

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

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**3 MARCH 2024  
THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**



After clearing the Temple of the merchants and the moneychangers, John's Gospel tells us that the people asked for a sign of Jesus' authority to do such an audacious act. In response, Jesus spoke cryptically about the destruction of a temple and predicted His death and resurrection.

During Lent we reflect upon the meaning of this sign for us and for our world. We might take this opportunity to consider the quality of our prayer and worship. In our prayers, we seek to deepen our relationship with Christ. In our worship with the community, we gather to experience anew the passion, death, and Resurrection of Jesus and its significance in our lives. Christ promises to be present with us, when we gather for prayer.

**WE ARE UPDATING OUR CONTACT DETAILS FOR BOTH PARISHES!! WE NEED YOUR PERMISSION TO HOLD AND USE THIS INFORMATION. SOME HAVE MOVED. SOME HAVE ARRIVED AND SOME HAVE CHANGED THEIR EMAIL ADDRESS. PLEASE FILL IN THE SIMPLE FORM AND RETURN IT, EVEN IF YOU THINK WE ALREADY HAVE YOUR DETAILS**

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT – YEAR B				
Sat. 2 Mar Sun 3 Mar		5.30pm 10.30am <b>6.00pm</b>	Sunday Mass (Pro Populo) Sunday Mass (Graham Wright RIP) <b>Ecumenical Vespers &amp; Lent Course</b>	Nympsfeld Dursley <b>Durs. Meth. chapel</b>
Mon 4 Mar	Lenten Feria	St Kasimir	<b>No Mass</b>	
Tues 5 Mar	Lenten Feria	9.30am <b>10.00am</b>	Mass <b>“Nice One, Cyril” Talk</b>	Dursley Dursley
Wed 6 Mar	Lenten Feria	9.00am	Mass	Dursley
Thurs 7 Mar	Lenten Feria	10.00am	Mass <i>with the school</i>	Nympsfeld
Fri 8 Mar	Lenten Feria	<b>6.00pm</b> 7.00pm	<b>Stations – Via Crucis</b> Mass	<b>Dursley</b> Dursley
Sat 9 Mar	Lenten Feria	Noon 3.00pm – 4.00pm	Mass (Joe Thorley RIP) Confessions	Dursley Dursley
FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT – YEAR B				
Sat. 9 Mar Sun 10 Mar		5.30pm 10.30am <b>6.00pm</b>	Sunday Mass (Pro Populo) Mass (the Michaels Brennan RIP) <b>Ecumenical Vespers &amp; Lent Course</b>	Nympsfeld Dursley <b>Durs. Meth. chapel</b>

*Café Dominic is open for refreshments each Sunday after the 10.30 Mass at Dursley*

**CAFÉ DOMINIC** Café Dominic urgently needs more volunteers. If you would be willing to help after the 10.30 Sunday Mass, probably for only once a month, please speak with Father Philip or Laura Gardiner. **WE CANNOT RUN THIS WITHOUT VOLUNTEERS. PLEASE PREVENT A REDUCTION IN SERVICE BY COMING FORWARD.**

### SUNDAY MASS PROPER

#### **Entrance Antiphon**

My eyes are always on the Lord, for He rescues my feet from the snare.  
Turn to me, and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor

#### **Responsorial Psalm**

You, Lord, have the message of eternal life!

#### **Gospel Acclamation**

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord, whoever believes in me will never die.

#### **Communion Antiphon**

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, forever singing your praise.

**THE POPE’S INTENTION FOR MARCH: FOR THE NEW MARTYRS.** We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.



**VOLUNTEERS TO DO CHURCH LINENS** Every parish needs volunteers and Nympsfeld and Dursley are no different. We have sadly said goodbye and commended to God’s infinite mercy two people over the last six months, who have quietly served these two parishes in various ways. No one can replace the person we have sent to God’s gracious keeping, but we can find individuals and rotas of people who will take up the baton and carry on with the job. In this case, we are looking for one or more men or women to launder the small linens we use at Mass, corporals, purificators and finger towels. We are happy to show anyone how the job is done. A

rota of volunteers doing one Sunday a month would be ideal. It is not difficult or onerous. It is not gender specific. It is a non-speaking part and inconspicuous. We are, however, very grateful for this job being done. You would be contributing to the worship of Almighty God on earth and polishing your crown for heaven. Please speak to Fr. Philip or Deacon Dominic if you are volunteering or want to know more.

# REMEMBER TO WEAR SOMETHING ROSE FOR MOTHERING SUNDAY MASS

## JOURNEYING THROUGH LENT

### ACT ON POVERTY: CHURCHES TOGETHER SERVICES Dursley Methodist Church at 6.00pm

3 March – Generous: Revd Simon Helme, 10 March – Located: Pastor Philip Greenow, 17 March – Hopeful: Revd Graham Stacey

**LENTEN RETREAT: 'TRANSFORMED BY LOVE'** Clifton Diocese & 'Light of Truth' are offering a Lenten retreat: 'Transformed by Love' in 6 online sessions, looking at God's grace at work in the lives of 6 people, through scripture and artworks. The sessions begin at 7.30pm on a Tuesday evening: 5 March, 12 March, 19 March, 26 March. To sign up for the series, click on the Zoom link on the Diocesan Web Site. 'Light of Truth' is a venture of Dominican Sisters living in the New Forest, who live a community life of prayer and praise, of study and preaching, according to the Dominican tradition. With 'Light of Truth', they hope to share with everyone the fruits of their contemplation, prayer, academic formation and of their rich experience of working with adults, catechists and young people at the services of parishes and dioceses in the last 25 years. They want to offer the best content and the best experience possible to help everyone grow in faith, hope and charity. We suggest a donation of £5 per person per session.



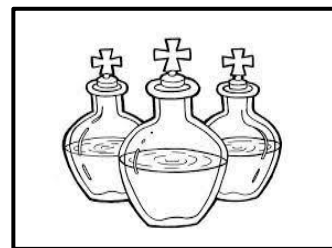
**THE BIG LENT WALK** This Lent CAFOD are calling all Catholics to walk 200km in 40 days to help fight Global Poverty. Challenge yourself and take on The Big Lent Walk! Walk when and where you choose over 40 days, alone or with friends. Thousands of walkers from England, Wales, Scotland and beyond, will be tying up their purple laces and walking an incredible 200km this Lent to fight global poverty. Sign up today at <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/sign-up> and do the Big Lent Walk yourself, or join in with your school or parish. The Big Lent Walk makes it simple to put your faith into action this Lenten season by connecting with your local and global community in a meaningful way.

Whether you take part as an individual, school or parish community group, the money you raise will enable people around the world to fight poverty.

**LITURGIES OF RECONCILIATION DURING LENT** Bishop Declan is to celebrate Liturgies of Reconciliation [Penitential Service with Individual Confessions] during the Season of Lent at five venues across the diocese with each Liturgy starting at 7.00pm.

- Wednesday 6 March: Holy Family, Patchway
- **Wednesday 13 March: St Peter, Gloucester IN OUR DEANERY**
- Wednesday 20 March: Christ the King, Amesbury

**CHRISM MASS** This year the Chrism Mass is at Clifton Cathedral at 11.00am on Wednesday 27 March. Immaculate Conception, Stroud, will be organising a coach as usual. This will pick up at Dursley at 9.20am (Other pick-ups: Stroud 8.45am; Stonehouse 9.00am) The return journey leaves Clifton at 12.30pm. The cost is £8.50 per adult and £3 per child, payment will be collected on the coach. To book your place on the coach please sign the list at the back of church by **Sunday 17 March**.



**GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD** Why? So that we can joyfully trust and hope in God, but also so that we can forgive each other, so that we can put right some of those wrongs. Which takes us back to the theme of allowing the land to grow fallow, allowing that time of tranquilly and peace, so that we can rid each other of the debts that often occur when we don't forgive each other, when we're not kind and supportive to each other. To do that, you have to hope in the promises of the Lord – 'Give us this day our daily bread'. *Father Jan Nowotnik*

**MORE HALL CONVENT** This Convent Residential Care Home, near Stroud, has a vacancy. We are a small care home, for 10 elderly residents, run by the Grace and Compassion Benedictine Sisters, whose mother house is in Brighton. We are 2 miles outside Stroud. All our rooms are en suite. We have daily Mass in our Chapel for those wishing to attend. For more information including fees, please contact the care manager, Sr Elsy, on 01453 764486 or

email her: [moorehallconvent@gmail.com](mailto:moorehallconvent@gmail.com). Your prayers are asked for the soul of our parishioner Toddy Flynn, who departed this life in the care of the sisters on 19<sup>th</sup> February. To attend the Requiem, please ask the Convent.



**WHAT IS A COVENANT?** If you are of a certain age, you may remember that covenants were what went before Gift Aid, as a way of giving your parish the tax you have already paid to the Government on top of your actual donation. Most of us recognise the word from Christ's Institution of the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar at the Last Supper, a word we hear at Mass. The word is significant and points us towards the whole Triduum. Fr. Philip used to get marks in exams at seminary for remembering the definition of a Covenant. In addition to its eucharistic use, it is also found throughout the Old Testament and in the celebration of Holy

Matrimony. "A covenant is a living relationship, based upon promises, inaugurated by sacrifice and having a sign to indicate it". The Covenant of Noah has the rainbow, the Covenant of Abraham has circumcision, the Covenant of Sinai has the Passover Meal. The Sacrifice of the New and Eternal Covenant is the Cross on Good Friday. The living relationship with God comes in the Resurrection of Christ and our sharing in it. This Sharing we do at the Font and the Altar. Marriage's promises are heard by everybody at the Wedding. The inaugurating sacrifice is the self-offering of the couple one to the other. The relationship we then see until death do them part. For us as Christians, Cross and Resurrection are experienced in the Sacrifice of the Mass and in the Real Presence. The Mass thus ties these things together when we do this in memory of Him.

### **FORTHCOMING DATES AND EVENTS**

- Lent Friday evenings **Stations of the Cross in St Dominic's**. The devotion began by walking the Via Dolorosa in Jerusalem and came home with pilgrims, who erected crosses and pictures in their own parish churches
- **Lent Tuesday Mornings after the 9.30am Mass, Father Philip will give a series of talks on praying the Liturgies of Holy Week called, "Nice One Cyril or Passover in Jerusalem"**
- The Fast of the Eyes starts on the evening before the Fifth Sunday in Lent. The statues and crosses of both churches, but not the Stations, will be veiled in purple.
- **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March Patronal Solemnity of Nympsfield parish and school, St Joseph of Nazareth. 9.30 School Mass in church. Noon Parish Mass in church**
- We will observe the Sacred Triduum together as two parishes together in communion and we will celebrate the Resurrection on the **First Sunday of Easter on the 31<sup>st</sup> March** this year. Please note that this is One Triduum for Two parishes and boycotting the other building because it is not 'mine' is both small minded and counterproductive. We are more mature than that.

23<sup>rd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> Mar. Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion, usual pattern of Mass

25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> Mar. Fig Monday & Temple Tuesday, 10.00am Mass in Nympsfield & Noon in Dursley

27<sup>th</sup> Mar. Spy Wednesday Chrism Mass in Clifton. Masses 8.30am Dursley & 6.00pm in Nympsfield

28<sup>th</sup> Mar. Maundy Thursday **7.30pm Joint Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper Dursley**

29<sup>th</sup> Mar. Good Friday **3.00pm Joint Celebration of the Lord's Passion, Dursley**

30<sup>th</sup> Mar. Holy Saturday – The Great and Holy Sabbath. Noon in Dursley, Blessing of Food Baskets. Many Catholic countries and cultures have a long history of blessing food baskets on Holy Saturday for breaking the Lenten Fast on Easter Day. Among these cultures, our Polish parishioners may like to take advantage of this traditional blessing.

**30<sup>th</sup> Mar. Easter Eve 9.00pm Great Paschal Vigil and First Mass of Easter, Nympsfield**

**31<sup>st</sup> Mar. Easter Day 10.30am Second Mass of Easter in Dursley**

### **200 CLUB: FEBRUARY WINNERS**

1<sup>st</sup>: Jamie Whitney £40, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Susan Johnson £30, 3<sup>rd</sup>: Anne Ballard £20

**OUR PARISH**

PLEASE PRAY for those who have recently died.

**Diocesan Prayer Link:** Christ the King, Thornbury & Holy Cross, Wotton under Edge (Our Deanery next door neighbours)

**Churches Together:** St Cyr, Stinchcombe

**Parish Prayer Rota:** The congregation at Dursley