

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

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SUNDAY 1 NOVEMBER 2020
SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS



Collect

Almighty ever-living God, by whose gift we venerate in one celebration the merits of all the Saints, bestow on us, we pray, through the prayers of so many intercessors, an abundance of the reconciliation with you for which we earnestly long.

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 5: 1 - 12)

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the pure in spirit;
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Happy the gentle;
they shall have the earth for their heritage.
Happy those who mourn;
they shall be comforted.
Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right;
they shall be satisfied.
Happy the merciful;
they shall have mercy shown them.
Happy the pure in heart;
they shall see God.
Happy the peacemakers;
they shall be called sons of God.
Happy are those who are persecuted in the cause of right;
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

Reflection

Today we celebrate the Feast of All Saints, a feast that brings into focus all those who lead good and often holy lives but are not officially recognised by the Church as being 'Saints'. The church introduced this feast in order to recognise the early Christian martyrs, many of whom were never known by name but who lived faithful Christian lives and who died for their faith.

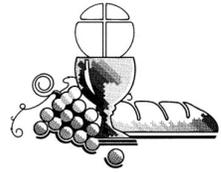
We may not have known anyone who has died for their faith but most of us have met people who have devoted their life to living the values of the Gospel. They are the people who strive to live generously and compassionately. These people are not heroic in the normal sense of the word, but their lives often are heroic. They are the people who are ready go the extra mile for others and then slip away un-noticed.

When we think of holiness what do we imagine? Perhaps one definition of holiness is the capacity to live without hankering after the past or imagining the future but being able to focus on the present moment. Such people are attentive to what is going on around them and in doing so can respond to whatever is asked of them.

During the pandemic we have seen many such people, heroically giving endlessly to meet the needs of others. These are the blessed people. Today's Gospel invites each one of us live humble, peaceful, and wholesome (holy) lives with Christ at the heart of all our actions and words.

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. 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

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.

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

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

Pat's Hymn Challenge: Update

The total raised was £ 2333 which will go towards Clifton Refugee Sponsorship. Congratulations on a magnificent effort, Pat!

200 Club: October Winners

Norman Long £40, Kitt Salter £30, Pat Uglow £20

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land 28 July - 6 August 2021

Father Colin Mason, Vocations Director for Clifton Diocese, will be one of the Spiritual Directors on next year's pilgrimage to the Holy Land. This trip has been designed specifically for young UK Catholic adults in the age range 18 to 35ish. In addition to celebrating Mass at some of the holiest places on Earth, exploring places mentioned in the Bible, we also have a lot of fun! Check out YouCAN Instagram handle [youngcatholicadultnetworkuk](https://www.instagram.com/youngcatholicadultnetworkuk)

Red Boxes

Please will anyone who has a red collection box that has not been emptied since before lockdown either try to deliver it to Father Beisly at the Presbytery or contact me on 01453 547834 so that I can arrange to collect it from you. If possible please deliver your box or contact me by November 15th. Thank you for your cooperation. Mary Cryan

Priests' Retirement Fund - Annual Appeal: 31 Oct – 1 Nov 2020

The Annual Appeal, in support of the Priest's Retirement Fund, will take place during the weekend of 31 Oct – 1 Nov 2020.

During their years of service to parish congregations many priests did not have the opportunity to prepare adequately for retirement. The support received for this appeal each year is a great reassurance to them that they are not forgotten.

There are currently twenty retired priests in receipt of financial support, which includes funding for retirement properties, retirement grants and care home fees, amounting to over £250,000 per annum.

Your support for this important collection is much appreciated by our retired priests, who continue to give great help in many parishes by offering their services as supply priests.

Fratelli Tutti: A New Encyclical from Pope Francis



The Pope describes *Fratelli Tutti* as a “Social Encyclical”. It aims to promote fraternity and social friendship. In the background of the Encyclical is the Covid-19 pandemic which, Francis reveals, “unexpectedly erupted” as he “was writing this letter”. But the global health emergency has helped demonstrate that “no one can face life in isolation” and that the time has truly come to “dream, then, as a single human family” in which we are “brothers and sisters all”.

Chapter Three: vision of an open world

The right to live with dignity cannot be denied to anyone, the Pope affirms, and since rights have no borders, no one can remain excluded, regardless of where they are born. In this perspective the Pontiff also calls us to consider “an ethics of international relations”, because every country also belongs to foreigners and the goods of the territory cannot be denied to those who are in need and come from another place. Thus, the natural right to private property will be secondary to the principal of the universal destination of created goods. The Encyclical also places specific emphasis on the issue of foreign debt: subject to the principal that it must be paid, it is hoped nonetheless that this does not compromise the growth and subsistence of the poorest countries.

Chapter Four: heart open to the world

Unnecessary migration needs to be avoided by creating concrete opportunities to live with dignity in the countries of origin. But we also need to respect the right to seek a better life elsewhere. In receiving countries, the right balance will be between the protection of citizens’ rights and the guarantee of welcome and assistance for migrants. Specifically, the Pope points to these steps “in response to those who are fleeing grave humanitarian crises”: to increase and simplify the granting of visas; to open humanitarian corridors; to assure lodging, security and essential services; to offer opportunities for employment and training; to favour family reunification; to protect minors; to guarantee religious freedom. What is needed above all is an international collaboration with long-term planning, going beyond single emergencies.

Our Parish

PLEASE PRAY for those who have died recently
Diocesan Prayer Link: St Luke and St Teresa, Wincanton
Churches Together Prayer Rota: Cam Methodist Church
Parish Prayer Rota: the young people of our parishes