

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

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**SUNDAY 17 OCTOBER 2021**

**TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B**



**Collect**

Almighty ever-living God, grant that we may always conform our will to yours and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart

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: 35 – 45)

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, approached Jesus. 'Master,' they said to him 'we want you to do us a favour.' He said to them, 'What is it you want me to do for you?' They said to him, 'Allow us to sit one at your right hand and the other at your left in your glory.' 'You do not know what you are asking' Jesus said to them. 'Can you drink the cup that I must drink, or be baptised with the baptism with which I must be baptised?' They replied, 'We can.' Jesus said to them, 'The cup that I must drink you shall drink, and with the baptism with which I must be baptised you shall be baptised, but as for seats at my right hand or my left, these are not mine to grant; they belong to those to whom they have been allotted.'

When the other ten heard this they began to feel indignant with James and John, so Jesus called them to him and said to them, 'You know that among the pagans their so-called rulers lord it over them, and their great men make their authority felt. This is not to happen among you. No; anyone who wants to become great among you must be your servant, and anyone who wants to be first among you must be slave to all. For the Son of Man himself did not come to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.'

## **Reflection**

The disciples seem to be selective in what they hear Jesus say. They want to share Jesus' glory, but do not appear to understand that his glory will be preceded by his suffering. Jesus notes their lack of understanding and predicts the suffering they will endure for the sake of the Gospel. Jesus says that the honour they seek is not his to give.

When the other ten hear what James and John have asked, Mark reports that they are indignant. Jesus takes the opportunity to teach them.

Jesus explains the importance of service and sacrifice in the life of a disciple. In particular, he seems to be preparing the Twelve for their leadership roles in the emerging Christian community. Echoing the Gospel we heard several weeks ago Jesus acknowledges that his teaching is countercultural. In today's Gospel, Jesus contrasts the dynamics within the community of disciples with those shown by the rulers of the Gentiles.

Following Jesus' example of sacrificial love continues to be countercultural in our day as well. We might take this opportunity to consider our models of authority and examine our own exercise of authority. On whose example do we model our leadership?

## 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 15 October	7.00pm	Mass	Dursley
Saturday 16 October	5.30pm	Mass	Nympsfield
Sunday 17 October	10.30am	Mass	Dursley
Wednesday 20 October	9.00am	Mass	Dursley
Thursday 21 October	10.00am	Mass	Nympsfield
Friday 22 October	7.00pm	Mass	Dursley

### For a Synodal Church

Pope Francis has launched what some describe as the most ambitious attempt at Catholic reform for 60 years

A two-year process to consult every Catholic parish around the world on the future direction of the Church began at the Vatican this weekend

The consultation process, called *"For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission"*, will work in three stages:

- In the "listening phase", people in parishes and dioceses will be able to discuss a wide range of issues. Pope Francis said it was important to hear from everyone, including pastoral workers and members of consultative bodies, both men and women
- The "continental phase" will see bishops gather to discuss and formalise their findings
- The "universal phase" will see a month-long gathering of the bishops at the Vatican in October 2023

The Pope is expected then to write an apostolic exhortation, giving his views and decisions on the issues discussed.

On Sunday 17 October Bishop Declan will launch the Synod in our own diocese when he celebrates Mass at the Cathedral that day. It has been determined that every parish be invited to celebrate the opening of the Synod in their own Church on the same day at the Sunday Mass

Parishes will be asked to nominate delegates to a Diocesan gathering on Saturday 20 November

## Parish Council

St Dominic's Parish Council met this week for the first time in eighteen months to discuss a range of issues:

- Following changes in the Deanery, we will continue to have only one Mass on a Sunday
- We will work towards restarting Little Church after half term
- We also hope to restart the choir and Café Dominic
- In order to do these things we do need volunteers – so if you feel able to help, please collect a form at the back of church or download the form from the website
- We have so far only had one fundraising event for this year's charity of *Stella Maris* – so we are planning another raffle before Christmas
- Next year's charity will be a Churches Together project to support Christian pupils at Rednock School
- Some major work needs to be done on the Hall to upgrade the roof and provide better insulation

Current Council members are:

Father Philip, Deacon Domenic, Colin Archer, Laura Gardiner, John Hudson (Chair), Louisa Rubin, Peter Tarski, Pat Uglow, Sue Whitney

### Raffle in aid of *Stella Maris*

We are planning a Christmas raffle for to be drawn hopefully at Café Dominic on the Sunday before Christmas.

Tickets will be £1.00 each and the raffle will be similar to the last one. We will ask parishioners to send cash in a named envelope and numbers allocated.

If anyone would like to donate a prize it would be very much appreciated. Thank you

*Laura Gardiner*

### Wedding Anniversary

Many congratulations to Phil and Pam Durcan who are celebrating their 60th Wedding Anniversary

### Baptism

Congratulations to the family of Astrid Maite Rose Doering who was baptised at St Dominic's on Sunday

#### Our Parish

PLEASE PRAY for those who have died recently

#### Diocesan Prayer Link:

Holy Family, Swindon St Joseph, Wroughton

#### Churches Together Prayer Rota:

St Bartholomew, Lower Cam

#### Parish Prayer Rota:

The sick of our parishes