

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

Parish Priest: Father Philip Thomas

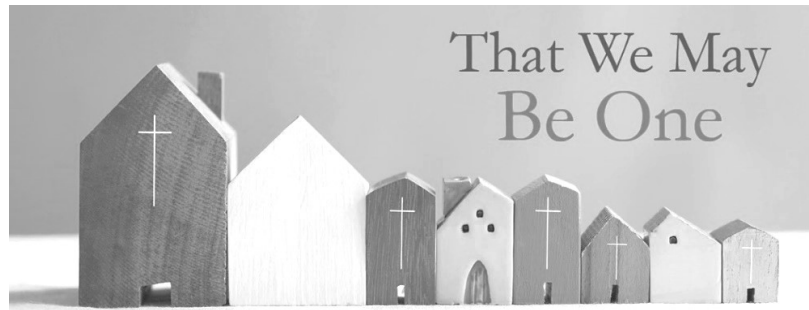
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Second Collection this week for the Catholic Communications Network

Sat 31 st May	EASTER VII	5.30pm	Sunday Mass (Goff Smith RIP)	Nympsfeld
Sun 1 st June			Sunday Mass (Pro Populo)	Dursley
		10.30am		
Mon 2 nd Jun	Late Easter Feria	No public Mass		
Tue 3 rd Jun	The Ugandan Martyrs	9.30am	Mass	Dursley
Wed 4 th Jun	Late Easter Feria	9.30am	Mass	Dursley
Thu 5 th Jun	St Boniface of Mainz	10.00am	Mass	Nympsfeld
Fri 6 th Jun	St Norbert of Xanten	6.00pm	Holy Hour, Rosary & Confessions	Dursley
		7.00pm	Mass	Dursley
Sat 7 th Jun	Late Easter Feria	Noon	Mass (Cheddar Parish)	Dursley
		3.00pm - 4.00pm	Confessions	Dursley
Sat 7 th Jun	PENTECOST – 8 th &	5.30pm	The Proper Pentecost Vigil	Nympsfeld
Sun 8 th Jun	last Sunday of Easter		Mass with no sermon	
		10.30am	Sunday Mass	Dursley

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.**

MASS PROPERS FOR THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Entrance Antiphon O LORD, hear my voice, for I have called to you; of You my heart has spoken: Seek His face; hide not Your Face from me, Alleluia!

1st NT Reading Acts 7:55-60 *St Stephen, the first Deacon, sees a vision of Christ in heaven, standing at the right hand of the Father.*

Resp. Psalm The LORD is king, most high above all the earth.

2nd NT Reading Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17 & 20 *At the end of his book, St John bears witness to Christ the Alpha and Omega and prays for His return.*

Gospel Acclamation I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord. I am going away and I will come to you, and your hearts will rejoice.

Gospel – John 17:20-26 *Christ prays that we, His followers, may be perfectly one.*

Communion Antiphon Father, I pray that they may be one as we also are one, Alleluia!



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. It will, of course, be outside if the weather will allow us!!!! The hall is our back up plan. Tickets will be £10 for adults and £5 for primary school children, on sale from 8th June.**
- 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!

ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES

1. Deacon Domenico Bucci was ordained to the Diaconate on the 15th July, memorial of St Bonaventure, friar, doctor of the Church and Bishop. He will be 19 this year!
2. Fr. Philip was ordained a priest on the 12th July 1996. *On the 29th June 1986 he was made a deacon of the Church of England in Bolton, so next year will mark 40 years in Christ’s service, as well as 30 years of priesthood.*



TWO HUNDRED CLUB – MAY DRAW

First – 43 – Mary Cryan

Second – 53 – Laura Gardiner

Third – Midie McDonald



A COMIC PRAYER FOR THE STRESSED AT THE END OF THE DAY - (WITH APOLOGIES TO THE "Serenity Prayer" BY THE REV. K.P. REINHOLT NIEBUHR)

Grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I cannot accept, the wisdom to hide the bodies of those I had to kill today because they got on my nerves. Then help me to be careful of the toes I have stepped on today, as they may be connected to the feet I may have to kiss tomorrow! Help me to remember that when I am having a bad day and it seems that people are trying to wind me up, it takes 42 muscles to frown, 28 to smile and only 4 to

extend my arm and smack someone in the mouth!!!

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.

POPE'S INTENTION FOR JUNE That the world might grow in compassion. Let us pray that each one of us might find consolation in a personal relationship with Jesus, and from his Heart, learn to have compassion on the world.

A MODERN ASCENSION HYMN - TUNE "THAXTED"
("I vow to thee, my country")

Do not stand and stare in wonder into the sky above
You have seen the wondrous glory of the risen Lord of Love
And just as you have seen Him ascend into the skies
So shall Your Living Saviour return before your eyes
Alleluia! Alleluia! We praise our God and King
Alleluia! Alleluia! Your people ever sing.

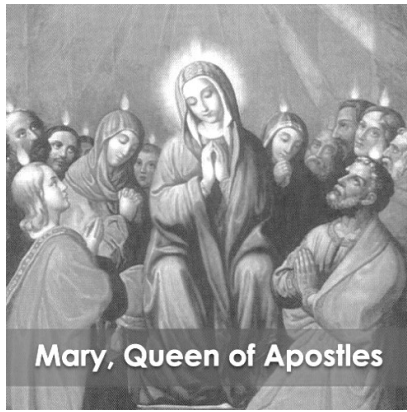
On His throne in highest heaven Our Saviour takes His place
Now and always on the Mercy Seat, the throne of endless grace.
Though not only there we seek Him, never far from us is He
We know the Lord is with us if we have faith to see
Neither staring up in wonder nor hiding like the dead
We will find Him here together in Breaking of the Bread.

All you servants of the Living God, now sing and clap your hands
For the Lord Who once was crucified is Prince of all the lands.
Sound the trumpet, sing together, as our saviour mounts His throne
And hear the voice that calls us a people for His own.
Alleluia to the Father, and to His Only Son
Alleluia to the Spirit, Eternal Three in One.



THEMES IN LATE EASTERTIDE The first part of Eastertide covers the first 40 days, from its start on the First Sunday of Easter up to and including Ascension Thursday. The second and smaller part of Eastertide covers the remaining 10 days up to and including the eighth and last Sunday of the season, Pentecost. The Great Fifty Days is an alternative name for the season. The Greek word "Pentekoste" means fiftieth!

There are nine days after Ascension and before Pentecost. These constitute the original Novena. The theme of that original was waiting for and preparing for the coming of the Holy Spirit.



Mary, Queen of Apostles

Since then, many novenas have been devised and prayed by the faithful. Prayer as such is one of the themes of this part of Eastertide. The feast of Our Lady, Queen of the Apostles is observed by many missionary orders and parishes (including Cheddar). The Book of Acts says that the Ascending Lord sent the Apostles back into Jerusalem to await the Spirit and goes on to describe how they met for prayer in the Upper Room with Our Blessed Lady. Behind the hard work of mission and evangelisation lies a prayerful support and intercession. The Poor Clare nuns have been described as the energiser battery behind the work of the Franciscan Friars. We don't have to be consecrated religious to

pray and wait upon God.

Christ at the Last Supper spoke of unity amongst His followers as being important because it will help the world believe in our Christian message. Christian unity, its work and prayer, is a theme of this Late Eastertide. Falling out and falling apart is not difficult or hard work. Building bridges and reconciling are. Catholics cannot opt out of the Ecumenical Movement just because we have preserved the original faith, order and unity of the Early Church. It is simply dangerously arrogant to say, 'We are right, and they are wrong'. We cannot pretend that other Christians do not exist. We must do what is necessary to understand where they come from and how they may find their way into Catholic Unity. God is generous and gives gifts to all who love Christ, and we must discover and appreciate gifts given to other Christians.

Since the Octave of Pentecost was abolished in 1969 there has been no Red Week in which to celebrate the Spirit, so Late Eastertide has taken up this role. The Disciples went back to Jerusalem to wait and watch and pray and so must we! The colour is white but the theme of the Holy Spirit is definitely with us. The Saviour is an advocate Who ever pleads our cause in heaven, a Comforter, a Paraclete. He promised that in leaving us physically, He would send us another Paraclete to be with us for ever, the Spirit of Truth. Having celebrated the Solemnity of the Lord's Ascension, we can turn with confidence to that promise and open our hearts to receive the Promised Spirit.



It is asking a lot of us as Christians to digest the Ascension completely in just one day, so meditation on this theme is also a part of Late Eastertide. Christian Prayer is made "through Jesus Christ Our Lord, Who lives and reigns....." Christ not only ascended, but opened wide heaven's gates for us to enter in heart and mind. The Nicene Creed makes a point to telling us that Christ ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. This Session at the Right Hand is a very important truth for us in prayer. He is the champion to the Father of all our just causes and the bearer of our concerns.



Another theme is waiting. Most of us could do with more patience. It is not wasted time, when we wait. John Milton famously concluded his sonnet on his blindness with the immortal words, "They also serve, who only stand and wait". We are waiting for the Spirit and waiting for Christ to come again. We are waiting for growth in holiness, for the expansion of God's Kingdom on earth. If we wait, God will grant, will clothe us with power and show us the way to be useful for His plan.