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August 18th & 19th 2018

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

Ministers of the Word: Helen H & Mike T; Chris R & Robin N; Vin & Janet.

Ministers of Communion: Tony H & Peter; Maria G, Debbie & Bea P; David & Helen.

Eucharistic Prayer Preface III Preface V

**Please Pray for the Welfare of our Sick People
and those who care for them**

OUR LADY OF LOURDES - PRAY FOR US

We give thanks for all the volunteers.

**We give thanks for the work of the Holy Spirit this week at
the camps all over the country**

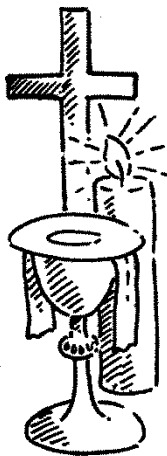
**We remember Theo Cracknell who died this week, having
spent many years as an Elder at Glebe Chapel. The
community will feel his loss gratefully.**

Bitesize

We are made wise not by the recollection of our past, but by the responsibility for our future. ~George Bernard Shaw

Gospel Reflection for the Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Wisdom's Banquet.



Wisdom and Folly are personified in the book of Proverbs. Each lays on a banquet and we are invited to choose which to attend. Those who share the bread and wine offered at Wisdom's banquet will learn from the Lord and gain wisdom and life. Those who choose Folly's banquet will learn nothing more than to live by one's own thoughts and desires. The drama provides a backdrop for today's gospel reading.

"Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him." Jesus is describing a spiritual diet in which we can achieve a union with him. We are what we consume. If we consume a diet of pulp fiction, junk television, consumer catalogues and gossip, our heads will end up full of trivia and poor priorities. If we consume a diet of thoughtful conversation, prayer selective reading and action based on faith we will be worthier people as a result. So too when we celebrate the Eucharist, we become what we consume. We become God's people.

The invitation to eat Jesus' flesh and drink his blood was too much for some of Jesus' earliest disciples. They turned their backs and walked away. Today we are given the same choice. The banquet is set and the guests are invited. We can choose between Wisdom and Folly. We can accept the invitation to spiritual nourishment through the Eucharist, or we can find our sustenance elsewhere.

Exam Results

For those of our young parishioners who have just received exam results or are just about to receive them, remember that our prayers are with you now. For those who feel they could have done a little better, take heart from the life and words of Sir John Lubbock. Sir John Lubbock was a wise and tender-hearted man whose works and ideas have had profound effects on education through his scientific discoveries and through the textbooks that he wrote. He was also keen to challenge people to better themselves and to help shape a better society. His words of advice to you right now would be to remember **"Those who have not distinguished themselves at school need not on that account be discouraged. The greatest minds do not necessarily ripen the quickest."**

International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition

August 23rd.



Slavery Remembrance Day is important because it helps us to commemorate the lives and deaths of millions of enslaved Africans and their descendants who were central to the rise of Britain as an industrial power.

We are asked to remember that slavery is not something for the history books. Slavery still exists today. Modern day slaves are not free to come and go. Many are chained or kept in locked rooms. They are forced to work without pay and are deprived of basic human rights. They have been kidnapped, sold or tricked into a life of suffering and deprivation. Modern day slaves are bought and sold as 'possessions' and are often abused and mistreated by their 'owners'.

To do:-

Consider giving regularly to help provide education or jobs for those most at risk, in particular, the charities that support women and children.

Gap Year

Sometimes when things don't go quite as planned, a gap year is the best decision you could make. Whatever your age, if you want to carry out work that will make a lasting difference, whether abroad or in this country if you want to challenge yourself, meet like minded people if you are passionately concerned about the world and issues facing it, a gap year might be for you.

Here are some starting points:-

www.lattitude.org.uk

www.habitatforhumanity.org.uk

www.gap-year.com

www.vso.org.uk

www.fco.gov.uk

COLLECTION

The collection for w/e 5/8/18 was £349-40.

The collection for w/e 12/8/18 was £206-06.

How Is Your Marriage?

August is traditionally the month for weddings, but it's also a good time for us all to give our relationships a 'spring clean'.

Marriage Care UK tell us families are often physically together but they are not really focused or paying attention to each other. Research in recent years has shown that the average person can spend up to 8 hours and 41 minutes on electronic devices and that we spend more time with our phones than our partners! The August 'Marriage Care' challenge is to leave the mobile devices at home and go out for the weekend.

Visit www.marriagecare.org.uk for ideas

THIS WEEK

Psalter 4

Saturday 18 th August	5.00pm 5.30pm 6.00pm	Reconciliation Mass Newent Mass Coleford	
Sunday 19 th August	9.00am 9.00am 11.00am 11.00am	TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Mass – Newent Mass – Cinderford Mass – Blaisdon at Blaisdon Church Mass – Sedbury	Intention Blaisdon: People of this parish.
Monday 20 th August	10.00am 10.30am	Mass Adoration Living Faith Summer Camp Age 12-16 20 th -24 th	
Tuesday 21 st August	10.00am 10.30am	Mass Adoration World Meeting of Families. 21 st -26 th	
Wednesday 22 nd August	10.00am	Mass with Coffee and Chat	
Thursday 23 rd August	9am 10.30	Mass Fr John's day off Aston Ingham – Bible Study	

Friday 24 th August	5.30pm 6.30pm	FEAST OF SAINT BARTHOLOMEW, APOSTLE Lourdes Pilgrimage with Bishop Declan 24 th -31 st August Adoration and Reconciliation Mass	Copy Date for June Newsletter
Saturday 25 th August	5.00pm 5.30pm 6.00pm	Reconciliation Mass Newent Mass Coleford	Intention: People of this parish
Sunday 26 th August	9.00am 9.00am 11.00am 11.00am	TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Mass – Newent Mass – Cinderford Mass – Blaisdon Mass – Ledbury	

Next Weeks Readings: Jos 24:1-2, 15-18; Ps 33; Eph 5:21 -32; Jn 6:60-69

Ministers of the Word: Craig & Una; Joan J & Rose M; Paul & Jeremy

Ministers of Communion: Kevin & Mary C; Mary F, Rosa & Pat M, Ian & Nicky

PRAYER MINISTERS

As part of our ministry we are going to offer prayer ministry after Mass every Sunday. We will have a couple of people who are willing to pray with people for their specific needs and have gone through a training process.. We have witnessed healing and miracles through this ministry so please take advantage of the time that these people offer.

PARISH CENSUS

Because of the new laws concerning data we now need explicit consent for sick, for the website, and for the parish directory. Without it you may not be included in many things coming from the office and on the website. I have included some examples with the Census. I will need a signature for every person over 12. If you are not sure please speak to me. There is also a secure post box in the porch of the office, please use it for the census. Thank you Tom for putting it up. Gail

The first step in learning to love others is the attempt to understand them.

—ADRIENNE VON SPEYR
from *Lumina / New Lumina*

Looking Forward

GET SPORTED

For Age 7-11 29th 30th 31st August at Newent Community School

10-4 each day Psalms – Active Faith for the Next Generation. £4 per child per day or £8 per family per day. If you are interest and would like more information or the application form contact St Marys Church Office or www.psalms.uk.net under Event Booking Section.

UPTON BISHOP MILLENNIUM HALL – WI

An evening with QUENTIN LETTS Friday 7th September at 7.30pm
£10 including a glass of wine.

Tickets available from Clare Bell 01989 780282

RAF CENTENARY

There will be a Centenary Celebration Service in conjunction with the United Reformed Church in Newent 15th September 2018 at 11am. See Tom Heseltine for more information.

CYMFed Flame 2019

The biggest Catholic Youth event in England & Wales is back! Young people from across the Clifton Diocese aged 14-25 are invited to join Bishop Declan at Flame in Wembley Arena on Saturday 2nd March 2019. Clifton Diocese Youth Ministry are offering ticket, travel & Diocesan scarf all for just £50 per person. Places are filling up fast, so go to www.cliftondiocese.com or contact your Parish Priest for more details and to book your place.

The Dowry of Mary Pilgrimage Triduum During the course of 2018 to 2020 the statue of Our Lady from the Slipper Chapel at the Catholic National Shrine in Walsingham will be taken to each Cathedral in England for a three-day triduum of prayer, as part of the preparation for the re-dedication of England as the Dowry of Mary in 2020. Each visit will take place between a Thursday and Saturday. Clifton Cathedral dates TBC – for updates please see <http://dowrytour.org.uk/> It will come to Belmont Abbey 11th to 13th October, with schools going on the Friday. See the website for further details.

CHILDREN’S LITURGY OF THE WORD

13TH October 10am to 1pm at Apostle Room Clifton Cathedral.

This formation morning welcomes all those who work to enable the children in our parishes to hear and reflect upon the word of God through Children's Liturgy. For catechists and children's workers. All welcome.

CELEBRATE Bristol - 27th - 28th October 2018

"See, I am doing a new thing!" - Isaiah 43:19(NIV)

A Conference for the whole family! A non-residential weekend including tailored 'streams' for all ages of children and young adults. This year keynote speakers, Michelle Moran, and David Wells, will be 'unpacking' an exciting theme. In addition there will be workshops, seminars, praise and worship, prayer ministry, Holy Mass, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confession. The event is hosted by Catholic Charismatic Renewal at St Bede's Catholic College, BS11 0SU.

Further details to be found at www.celebrateconference.org

INVITATION

Fr John's last Mass will be at Blaisdon at 11am on Sunday 2nd September, 2018. He will be travelling to Ireland the following day. Blaisdon are inviting us all to join them for a bring and share lunch to say a special good bye to Father. For further information watch this space or contact Clare Viner. Gift envelopes are available.



The next COME AND S.E.E.

We look forward to Siobhan Smith coming to speak about her walk with Christ and how Spiritual Direction is an important part of her life. She is bringing Bernie Kilty with her to help with the music. The first Thursday in September.

CAFOD school volunteers needed!

Could you visit your local Catholic school to **talk about the work of CAFOD**? We are looking for **volunteers** in the **Taunton, Glastonbury and Salisbury areas** to give a short presentation or talk about the work of CAFOD and **inspire children and young people** to make a difference. For further information please contact **Liz Baldwin at CAFOD Clifton on 01179 428 328** or email clifton@cafod.org.uk.

Past Pupils of Salesian School, Blaisdon will be at Mass in Blaisdon this Sunday (Aug. 26th) for their Annual Reunion. Fr Sean will concelebrate with Fr John but Fr Aidan and Bro Joe will arrive a bit later because Fr Aidan has to say Mass at 8.30 in a parish near Farnborough.

OUR PARISH FUTURE AND YOU

In September, following the departure of Fr John, the nature of the parish could change significantly. The "Steering Group" has been seeking to prepare for that change and has looked at various approaches which will mitigate the reversion to a single Mass every week, by maintaining and reinvigorating the life of the parish.

One action is to redefine the make-up and function of the Parish Pastoral Council.

Associated with this, please note copies of the proposed description are available of the new Parish Pastoral Council which is aimed at coming into existence by the end of September.

You are invited to read the proposal carefully and consider whether you might feel able to serve on such a body, and whether there are any omissions or other changes you consider necessary.

There is no intent to take any action before September, but meanwhile all contributions of ideas etc. are welcome and if desired can be communicated to any of the Steering Group.

Julian Dowle

FAREWELL – BON VOYAGE

With all the changes happening this weekend we say farewell to a family that has done a lot for us and with us. This weekend will be the last time we will see Barbara and Piotr and their family here at Our Lady of Lourdes. They are to take residence in Wroclaw Poland and will be near their families. We will miss them and hope that they will keep us in their prayers. Go with God's Blessing. Gail

Jesus is in the midst of us in the Blessed Sacrament. What a consolation to live in the same house where he dwells! Yet does it not often seem as though we ignored this happiness? Do we often visit him? Do we go to him in our needs and consult him in our plans? Do we bring him our little sorrows instead of talking about them and complaining and murmuring to others? 'Among you stands one whom you do not know' (Jn 1:26).

St Claude De La Colombiere-
From The Spiritual Direction of St Claude de la Colombiere