



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: 0117-904-0479

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 EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



A FEAST OF GLORY MANIFESTED!

Seekers after wisdom have travelled far, and bring with them the hopes of the Nations, the gifts of the Peoples, the riches of Learning - and lay them before this vulnerable little child trapped in poverty and soon to be a refugee! These strong men of intellect who gaze upon the stars and research the wisdom of ages in their books: now they bend low, humbled and humbling in the generosity of their spirits and the humility of their minds - bending the knee to the child and His young mother and labourer father.

And in the poverty of the Bethlehem home they touch the quiet and hidden glory of Love made Flesh, of God in human skin, of the intertwining of the Divine and Human stories forever - literally for all eternity. They have found Wisdom - or rather Wisdom made Flesh has found them! drawing them to the strange Glory of this God-touched Humanity. Forever we will walk as wise seekers and lovers! Then the Glory can be quietly and gently manifest in us!

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

Senior Citizens Mass at 3.00pm, followed by special Christmas Tea - *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 *Mass* at 6.00pm

WEDNESDAY: *Adoration* at 5.30pm *Mass* at 6.00pm

***Arise, shine out all you people, for your light has come!
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THURSDAY: **School Epiphany Mass** at 9.30am
Mass at 12 noon, *followed by Adoration* until 1.30pm

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

SATURDAY: *Adoration* at 7.45am **Morning Prayer** at 8.15am **Mass** at 8.30am
Sacrament of Reconciliation: after Mass and 4.30-5.00pm

TODAY [1] We celebrate the **Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord** - the manifestation (or 'showing forth') of the Word made Flesh to the Gentile world, to the nations, symbolised by the wise men who come from afar to search for a new King. It is one of the great missionary feasts - being a Light shining in the dark, we the Church are called to be so 'aglow' with the Spirit of Jesus' love that we draw the searchers to 'come and see' and find the Lord we love!

[2] Fittingly, we celebrate during 10am Mass the **Rite of Child Catechumen**, welcoming babies and children into the family of the Church, rejoicing that their names are written in the heart of God - and in the heart of our family community at St Nicks. Pray for their families!

[3] **Senior Citizens Mass** at 3.00pm, followed by special Christmas Tea - all welcome! Why not come and be alongside our elders valuing their faith and supporting them with your friendship.

NEXT SUNDAY [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] 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!

DIOCESAN PRAYER The Diocese prays today for the Parishes in Communion for Mission of St Augustine, Downend, St John Fisher, Frenchay, Our Lady of Lourdes & St Bernadette, Kingswood, St Lawrence, Chipping Sodbury with St Paul, Yate served by Canon Frank Bermingham, Fr Jim Williams, Deacons Mike Belt, John Scanlon, Vincent Calder, Parish Administrator Bernadette Thomson and all their communities.

PRAY EACH WEEK FOR A DIFFERENT MINISTRY OR MISSION OF THE PARISH

This week, pray God's Blessing and guidance for our **Society of St Vincent de Paul** for its members, their work and those they serve. We pray also for **new members to join them in this work of serving the poor and lonely.**

WORD OF GOD FOR SECOND WEEK OF CHRISTMAS-TIDE - YEAR OF COMMUNION

Sunday	Isaiah 7: 10-14 / Psalm 23 / Romans 1: 1-7 / Matthew 1: 18-24
Monday	Malachy 3: 1-4, 23-24 / Psalm 24 / Luke 1: 57-66
Tuesday	2 Samuel 7: 1-5, 8-12, 14, 16 / Psalm 88 / Luke 1: 67-79
Wednesday	Isaiah 52: 7-10 / Psalm 97 / Hebrews 1: 1-6 / John 1: 1-18
Thursday	Acts of the Apostles 6: 8-10, 7: 54-59 / Psalm 30 / Matthew 10: 17-22
Friday	1 John 1: 1-4 / Psalm 96 / John 20: 2-8
Saturday	1 John 1: 5-2: 2 / Psalm 123 / Matthew 2: 13-18

COLLECTIONS

22/12/19 Env £141.06 + Loose £493.16 + S/O's £90.58 = TOTAL: £724.80 - **thanks!**

29/12/19 Env £208.45 + Loose £241.30 + S/O's £90.58 = TOTAL: £540.33 - **thanks!**

Cov with the Poor £19.60 **Project 170** £409.64 **thanks!** **Boiler Fund** £2013.80

CAFOD £21.50 **SVP Collection** £84.10 **Christmas Offering** £931.70 - **thanks!**

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

5th Jan	Feast of the Epiphany - Senior Citizens Mass at 3.00pm
8th Jan	Borderlands Trustees meet at 10.00am
8th Jan	Parish Pastoral Council at 7.00pm
11th Jan	Combatting Human Trafficking Clewer Training Day - St Nicks 10am-12.30pm
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
26th Feb	ASH WEDNESDAY - LENT BEGINS
4th March	Parish Pastoral Council meets at 7.00pm

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY I wish to thank you all for your generosity expressed in the Christmas offerings which contributes to my annual 'stipend' (or 'salary'). Thank you also for the cards, messages and gifts I have received over Christmas and New Year. It is a privilege to share the life and journey of our St Nicks community together, being your priest-brother.

COMBATTING HATE CRIME AND HATE SPEECH I recently attend the meeting of Diocesan Migrant Officers and other Catholic organisations serving migrant communities 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.

NEW CHURCH BOILER WORKING - ALLELUIA! The new boiler and radiators have been installed and I hope we all notice the difference, especially in the Parish Hall! The total cost (for which we had not budgeted!) is £7000 + VAT (ie £8750). **So we have launched an urgent BOILER APPEAL FUND ... Thank you to those who have already donated! Please be as generous as you can and gift-aid any donations if you are a tax payer.**

JOURNEY OF FAITH Friday 10th January 2020 at 6.30 pm in the Assisi Centre. Who will you encourage to come and discover more about Christ Jesus?

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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 exciting ecumenical and community process which aims to inform and support 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/> Hidden Voices Network

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETS

The co-Chairs (Margaret and Eustace) and Richard look forward to full attendance at **our next Parish Pastoral Council on Wednesday 8th January at 7.00pm** (after 6.00pm Mass - great if PPC members and parish community could share the Mass). What is the Parish Pastoral Council for? And why is it important? Firstly, it is the most important decision-making body in the parish, and as such is a sounding-board for the voices of all parishioners to be heard. Secondly, it is called to shape policy, make sure policies are enacted. Thirdly, it is to help develop new initiatives of ministry and mission, and be watchful to recognise those we are not serving adequately. Fourthly, it needs to prepare the parish for a future without a resident priest - ensuring the parish community thrives as a 'parish in communion for mission'. **SO YOUR VOICE NEEDS TO BE HEARD - TALK TO YOUR PPC MEMBERS - their names and photos are on the board in the entrance area to the Parish Hall.**

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.

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

PIETY STALL IN PARISH HALL

We have a wide variety of new stock, including statues, cards, and children's and adults prayer books, rosaries, candles etc. Come after Mass, enjoy a cup of tea or coffee with friends and have a look to see what can help your and your family's faith grow!

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