

St Nicholas of Tolentino RC Church, Lawford's Gate, Bristol BS5 ORE**St Nicholas Presbytery, Lawford's Gate, Bristol BS5 ORE tel: 0117-909-8810****Parish Office, Assisi Centre, Lawford's Gate, Bristol BS5 ORE tel: 0117-909-0419****(Office open: Monday-Friday 10am - 12 noon & Tuesday 2 - 4pm; Friday 5 - 7pm)****'Borderlands' Charity Office: Assisi Centre, St Nicholas Church tel: 07718598188****Parish email: bristol.stnicholasoftolentino@cliftondiocese.com****Fr Richard's email: stnicks.bristol@blueyonder.co.uk****Clifton Diocesan Website: www.cliftondiocese.com****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)****Safeguarding Reps: Mary Hopper (01275-830788) & Margaret Ulloa (0117-915-0486)****FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - 'VOCATIONS SUNDAY'*****CALLED TO BE A SHEPHERD - ME?***

Jesus is the Shepherd, Pope Francis is a shepherd, Bishop Declan and the priests are shepherds - not me, Lord, surely?

And Jesus says - be shepherds to one another. You are all equal, My sisters and brothers; you are all My disciples, all members of My Body. I have given you all My Spirit and in that Spirit you are all gifted for mission and ministry; you are all called and gifted to be witnesses to My Risen Life; all servants of the New World that is My Kingdom; all shepherds guiding, healing, nurturing My world and each other. My whole Church is Shepherd in the midst of the world - or it is not My Body!

All I ask you is - dare to love! Like Peter, love Me and then I can be Shepherd in you as well as Shepherd to you. Love each other and My Church will be a shepherd community in the midst of our broken world. Know your calling - you are all called to Shepherds, Servants, Lovers and Life-givers!

- SUNDAY:** **PARISH MASS** for a deepened sense of Vocation at 10.00am
Signed Mass with the Catholic Deaf Association at 3.00pm - all welcome
- MONDAY:** *Day of Adoration of the Eucharistic Christ*
Mass at 9.00am, followed by Adoration until 4.00pm
- TUESDAY:** *Feast of St Matthias, Apostle*
Adoration at 5.30pm *Mass* at 6.00pm,
- WEDNESDAY:** *Adoration* at 6.30pm **Mass with Bristol SVP conferences** at 7.00pm
- THURSDAY:** *Mass* at 12 noon, followed by *Adoration* until 1.30pm

My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, love them, and they follow me!

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

SATURDAY: *Ethiopian Orthodox Mass for Patronal Feast 6am to 2.00pm*
Adoration at 8.45am *Morning Prayer* at 9.15am **Mass** at 9.30am (**Assisi Centre**)
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 4.30-5.00pm only

TODAY [1] The **Fourth Sunday of Easter** is 'Good Shepherd Sunday' celebrating Jesus our shepherd who lays down his life for us his 'flock' and yearns to gather all humanity into the experience of God's love and life. He laid down His life not just for the 'Christian Flock' but for every human person, and indeed all creation to bring all mercy and the fulness of God's life. Each one of us is called to be a shepherd to others, laying down our lives too!

[2] It is **Vocation Sunday** when we reflect on our particular calling in Christ deepening our sense of vocation in our work, our family, our marriage, our ministry, our political commitments - indeed the whole of our lives that are called and shaped by God in service of the world and the Kingdom's Coming. We pray also for a radical re-modelling of ordained ministry, to bring all 'clericalism' and priestly dominance to an end; and to open the Church to new expressions of ordained ministry (married as well as celibate, both women and men - all bringing their unique gifts and experience to ordained ministry, and enabling all God's people to be nourished with Jesus, Bread of Life and Cup of Love in the Eucharist available to all!

[3] **Retiring Collection for the Clergy Training Fund** - training Henry and others!!!

[4] **Signed Mass with the Catholic Deaf Association** at 3.00pm - all welcome.

NEXT SUNDAY [1] The **Fifth Sunday of Easter** we rejoice in the Glory with which Jesus is glorified! What is this 'Glory'? It is the victory of Love that raised Him from the tomb of death; it is the Love that fills the Body of Christ, the community of disciples, US! speaking loudly the Gospel; it is the Love that draws people to new birth in Christ Jesus; it is the Love that is fashioning a 'New Heaven and New Earth', gathering all creation into Christ.

[2] **Retiring Collection for the Priests Retirement Fund** - supporting the increasing proportion of our priests who are now retired and who served us throughout their lives.

[3] **Mass with the LGBT+ community at 3.00pm - all very welcome.**

DIOCESAN PRAYER The Diocese prays today for the Parishes in Communion for Mission of St Benet, Kemerton, St Joseph, Tewkesbury and St Nicholas, Winchcombe, with St Michael & All Angels (shared church), Bishop's Cleeve served by Fr Francis Hughes OSB, Deacon John Torr, Parish Administrator Christine Davies and all their communities.

WORD OF GOD FOR FOURTH WEEK OF EASTER

Sunday	Acts of the Apostles 13: 14, 43-52 / Psalm 99 / Apocalypse 7: 9, 14-17 / John 10: 27-30
Monday	Acts of the Apostles 11:1-18 / Psalm 41 / John 10: 1-10
Tuesday	Acts of the Apostles 1: 15-17, 20-26 / Psalm 112 / John 15: 9-17
Wednesday	Acts of the Apostles 12: 24-13: 5 / Psalm 66 / John 12: 44-50
Thursday	Acts of the Apostles 13: 13-25 / Psalm 88 / John 13: 16-20
Friday	Acts of the Apostles 13: 26-33 / Psalm 2 / John 14: 1-6
Saturday	Acts of the Apostles 13: 44-52 / Psalm 97 / John 14:7-14

COLLECTIONS

28/04/2019 Env £295.38 + Loose £266.88 + S/O's £90.58 = TOTAL: £ 652.84 - **thanks!**
CAFOD £30.00 **Covenant with the Poor** £5.10 - many thanks

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DATES FOR THE DIARY 2019

18th May	Ethiopian Orthodox Community celebrate Patronal Feast Day (in Church)
19th May	LGBT+ Mass and Ministry at 3.00pm
22nd May	Eucharist Parents meeting at 4.00pm (Assisi Centre)
25th May	A Retreat Day led by Little Sisters of Jesus on charism of Bl. Charles de Foucauld
30th May	Feast of the Ascension - Holy Day of Obligation Masses 12 noon & 7pm
31st May	First Parents Baptismal Preparation session at 6.30pm (Assisi Centre)
2nd June	Rite of Child Catechumen (Welcoming in preparation for Baptism) 10am Mass
5th June	Parish Pastoral Council meets at 7.00pm (after 6.00pm Mass)
6th June	National Meeting of Catholic Migrant Officers (Birmingham)
6th June	St Nick's Governors meeting at 5.30pm
6th June	Parish Finance Committee meeting at 7.00pm (Presbytery)
7th June	Second Parents Baptismal Preparation session at 6.30pm (Assisi Centre)
8th June	Borderlands Trustees meeting 11am-4pm
8th June	Vigil Mass of Pentecost at 8.00pm
9th June	FEAST OF PENTECOST
11th June	All Bristol Deaneries Meeting
16th June	Feast of the Most Holy Trinity - Baptismal Sunday
16th June	LGBT+ Mass and Ministry at 3.00pm
19th June	Annual Visit of Downside students to St Nicks
21st June	Study Day for clergy on Lay Pastoral Assistants and the future of the Church
23rd June	Feast of Corpus Christi - First Eucharist Sunday
3rd June	Mass for the Catholic Handicapped Fellowship at 3.00pm
28th June	Feast of the Sacred Heart
30th June	Feast of Ss Peter and Paul
14th July	Diocesan Glastonbury Pilgrimage

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

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.

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.

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MONTHLY DAY OF ADORATION It is a very special grace for our parish community, empowering our mission, that we can hold these 'Days of Adoration'. Thank you to all who are able to commit themselves 'to watch one hour' with Him in the Blessed Sacrament. We need two people for each hour of Adoration through the day. Of course all are invited to come for the quiet prayer of Adoration any time 10am to 4.00pm - to the silence of God's loving! **Next Day of Adoration is Mon 13th May (first Monday was May Bank Holiday)**

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY - Sunday 12th May - Day of Prayer for Vocations We are asked to pray for a deepened sense of vocation in each of our lives and in our parish community. Each one of us has a unique vocation from God; each of us is called to proclaim the Good News and serve the Kingdom of Justice, Love and Peace; each of us is called to care for our environment and seek to heal the abuse of our good Earth so that future generations will be able to thrive on this planet. Vocations to marriage, to ordained ministries and to the religious life are necessary to the mission of God's Church. We seek especially to call members of our community to the Permanent Diaconate, preparing for a future without a resident priest. **Sunday 12th May.** Pray also for new forms of ordained ministry!

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 Baptism course and celebration:

BAPTISMAL SUNDAY 16th JUNE (Trinity Sunday) at 10am Mass

Preparation Sessions: Friday 31st May & 7th June at 6.30pm (Assisi Centre)

Rite of Child Catechumen Sunday 2nd June at 10am Mass

Future dates of Baptismal Sundays: 25th August and 24th November (Feast of Christ the King) - at our 10am Parish Mass. Dates of preparation sessions to be announced.

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

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. 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.

POPE FRANCIS ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Pope Francis stated the following last November: *'Now is the time to affirm not only the immorality of the use of nuclear weapons, but the immorality of their possession... genuinely concerned by the catastrophic humanitarian effects of any employment of nuclear devices and the risk of accidental detonation as a result of any kind of error, the threat of their use, as well as their very possession, is to be firmly condemned. They exist in the service of a mentality of fear.'*

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