

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

Parish Priest: Father Philip Thomas

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

Permanent Deacon: The Revd. Domenic Bucci

01453 542136

Parish email: dursley.stdominic@cliftondiocese.com

website: dursleynympsfieldrcparish.co.uk

Parish priest email: philip.thomas@cliftondiocese.com

**10 MARCH 2024
FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT –
LAETARE OR MOTHERING SUNDAY**



Today's Gospel reading is taken from John's Gospel. It consists of two parts. The first part is the final sentence of Jesus' reply to Nicodemus, the Pharisee who approached Jesus at night. Nicodemus acknowledged Jesus as someone who had come from God and seemed to want to be a follower of Jesus. He misunderstood Jesus at every point, but there was no animosity in the questions Nicodemus posed to Jesus. Perhaps his misunderstanding fell away in time, for he was there at Jesus' crucifixion and was part of the group who buried Him.

The second part of today's Gospel is a theological reflection on Jesus' words to Nicodemus. In John's reflection, we find an observation about human sinfulness. Jesus is the light that has come into the world, but people preferred the darkness. We wish to keep our sins hidden, even from God. Jesus has come into the world to reveal our sins so that they may be forgiven. This is the Good News; it is the reason for our rejoicing in this season of Lent and throughout our lives.

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT – YEAR B

| | | | | |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------|--|---------------------------|
| Sat. 9 Mar | | 5.30pm | Sunday Mass (Pro Populo) | Nympsfeld |
| Sun 10 Mar | | 10.30am | Sunday Mass (the Michaels Brennan RIP) | Dursley |
| | | 6.00pm | Ecumenical Lenten Service | Durs. Meth. chapel |
| Mon 11 Mar | Lenten Feria | | No Mass | |
| Tues 12 Mar | Lenten Feria | 9.30am | Mass | Dursley |
| | St Gregory | 10.00am | “Nice One, Cyril” Talk | Dursley |
| Wed 13 Mar | Lenten Feria | 9.00am | Mass | Dursley |
| Thurs 14 Mar | Lenten Feria | 10.00am | Mass <i>with the school</i> | Nympsfeld |
| Fri 15 Mar | Lenten Feria | 6.00pm | Stations – Via Crucis | Dursley |
| | | 7.00pm | Mass | Dursley |
| Sat 16 Mar | Lenten Feria | Noon | Mass | Dursley |
| | | 3.00pm – 4.00pm | Confessions | Dursley |

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT – YEAR B

| | | | | |
|-------------|--|---------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sat. 16 Mar | | 5.30pm | Sunday Mass (Pro Populo) | Nympsfeld |
| Sun 17 Mar | | 10.30am | Sunday Mass | Dursley |
| | | 6.00pm | Ecumenical Lenten Service | Durs. Meth. chapel |

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

CAFÉ DOMINIC If you would be willing to help set up before or clear up 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, SO THE CAFÉ WILL NOW BE CLOSED UNTIL AFTER EASTER SUNDAY.**

SUNDAY MASS PROPER

Entrance Antiphon

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning;
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

Responsorial Psalm

O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not!

Gospel Acclamation

God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son; everyone who believes in him has eternal life

Communion Antiphon

The Lord anointed my eyes; I went, I washed, I saw and I believed in God

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 THIS MOTHERING SUNDAY

JOURNEYING THROUGH LENT

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



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', looking at God's grace at work in the lives of people, through scripture and artworks. The sessions begin at 7.30pm on a Tuesday evening: 12 March, 19 March, 26 March. To sign up for the series, click on the Zoom link on the Diocesan Web Site,

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 celebrates Penitential Services with Individual Confessions during Lent. Each of the remaining liturgies starts at 7.00pm.

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

CHRISM MASS BUS The Chrism Mass is in Clifton Cathedral at 11.00am on Wed. 27th Mar. The coach from Stroud, 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. Please consider joining the Bishop, our priests, deacons, religious and fellow laity from across Clifton Diocese for this important occasion.**

OUR PARISH

PLEASE PRAY for those who have recently died: Toddy Flynn

Diocesan Prayer Link: Sacred Heart, Tisbury

Churches Together: St Dominic, Dursley

Parish Prayer Rota: The congregation at Nympsfield

INSPIRING WOMEN: WOMEN AND SYNODALITY The National Board of Catholic Women invites you to a WEBINAR organised by the Women in the Church Committee on Saturday 16 March from 11.00am to 12.45pm. Email nbcw@abdiocese.org.uk to register your interest in this new buzz word, much talked about but rarely defined.

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. Your prayers are asked for the soul of our parishioner Toddy Flynn, who departed this life in the care of the sisters on 19th February. To attend the Requiem, please ask the Convent.



Christ became
obedient
for us unto
death,
even to death
on a cross

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

FORTHCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

- Friday evenings Stations of the Cross in St Dominic's at 6.00pm.
 - 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. This phase of Late Lent is also traditionally called Passiontide.
 - Tuesday 19th 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 31st 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.
- 23rd/24th Mar. Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion, usual pattern of Mass
25th Mar. Fig Monday 10.00am Mass in Nympsfield & Noon in Dursley
26th Mar. Temple Tuesday, 10.00am Mass in Nympsfield & Noon in Dursley
27th Mar. Spy Wednesday Chrism Mass in Clifton. Masses 8.30am Dursley & 6.00pm in Nympsfield

THE SACRED TRIDUUM OR THREE HOLY DAYS

THE FIRST DAY – SUNSET THURSDAY TO SUNSET FRIDAY

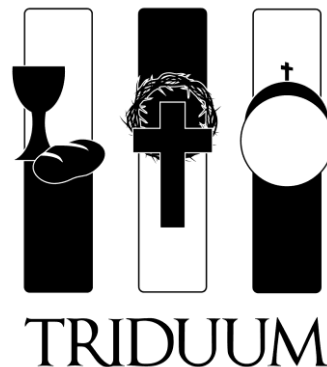
- 28th Mar. Maundy Thursday 7.30pm Joint Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper Dursley
29th Mar. Good Friday Dursley Walk of Witness in the morning.
3.00pm Joint Celebration of the Lord's Passion, Dursley

THE SECOND DAY – SUNSET FRIDAY TO SUNSET SATURDAY

- 30th Mar. Holy Saturday – The Great and Holy Sabbath. Noon in Dursley, Blessing of Food Baskets.

THE THIRD DAY – SUNSET SATURDAY TO SUNSET SUNDAY

- 30th Mar. Easter Eve 9.00pm Great Paschal Vigil and First Mass of Easter, Nympsfield
31st Mar. Easter Day 10.30am Second Mass of Easter in Dursley



MOTHERING SUNDAY AND MOTHER'S DAY Most people love their mothers and are grateful for what they have done for us. A day to say this with chocolates and flowers seems most appropriate. For Mothers gone from this world, a prayer of gratitude fits the bill. The Commercial World, ever anxious to exploit us, has dropped all reference to Christianity for fear of offending someone and turned this Mothering Sunday, their chance to flog us flowers, chocolates, meals out, cards, perfume and the like. There's no doubt that Mum deserves all this, but for us the commercial exploitation is not part of Mothering Sunday. The whole notion is bigger than just biological maternity. Mother Church is a theological truth, related to our lady at the foot of the Cross. Devotion to Our Lady of Sorrows or to the Seven Sorrows is traditional on this Sunday. There is also a custom of visiting or remembering the church where we ourselves were baptised into the family of Jesus Christ.