



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

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(Office open: Monday-Friday 10am - 12 noon & Tuesday 2 - 4pm; Friday 5 - 7pm)

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Download this Bulletin from the Parish Website: www.tolentino.org.uk

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR



JESUS THE PROPHET OF LOVE!

Jesus reveals the true face of God - not a god of the nation, not a god whose love is for one people alone: but the God who is love for all nations, races, peoples. Such a 'universal' love challenges us. Always to love beyond our barriers. Withhold this love and acceptance from no-one. That is the challenge to the People of God who seek to proclaim the God Who is Love (Trinity) to the world.

Prophets challenge our barriers and narrow boundaries of the heart. Prophets are so often unpopular because their message of Hope is not for a few but for all - but we do not want to accept all! So Jesus own community at Nazareth reject him, even try to kill him - the Cross looms large at the very beginning of His Ministry. And we are His disciples, His Body, the Church, also called to be Prophets of Universal Love!

SUNDAY: PARISH MASS with Rite of Adult Catechumen at 10.00am

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

TUESDAY: Feast of St Agatha, Virgin Martyr (3rd Century - Sicily)
Adoration at 5.30pm Mass at 6.00pm, followed by Scripture Sharing Group

WEDNESDAY: Feast of St Paul Miki and Japanese Martyrs of Nagasaki (17th cent)
Adoration at 7.30am Mass at 8.00am, (NB CHANGE OF TIME!)

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

FRIDAY: Feast of St Josephine Bakhita, freed slave, Nun, patron of all slaves
Adoration at 8.15am Morning Prayer at 8.45am Mass at 9.00am

SATURDAY: Adoration at 11.30am Mass at 12noon
Sacrament of Reconciliation: after Mass and 4.30-5.00pm

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TODAY [1] With the **Fourth Sunday of the Year** we rejoice in Jesus, the Suffering Servant, who loves too much, whose heart is too big for narrow-minded human beings to cope with - despite the thrilling beauty of His words, they quickly see the radical changes they would have to make. It is too much, best et rid of Him! The Cross has already begun to cast its long shadow over Jesus!

[2] We celebrate the **Adult Rite of Catechumen** with Molly and Beryl as they journey towards Baptism (Molly) or Reception (Beryl) and Confirmation at Easter. Please pray for all who are on the Journey of Faith towards Christ's Sacraments of Initiation.

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

[4] We **welcome Nigerian brothers and sisters from St Patrick's Parish** who are coming to experience our Mass and explore how they can offer more to their own parish.

NEXT SUNDAY [1] On the **Fifth Sunday of the Year** we celebrate Jesus calling his disciples and apostles to proclaim the Good News to all the world. He calls Simon (to be called Peter) and his brother Andrew, together with James and John to leave fishing nets and boats and rather journey with Jesus as missionary disciples, 'fishers of people', building a new future not just for the Church but for the world!

[2] Appropriately, we will call our children and their families to the **Liturgy of Enrolment for First Eucharist** - please hold them especially in your prayer.

[3] It is **Racial Justice Sunday** so I invite you to come in your national dress and if you wish to bring small flags of your country of origin, these can be brought up in the Offertory. There will be a **Retiring Collection** for the Church's mission combatting Racism

[4] After Mass (about 12.45pm) we will have our **Open Parish Meeting** to discuss the LGBT+ Mass and Ministry to be established here at St Nicks - please come and share your thoughts, questions, issues. See the Bulletin item below for more information.

DIOCESAN PRAYER The Diocese prays today for Parishes in Communion for Mission of St Catharine, Chipping Camden with Moreton-in-the-Marsh, Our Lady & St Kenelm, Stow-on-the-Wold and Our Lady Help of Christians, Bourton-on-the-Water, served by Fr John Brennan, Fr Stephen Lambert, Parish Administrator Andrew Gorzynski and all their communities.

WORD OF GOD FOR FOURTH WEEK OF THE YEAR

Sunday	Jeremiah 1: 4-7, 17-19 / Psalm 70 / 1 Corinthians 12: 31-13: 13 / Luke 4: 21-30
Monday	Hebrews 11: 32-40 / Psalm 30 / Mark 5: 1-20
Tuesday	Hebrews 12: 1-4 / Psalm 21 / Mark 5:21-43
Wednesday	Hebrews 12: 4-7, 11-15 / Ps 102 / Mark 6: 1-6
Thursday	Hebrews 12: 18-19, 21-24 / Ps 47 / Mark 6: 7-13
Friday	Hebrews 13: 1-8 / Psalm 26 / Mark 6: 14-29
Saturday	Hebrews 13: 15-17, 20-21 / Psalm 22 / Mark 6: 30-34

COLLECTIONS

Env £ 146.03+ Loose £243.14 + S/O's £90.58 = TOTAL: £ 479.75- thank you!

Comboni Missionary Sisters' Appeal £323.80 - many thanks

DATES FOR THE DIARY 2019

3rd Feb	Visit of St Patrick's Nigerian Community to St Nicks Mass (10am)
6th Feb	Training Day and Evening on Human Trafficking & Modern Slavery (St Nicks)
10th Feb	Open Forum to discuss new ministry to LGBT+ community - after 10am Mass
15th Feb	Healing Mass for World Day of the Sick at 7.30pm
23rd Feb	Borderlands Trustees meet 11am to 4.00pm
24th Feb	Diverse Open Doors Day ad Faith Trail - St Nicks open to welcome 'til 4.00pm

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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
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.
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

HEALING MASS FOR WORLD DAY OF THE SICK - FRIDAY FEBRUARY 12th 'Jesus the Good Samaritan heals wounded humanity - Go and do likewise!' Come to this special **Healing Mass for the World Day of the Sick in this Diocesan Year of Prayer** here at St Nicks on Friday **15th February at 7.30pm**. To offer or receive Healing Prayer is a very special experience, as Jesus touches another with healing love through you (or to you through another). Jesus' Word of Healing is an event of transformation as we pray with and care for the sick and housebound, the troubled and anguished. We become the Father's Mercy reaching into the wounds of humanity with wine of compassion & peace. Come yourself and bring others to Healing Prayer in the name of Jesus and let Him change 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 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 I am delighted to announce that Bishop Declan will preside at a **Mass of Thanksgiving and Recommitment** on the occasion of our 170th Anniversary Year on **Tuesday 26th February 2019 at 7.00pm**. We will be inviting 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!). 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.**

BRISTOL CHURCHES WINTER NIGHT SHELTER AT ST NICKS

WE NEED MORE volunteers from our parish 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

More than a year ago our Parish Pastoral Council wrote to Bishop Declan suggesting that somewhere in the diocese there should be a regular Mass celebrated at which the Gay community (LGBT+ means 'Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual and Trans-sexual') can experience welcome rather than rejection, acceptance rather than judgement. A number of bishops in England have authorised such Masses, taking a lead from Cardinal Vincent Nichols of Westminster (who has supported such a Mass in London for some years). After some prayer, reflection and discussion,

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Bishop Declan has agreed to this proposal and asked St Nicks (because of our reputation as a welcoming community) to host such Masses and develop a ministry among the Gay community. *As your Parish Pastoral Council we realise that for some, perhaps many, in our community this is a very challenging development and perhaps hard to understand. So many of us have been brought up to judge and condemn those whose sexual orientation is different from most of us. So before we begin celebrating such Masses (the first will be on Sunday 17th March at 3.00pm) we want to give everyone the opportunity to discuss this development, ask their questions, speak their voice and be heard in a mutually respectful way. So there will be an open meeting after Mass on Sunday 10th February beginning around 12.45pm. Do come to both speak and to listen.*

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**

THANKS FROM SR AURORA ‘A million thanks for the welcome you all gave me when I visited your parish. I never thought that I would find such a parish so alive and welcoming, so active and with a strong sense of belonging, with such a family and missionary spirit. My appreciation and gratitude to all the parishioners for the way you animated the liturgy and welcomed me among you. It felt like a real family. I was moved by how the Liturgy was celebrated and felt by everyone - a million thanks to you all! Sr Aurora Salgado’

COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND MODERN SLAVERY - WEDS 6th FEB

The illegal trade in human misery - Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery - is the third biggest illegal trade world-wide, after the illegal arms trade and illegal drugs. The Catholic Church has been working with governments, police and church communities around the world to form a global response, called the 'Santa Marta' Group. A global trade in human suffering which is also local to you. Victims of modern slavery and trafficking are to be found in our rural areas, our country towns, our quiet suburbs, our inner cities, indeed everywhere. This is an issue for all of us wherever we live and work. So you are invited to come to one or other of these two events to be held at St Nicholas of Tolentino Church, Lawford's Gate, Bristol BS5 0RE on Wednesday 6th February. They have been jointly sponsored by the Catholic Diocese of Clifton, St Nicholas of Tolentino Church and the (national) Santa Marta Group and are being offered to clergy and members of all Christian traditions, ecumenically. Come and learn from speakers who experts in the field.

[1] FOR CLERGY AND CHURCH WORKERS (ESPECIALLY THOSE WITH SAFEGUARDING RESPONSIBILITIES): A Day training event at St Nicholas of Tolentino Church, with registration and refreshments from 10.00am, for 10.30am start, lunch provided and concluding at 3.30pm (please note pre-booking is essential)

[2] AN OPEN EVENT FOR CHURCH MEMBERS AND THE WIDER COMMUNITY: An evening event at St Nicholas of Tolentino Church, arrivals from 6.30pm (refreshments) beginning at 7.00pm, concluding at 9.00pm - to raise awareness of the issues and explore what we can do together to combat this crime and support its victims (booking not necessary)

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