



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)

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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) Caretaking of our buildings: Volunteers needed

Safeguarding Reps: Mary Hopper (01275-830788) & Margaret Ulloa (0117-915-0486)

Parish Administration: Robert von Hawrylak and Team (0117-909-0419)

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



Why does the Son of God seek Baptism?

Leaving Nazareth in the north, Jesus travels seven days to the Jordan in the south in order to join His cousin John, to be baptised by him. But why?

Jesus was utterly human like us - the mystery of the Incarnation that has baffled every generation! That means his self-understanding is, like ours, limited. While realising He had a unique and special relationship with the God He alone knew with the familiarity of 'Abba', Daddy!, He could not yet have known all that this meant. He knew God was calling Him - at first that meant for Him to be the disciple of John, the spiritual hero figure of the day!

But then something amazing happened - the fullness of the Spirit came upon Him, prophecies were fulfilled and He broke through in His humanity to a new depth and awareness of this Abba-Son relationship. The Spirit brought Him to a new knowledge - and Spirit brings us also to a new knowledge - that we too are daughters and sons of Abba! We too are filled to overflowing with the same Spirit - we too are Servants of the Kingdom and daughters

SUNDAY: PARISH MASS with Child Baptism at 10.00am

Signed Mass with the Catholic Deaf Association at 3.00pm - all welcome

'ORDINARY TIME' BEGINS - WEEK ONE - Weekday Readings Year 2

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

TUESDAY: *Adoration* at 5.30pm Evening Service of Word and Communion at 6.00pm
followed by Scripture Group

WEDNESDAY: *Adoration* at 5.30pm Evening Service of Word and Communion at 6.00pm

The Spirit descended and the Father said to Jesus: This is my Son, the Beloved!

THURSDAY: **Service of Word and Communion** at 12 noon **Adoration** until 1.30pm

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

SATURDAY: **Feast of St Anthony of Egypt, Abbot, founder of monasticism (251-356)**
Adoration at 11.30am **Mass** at 12.00 noon

Sacrament of Reconciliation: after Mass and 4.30pm

12/01/2020 [1] We celebrate the **Feast of the Baptism of the Lord**. Jesus emerges from his 28 or more years of the 'hidden life' to discover the depth of his relationship of love with Abba, Father and strengthened by God's affirmation to embark on His Mission of Service, Proclamation and Suffering. Our Baptism is the same as His, the Spirit we receive is the same as That whom he received, the Mission of Christ is our Mission too!

[2] Appropriately, we rejoice to share the **Baptism of our children** and to renew our dedication to the Baptism we have received, to the Mission that has been entrusted to us!

[3] **Signed Mass with Catholic Deaf Association** at 3.00pm - all very welcome

DIOCESAN PRAYER Today the Diocese prays for our own parish in communion for mission, St Nicholas of Tolentino, together with our neighbours, St Joseph, Fishponds and St Patrick, Redfield, served by Fr Richard McKay, Fr Paul Vettikattu CST, Canon Gregory Grant, Deacons Jack Brannigan (retired), Denis Deasey and Rob Easton, and Parish Administrators Robert von Hawrylak and Team, Mary Ainger and Amelia Dunford, and all their communities

WORD OF GOD FOR FIRST WEEK OF THE YEAR - YEAR A (Weekday cycle 2)

Sunday	Isaiah 42: 1-4, 6-7 / Psalm 28 / Acts of the Apostles 10: 34-38 / Matthew 3: 13-17
Monday	1 Samuel 1: 1-8 / Psalm 115 / Mark 1: 14-20
Tuesday	1 Samuel 1: 9-20 / Responsorial 1 Sam 2 / Mark 1: 21-28
Wednesday	1 Samuel 3: 1-10, 19-20 / Psalm 39 / Mark 1: 29-39
Thursday	1 Samuel 4: 1-11 / Psalm 43 / Mark 1: 40-45
Friday	1 Samuel 8: 4-7, 10-22 / Psalm 88 / Mark 2: 1-12
Saturday	1 Samuel 9: 1-4, 17-19, 10: 1 / Psalm 20 / Mark 2: 13-17

SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR - Year of Communion

SUNDAY: **PARISH MASS** at 10am
Mass with Clifton LBG+ Catholics and friends at 3pm - **all very welcome**

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

TUESDAY: **Feast of St Sebastian and St Agnes, Roman martyrs (early 4th century)**
Adoration at 5.30pm **Mass** at 6.00pm *followed by Scripture Group*

WEDNESDAY: **Feast of St Vincent, Deacon and First Martyr of Spain (3rd century)**
Adoration at 5.30pm **Mass** at 6.00pm

THURSDAY: **Mass** at 12 noon **Adoration** until 1.30pm

FRIDAY: **Feast of St Frances de Sales, Bishop, Spiritual Guide (1567-1622)**
Adoration 8.15am **Morning Prayer** at 8.45am **Mass** at 9.00am

SATURDAY: **Feast of the Conversion of St Paul**
Adoration at 8.00am **Morning Prayer** at 8.30am **Mass** at 8.45am
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 4.30pm only

The Spirit descended and the Father said to Jesus: This is my Son, the Beloved!

19/01/2020 [1] The **Second Sunday of the Year** celebrates Jesus, the Lamb of God, the one who offers himself in sacrifice for His People - All People! John 'sees' the Holy Spirit shining through Jesus and so recognises the 'one who will baptise with the Holy Spirit. He then witnesses before the world the One he 'sees' - we too have seen and we too are witnesses!

[2] **Mass with the Catholic LGBT+ community, family and friends at 3.00pm - all welcome**

[3] **Warm welcome to Philip McKay**, my cousin's son, who is coming to St Nicks for two weeks 'social internship', to experience something of the life and issues of the inner city.

DIOCESAN PRAYER The Diocese prays for the Parishes in Communion for Mission of St Teresa of the Child Jesus, Filton and St Vincent de Paul, Southmead, served by Fr James Finnan, Deacons Tom Douglas and Ludgero Ferreira, Parish Administrator Debbie Nichols and both their communities

THOUGHT FOR 2nd SUNDAY

ON WHOM THE SPIRIT RESTS!

John the Baptist cries out to all the world - 'Look ... See ... Welcome ...' Him who comes with the Spirit to transform our world into nothing less than a 'New Creation'. Jesus is Lamb, the sacrifice that cleanses the world as no other sacrifice could, because he absorbs the pain and heals it, absorbs the brutality and forgives it, absorbs the hatred and transforms it - into Love's Victory.

How? By the Spirit that rests on Him. The Holy Spirit is the divine energy of His breath, the Fire of His heart, the healing tenderness of His touch. The Spirit is not a momentary experience of exultation and passing enthusiasm (how mistaken those who say 'God does not love anymore because I cannot feel the Spirit'). The Spirit is the abiding presence of God within, the constant hidden power in all our loving. This faithful Love that is the Spirit within us - once given never taken away! - is the work of the Spirit resting upon our lives too!

WORD OF GOD FOR SECOND WEEK OF THE YEAR

Sunday	Isaiah 49: 3, 5-6 / Psalm 39 / 1 Corinthians 1: 1-3 / John 1: 29-34
Monday	1 Samuel 15: 16-23 / Psalm 49 / Mark 2: 18-22
Tuesday	1 Samuel 16: 1-13 / Psalm 88 / Mark 2: 23-28
Wednesday	1 Samuel 17: 32-33, 37, 40-51 / Psalm 143 / Mark 3: 1-6
Thursday	1 Samuel 18: 6-9, 19: 1-7 / Psalm 55 / Mark 3: 7-12
Friday	1 Samuel 24: 3-21 / Psalm 56 / Mark 3: 13-19
Saturday	Acts of the Apostles 22: 3-16 OR 9: 1-22 / Psalm 116 / Mark 16: 15-18: 27-28

COLLECTIONS

05/01/2020 Env £204.00 + Loose £219.43 + S/O's £90.58 = TOTAL: £514.01 - **thanks!**
Crib Offerings (for Clifton Children's Society) £230.96 - many thanks!

DATES FOR THE DIARY 2020 - HAPPY NEW YEAR AND PEACEFUL NEW DECADE

12th Jan	Feast of the Baptism of the Lord - Baptismal Sunday
22nd Jan	First Eucharist Programme begins at 4.00pm (Assisi Centre)
23rd Jan	Parish Finance Committee meets at 7.00pm (presbytery)
24th Jan	First Reconciliation Programme begins at 4.00pm (Assisi Centre)
25th Jan	Combatting Human Trafficking Clewer Training Day - St Nicks 10am-12.30pm
26th Jan	Ashley Churches United Service for Christian Unity Week 4pm (Ivy Church)
27th Jan	Holocaust memorial Day - 75th Anniversary of Liberation of Auswicz - Bristol Civic Event in City Hall 1.15pm to 4.30pm
1st Feb	Exploring what the Bible really says about LGBT+ issues.
8th Feb	Combatting Human Trafficking Clewer Training Day - St Nicks 10am-12.30pm
9th Feb	Parish Forum - all invited to speak their voice and shape our mission 12.45pm
15th Feb	Parish Pastoral Council Vision Day
20th Feb	Parish Finance Committee at 7.00pm (presbytery)
23rd Feb	Bishop Declan celebrates Confirmation of our Young People 10am Mass

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26th Feb **ASH WEDNESDAY - LENT BEGINS**
 4th March Parish Pastoral Council meets at 7.00pm

COMBATTING HATE CRIME AND HATE SPEECH I recently attend a meeting which addressed issues of Hate Crime and Hate Speech. It is so easy to use abusive and denigrating language to individuals or about groups of people, but as Christians we are to treat every human person as our sister or brother, with dignity and respect. Holocaust and Genocide begin with hate speech, dehumanising language that then escalates into physical violence and ultimately genocide. Whether it is about race, religion, tribe, sexuality, mental illness, disability etc it must be challenged everywhere especially in our Catholic communities

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT LGBT+ ISSUES? Most of us have been brought up and taught that the Bible and therefore the Church condemns any sexual orientation other than heterosexual. But is this the whole truth? Come and bring your questions and concerns to this Day Workshop exploring seriously what the Bible says about the LGBT+ issues. Led by the theologian Jayme R Reeves it begins at 9.00 for 9.30am and concludes at 4.00pm on Saturday 1st February here at St Nick's. Refreshments and lunch will be provided (so registration is essential please!). contact for information or registration email: inclusionforall@cliftondiocese.com or the parish office on 0117-909-0419.

JOURNEY OF FAITH Friday 17th January 2020 at 6.30 pm in the Assisi Centre.

HIDDEN VOICES BRISTOL *Tackling Modern Slavery Together* How can our community work together to ensure that slavery practices don't take root in our area? "Hidden Voices" is an ecumenical/community process aiming to inform local communities in taking action on the challenging issue of Modern Slavery within their own communities. "Hidden Voices" will help inform us about how to spot and challenge modern slavery and then join with others in Bristol in tackling the issue. Our aim is that our communities should be equipped in understanding, detecting, and preventing slavery and trafficking, whilst also enabling those affected. The process takes place over three sessions. Please come even if you cannot manage all three sessions. **Time:** 10.00-12.30 **Dates:** 11th January 2020 & then 25th January & 8th February. **Where:** St Nicholas of Tolentino Church, Lawfords Gate, Bristol BS5 0RE Parking is available in Church Car Park on Pennywell Road. To book or for more information and please email: hvbristol@gmail.com "Hidden Voices Bristol" is part of the growing <https://www.theclewerinitiative.org/>

PARISH FORUM MEETS - ALL PARISHIONERS INVITED The next Parish Forum - a meeting for **ALL PARISHIONERS AND EVERY COMMUNITY WITHIN OUR PARISH 'COMMUNITY OF COMMUNITIES'** - will be on **Sunday February 9th from 12.45pm to 2.45pm**. Please make a special point of coming and voicing your ideas and concerns - help us shape the future development of our parish. The Parish Pastoral Council will take up your ideas and use them in growing our parish's ministry and mission.

HAPPY NEW YEAR A New Year is a time for reflection upon the past, and commitment to the future. Our Faith is a faith in the future - the future God and ourselves will forge together for our own lives and for the world. Our Faith is a faith in God's New Beginnings, who always redeems and heals the mistakes and tragedies of the past and launches us confidently upon the paths of the future. Our Faith is faith in a God who walks with us through dark threatening valleys and light-filled joyous mountain tops - and helps us see the creativity and beauty of both! I wish you every blessing this new Year - let us together make it a Year of Mission, a Year of Contemplation, a Year of Friendship with our Emmanuel, our God who walks always at our side in our hearts.

UNITED SERVICE FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY WEEK - 26th Jan at 4.00pm (Ivy Church)

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