

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

Parish Priest: Father Philip Thomas

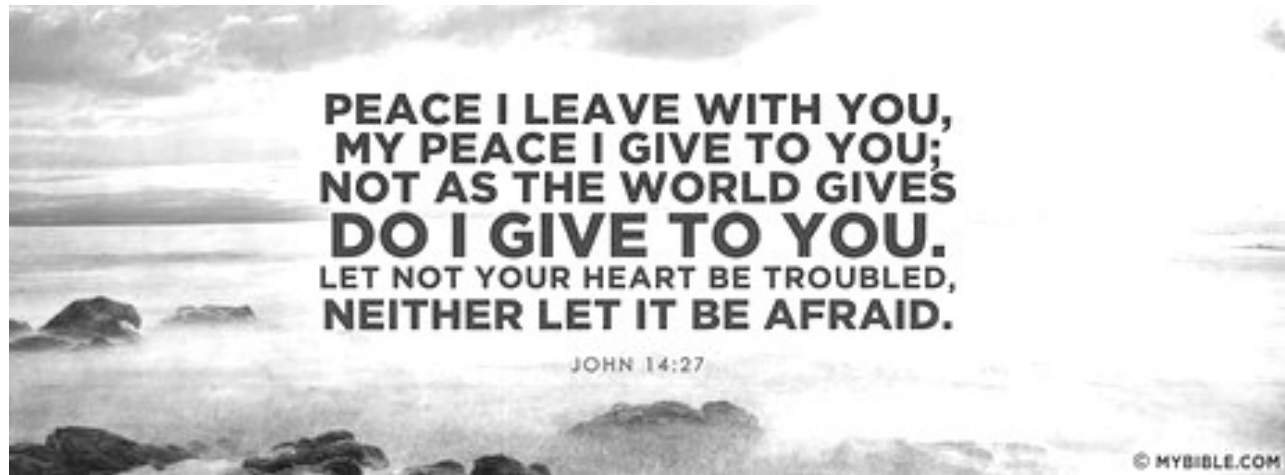
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Sat 24 th May	EASTER VI – Rogation	5.30pm	Sunday Mass (Pro Populo)	Nympsfield
Sun 25 th May	Sunday	10.30am	Sunday Mass (Salvatore Bucci RIP)	Dursley
Mon 26 th May	St Philip Neri	6.00pm	Mass to welcome the foot pilgrims	Dursley
Tue 27 th May	ST AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY Feast	8.30am	Lauds with the Pilgrims	Dursley
Wed 28 th May	Easter Feria	9.30am	Mass	Dursley
			Fr. P at the Clifton Beda Reunion in Weston-s-Mare	
Thu 29th May	ASCENSION OF THE LORD, Solemnity & Holyday of Obligation	10.00am	Mass	Nympsfield
		Noon	Mass	Dursley
		7.30m	Mass	Dursley
Fri 30 th May	Late Easter Feria	6.00pm	Holy Hour, Rosary & Confessions	Dursley
		7.00pm	Mass	Dursley
Sat 31 st May	THE VISITATION – Feast	Noon	Mass (Cheddar Parish)	Dursley
Sat 31 st May	EASTER VII	5.30pm	Sunday Mass (Goff Smith RIP)	Nympsfield
Sun 1 st June		10.30am	Sunday Mass (Pro Populo)	Dursley

ST WULSTAN'S PASTORAL AREA WALKING PILGRIMAGE FROM WORCESTER TO CLIFTON – ARRIVAL AT CLIFTON

Pilgrimage Coaches to Clifton Cathedral Wednesday 28th MAY 2025

- GLOUCESTER COACH (53 seats) The coach will pick up at CINDERFORD Dockham Rd at 12:10 Other pick-ups: BRUTON WAY GLOUCESTER AT 12:45; TUFFLEY LANE AT 13:00 Return journey leaves Clifton at 17:45 COST: £8.50 per adult: £3 per child under 16 Payment in CASH will be collected on both coaches. SIGN UP LISTS AT THE BACK.
- STROUD COACH (53 seats) The coach will pick up at STROUD AT 12:30 Other pick-ups: STONEHOUSE 12:45; **DURSLEY 13:10** Return journey leaves Clifton at 17:45 COST: £8.50 per adult: £3 per child under 16 Payment in CASH will be collected on both coaches.

MASS PROPER FOR THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Entrance Antiphon Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: the Lord has freed His people. Alleluia!

1st NT Reading Acts 15:1-2 & 22-29 *It seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to the Apostolic Council of Jerusalem to lay no great burdens on the gentiles*

Resp. Psalm Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

2nd NT Reading Revelation 21:10-14 & 22-23 *I saw the Holy City, New Jerusalem.*

Gospel Acclamation If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, says the Lord, and My Father will love him, and we will come to him.

Gospel – John 14:23--29 *The Holy Spirit will bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.*

Communion Antiphon If you love Me, keep My commandments, says the Lord, and I will asked the Father and He will send you another Paraclete, to abide with You for ever. Alleluia!

GREETING TO OUR LADY, BEFORE THE LAST HYMN AT SUNDAY MASS

Joy to thee, O queen of heaven. Alleluia!
He Whom thou wast meet to bear, Alleluia!
As He promised, hath aris'n, Alleluia!
Pour for us to God thy prayer, Alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad, o virgin Mary, Alleluia!
For the Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia!



Let us pray.

O God, by the Resurrection of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, You have brought joy to the whole world. Grant that through the prayers of His mother, the Virgin Mary, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life, Through the same Christ Our Lord. **AMEN.**

THURSDAY 29TH MAY – THE SOLEMNITY OF THE LORD'S ASCENSION – HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION



Now that the Holy See has restored Ascension Day to its original date and made it a holy day of obligation, we need to remember that it is a day equal to a Sunday and of sufficient importance in the Christian life to make us come together for Mass. The Gospels tell us that, after the Crucifixion, the bodies of holy people rose and walked into Jerusalem. The Resurrection of Christ tells us more, that we are looking for a new life and not just the old life restored. The Ascension adds significantly to our knowledge, for it shows that heaven's gates are open and that Christ in returning to the Father shows His desire to take us with Him. It reminds us all that heaven

is the goal, and that Christ came to take us there, dealing with our waywardness and sinful deeds. It also shows us that from being in specific places and times, the Ascension is the passage of Christ from the 'there and then', into the 'always and everywhere'.

Mass in Nympsfield at 10.00am, Mass in Dursley at Noon, Mass in Dursley at 7.30pm

FORTHCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

- **Saturday 21st June – 5.30pm First Holy Communions at Sunday Mass in Nympsfield**

- Saturday 28th June at noon in Clifton Cathedral – Thanksgiving for the priestly ordinations of Bishops Crispin Hollis [Diamond] and Declan Lang [Golden].
- Saturday 5th July from noon at St Dominic's BBQ
- Sunday 7th September [Sunday closest to Our Lady's Birthday] Annual Clifton Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Glastonbury

Good works and social events do not just happen. They do not organise themselves and they don't work without someone lending a hand and turning up. There simply isn't a "SOMEBODY ELSE" to do these things. Parishioners sometimes comment that, "Something should be done" and "Our parish needs a social life". Both of these things are true, but there is no magical or invisible parish apart from us!

1. We are particularly keen to hear from volunteers who would consider hosting a coffee morning. In Nympsfield, it would be in aid of church funds and in Dursley it would be in aid of the hall refurbishment and new roof.
2. Could you organise or take part in a sponsored walk or cycle ride in June, July or August?

ST WULSTAN'S PASTORAL AREA WALKING PILGRIMAGE FROM WORCESTER TO CLIFTON - ITINARARY

Day 1 Thursday 22nd May Lauds at St George's RC Church, Worcester (Where Sir Edward Elgar was organist) then walk to Worcester Anglican Cathedral. Departure from there on foot via Great Malvern Priory (CofE) to St Wulfstan's RC parish church, Little Malvern for 6.00pm Mass.

Day 2 Friday 23rd May From Little Malvern via Bromsberrow Court church to Our Lady of Lourdes, Newent, for 6.00pm Mass.

Day 3 Saturday 24th May After Lauds in Newent on via Tibberton CofE church to St Peter's, Gloucester for 6.00pm Mass

Day 4 Sunday 25th May 9.00am Mass in St Peter's then via St Augustine's, Matson to St Theresa's RC Painswick for lunch. Onwards to St. Joseph's, Stonehouse for 6.00pm Adoration, Vespers and Benediction

Day 5 Monday 26th May 8.30am Lauds in St Joseph's, Stonehouse then set off to walk to Nympsfield and on down to Dursley. **6.00pm Mass in St Dominic's, Dursley.**

Day 6 Tuesday 27th May **8.30am Lauds in St Dominic's** then on to call at Holy Cross, Wotton-u-Edge. Via St Mary's CofE, Hawkesbury [connected with St Wulfstan himself] to St Paul's RC church, Yate. 6.00pm Mass at Christ the King, Thornbury.

Day 7 Wednesday 28th May Walk from Yate to Clifton Cathedral, via St Mary on the Quay. 5.00pm in the Cathedral Vigil Mass of the Ascension.





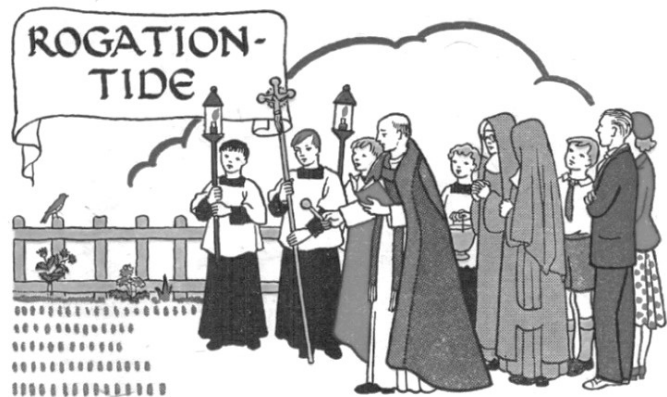
ROGATION SUNDAY AND THE LITANY OF THE SAINTS IN PROCESSION

The fifth Sunday after Easter Day, Easter VI, is traditionally known as Rogation Sunday. The title comes from the Latin verb ROGARE to ask for things. Rogationtide occupies the Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday before the Ascension, when the Lord said that in going to the Father, His followers would be able to pray in a new way, "through Jesus Christ Our Lord..."

Rogation also relates to the natural world. Spring is lurching into summer, and the Spring Ploughing and Planting are often seen as the start of the Agricultural Year. The custom was to get out of the church building and visit farms and fields and places of work. The Litany in procession is a thing of fun as well of serious beseeching! A priest friend of Father Philip's refers to it as a cope and wellies job!!

As we become more aware of our responsibilities towards the care of our environment, we do not need neo-pagan invocations of mother earth or the Great Goddess Gaia, a simple return to our own ancient traditions and a little gentle updating is all that is required. The Industrial Revolution reminded us that factories as well as farms are places of work and within the scope of our prayers and God's blessings. Industrial and agrarian chaplaincies are normal parts of Church life. Dursley's transition from wool weaving to industries like Lister's shows how we should transition in church too.

It does us good to get out of our buildings and into the open air. Our singing and processing are acts of witness in an age much in need of our evangelisation. Many do not notice or want to notice that the Church is still here, alive and kicking. Christians are frequently seen as killjoys and party poopers. It is good for our neighbours to see us happy, enjoying ourselves out of doors. As society rediscovers its connections with nature, we never lost ours and are on hand to show them how to honour the Creator, as well as care for creation.



Rogation is just part of the Church's connection to the environment. Plough Sunday in January, Lammas or Loaf Mass in August, Harvest Festival have often been side-lined and poo-pooed. We thought we were too modern and sophisticated for such things, and yet our world and its environmental disasters are showing us that we were more foolish than wise.

Schools, factories, farms, craft workshops, shops and boutiques, we will happily bless the lot. When not invited into specific businesses, we can triumphantly march round the streets and parish boundaries praying and singing with the saints.!

POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR MAY **For working conditions** Let us pray that through work, each person might find fulfilment, families might be sustained in dignity, and that society might be humanized.