

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

Parish Priest: Father Philip Thomas

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

Parish Deacon: The Revd. Domenic Bucci 01453 542136

Parish email: dursley.stdominic@cliftondiocese.com

website: dursleynympsfieldrcparish.co.uk

Parish priest email: philip.thomas@cliftondiocese.com

8TH DECEMBER 2024 ADVENT II (YEAR C)



ADVENT II (Year C)

Sat 7 th Dec		5.30pm	Sunday Mass (Mrs C Whittard RIP)	Nympsfield
Sun 8 th Dec		10.30am	Sunday Mass (Pro Populo)	Dursley
Mon 9 th Dec	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION	Noon	Mass	Dursley
Tue 10 th Dec	Our Lady of Loretto	9.30am	Mass ()	Dursley
Wed 11 th Dec	Advent Feria	9.00am	Mass ()	Dursley
Thu 12 th Dec	Our Lady of Guadalupe	10.00am	Mass of St Nicholas with Class 2 (M. E. Thomas RIP) 7.30pm Oriana Singers' Concert	Nympsfield Dursley
Fri 13 th Dec	St Lucy of Syracuse	6.00pm	Adoration, Rosary & Confessions	Dursley
		7.00pm	Mass ()	Dursley
Sat 14 th Dec	St John of the Cross	Noon	Mass ()	Dursley
		3.00 -4.00pm	Confessions	Dursley

ADVENT III (Year C) Gaudete (remember to wear something pink!)

Sat 14 th Dec		5.30pm	Sunday Mass (Pro Populo)	Nympsfield
Sun 15 th Dec		10.30am	Sunday Mass	Dursley
		6.00pm	Ecumenical "Beer & Carols"	The Hoptician in town

POPE'S INTENTION FOR DECEMBER - PILGRIMS OF HOPE

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

CE

MASS PROPERS FOR ADVENT II (Year C)

Entrance Antiphon O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and he will make the glory of His voice heard in the joy of your heart.

First Reading – Baruch 5:1-9 *Look east and God will show your splendour*

Responsorial Psalm What good deeds the Lord worked for us! Indeed, we were glad.

Second Reading – Philippians 1:3-6 & 6-8 *St Paul prays that we may live pure and blameless lives as we wait for the Day of the Lord.*

Alleluia Verse Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight; all flesh will see the salvation of God.

Gospel Reading – Luke 3:1-6 *Luke pinpoints the adult ministry of Christ in the life of the Baptist and His mission for all flesh to see God's salvation.*

Communion Antiphon Jerusalem, arise and stand on the heights, and behold the joy which is coming to you.

RD

JSU

FORTHCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

- Thursday 12th December 7.30pm Annual Oriana Singers' Concert.
- Sunday 15th December 6.00pm outside the Hoptician in Dursley town centre, Beer and Carols
- **18th December 6.00pm Pre Christmas Carols in St Bart's, Nympsfield.**
- Sunday 29th December, Feast of the Holy Family, we propose replacing the Café Dominic with Mulled Cider/Apple Juice and mince pies, to bring the family of the parish together.

R. C. DIOCESE OF CLIFTON PILGRIMAGE TO ROME IN JUBILEE YEAR

2025 Visit the main Basilicas of Rome with an opportunity to enter through a Holy Door in the Jubilee Year. Spend 5 nights in Palazzola Retreat House, set in the hills south of Rome near to Castel Gandolfo. Explore Rome with Canon Christopher on walking tours; Daytrip to Assisi with a stop at pretty hilltop village of Greccio where St Francis inaugurated the idea of a live crib scene 800 years ago. Contact us here: enquiries@jcjourneys.com www.jcjourneys.com 01886 812862 Dates & Pricing Saturday 27th September - Thursday 2nd October 2025 What's Included 5-nights in Villa Palazzola, overlooking Lake Albano Return Easyjet flights from Bristol to Rome Daily Mass Airport transfers included Coach transfers to and from Rome for 3 days Breakfast and dinner at Palazzola included Day trip to Assisi and Greccio Led by Bishop Bosco MacDonald & Canon Christopher Whitehead £1050 pp Room with ensuite bathroom (limited rooms available) £965 pp Room with shared bathroom.



**ORIANA SINGERS PRE-CHRISTMAS
CONCERT THURSDAY 12TH DECEMBER IN ST
DOMINIC'S CHURCH, STARTING AT 7.30PM,
WITH REFRESHMENTS AT HALF TIME.
TICKETS COST £10 AND ALL PROCEEDS
COME TO ST DOMINIC'S!**

TIMES OF MASS FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF CHRISTMAS

Tues. 24th Dec. 6.00pm The Vigil Mass in St Dominic's
Tues. 24th Dec. 9.00pm Mass of Christmas Night in St Joseph's
Wed. 25th Dec. 9.00am Mass of Christmas Dawn in St Joseph's
Wed. 25th Dec. 11.00am Mass of Christmas Day in St Dominic's

Please note that the weekday Masses of the Christmas Octave will all be at Noon, no matter where they are celebrated



THE ADVENT PRESERVATION SOCIETY 2024 Before we get annoyed with those who do not keep Advent, we must admit that it is probably not their fault. They don't know what it is or how to keep it. The commercial world has largely convinced people that shopping for Christmas IS Christmas. The advertising experts have eliminated the word PREPARATION, even though that's what they want us to do in our shopping and wrapping and sending. The other clever deception they practice upon us is that the season of Christmas started the day after Halloween (or American Thanksgiving) and runs up to and ends on the 25th December. Thus, they have apparently squeezed out the season of Advent altogether. Because that's how it looks, many think that's how it actually is.



Even Christians are conned and pressurised into starting Christmas too soon. They pay lip service to Advent with purple in church, but they organise carol services and children's nativities from 1st December and are bored with the Lord's Birth before Boxing Day even arrives.

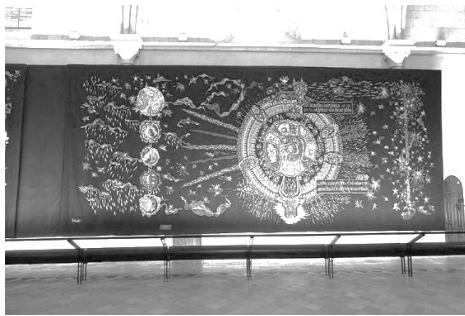
We do gently need to remind our fellow Christians that we don't have Easter parties, bunnies and chocolate in Lent. We don't anticipate the Resurrection before it happens and we should not anticipate the Nativity before it happens either.

With all that said, the "getting ready for Xmas" is still going on. You find Advent if you look carefully. The turkeys are not roasting yet, let alone chestnuts on an open fire! We need to be strong and hold fast to the keeping of Advent. We must explain firmly but politely why it matters, things like "Christmas is coming doesn't mean that Christmas is actually here yet". We must remind folks that the shining days of Christmas only start when it gets dark on Christmas Eve and they stay with us part Epiphany to the Baptism of the Lord. The Season has 3 Sundays in it!!!

CALLING THE ABLE-BODIED In order for the Café Dominic to run successfully, we need to offer not only Coffee/Tea but refreshments sitting down at tables and chairs. Can any of our able bodied adults help us by just dropping into the hall on their way into church to give us quick hand?

"SING, CHOIRS OF ANGELS" As we approach the season of carols and joyful music, beginning with the angels in the sky over the hills above Bethlehem, this a seasonal reminder that choirs on earth need singers too! We can teach you to read music and how to sing in harmony. Make yourself known to existing choir members or to our Organist/Director of Music. Come and have fun.

200 CLUB The Finance Committee has agreed that in order to help the fundraising efforts for the proposed and necessary upgrade to the hall, and to avoid having to purchase a licence from the Local Authority, that all proceeds from the 200 Club should be specifically for the Hall Improvement Fund. We have plenty of room for more members. Each number costs 50p per week and can be paid for weekly or monthly or annually, whatever is easiest for you. Draws are held monthly with prizes of £40, £30 and £20. For further information and sign-up details, please contact Sue Whitney our treasurer



TAPESTRY Probably, the most famous tapestry in Britain today was designed by John Piper and hangs behind the high altar of the modern Coventry Cathedral. After it had been hanging for a while, they realised it suffers (as we all do!) from gravity – the bottom was sagging because of the weight. The problem is now fixed and carefully monitored. Although the modern Anglican cathedral was built recently, the hanging of tapestries in

cathedrals goes back a very long way. They were used to illustrate all or part of the Christian message and also to insulate worshippers from the cold of the thick walls. Few of these survive. Some even used carpets and expensive Persian rugs.

One notable exception to this is the Tapestries of the Apocalypse in Angers in France. The set is no longer complete, but largely so and is most impressive. They illustrate the Book of Revelation. They were removed and dispersed by the horrors of the French Revolution, but they were reassembled thereafter. One panel was found being used as an eiderdown on a canon's bed and another was found in the market under a pile of potatoes. Today, they are housed in a purpose-built museum in the adjacent chateau of Angers.



Furthermore, Angers houses another set of non-religious tapestries in the Hospital of St James. The hospital was built on the orders of King Henry II of England and Anjou as part of



his penance for the murder of St Thomas of Canterbury. Today, no longer a hospital or old people's home, the building houses some wonderful works by Jean Lurcat, called the Song of the World, le chant du monde. Lurcat was involved in the rediscovery of the Apocalypse tapestries. Against black backgrounds the designs and picture are worked in bright colours, orange, yellow and red. The ten Lurcat panels came to live in Angers in 1966.