



## St Nicholas of Tolentino RC Church, Lawford's Gate, Bristol BS5 ORE

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Download this Bulletin from the Parish Website: [www.tolentino.org.uk](http://www.tolentino.org.uk)

Parish Priest - Rev Richard McKay (tel: 0117-909-8810 / mob: 07779677370)

Deacon - Rev Jack Brannigan [retired] (01934-5195140)

Catechesis: Mary Hopper (01275-830788) Caretaker: Hycienth Uchedike (07447940457)

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### SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR 'C'



#### *John the Baptist, Orthodox & Subversive!*

Out in the wilderness, like the Hebrews in their earliest days; hearing the Word of God, as the Hebrews did at Sinai; preparing for a new age, a promise being fulfilled, as the Hebrews did journeying to the Promised Land.

And yet he was challenging corruption in the religious and political state of Israel. Calling them to repentance so that the winding ways of our shallow hearts and devious minds would be straightened that the Lord might enter the human heart and the Kingdom might come.

True orthodoxy is truly radical, truly reforming and renewing. Authentic 'traditionalism' is ever-changing to be faithful to the Word of God in our time - never a mindless preservation of a nostalgic past! This Wild Man of God who ushers in a radically new era is the true Orthodox, is the authentic Tradition! Are we?

#### SUNDAY:

**PARISH MASS** at 10.00am

*ADVENT PRAYER* at 12.45pm

**Catholic Deaf Association Signed Mass** at 3.00pm

#### MONDAY:

*Adoration* at 8.30am **Service of Word and Communion** at 9.00am

#### TUESDAY:

*Adoration* at 5.30pm **Evening Mass** at 6.00pm followed by *Scripture Group*

#### WEDNESDAY: *Feast of Our Lady of Guadeloupe (apparition to Aztecs in Mexico 1531)*

*Adoration* at 6.30pm **Evening Mass** at 7.00pm

*School Nativity Plays* at 1.30pm and 5.30pm (Church) - *all welcome!*

#### THURSDAY:

*Feast of St Lucy, Martyr (died 304)*

**Mass** at 12 noon *Adoration* until 1.30pm

#### FRIDAY:

*Feast of St John of the Cross, Mystic, Reforming Carmelite priest (1542-1591)*

*Adoration* at 8.15am *Morning Prayer* at 8.45am **Mass** at 9.00am

***Prepare the Way of the Lord (x2) and all people shall see the salvation of our God!***

**SATURDAY:** *Adoration* at 11.30am      **Mass** at 12 noon

***Sacrament of Reconciliation:*** after Mass and 4.30-5.00pm

**TODAY** [1] The **Second Sunday of Advent** focuses on John the Baptist as the great Prophet who 'prepares the way of the Lord'. Dwelling in the wilderness of prayerful waiting upon the Word, spoken into the heart and mind that is still and silent, John then emerges to call people to conversion of heart and life to make room for the long-awaited Messiah, the Christ, who comes to 'wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around us'.

[2] **Special Advent Prayer at approximately 12.45pm** - we will pray for the Mission of the Church, both globally and in our parish community, as we invite others to meet the Lord.

[3] **Mass for the Deaf and Hearing Impaired** at 3.00pm - all welcome.

[4] **Retiring Collection for our own parish SVP (Society of St Vincent de Paul)**

**NEXT SUNDAY** [1] The **Third Sunday of Advent (traditionally named 'Gaudete' or 'Rejoicing' Sunday)** celebrates with great joy the transforming presence of Jesus among us, the 'Anointed One' (the long-awaited 'Christ') who brings healing and new life into broken lives, broken communities and the deserts we have made of our world. He is recognised not because of His doctrine - but because of His action - may the same be true of the Church!

[2] Our **Advent Prayer at 12.45pm** is inspired by Pope Francis encyclical letter on Climate Change and Global Poverty ('Laudato Si') and St Francis of Assisi - his 'Canticle of the Creatures'. It will take the form of '**the Stations of Creation**'.

[3] A second **Retiring Collection for our parish SVP (Society of St Vincent de Paul)**

**DIOCESAN PRAYER** The Diocese prays for the Parishes in Communion for Mission of Our Lady of the Rosary, Lawrence Weston and St Bernard's, Shirehampton, served by Fr Cosmas Ikirodah MSP, the Community of the Daughters of the Holy Spirit and both parish communities.

**WORD OF GOD FOR FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT**

<b>Sunday</b>	Baruch 5: 1-9 / Psalm 125 / Philippians 1: 3-6, 8-11 / Luke 3: 1-6
<b>Monday</b>	Isaiah 35: 1-10 / Psalm 84 / Luke 5: 17-26
<b>Tuesday</b>	Isaiah 40: 1-11 / Psalm 95 / Matthew 18: 12-14
<b>Wednesday</b>	Isaiah 40: 25-31 / Psalm 102 / Matthew 11: 28-30
<b>Thursday</b>	Isaiah 41: 13-20 / Psalm 144 / Matthew 11: 11-15
<b>Friday</b>	Isaiah 48: 17-19 / Psalm 1 / Matthew 11: 16-19
<b>Saturday</b>	Ecclesiasticus 48: 1-4, 9-11 / Psalm 79 / Matthew 17: 10-13

**COLLECTIONS: - next week!**

25/11/18 Env £197.50 + Loose £220.96 + S/O's £90.58 = TOTAL: £509.04 - thank you!

02/12/18 Env £208.40 + Loose £254.59 + S/O's £90.58 = TOTAL: £553.57 - thank you!

**Cov with the Poor** £7.39    **Poor Missions of the Diocese** £52.45    **Youth Sunday** £30.94

**DATES FOR THE DIARY**

12th Dec	School Nativity Plays at 1.30pm and 5.30pm (in the Church)
13th Dec	Senior Citizens Christmas Meal at 6.00pm (parish hall)
15th Dec	New Altar Servers Training 10.30-11.30am
16th Dec	Commissioning & Re-commissioning all Altar Servers at 10am Mass
24th Dec	<b>CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT MASS at 10.30pm</b>
25th Dec	<b>CHRISTMAS SOLEMN MASS OF THE DAY at 10.00am</b>
31st Dec	<b>New Year's Eve Watchnight Mass at 10.30pm (agape after)</b>

**2019**

1st Jan	<b>FEAST OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD - NEW YEARS DAY</b>
6th Jan	<b>FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY</b>

***Prepare the Way of the Lord (x2) and all people shall see the salvation of our God!***

6th Jan	Senior Citizens Christmas Mass at 3.00pm, followed by Tea
12th Jan	Lay Ministers of the Eucharist Training Session One 9.30am-1.00pm (Hall)
13th Jan	<b>Feast of the Baptism of the Lord - Baptismal Sunday</b>
13th Jan	Night Shelter Volunteers Training at St Nicks, after Mass until 3.30pm
15th Jan	Parish Pastoral Council at 7.00pm
16th Jan	First Eucharist programme begins (& Parents' meeting) at 4.00pm (Assisi Cent)
18th Jan	First Reconciliation programme begins (& Parents' meeting) at 4pm (Assisi Cent)
19th Jan	Lay Ministers of the Eucharist Training Session Two 9.30am-1.00pm (Hall)
20th Jan	United Service for Christian Unity Week at 4.00pm (St Nicks - 170 event)
26th Jan	Lay Ministers of the Eucharist Training Session Three 9.30am-1.00pm (Hall)
27th Jan	Commissioning & Re-commissioning all Lay Ministers of Eucharist at 10am Mass
27th Jan	Annual Mission Appeal - this year by the Comboni Sisters
6th Feb	Training Day and Evening on Human Trafficking & Modern Slavery (St Nicks)

**FROM COMMITTEE 170** 1) The 170 Committee wants to thank our community for the extraordinary contribution (in so many different ways!) to the Multi-cultural Concert on 23rd November. We raised around £900 towards our building fund, and especially we celebrated our mission and our strong sense of togetherness in the most joyful way. We hope to repeat the experience next year!

2) The 170 Committee is looking for volunteers to organise a **family-fun event on Saturday 2nd March (working name 'Pancakes day')**. We are looking for ideas from all our different cultures who celebrate the last days before Lent in different ways. What do you do in your country for Shrove Tuesday (or Mardi Gras)? Do you have any ideas about what we could organise for children and their families on the last Saturday before Lent? Let us know!

**BIG CLEAN OF THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS** We need lots of help to for this major clean of the Church on **Friday 14th December - from 10.15 onwards**. We will be buffing the floors of the church and parish hall - moving all chairs, as well as dusting and polishing all the woodwork (including the chairs) and the windows. **So all hands on deck! or at least in the church!** Thank you for coming to help and please see Andrew today with offers of help.

**CALLING ALL EU (European Union) CITIZENS - ALL WHO HAVE EU PASSPORTS** At a meeting in London this past week of Catholic Migrant Officers (and European national chaplains) from around England and Wales (sponsored by the Bishops' Conference), we examined the arrangements for all EU citizens (those holding EU passports, including their children born in UK) after 'Brexit'. Although clearly there is now doubt about 'Brexit', nevertheless it is vitally important that those concerned (which includes for instance people from Latin America holding Spanish passport and from Angola, East Timor etc holding Portuguese passports) understand the steps they need to take if they wish to remain in UK after 31st December 2020. It is relatively simple in most cases, but you must apply to the **'EU Settlement Scheme' from April 2019 and before end of June 2021**. We are going to explore how our parish community can support our sisters and brothers in applying for Permanent Settled Status. Meanwhile, for more information visit: [www.gov.uk/eu-settled-status](http://www.gov.uk/eu-settled-status)

**JOURNEY OF FAITH** We continue the Journey of Faith meetings each **Friday at 6.30pm** Who will you encourage to come and see what being a Catholic Christian means? Or come for a renewal of faith? Or seek Baptism and/or Confirmation?

**CAFOD WORLD GIFTS AS CHRISTMAS PRESENTS** As we draw near Christmas, can we think again about giving friends and family the gift of a **CAFOD WORLD GIFT** - and so our giving helps the poorest of the Earth? Leaflets available in the porch today. **Our Children's Liturgy Group will be collecting once more for World gifts this Advent!**

***Prepare the Way of the Lord (x2) and all people shall see the salvation of our God!***

**SUPPORT ST NICKS 170 FUNDRAISING THIS CHRISTMAS!**

Please support your parish community by also including our 170 T-shirts and mugs in your Christmas gift shopping. There will also be our special calendars also! All will help us repair the church and re-decorate it in this 170th Year!

**LAY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST TRAINING**

I have called a number of our parishioners to serve our community as Lay Ministers of the Eucharist. The training Sessions will be in the New Year: **Saturdays: 12/19/26 January from 9.30am to 1.00pm (including 12 noon Mass); Commissioning & Re-commissioning of all Lay Ministers Sunday 27th January at 10.00am Mass.**

**BRISTOL CHURCHES WINTER NIGHT SHELTER AT ST NICKS**

So far we have only 7 volunteers from our parish to support this important part of our Mission - **WE NEED MORE!** We are hosting our homeless sisters and brothers each Wednesday from 20th Feb to 27th March. There are three shifts each night: Evening 5.30-10pm / Overnight 9.30pm - 7.00am / Morning 6.30-9.30am. For those volunteering for a shift, it is **very important that you attend training - you cannot volunteer without this training - for your own good as well as that of our guests!** PLEASE CONTACT ASHLEY TARDIVO (07584375049) or [ashleytardivo@gmail.com](mailto:ashleytardivo@gmail.com) **There will be an extra training session here at St Nicks after Mass on Sunday 13th January, finishing at 3.30pm**

If you cannot volunteer to do a shift There are also other ways you can support:

[1] volunteer to cook food for both guests and volunteers - see Patience Bird (07411406411)  
[2] donate toiletries, male/female underwear and socks, hats, gloves, scarves, towels, duvet covers, pillowcases.

[3] do the laundry of duvet covers, pillowcases and towels (once a week for 6 weeks or a rota).

[4] become part of prayer circle to pray during the course of project.

**NEW LITURGY COURSE FOR 2018/19 - YEAR OF PRAYER**

To accompany our Diocesan Year of Prayer, the Liturgy Office is hosting a new course entitled 'Understanding and Praying the Liturgy'. Seeking to enable us to enter more deeply into the Mass both as an encounter with the Risen Christ and as prayer itself. Beginning with Bishop Declan we will be guided through the course by a number of excellent speakers, both from within and outside the diocese. Full details can be found on <https://cliftdiocese.com/departments/adult-education/liturgy-office> or by phoning Richard Williams or Doreen Wyatt on 0117 902 5595.

**NEW ALTAR SERVERS INVITED TO TRAIN**

We wish to recruit new altar servers to be trained and commissioned before Christmas. All girls and boys who have celebrated their First Eucharist are welcome to apply. Please see Fr Richard, Mary Hopper or Sam Masenyama. Training Sessions: **Saturdays: 8th Dec/15th Dec 10.30-11.30am with Commissioning of ALL ALTAR SERVERS on Sunday 16th December at 10am mass**

**NOW YOU CAN GIVE TO ST NICKS BY CARD & PAY PAL!**

Thanks to Henry you can donate or buy Year 170 items (t-shirts and mugs) or items from the Piety Stall by card.

**PARENTS BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSES FOR 2019**

Parents seeking the baptism of their children this year are asked to inform Eustace Tameh or Christopher and Epiphania Chipato or Fr Richard as soon as possible. Next Baptismal Sunday is:

**13th JANUARY at 10am Mass; With the Rite of Catechumen on Sunday 6th January.**

The 2 parents Preparation sessions are to be arranged. The next Baptismal Sunday will be **Easter Sunday, April 21st during the 10.00am Mass**

*Diocesan Year Books on sale at £5.00 each in the parish hall (Piety table).*

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