



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

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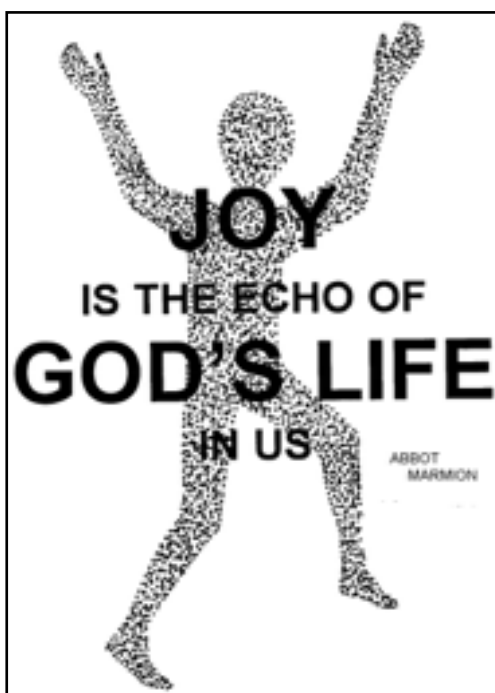
Parish Priest - Rev Richard McKay (tel: 0117-909-8810 / mob: 07779677370)

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

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

Safeguarding Reps: Mary Hopper (01275-830788) & Margaret Ulloa (0117-915-0486)

SIXTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR



When Good News is Bad News!

St Oscar Romero of El Salvador discovered what many in Latin America came to realise before him - if you preach the Good News of Jesus, Good News to the Poor, then inevitably it becomes Bad News to those who cling to their power, their wealth and their corruption. And so often the powerful will seek to silence the bearers of Good News ... they assassinated St Oscar Romero while he was celebrating Mass!

Bad News if you refuse to change! But of course God's love is for rich and poor - but if the rich do not serve the poor and use their power to build a world where poverty and injustice is eradicated, then they have hardened their heart against God's love and will not experience that 'Joy which is the echo of God's Life in us'. And it will not matter how many prayers we say or Masses we attend or pages of the Bible we read - the only way to experience God's blessing is to love the Jesus of the Poor!

SUNDAY: PARISH MASS with Liturgy of Enrolment for First Reconciliation 10.00am

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

TUESDAY: *Adoration* at 5.30pm *Mass* at 6.00pm, followed by Scripture Sharing Group

WEDNESDAY: *Adoration* at 6.30pm *Mass* at 7.00pm

THURSDAY: *Mass* at 12noon, followed by *Adoration* until 1.30pm

FRIDAY: *Feast of the Chair of St Peter the Apostle*
Adoration at 8.15am *Morning Prayer* at 8.45am *Mass* at 9.00am

SATURDAY: *Feast of St Polycarp, Bishop & Martyr, disciple of St John (69-155)*
Adoration at 8.30am *Morning Prayer* at 9.15am *Mass* at 9.30am
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 4.30-5.00pm only

Jesus says, Happy are you Poor, because I am turning the world upside down!

TODAY [1] The **Sixth Sunday of the Year** celebrates Jesus the prophet who heralds an 'upside down Kingdom' where the poor are exalted and rich take a lower place. Jesus' beatitudes in Luke are very different from those in Matthew's Sermon on the Mount - challenging the rich and satisfied to change radically so that there really will be Good News for the Poor (and today for Creation, for our planet). Are we this Good News?

[2] We call our children and their families to the **Liturgy of Enrolment for First Reconciliation** - please hold them especially in your prayer. as they journey to this Sacrament of Mercy, Growth and Healing.

NEXT SUNDAY [1] On the **Seventh Sunday of the Year** we celebrate Jesus the compassionate One who calls us to such love that we will bless those who hurt us, and respond to every insult and harm done with forgiveness and love - what a challenge! Yet that is the way God loves us and asks us to love one another, so that the world will be healed of its destructiveness that cause such violence and injustice - loving like this is the world's only hope!

[2] There is a meeting for all who are willing to help with organising different events as part of our **170 Anniversary Celebrations** after mass at about 12.30pm - please come and offer some time and energy and not leave all the work to the 170 Committee - thank you!

[3] It is **Diverse Open Doors Day** when the buildings of various faith communities remain open to welcome people who want to 'come and see' and discover more about each others faiths. We will be open from Mass time to 5pm - we are welcoming all those participating on the so-called '**Faith Trail**' (an organised series of visits to a variety of faith buildings and communities) at about 4.15pm. I would be grateful for some volunteers who would be prepared to come and welcome them. Please let me know if you can help - thanks!

DIOCESAN PRAYER The Diocese prays today for Parishes in Communion for Mission of the Immaculate Conception, Clevedon, with St Dunstan and St Anthony, Yatton, St Francis of Assisi, Nailsea and St Joseph, Portishead served by Fr Reg Gray OFM, Fr Anthony Collins OFM, Fr Antoine Baya OFM, Fr Tom Dubois, Deacons John Woodcock, Mario Kossmann, Paul Reddington, Ivan Reynolds, Didier Delaplace, Parish Administrator Tom Osman and all their communities.

WORD OF GOD FOR SIXTH WEEK OF THE YEAR

Sunday	Jeremiah 17: 5-8 / Psalm 1 / 1 Corinthians 15: 1, 16-20 / Luke 6: 17, 20-26
Monday	Genesis 4: 1-15, 25 / Psalm 49 / Mark 8: 11-13
Tuesday	Genesis 6: 5-8, 7: 1-5, 10 / Psalm 28 / Mark 8:14-21
Wednesday	Genesis 8: 6-13, 20-22 / Ps 115 / Mark 8: 22-26
Thursday	Genesis 9: 1-13 / Ps 101 / Mark 8: 27-33
Friday	1 Peter 5: 1-4 / Psalm 22 / Matthew 16: 13-19
Saturday	Hebrews 11: 1-7 / Psalm 144 / Mark 9: 2-13

COLLECTIONS

Env £ 249.06+ Loose £321.67 + S/O's £90.58 = TOTAL: £ 651.31- thank you!

Racial Justice Sunday £52.05 **Pax Christi** £10.17 **Cov with Poor** £10 - **many thanks**

DATES FOR THE DIARY 2019

17th Feb	Liturgy of Enrolment for 1st Reconciliation families at 10.00am Mass
19th Feb	Parish Finance Committee meets at 7.00pm (Presbytery)
21st Feb	Planning Group for LBG+ Ministry & Mass at 6.30pm (Assisi Centre)
23rd Feb	Borderlands Trustees meet 11am to 4.00pm
24th Feb	Diverse Open Doors Day ad Faith Trail - St Nicks open to welcome 'til 5.00pm
26th Feb	Bishop Declan celebrates 170 Anniversary Mass at 7.00pm
5th March	All Bristol 3 Deaneries meeting at 10.30am
6th March	ASH WEDNESDAY - LENT BEGINS

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- 12th March Parish Pastoral Council Meeting at 7.00pm
 13th March Ashley Churches Together Serving meet 12.30pm (Parkway Methodist Church)
 17th March Mass for the LGBT+ community at 3.00pm - all welcome.
 19th March Parish Finance Committee meets at 7.00pm (Presbytery)
 24th March **Feast of St Oscar Romero**
 28th March Governors Meeting at St Nick's School
 30th March Celebrations of First Reconciliation with our children 11.00am and 2.00pm
 14th April **PALM SUNDAY - HOLY WEEK BEGINS**

COMMITTEE 170 The Committee has cancelled the proposed Pancake Day event due to lack of support. We are seeking to organise a number of events - but we do need more support from the parish community. Too much is being asked of too few people! **PLEASE COME FORWARD AND OFFER TO HELP, ESPECIALLY WITH ORGANISING SOCIAL EVENTS, OR WITH CATERING AFTER SOME OF OUR LITURGICAL EVENTS. So there will be a short meeting for all willing to help in some way on Sunday 24th February after Mass at about 12.30pm - please give some time and energy this 170th year!**

BISHOP COMES TO CELEBRATE 170 YEARS OF MISSION HERE We are preparing for this special **Mass of Thanksgiving and Recommitment** on the occasion of our 170th Anniversary Year on **Tuesday 26th February 2019 at 7.00pm**. Bishop Declan is joining us and we have invited many from around the diocese to join us for this important celebration. **We are asking for help with catering after the Mass - finger food (with different cultural flavours!) Paula Murphy (07971934560) and Susan Wanjiho (07886539219) have agreed to co-ordinate this - thank you!** Also participation from children and from our various cultural communities during the mass and after. **CAN WE ALL MAKE A VERY SPECIAL EFFORT to keep this evening free and come, welcoming our guests (especially our Bishop) and recommit ourselves as a parish community to future years of presence and mission here in Bristol.**

BIG CLEAN UP OF THE CHURCH IN PREPARATION FOR 26TH FEB I am asking people to respond generously with their time and energy to prepare our church building and environment for the many visitors (including our Bishop) who will be with us on February 26th. **So there will be a big clean up on Friday 22nd Feb starting after Mass - about 10.15am.** Thank you to Luke who is redecorating that part of the church that has been most affected with damp - he is doing a great job! And we are getting cleaners in to shampoo all the chairs in the church - this has never been done in 10 years!

CHURCH CHAIRS BEING CLEANED On Friday or Saturday this coming week, we expect a company to come in and deep clean all the chairs in the main body of the church - they have not been cleaned in this way since we bought them 10 years ago!! It is likely to affect the location of Mass (either Friday or Saturday) - so please be aware - Mass might be in the Assisi Centre).

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND MODERN SLAVERY - A NEW MISSION! A very big thank you to all who worked so hard in the planning and arranging of this very special Day or our parish and for the diocese. There is a report of the Day on our parish website. But what became so clear both on the day and in the reflections at our weekday Masses afterwards, that the plight of 40 MILLION enslaved people world-wide and possible 140,000 in UK - this is the call of Jesus Christ (who died a slave's death on the Cross) - a call to us to open our eyes and see, open our ears and hear, open our hearts and love! **AND ACT DECISIVELY to combat this trade in human misery and 'set free the captives' among us. This is part of our mission as a Church and as a parish. I will be inviting people to come together to discuss how we can develop this Mission of freedom, this 'Jubilee Mission'.**

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BRISTOL CHURCHES WINTER NIGHT SHELTER AT ST NICKS

THIS STARTS THIS COMING WEDNESDAY! Still time (just) to volunteer, as our parish community needs to support this important part of our Mission. We are hosting our homeless sisters and brothers each Wednesday from 20th Feb to 27th March. Three shifts each night: Evening 5.30-10pm / Overnight 9.30pm - 7.00am / Morning 6.30-9.30am. For all volunteers, it is **very important that you attend training - cannot volunteer without this training - for your good and our guests!** CONTACT ASHLEY TARDIVO (07584375049) or ashleytardivo@gmail.com

A NEW MINISTRY - WELCOMING THE LBGT+ COMMUNITY

Thank you to the 25 people who shared a very open and respectful discussion of feelings, thoughts and issues around this new ministry being entrusted to our parish. Clearly it was a 'safe place' for people to share at a deep level, and this was most inspiring. There will be further opportunities for people speak concerns and voice hopes as well as for people to understand more fully what the Bible says and does not say about these issues.

JOB VACANCY IN DIOCESAN FINANCE TEAM - OPAS Support Administrator

An exciting opportunity has arisen in the Curial Finance Team! The Diocese is currently rolling out a new online accounting system (OPAS) for all of its 107 parishes. Additional support is needed in the Finance team over the next twelve months to help train and support parishes with the new system, as well as general administrative support within the Finance team to allow other members of the team to work on this project. Full training on OPAS will be provided. The role is a full-time, fixed term contract for twelve months, salary up to £22,000 depending on experience. Interviews will take place in late January/ early February. Ideally the successful applicant will be in post by the end of February. The role is based at Alexander House, Bristol but there may occasionally be a need to travel to parishes throughout the Diocese. **The deadline for applications is Monday 18th February. email Parish Office for Application Forms**

PIETY & 170 GOODS STALLS IN PARISH HALL We have a wide variety of new stock, including statues, cards, and children's and adults prayer books, rosaries, candles etc. And also we have the T-shirts and Mugs for Year 170! Come after Mass, enjoy a cup of tea or coffee with friends and have a look to see what can help your and your family's faith grow!

HELP NEEDED FOR MONTHLY 'DEEP CLEAN' OF THE WILD GOOSE CAFE

With Marie Kondo mania sweeping the nation, we thought now would be a good time to ask: Do you feel inspired to deep clean the Wild Goose on a Tuesday morning? We're looking for two church teams of six to eight people who'd be happy to give up their Tuesday morning once a month for a spot of deep cleaning. If you'd like to help, please contact Steve Smith at steve.smith@crisis-centre.org.uk The question Marie would ask is, of course, 'Does it spark joy?' Well, we think that helping provide a clean and welcoming place for homeless people in our community might do just that. Contact Steve.

CALLING YOUNG PEOPLE TO THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

We are trying to find out whether we have enough young people over the age of 13 years (**and adults who have not yet been confirmed**) to invite the Bishop to come and celebrate this important Sacrament of Empowerment in the Holy Spirit with us here at St Nicks. Any young people over 13 years and any adults not yet confirmed - please contact Richard or Mary Hopper as soon as possible so suitable arrangements can be made - thank you!

PARENTS BAPTISM PREPARATION EASTER 2019

Parents seeking the baptism of their children this Easter are asked to inform Eustace Tameh or Christopher and Epiphania Chipato or Fr Richard as soon as possible. Next Baptism celebration:
BAPTISMS EASTER SUNDAY 21ST APRIL (& possibly also Sunday 28th) at 10am Mass

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