

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

Parish Priest: Father Philip Beisly

St Dominic's Presbytery Jubilee Road Dursley GL11 4ES 01453 542039

Permanent Deacon: Domenic Bucci

01453 542136

[dursley.stdominic@cliftdiocese.com](mailto:dursley.stdominic@cliftdiocese.com)

**SUNDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2020**

**THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A**



**Collect**

Almighty and merciful God, graciously keep from us all adversity, so that, unhindered in mind and body alike, we may pursue in freedom of heart the things that are yours.

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 25: 1 - 13)

Jesus told this parable to his disciples. 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks or of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'

## Reflection

Jesus is not expecting us literally to refrain from sleeping. What he is referring to is the lack of alertness we can have to what might be happening around us, the way we drift from one thing to another, and worse, the way we can drift into negative behaviour, or simply into apathy and disregard for the things that matter.

It is easy to drift. It can happen almost unconsciously, without us being aware of what is happening. This is what happens to people who find themselves addicted to drink, drugs, gambling. Life becomes a painful escape from reality and truth.

Jesus does not want this for us. Instead he wants us to live life to the full, to experience everything in all its glory for we never know when the opportunity to do so will come to an end. When it does, we will want to be fully conscious that we have lived our lives in readiness for meeting God.

## And then ...



Daily Mass is still streamed live from Clifton Cathedral – see the parish website [dursleynympsfieldrcparish.co.uk](http://dursleynympsfieldrcparish.co.uk) for links to this and to other Masses

The daily readings can be found by clicking on the tab

Universalis  
Readings for Today

at <https://cliffondiocese.com/departments/adult-education/liturgy-office/>

## CELEBRATION OF MASS

Following Saturday's announcement of a second lockdown it will no longer be possible to celebrate Mass in our churches, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be discontinued for the month

However our churches will be open for **individual private prayer**:

St Dominic's – Sundays 2pm to 3pm

St Joseph's – Sundays 11am to 12am

### Weekly Offering

As there will no longer be a weekly collection in our churches anyone wishing to continue to make an offering for the life of the church can do so in one of the following ways:

- Set up a standing order – email the church office
- Pay directly into the church account with online banking – the account details can be provided via email with the request that they are not passed on
- Use PayPal via the link on the church website
- Send a cheque to the church office

### World Communications Day: 15 November

World Communications Day was established by Pope Paul VI in 1967 as an annual celebration that encourages us to reflect on the opportunities and challenges that the modern means of social communication afford the Church to communicate the gospel message. This year Pope Francis focuses on "That you may tell your children and grandchildren" (Ex 10:2)

Please pay as above, but indicate clearly that your donation is for 'World Communications Day'

### Praying Together on Mondays

As we cannot physically come together at the moment, meeting together 'in spirit' will be more important. A reminder that we try to pray for each other in our own homes for about 30 minutes at 5.30pm (or any other time that suits) each **Monday**.



There is a resource based to help with this on the **PRAYER** page of our website, where you will also find other prayers to help you through this time.

### From Pat Uglow

Thank you so much for all the kind messages and for the donations you have contributed to my sponsorship for CRSS. Their treasurer is delighted; I am just so pleased to be able to pass on a worthwhile sum to help families from Syria settle in this country, with appropriate support. Please continue to remember them in your prayers.  
Pat

## **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 Five: better politics**

This is one of the most valuable forms of charity because it is placed at the service of the common good and recognizes the importance of people. This is the populism indicated by Francis. But a better politics is also one that protects work, an “essential dimension of social life”. The best strategy against poverty does not simply aim to contain or render indigents inoffensive, but to promote them in the perspective of solidarity and subsidiarity. The task of politics, moreover, is to find a solution to all that attacks fundamental human rights, such as social exclusion; the marketing of organs, tissues, weapons and drugs; sexual exploitation; slave labour; terrorism and organized crime. Human trafficking, a “source of shame for humanity”, and hunger, which is “criminal” because food is “an inalienable right”, must be eliminated.

The politics we need, Francis also underscores, is a politics centred on human dignity and not subjected to finance because “the marketplace, by itself, cannot resolve every problem”: the “havoc” wreaked by financial speculation has demonstrated this

### **Chapter Six: dialogue and friends**

The concept of life as the “art of encounter” with everyone, even with the world’s peripheries and with original peoples, because “each of us can learn something from others. No one is useless and no one is expendable”. The miracle of “kindness” is an attitude to be recovered because it is a star “shining in the midst of darkness” and “frees us from the cruelty ... the anxiety ... the frantic flurry of activity” that prevail in the contemporary era (see Par 222-224).

Unnecessary migration needs to be avoided by creating concrete opportunities to live with

### **Our Parish**

PLEASE PRAY for those who have died recently

**Diocesan Prayer Link:** All Religious Communities in the Diocese

**Churches Together Prayer Rota:** Church of the Holy Cross, Owlpen

**Parish Prayer Rota:** the choirs at Dursley and Nympsfield