, is the 'key' to the Kingdom of God. The passage is less about the regulations for ordering relationships, and more of a glimpse or vision of God's loving plan for his children. And this plan remains 'good news' for everyone, not just the fortunate ones.

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

Friday 1 October: Mass at St Dominic's at 7.00pm

Saturday 2 October: Mass at St Joseph's at 5.30pm

Sunday 3 October: Mass at St Dominic's at 10.30am

Wednesday 6 October: Mass at St Dominic's at 9.00am

Thursday 7 October: Mass at St Joseph's at 10am

Friday 8 October: Mass at St Dominic's at 7.00pm

CAFOD

The poorest and most vulnerable people in the world are being hit hardest by the climate crisis. Harvests are failing.

CAFOD are reaching out to the most vulnerable and supporting people who are giving their all to protect our world.

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.**

HARVEST COLLECTION 2021

the trussell trust
Stop UK Hunger

COLLECTION POINT HERE

SHOPPING LIST TOP TEN ITEMS

- Tinned Soup
- Tinned Fish
- Steamed Pudding
- Tinned Tomatoes
- Tinned Rice Pudding
- Biscuits
- Tinned Vegetables
- Instant potatoes
- Cereal bars
- Toiletries always welcome

#donated with love
#handled with care
#given with compassion

DONATE NOW!
Help by donating an item or two from our shopping list so we can provide emergency food to people in crisis.

Stroud District Foodbank
Strouddistrict.foodbank.org.uk
Registered Charity in England & Wales (1176306)

Stroud Foodbank

Warm greetings from Stroud District Foodbank where we've just launched our Harvest Appeal from our new home at Hope Mill Lane in Brimscombe!

Firstly, once again, thank you to all of the churches across the district that support us with donations of food and money. Big or small, every gift you give helps support a local person or family in need.

Dursley donations can be made at:

Tesco Cam
Dursley Coop
Little Rascals
The Pulse

“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-todream/>.

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.

Wanted – School Governors

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!

Opposing the Assisted Dying Bill 2021

In 2021, a Private Members Bill on ‘Assisted Dying’ was introduced in the House of Lords by Baroness Molly Meacher, Chair of Dignity in Dying. It is due its second reading on 22 October, where there will be a full debate in the House of Lords.

Our main concerns with the Bill can be summarised as follows: Protecting the Most Vulnerable, The Experience of Other Countries and Investing in Care and Not Ending Care.

Our Parish

PLEASE PRAY for those who have died recently

Diocesan Prayer Link:

St Joseph, Stonehouse The Annunciation, Woodchester

Churches Together Prayer Rota:

The Quarry Chapel

Parish Prayer Rota:

The young people of our parishes