



St Nicholas of Tolentino RC Church, Lawford's Gate, Bristol BS5 ORE

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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)

THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD



This Child - Light of the Nations??

What are we to make of this - an old man saying strange things and an old woman singing her praises to God - over some poor child brought into the Temple, by impoverished parents. Ridiculous! Another case of 'old men dreaming dreams - and young men having visions!'

Or what if? ... Here is world changing truth. Can this tiny newborn bundle of flesh really change the world, really be the fulfilment and glory of His People, Israel, really bring Light to guide the Nations into a new world?

Every child is a miracle - but this Child is Infinite Love, radiating like glory and light! This Child moves not only hearts, but mountains of inhumanity by the magnetism of Divine Love. This Child is transparent of Divine Truth that liberates. There is a cost though! Just as the candle only burn and give light and warmth if the candle yields to the flame and dies to itself - to fulfil itself. Will we carry the Light of this Child to the Nations? Not a dream after all!

SUNDAY: PARISH MASS at 10am

Mass with the Catholic Handicapped Fellowship at 3.00pm - all very welcome

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

TUESDAY: *Feast of St Blaise, Bishop and Martyr of Armenia (4th Century)*

Adoration at 5.30pm Mass with Blessing of Throats at 6.00pm

followed by Scripture Group

WEDNESDAY: *Feast of St Agatha, Virgin Martyr of Sicily (2nd Century?)*

Adoration at 5.30pm Mass at 6.00pm

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THURSDAY: ***Feast of St Paul Miki and First Martyrs of Japan (Nagasaki) (17th Cent)***
Mass at 12 noon **Adoration** until 1.30pm

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

SATURDAY: ***Feast of St Josephine Bakhita, Patron of enslaved people, Nun.***
Adoration at 8.15am **Morning Prayer** at 8.45am **Mass** at 9.00am
National Meeting of Justice and Peace Network from 10.30am-4.00pm (St Nicks)
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 4.30pm only

TODAY [1] We celebrate the **Feast of the Presentation of the Lord or Candlemas** by blessing all the candles and oil used to illuminate our Church and our Liturgy during the coming year. The Holy Spirit brings us to the Church today to 'present' us to the Lord that we might carry the Light of Christ, the Light of the World to all peoples. Will we be a flame of God's Love, illuminating with the Vision of a New World and warming with the Love of God all to whom He sends us?

[2] We welcome our **ten young people who have decided to answer the call of the Christ to be anointed with the power and love of the Spirit in Confirmation**, when Bishop Declan comes among us on 23rd February. Today we hand on the Light of Christ to a new generation of missionary disciples and pray for them as they carry this Light into their world, a new world!

[3] **Mass with the Catholic Handicapped Fellowship** at 3.00pm - all welcome

NEXT SUNDAY [1] The **Fifth Sunday of the Year** celebrates all that Jesus calls us to become - the gift of salt and light to the world. We do not exist for the Church, we do not exist for ourselves. But we do exist be salt, purifying the world of injustice, preserving goodness and kindness and offering the world the taste of the divine! We do exist shed the Light of Christ far and wide so the peoples can walk the Way of Humanity, to give warmth and love that can transform the coldest and hardest hearts and structures into servants of Liberation. Will we answer the call of Christ and embrace our true identity?

[2] We mark this Sunday as **Racial Justice Sunday** - opposing all hate crime, struggling against every form of discrimination. Most of our community have experienced such discrimination and prejudice, even hostility and hate crime! Let us commit ourselves never to inflict what we have experienced on others. The focus of this year's Racial Justice Sunday is praying for and walking alongside lovingly our Gypsy, Roma and Traveller brothers and sisters, welcoming them as Pope Francis does as 'at the heart of the Church'. There is a **Retiring Collection for the work of the Catholic Association for Racial Justice**.

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

[4] **Parish Forum** from 12.30pm to 2.30pm - come and add your voice, your ideas and inspirations to the development and decision-making of our Parish Life and Mission. **EVERYONE IS INVITED - DO COME!**

DIOCESAN PRAYER The Diocese prays for the Parishes in Communion for Mission of Our Lady of the Rosary, Lawrence Weston and St Bernard, Shirehampton, served by Fr Cosmas Ikirodah MSP, the Convent of the Missionary Sister Servants of the Holy Spirit and both their communities. We pray also for St Bede's Catholic College in the parish.

WORD OF GOD FOR FOURTH WEEK OF THE YEAR

Sunday	Malachy 3: 1-4 / Psalm 23 / Hebrews 2 : 14-18 / Luke 2: 22-40
Monday	2 Samuel 15: 13-14, 30, 16: 5-13 / Psalm 3 / Mark 5: 1-20
Tuesday	2 Samuel 18: 9-10, 14, 24-25, 30-19:3 / Psalm 85 / Mark 5: 21-43
Wednesday	2 Samuel 24: 2, 9-17 / Psalm 31 / Mark 6: 1-6
Thursday	1 Kings 2: 1-4, 10-12 / Responsorial 1 Chronicles 29 / Mark 6: 7-13
Friday	Ecclesiasticus 47: 2-11 / Psalm 17 / Mark 6: 14-29
Saturday	1 Kings 3: 4-13 / Psalm 118 / Mark 6: 30-34

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COLLECTIONS

Env £179.50 + Loose £271.79 + S/O's £90.58 = TOTAL: £541.87 - many thanks!

Churches Winter Night Shelter £10.00 Boiler Fund £100 Cov with Poor £5.00 thanks!

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

2nd Feb	Feast of Candlemas and the handing on of the Light to our young people
4th Feb	Anglican Bishop of Bristol, Bp Viv, visits Borderlands
5th Feb	Eucharist Parents meeting at 4.00pm (Assisi Centre)
7th Feb	Reconciliation Parents meeting at 4.00pm (Assisi Centre)
8th Feb	Feast of St Josephine Bakhita , Patron of enslaved People - Special Mass 8.45am
8th Feb	Combatting Human Trafficking Clewer Training Day - St Nicks 10am-12.30pm
8th Feb	Students for Ministry from Sarum College visit St Nicks 2.15pm
9th Feb	Parish Forum - all invited to speak their voice and shape our mission 12.45pm
11th Feb	Visit of the High Sheriff of Bristol to Borderlands
12th Feb	Borderlands Trustees meet at 10.00am
13th Feb	Anti-Slavery Partnership meeting with Police and City Council
15th Feb	Parish Pastoral Council Vision Day
20th Feb	Parish Finance Committee at 7.00pm (presbytery)
22nd Feb	Session One - What is 'Liturgy' 9.30am to 12noon (St Nicks)
23rd Feb	Bishop Declan celebrates Confirmation of our Young People 10am Mass
26th Feb	ASH WEDNESDAY - LENT BEGINS
27th Feb	Parish Finance Committee meets at 7.00pm (Presbytery)
29th Feb	Session Two - Celebrating the Mystery of Christ: the Liturgical cycle 9.30-12noon
4th March	Parish Pastoral Council meets at 7.00pm
6th March	CAFOD Lenten Fast Day - in solidarity with the poorest of the Earth
14th March	Session Three - Preparing the Mass as Real Celebration 9.30-12noon
18th March	Borderlands Trustees meet at 10am
18th March	Ashley Churches Together meet at 12.30pm (St Nicks)
24th March	Feast of St Oscar Romero - 40th Anniversary of his martyrdom - Mass 7pm
25th March	Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord
28th March	Services of Reconciliation (including celebration First Reconciliation)
5th April	PALM SUNDAY - HOLY WEEK BEGINS

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

JOURNEY OF FAITH Friday 7th February 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:** 10.15-12.30 **Dates:** 8th February. **Where:** St Nicks. To book or for more information and please email: hvbristol@gmail.com "Hidden Voices Bristol" is part of the growing <https://www.theclewerinitiative.org/>

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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.

YOUNG CATHOLICS RETREAT - 21 to 23 February 2020 at Downside Abbey
"Understanding the World as God's Portrait: a Retreat musing on the magnificence of the Incarnation"

All young Catholics aged 18 to 35ish are invited to attend this residential Retreat at Downside Abbey. The principal speaker is Sebastian Morello, formator and lecturer at the Centre for Catholic Formation in London. One of the Downside Monks, Fr. Anselm Brumwell, will also be speaking about "The Biblical Revelation of God". The Downside young adult group, developed with Clifton Diocese, now comprises over 180 young people from across the country. These Retreats are a wonderful opportunity to meet new people, and stay in touch with old friends, in the beautiful setting of Downside Abbey. You will be able to join the Benedictine Monastic Community in celebrating Mass, the Divine Office and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

The residential cost all meals included is: £60 in shared accommodation in Retreat House
 £80 in En-suite Twin Room in Monastery Guest Wing Non-Residential Cost all meals included: £50 Contact rinabird@outlook.com for programme and to book

SHORT LITURGY COURSE TO HELP US UNDERSTAND & SHAPE THE LITURGY

For some time now there has been a desire to help people not only understand the Liturgy - our worship in the Mass and other services and sacraments - but also to help shape our Liturgy and exercise liturgical ministries more meaningfully. So there will be three sessions in the coming weeks - ***Who are they for? All who want to understand the Liturgy more fully; All who have a liturgical ministry (Lay Readers, Lay Ministers of the Eucharist, Choir, Servers, Welcomers, Collectors etc); All who wish to help shape the Liturgy in the future.***

22nd Feb Session One - **What is 'Liturgy'**

29th Feb Session Two - **Celebrating the Mystery of Christ - the Liturgical cycle**

14th March Session Three - **Preparing the Mass as Real Celebration**

Each session will begin with Morning Prayer at 9.30am and conclude with Mass at 12noon.

NATIONAL JUSTICE AND PEACE NETWORK MEETS AT ST NICKS On the theme of 'Our Common Home - Creative Responses', guest speaker Fr Augustino Zampini Davies. Pope Francis challenges all Christians to recognise the moral imperative of our time which is healing the planet to pass on to future generations a sustainable creation. Here in the Parish Hall on **Saturday 8th February 10.30am to 4.00pm. Mass at 9.00am All welcome!**

CALLING ALL EU (European Union) CITIZENS - ALL WHO HAVE EU PASSPORTS

All EU citizens (those holding EU passports, including their children born in UK), now that 'Brexit' has happened, must apply for residency in UK or there is a danger that if travelling abroad you might not be allowed re-entry to UK. It is vitally important that those concerned (including 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' before end of June 2021. For more information visit: www.gov.uk/eu-settled-status

CHURCH CLEANING - FRIDAY MORNINGS Thank you to those who have been serving the parish in this way each Friday morning from about 10.00am onwards. **Some have found work so we need more volunteers who can commit once or twice a month to come.** Please Contact Andrew (07519991066) who is co-ordinating this ministry.

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