



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)

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - World Communications Sunday



The Best Communication - is Communion.

Our world loves programmes, projects, initiatives. A new technique will deliver effective evangelisation! Let's find novel new ways to spread the message! As so often, this is partly true, but only a half-truth.

Look at the illustration here: what do you see? Individual people gathering together in close relationship becoming the Cross of Christ lifted high for the world to see! The real key to evangelisation today is the same as it was in Jesus' non-techno world - 'Love one another as I have loved you ... By the love you have for one another will all know you are my disciples ... Father may they all be so completely one that the world will believe'.

Yes we need to use every modern technique of communication, social media, internet, TV etc - they are all the gift of God! But without love it is all empty noise and seductive addictions! Only love evangelises, only love draws people to glimpse the new humanity that fulfils human longing; only love can change the human heart, change our world. Love alone can conquer everything. So Jesus prays for the unity of His disciples. Loving unity is the secret of effective mission and witness. Come Spirit!

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

Mass for the Catholic Handicapped Fellowship at 3.00pm - all welcome

MONDAY: Service of Word & Communion at 9.00am, followed by **Day of Adoration until 4pm**

TUESDAY: *Feast of St Charles Lwanga and the Ugandan Martyrs (died 1885-87)*

Adoration. at 5.30pm Mass at 6.00pm

WEDNESDAY: *Feast of St Boniface, Missionary Bishop & Martyr (672-754)*

Adoration. at 6.30pm Mass at 7.00pm

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

'Father, may my disciples all be so completely one so that the world will believe!'

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

SATURDAY: *Adoration* at 11.30am **Mass** at 12 noon

SPECIAL VIGIL MASS OF PENTECOST at 8.00pm - please bring a little food to share afterwards

Sacrament of Reconciliation: after 12 noon Mass and 4.30-5.00pm

TODAY [1] The **Seventh Sunday of Easter** celebrates the Risen Jesus who unites all humanity, indeed all creation in himself. He reconciles all things - all reality in His Risen Body. So he prays for the unity of all his disciples - the Church is called to be the Sacrament of Unity in the heart of the world - a sign and living prophecy of all creation eventually united in divine love that is the 'New Heaven and the New Earth'. What a vision - what a mission - what a responsibility!

[2] It is also **World Communication Sunday**. In the midst of the great Novena to the Holy Spirit in preparation for Pentecost, the Spirit that is dialogue and communication and empowerment, we pray for and financially support this new medium of Evangelisation that is the world of IT, social media and all forms of modern communication. How can we ensure this genius of our modern world is used responsibly and in the service of the Gospel? **There is a Retiring Collection for this Mission.**

[3] Being the **first Sunday of the month**, we have **our Covenant with the Poor Offertory** - please give gifts of money in the special envelopes and gifts of non-perishable foodstuffs (especially tins of fruit, fish and meat, and pasta sauce, coffee, hot chocolate, sugar). Please be generous as the demands on this fund is very heavy indeed.

NEXT SUNDAY [1] We celebrate the **second greatest Feast of the Church's Year - THE FEAST OF PENTECOST!** Jesus, ascended to the Father's right hand and together they pour out their love, the Holy Spirit of their shared life and love, upon the small gathered community of disciples waiting and praying in the Upper Room of Hope. And so the Church is born by this new overshadowing of the Spirit (like the Annunciation): born in a ferment of praise, joy, unity and mission. The Spirit has begun to 'renew the face of the earth!'

[2] We begin our celebration on Saturday at 8.00pm with our special extended **Vigil Mass of Pentecost**, followed by a 'bring and share' agape after the mass.

[3] **Mass for the Catholic Handicapped Fellowship and Bath Faith and Light Group** at 3.00pm - all are welcome. The Mass will be offered for the recently deceased Jean Vanier RIP, founder of the l'Arche and also the Faith and Light communities - a saint for our times!

DIOCESAN PRAYER The Diocese prays today for the Parishes in Communion for Mission of St Osmund, St Gregory and the English Martyrs, Holy Redeemer, Salisbury, with Good Shepherd and Our Lady, Queen of Angels, and Holy Family, Whaddon, served by Canon Michael Fitzpatrick, Fr Saji Matthew, Deacons Steve Godwin, John Detain and John Proctor, and Parish Administrator Niki Hetreed and all their communities. We pray also for the work and witness of the Alabare Charismatic Community.

WORD OF GOD FOR SEVENTH WEEK OF EASTER

Sunday	Acts of the Apostles 7: 55-60/Psalm 96/Apocalypse 22: 12-14, 16-17, 20 / John 17: 20-26
Monday	Acts of the Apostles 19: 1-8 / Psalm 67 / John 16: 29-33
Tuesday	Acts of the Apostles 20: 17-27 / Psalm 67 / John 17: 1-11
Wednesday	Acts of the Apostles 20: 28-38 / Psalm 67 / John 1: 11-19
Thursday	Acts of the Apostles 22: 30, 23: 6-11 / Psalm 15 John 17: 20-26
Friday	Acts of the Apostles 25: 13-21 / Psalm 102 / John 21: 15-19
Saturday	Acts of the Apostles 28: 16-20, 30-31 / Psalm 10 / John 21: 20-25

'Father, may my disciples all be so completely one so that the world will believe!'

COLLECTIONS

Env £234.51 + Loose £223.07 + S/O's £90.58 = TOTAL: £548.16 - **thanks!**

Donation to Caritas Fund £200 - many thanks

DATES FOR THE DIARY 2019

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	Mass with Bishop Declan for all newly baptised & received at Easter 10.30am
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
6th July	Diocesan Family Day on Prayer at St Brendan's College 9.45am-4.15pm
14th July	Diocesan Glastonbury Pilgrimage

WHO IS THIS WHO ASCENDS INTO GLORY? Ascension? Some kind of medieval throw-back - a myth that belongs to a 'flat earth' past? As if Heaven was up there somewhere! Can we believe in the Ascension in our modern world of Hubble telescopes and deep space exploration?

Yet this is our brother, our flesh, our humanity, gathered up into the Divine, carrying us and all that is human into the very inner life of God, of the Trinity. His ascension is ours, for He carries us with Him, in Him. Ascension is not some weird and divine form of space travel, but rather the wonder of our transformation into a divine humanity. This is the Feast of our human dignity, for we are being 'divinised' as the great saints and mystics have dared to say, following the teaching of St John and St Paul.

Forever our flesh is now 'seated at the right hand of the Father', sharing the throne of God, utterly caught up in infinite and eternal loving that creates the Universe! No wonder He sends us out with this Good News to tell all the world, all creation!

NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT This is the first and greatest Novena of Prayer in the Church's tradition, opening ourselves and the Church to the mighty wind of the Spirit - the energy for Mission; opening to the Living Water of the Spirit welling up to Life in all its fullness; opening to the Flam and Fire of God's Spirit that transforms us into flames of Divine Love in the heart of the world. Without the Spirit of God in us we can do nothing for God, without the Spirit of God we have no real life, without the Spirit of God we have no vision for our mission, no energy to serve the Gospel and the Kingdom. **COME HOLY SPIRIT!**

JUNE, THE MONTH OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS A Heart broken for love of all humanity, pierced through with the lance of unconditional love and compassion. A Heart brimming over with a Universal love, an endless Mercy withheld from absolutely no-one. Behold the Man who loves us beyond the breaking of His Heart! The Divine Humanity of

'Father, may my disciples all be so completely one so that the world will believe!'

God, vulnerable to us, weeping for us, on fire for us. O Sacred Heart of Jesus make our hearts like unto Thine! May our Hearts be on fire for love of the world You so love!

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

CAROL & KAMILA'S PIETY STALL - ORDER ITEMS NOW! Because of the cost of postage, it is necessary to order in bulk, so Kamila asks that if you wish to order items not currently in stock (eg books, statues, candles etc) please do so either today or next Sunday - especially any items for First Eucharist Sunday. The piety stall is in the hall each Sunday during the coffee morning after Mass.

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

Second Preparation Session: 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.

DIOCESAN DAY FOR THE YEAR OF PRAYER All our diocesan family are invited to gather with our bishop at St Brendans College on **Saturday 6th July, beginning 9.45am and concluding (after Mass) at 4.15pm.** There will be many workshops exploring different aspects of prayer as the energy for mission and witness to Christ. **PLEASE COME!**

CALL TO ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE The greatest threat to humanity in the 21st Century is Global Warming and Climate Change. It is a Christian ethical imperative to act now in our generation for the sake of future generations. The teenager **Greta Thunberg** said: "It is still not too late to act. It will take a far-reaching vision, it will take courage, it will take fierce, fierce determination to act now, to lay the foundations where we may not know all the details about how to shape the ceiling. In other words, it will take cathedral thinking. I ask you to please wake up and make change possible."

David Attenborough said "We need to fall in love again with the earth"

Pope Francis said "God of Love, show us our place in this world as channels of your love for all the creatures of this earth" and "teach us to care for our common home."

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 have been able to commit themselves 'to watch one hour' with Him in the Blessed Sacrament. It is vital that we know that two people will be there for each hour of Adoration through the day. And of course all are invited to come for a while for the quiet prayer of Adoration at any time from 10am to 4.00pm - just drop in ... to the silence of God's loving! It is certainly our hope eventually to extend this to a weekly Day of Adoration.

JOY AT GRAND IFTAH A number of us shared with our Muslim brothers and sisters in the Grand Iftah (the celebration breaking the day's Ramadan Fast) - an estimated 6000 people crowded into St Mark's Road, listened to speeches, shared in the special prayer for the breaking of the fast and were served dates, fruit and a delicious meal. Unexpectedly, I was asked to speak and brought the greetings of the Christian Church in Easton as well as that of the Bristol City of Sanctuary movement. A real celebration of unity in diversity, and the wider 'fellowship of believers' building a more humane and united society here in Bristol.

'Father, may my disciples all be so completely one so that the world will believe!'