

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

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SUNDAY 12 DECEMBER 2021
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR C



Collect

O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation, and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing

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 (Luke 3: 10 - 18)

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

Reflection

In today's Gospel reading, the crowds ask John the Baptist for specifics. What evidence of repentance is required? John replies by naming concrete actions: crowds should share their food and cloaks; tax collectors should be just; soldiers should act fairly. The concern for justice is a hallmark of Luke's Gospel.

When the crowd begins to wonder if John the Baptist might be the Messiah, John interprets his baptism and makes it clear that his ministry is in preparation for the Messiah. John the Baptist knows his place and role in God's plan of salvation. By encouraging the crowd to act similarly in accordance with their stations in life, John's teaching suggests that each person has a role to play in God's salvation. It is the great mystery of our salvation that God permits and even asks for human cooperation in his divine plans.

Celebration of Mass			
Hand sanitisers will still be used and face coverings are strongly recommended			
Friday 10 December	7.00pm	Mass	Dursley
Saturday 11 December	5.30pm	Mass	Nympsfield
Sunday 12 December	10.30am	Mass	Dursley
Wednesday 15 December	9.00am	Mass	Dursley
Thursday 16 December		NO MASS	
Friday 17 December	7.00pm	Mass	Dursley



Please support our raffle in aid of *Stella Maris*. We are collecting donations and assigning a number to each £1 donated (so no paper tickets!). Please bring your money to the church marking clearly that it is for the **Raffle**

Closing date: Sunday 12 December

To tempt you, here are some of the fantastic prizes on offer:

Christmas Hamper

Tins of Celebrations, Heroes, Roses

Box of Lindt chocolates

Eight bottles of wine

Box of wine

Bottle of whisky

Set of 6 wine glasses

Set of 4 Spode mugs

Set of tray, mugs and coasters

Cheese board

Thermos

Bird feeder

Amaryllis

RHS address book

Sets of doll's house furniture: bedroom, living room, kitchen, dining room

Powerman robot

Sets of Frozen accessories

Dinosaur books

Voucher worth up to £67.50 for a full week on plan with The One 2 One Diet, goody bag containing magazine, pen, water bottle & other goodies

Many thanks to all who have donated so generously

Christmas Services

Friday 24 December

8.30pm: Mass of Christmas Night, St Dominic's

Saturday 25 December

9.00am: Mass of Christmas Morning, St Joseph's

11.00am Mass of Christmas Morning, St Dominic's

Sunday 26 December:

10.30am: Mass, St Dominic's

Stroud Foodbank

Stroud Foodbank are currently preparing food hampers for Christmas and are in need of the following items. Christmas cakes and puddings, tinned ham, jars of pickles, nice toiletries, hot chocolate, boxes of savoury and sweet biscuits, boxes of chocolate. Donations can be made at Tesco Cam, Dursley Coop, Little Rascals and The Pulse

Inclusion for all

LGBT+ Mass, Sunday 19 December, 3.00pm at St Nicholas of Tolentino Church, Bristol – followed by mulled wine and mince pies

This is a monthly celebration for LGBT+ Catholics, families and friends. All are welcome

Friends at Christmas

If you know somebody who will be lonely at Christmas Day and would like to be a guest or if you would like to help as a volunteer please contact Martin Gregg

Email: gregg5ep@btinternet.com Tel: 07788 421059

Family Catechesis

Family catechesis supports parents to be the first teachers for their children while at the same time offering them their own formation. A retreat day was held in September 2021.

Keynote talks from the retreat can be found at the bottom of the web page:

[*Catechists' Formation | Clifton Diocese*](#)

Diocesan Directories and Diaries

These are available at the back of St Dominic's. Directories cost £5 and Liturgical Diaries £6.50. Please leave the money at the back of the church, clearly labelling it. Thank you

Our Parish

PLEASE PRAY for those who have died recently: Leo Harper

Diocesan Prayer Link:

St George, Warminster

Churches Together Prayer Rota:

Cam Methodist Church

Parish Prayer Rota:

The sick of our parishes