



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

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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FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT ('Laetare' or 'Rejoicing' & Mothering Sunday)



JESUS - LIGHT OF THE WORLD!

We journey to the Pool of Baptism throughout Lent - journey to cleansing waters, to healing waters, to life-giving waters, to waters that bring us 'enlightenment'. Many of the Churches of Eastern Tradition still call Baptism 'the Enlightenment'. That is why the baptised person is given a baptismal candle lit from the Easter Candle of the Resurrection Light! For by living deeply our Baptism ('living deeply our new life') we are bearers of Jesus' light into a world darkened by inhumanity, brutality, war and poverty.

Lent is a journey into the Light of Easter: and this Light of the Gospel Light of the Spirit, Light of Christ will challenge all the dark places that lurk in our hearts. To be 'enlightened' is to be challenged to change, to be honest, to allow self-reality to dawn: for only the 'truth sets us free'. Light will always convert us not only into more self-awareness and self-honesty, the only path to holiness, but also will convert us into more 'otherness': our lives will become a gift to others, a light that will guide another to the Waters of New Life and Hope of Freedom. Let us too go to the Pool this Easter.

SUNDAY: PARISH MASS 10.00am

Stations of the Cross at 1.00pm - prayer for all suffering the Cyclone in SE Africa

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

TUESDAY: *Adoration* at 5.30pm Mass at 6.00pm,

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

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

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

'As long as I am in the world, I am the Light of the World' says Jesus - so walk in the Light!

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

TODAY [1] The **Fourth Sunday of Lent (also called 'Laetare' or 'Rejoicing' Sunday)** celebrates Jesus the Light of World - He who 'comes to enlighten all who come into this world'. Healing the man born blind at the Pool of Siloam so clearly prepares us to celebrate Baptism this Easter and to confess our blindness to the love and wisdom of God and the ways we do not walk the Way of Christ's Love. Let us return this Easter to waters of Baptism, renewing our Baptismal commitment to living in Christ. Let us prepare by seeking healing of our blindness to love in the Sacrament of Reconciliation this Lent.

[2] **Special Appeal for the Disaster Fund for Zimbabwe, Malawi and Mozambique** devastated by the Cyclone. I know you will be as generous as possible for our beleaguered sisters and brothers.

[3] **Stations of the Cross** are prayed at 1.00pm for the victims of and communities devastated by the Cyclone that hit **Zimbabwe, Malawi and Mozambique**.

[4] This is also '**Mothering Sunday**' when we remember with gratitude all that our mothers have done for us in carrying us, giving us life, loving and nurturing us.

NEXT SUNDAY [1] With the **Fifth Sunday of Lent** we celebrate Jesus the Resurrection and the Life - the One who raises us to a New Life, a New Creation. He calls Lazarus by name - into life once more. As Lazarus comes back to life, Jesus turns to His disciples and says 'Unbind him, set him free!' The call of the Church to be Christ's liberating love, unbinding the wounds that limit our humanity, imprison our love! 'Yes Lord I believe!'

[2] We celebrate the **Rite of Child Catechumen**, welcoming our children to be baptised at Easter and their families. Some will be baptised on Easter Sunday morning Mass and others on the following Sunday (known as 'Low Sunday' - the Octave Day of Easter. Please pray!

[3] **Stations of the Cross** are prayed at 1.00pm for the victims of Human Trafficking and modern slavery.

DIOCESAN PRAYER The Diocese prays today for the Parishes in Communion for Mission of St Dominic, Dursley and St Joseph's, Nympsfield, served by Fr Philip Beasley and Deacon Domenico Bucci and all their communities. We pray also for the Marist Sisters.

WORD OF GOD FOR FOURTH WEEK OF LENT

Sunday	1 Samuel 16: 1, 6-7, 10-13 / Psalm 22 / Ephesians 5: 8-14 / John 9: 1-41
Monday	Isaiah 65: 17-21 / Psalm 29 / John 4: 43-54
Tuesday	Ezekiel 47: 1-9, 12 / Psalm 45 / John 5: 1-3, 5-16
Wednesday	Isaiah 49: 8-15 / Psalm 144 / John 5: 17-30
Thursday	Exodus 32: 7-14 / Psalm 105 / John 5: 31-47
Friday	Wisdom 2: 1, 12-22 / Psalm 33 / John 7: 1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday	Jeremiah 11: 18-20 / Psalm 7 / John 7:40-52

COLLECTIONS

Env £ 165.20+ Loose £258.67 + S/O's £90.58 = TOTAL: £514.45 - **thank you!**

CAFOD LENTEN FAST DAY £301.22 **Project 170** £225.69

Retiring Collection for Lepra £100.58 - **many thanks**

DATES FOR THE DIARY 2019

5th April	First Baptismal Parents Preparation Session at 6.30pm (Assisi Centre)
7th April	Rite of Child Catechumen at 10.00am Mass
12th April	Second Baptismal Parents Preparation Session at 6.30pm (Assisi Centre)
14th April	PALM SUNDAY - HOLY WEEK BEGINS Mass begins at School with Procession of the Palms at 10.00am

'As long as I am in the world, I am the Light of the World' says Jesus - so walk in the Light!

17th April	Mass of the Chrism at 11.00am (Clifton Cathedral)
18th April	HOLY THURSDAY - Mass of the Last Supper at 7.00pm followed by Watching until midnight
19th April	GOOD FRIDAY - United Open Air Stations of the Cross at 11.00am - Solemn Liturgy of the Passion at 3.00pm - Taizé Prayer around the Cross at 7.00pm
20th April	HOLY SATURDAY Great Easter Vigil at 9.00pm
21st April	EASTER SUNDAY Solemn Mass of Easter at 10.00am
24th April	Parish Pastoral Council at 7.00pm (Assisi Centre)
28th April	Senior Citizens Mass with Sacrament of Anointing at 3.00pm
11th May	A Day of Prayer with Mary, Mother of the Poor 10am to 4pm St Nicks
25th May	A Retreat Day led by Little Sisters of Jesus on charism of Bl. Charles de Foucauld

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CHILDREN ON THEIR FIRST CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Yesterday, during two Services of Reconciliation, some 16 children of our community met for the first time Jesus in the Sacrament of Reconciliation - receiving the fulness of His merciful and healing love. Congratulations! We are grateful to Fr Matt Anscombe and Fr Cavan McElligott who helped us in these services. Many thanks to all the parents who brought them to this new step on their children's Journey of Faith and who also took part in the parental catechesis sessions. Many thanks to their catechists, Mary Hopper, Henry Balkwill, Margaret Ulloa and Marta Bolognani.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES AND GIFTAID

We are soon to begin a new year with our Offertory Envelopes. Many of us do not use these to plan giving - to make a priority of supporting the mission of the Church in our parish. If you do not have a box please ask Debo (back of the church with Andrew always) of the Parish Admin Team for a box of envelopes. And if you pay income tax please sign a GiftAid to benefit the parish. Your signature on the form means for every £1 you give, the government give us the 25p tax you pay on that £1 - your £1 is then worth £1.25 and without costing you a penny more! If every tax payer signed a GiftAid form, the parish would benefit by about £3000 per year! We must increase and maximise our giving if we are to pay for our Redevelopment buildings - Again please see Debo about this.

CALLING YOUNG PEOPLE TO THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

So far we have at least 12 young people seeking Confirmation (*are there adults who have not yet been confirmed? - if so please contact Richard or Mary*) so we will 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 - 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)

WHAT TO DO IN LENT?

Stations of the Cross at 1.00pm on Sundays; An extra weekday Mass each week; Adoration of Christ in the Eucharist before or after Mass each day; Bible Alive to guide your prayer and Bible study; Volunteer to help others - at the Wild Goose (deep clean?), Borderlands, Children's Liturgy, Catechesis etc; Special effort

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for CAFOD ... but above all, Prayer, Love, Bring another to Christ and His Church, Give to the Poor, work for Justice, Care for the Planet!

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY WITH SVP Within the Society of St Vincent de Paul we urgently need a Central Council Secretary and Treasurer. The vacancies require someone to attend 3 Central Council meetings a year. For further information, anyone interested in the secretary position can contact me on this email: SVP@Cliftondiocese.com For the treasurer position would they contact John Kittow at johnkittow@hotmail.com Thank you for your help with this. Julie Godwin (CC President Clifton Diocese)

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2019 Mary, Mother of God, invites you to come on pilgrimage to the shrine of Lourdes in France for a week of prayer, friendship, fun and community. **August 23rd to 30th.** For further information, tel: 01179025590 or email: lourdes@cliftondiocese.com Pilgrimage Director Deacon Paul Thompson, led by Bp Declan

DAY WITH MARY, MOTHER OF THE POOR, PROPHET OF JUSTICE As part of the Diocesan Year of Prayer, we will hold a special **Day of Prayer with Mary on Saturday 11th May**, beginning with Morning Prayer at 10.00am, teaching on the Mary we find in the Scriptures, the Rosary, Adoration and Mass with Anointing for Healing. The Day will conclude at 4.00pm. Bring food to share for lunch together.

LITTLE SISTERS OF JESUS LEAD PRAYER DAY INSPIRED BY BL CHARLES DE FOUCAULD Another initiative as part of our Year of Prayer and our 170 Anniversary Year as a parish: on **Saturday 25th May** the **Little Sisters of Jesus** will lead us in a day of reflection upon the life, charism and witness of Bl little brother Charles de Foucauld. He lived his life among the most abandoned of peoples in the heart of the Sahara Desert, gave his life in love for Christ and the Muslim Toureg people among whom he lived and prayed. He spent hours each day in Adoration of Jesus in the Eucharist and never closed his door to the needs of the poor around him. His story has long inspired me personally in my life, prayer and ministry. The Day will begin at 10.00am and conclude at 4.00pm and will include a presentation of his life, teaching about his charism, time of Adoration of Jesus in the Eucharist and Mass - bring food to share for lunch.

VISIT AND GIFTS FROM LOCAL MUSLIM SCHOOL - ANDALUSIAN ACADEMY Last week we had a delightful visit from the RE teacher and four pupils from the Andalusian Academy (in Champion Square). Margaret Ulloa and myself sent a letter from the parish to the school (and also to local mosques) to express our shock and our solidarity with our Muslim sisters and brothers in the wake of the massacre at the New Zealand mosques. They came to say thank you and brought a gift of flowers, chocolate and a translation of the Q'ran. A wonderful visit and meeting of friends of two great Faiths - the beginning of a relationship!

SCRIPTURE SHARING GROUP I would like to encourage regular participation in this group so that we can deepen our love for and understanding of the Sacred Scriptures. It would be ideal for all Lay Readers and Lay Ministers of the Eucharist, as well as Children's Liturgy leaders. In this Year 170 this would be an excellent way of sharing together and deepening our faith, rooted in the Bible. In the Diocesan Year of Prayer - come and discover the Bible as our first and greatest 'prayer book'! Every Tuesday after 6.00pm Mass.

BOOK KEEPER FOR ST JAMES PRIORY PROJECT CHARITY

The applicant should be enthusiastic, self motivated & hardworking. Qualification and experience in finance is essential. This is an important position in the organisation and will involve a wide variety of financial tasks. Please phone 0117 9299100 for more information or send a CV to info@stjamespriory.org.uk www.stjamespriory.org.uk

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