



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

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SEVENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR



A Love too Radical - and so Necessary!

Is Jesus serious? Can He really expect us to be foolish enough to forgive enemies, lend without expecting the money to be repaid? Keep on giving with a generous heart?

But are we not made in the image and likeness of God? Are we not Temples of the Holy Spirit? Were we not clothed in Christ, with Baptismal garments of a New Life - the Life of God's love in us?

I suppose the answer is YES! He really does expect us to love like Him, because we share the same Spirit, the same Father, the same Mission as Jesus! And He knows more than anyone - the world absolutely needs us to be lovers like Him! His foolishness is in fact the wisdom our world needs!

SUNDAY: PARISH MASS 10.00am, followed by '*Diverse Open Doors Day*' until 5.00pm.

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

TUESDAY: Mass of Thanksgiving for 170th Anniversary of the Parish at 7.00pm

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

THURSDAY: Service of Word & Communion at 12noon, followed by *Adoration* until 1.30pm

FRIDAY: *Feast of St David, Bishop & Patron of Wales (6th century)*
Adoration at 8.15am *Morning Prayer* at 8.45am Mass at 9.00am

SATURDAY: *Adoration* at 8.30am *Morning Prayer* at 9.15am Mass at 9.30am
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 4.30-5.00pm only

TODAY [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

Jesus: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless all who curse you

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!

NEXT SUNDAY [1] On the **Eighth Sunday of the Year** we celebrate the Heart of Jesus which is filled with all goodness - and His Word flows from love that overflows from His Heart. As disciples of such a Master we are called to enter into His Heart, learn from Him who is 'humble and gentle of heart' so that we too can overflow with such love!

[2] **Mass for the Catholic Handicapped Fellowship** at 3.00pm - all welcome

DIOCESAN PRAYER The Diocese prays today for Parishes in Communion for Mission of St Margaret Mary, Coleford, Our Lady of Victories, Cinderford and Our Lady of Lourdes, Newent, with Blaisdon served by Fr Barnabas Page, Deacon Paul Dekkers, Parish Administrator Gail Ebsworth and all their communities.

WORD OF GOD FOR SEVENTH WEEK OF THE YEAR

Sunday	1 Samuel 26: 2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23 / Psalm 102 / 1 Corinthians 15: 45-49/ Luke 6: 27-38
Monday	Ecclesiasticus 1: 1-10 / Psalm 92 / Mark 9: 14-29
Tuesday	Ecclesiasticus 2: 1-11 / Psalm 36 / Mark 9:30-37
Wednesday	Ecclesiasticus 4: 11-19 / Ps 118 / Mark 9: 38-40
Thursday	Ecclesiasticus 5: 1-8 / Ps 1 / Mark 9: 41-50
Friday	Philippians 3: 8-14 / Psalm 1 / Matthew 5: 13-16
Saturday	Ecclesiasticus 17: 1-15 / Psalm 102 / Mark 10: 13-16

COLLECTIONS

Env £ 149.45+ Loose £258.92 + S/O's £90.58 = TOTAL: £ 498.95- thank you!

Zimbabwean Collection 170 Fund £144.90 - many thanks

DATES FOR THE DIARY 2019

24th Feb	Parish Meeting in support of 170 Committee and Events at 12.30pm
24th Feb	Diverse Open Doors Day & 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 Mass 10.30am & 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 Pastoral Council Meeting at 7.00pm
20th March	Bristol East Deanery at 7.00pm (St Patrick's) NB Parish Mass at 6.00pm
21st March	Parish Finance Committee meets at 7.00pm (Presbytery)
24th March	Feast of St Oscar Romero
24th March	Appeal for LEPROSA - bringing healing to leprosy sufferers
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

Jesus: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless all who curse you

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 is a short meeting for all willing to help in some way TODAY 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.**

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 for 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'.

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. ***This new Ministry will be launched at the first Mass for our Catholic LGBT+ community and their families and friends (and all our community) on Sunday 17th March at 3.00pm - for more details email: inclusionforall@cliftondiocese.com***

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.

Jesus: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless all who curse you

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 and Shella Tameh or Christopher and Epiphania Chipato or Fr Richard as soon as possible. Next Baptism celebration:

BAPTISMS EASTER SUNDAY 21st April & LOW SUNDAY 28th April at 10am Mass
RITE OF CATECHUMEN (Welcome) on Sunday 7th April at 10am Mass

First Parents Preparation Session on Friday 5th April at 6.30pm (Assisi Centre)

Second Parents Preparation Session on Friday 12th April at 6.30pm (Assisi Centre)

(NB This years other Baptismal Sundays are: 16th June (Feast of the Holy Trinity); 25th August (August Bank Holiday); 24th November (Feast of Christ the King)

A CALL TO PRAYER FOR THE BISHOPS' 'ABUSE SUMMIT' IN ROME Cardinal Vincent Nicholas, Archbishop of Westminster, is representing the Bishops of England and Wales and the Church in our two countries at this incredibly important meeting, called together by Pope Francis. I am sure we are all aware of the great publicity surrounding the failure of the Catholic Church to deal appropriately with the crimes of child (and vulnerable adult) sexual abuse perpetrated by priests and religious over the last 50 years or more. Public enquiries in USA, Australia, and here in UK have uncovered a catalogue of abuse and the attempts to minimise and/or cover up these crimes. We have comprehensively failed the victims and survivors. And so this 'Summit' of our bishops from around the world must face up to these searching questions and open to the challenging truth of the Holy Spirit for our times

WHY HAVE THESE TERRIBLE THINGS BEEN DONE?

WHAT CHANGES MUST WE, THE CHURCH, URGENTLY PUT IN PLACE TO KEEP ALL OUR COMMUNITIES SAFE?

WHAT IS IT ABOUT THE CHURCH AND THE CLERGY AND RELIGIOUS THAT HAS MADE AN ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH THESE CRIMES HAVE BEEN COMMITTED?

WHY HAS CLERICALISM BEEN ALLOWED TO GROW IN THE INSTITUTION OF THE CHURCH AND SO DISTORT THE MEANING OF PRIESTHOOD AND RELIGIOUS LIFE?

HOW CAN WE BRING HEALING AND PEACE TO THE SURVIVORS OF THESE CRIMES?

HOW CAN OUR SCARRED CHURCH REGAIN CREDIBILITY AS WITNESSES TO JESUS AND THE GOPEL OF LOVE?

So let us all pray for the outpouring of the wisdom and courage of the Holy Spirit at this pivotal and crucial meeting of our pastors, as Cardinal Nichols and Bishop Declan have asked us. Let us all recommit ourselves to building safe and loving communities where our children will be valued and protected, where the wounded will find safe places to recover and be healed, where there will be transparency, honesty and integrity. **COME HOLY SPIRIT!**

DO YOU LOOK AFTER SOMEONE? Help from 'Carers Support Centre' More and more people are looking after someone - because of ageing, dementia, disability of one kind or another. They can feel very isolated and unsupported. As a parish community we want to do all we can to support. If this affects you in any way, please see the posters and leaflets in the church porch from 'carerstrust' - helpline: 01179652200; email carersline@carerssupportcentre.org.uk or visit their website www.carerssupportcentre.org.uk - and also let us know how we as a parish community can help.

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