



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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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 & Hall/Room Bookings: Robert von Hawrylak and Team (0117-909-0419)

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT



RESURRECTION AND LIFE!

When Jesus called his first disciples, He said, 'Come and see' - see my life and discover new Life! Now shortly before His Passion, the people say to Jesus, 'Come and See' - not just the tomb of Lazarus, but come and see your coming death, by which we will receive your New Life!

Jesus wept at the grave, wept for the death of his friend, wept with Martha and Mary in their bereavement - and also wept for His own coming suffering and death. We need the courage to help those we love who are dying to weep, to grieve, for their own deaths. Help speak of death for that will help them come to live their death well, to welcome 'sister death' with faith and courage, knowing death is the friend who ushers us into the fulness of our life and the final liberation of our love.

Already we live the Resurrection and the Life, already we have 'died with Christ that we might rise with Him'. That is why we can live with the Holy Spirit's courage, and die with the same courage and tranquillity. Let us 'come and see' behold the Cross and the Tomb that holds the beloved and gaze into the mystery of our eternity, our Life!

SUNDAY: PARISH MASS - STREAMED LIVE ON FACE BOOK at 10am
Streamed Stations of the Cross on Facebook at 6.00pm

MONDAY: Streamed Faith Reflection on Facebook at 10.30am
Streamed Mass on Facebook at 6.00pm

TUESDAY: Streamed Faith Reflection on Facebook at 10.30am
Streamed Mass of St Oscar Romero, Martyr on Face Book at 6.00pm

I am the Resurrection and the Life - now go, unbind him, let him go free!

WEDNESDAY: Streamed Faith Reflection on Facebook at 10.30am
Streamed Mass on Face Book at 6.00pm

THURSDAY: Streamed Faith Reflection on Facebook at 10.30am
Streamed Mass on Face Book at 6.00pm

FRIDAY: Streamed Faith Reflection on Facebook at 10.30am
Streamed Mass on Face Book at 6.00pm

SATURDAY: Streamed Mass on Face Book at 12noon
Streamed Faith Reflection on Facebook at 6.00pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation: by appointment only

TODAY [1] The **Fifth Sunday of Lent** celebrates Jesus who brings us to the fulness of Life - for He is the Resurrection and the Life. As Lazarus is brought back from death into life, so Jesus journeys through the Cross and the tomb to liberating Resurrection. His journey is also ours. May all afflicted by this virus, all who are fearful during this pandemic come to know the Christ who journeys with them through darkness into Light, through sickness into wholeness, through death into Life in all its Fulness.

[2] **Stations of the Cross** will be broadcast on Facebook at 6.00pm: do join us!

NEXT SUNDAY [1] **Holy Week begins with the celebration of Passion (Palm) Sunday.** Sadly we will not be gathering together to acclaim the Messiah, to process from the school to our church, waving our palms of joy and acclamation. Instead, I hope you will be able to join our Parish Palm Sunday Mass (however diminished in expression) on Facebook at 10.00am and begin your Holy Week journey from your own homes. Let us 'enthroned him', the Servant King in each of our hearts and in each of our homes!

[2] **Stations of the Cross** will be broadcast on Facebook at 6.00pm: do join us!

DIOCESAN PRAYER The Diocese prays for the Parishes in Communion for Mission of St Catharine, Chipping Campden with Moreton-in the-Marsh, and Our Lady and St Kenelm, Stow-on-the-Wold with Bourton-on-the-Water, served by Fr John Brennan and Fr Stephen Lambert, Parish Administrator Andrew Gorzynski and all their communities.

A REFLECTION FOR THIS PRESENT TIME *“Jesus’ life of love is not a self-preserving love. It is not a hands-off-for-fear-of-getting-hurt love. It is not a passive love. It is not a love that refuses to deeply invest in relationship. What we see in Christ is sacrificial love. Merciful love. Love that values the well-being of others above itself. Love that will generously and fully pour itself out, whatever the cost, in order that the beloved might benefit, flourish, and thrive.”* By Krish Kandiah

PRAY FOR THIS WEEK'S PARISH MINISTRY OR MISSION This week, pray God's Blessing upon **all who Proclaim the Word (Readers) in our liturgy.** This is not simply reading - it is a faith proclamation of the Living Word, a ministering of Christ the Word to the Assembly of the People of God. The Word is bread for our journey, our Pilgrimage of Faith. All who proclaim the Word must also listen to the Word and seek to live the Word!

WORD OF GOD FOR FIFTH WEEK OF LENT

Sunday	Ezekiel 47: 12-14 / Psalm 129 / Romans 8: 8-11 / John 11: 1-45
Monday	Daniel 13: 1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 / Psalm 22 / John 8: 1-11
Tuesday	Numbers 21: 4-9 / Psalm 101 / John 8: 21-30
Wednesday	Daniel 3: 14-20, 24-25, 28 / Responsorial Daniel 3 / John 8: 31-42
Thursday	Genesis 17: 3-9 / Psalm 104 / John 8: 51-59

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Friday Jeremiah 20: 10-13 / Psalm 17 / John 10: 31-42
Saturday Ezechiel 37: 21-28 / Responsorial Jeremiah 31 / John 11: 45-56

COLLECTIONS - notified later

Env £ + Loose £ + S/O's £90.58 = TOTAL: £ - **Please find ways of continuing to support our parish with your offerings (perhaps by making a Standing Order, GiftAided if possible - details from Robert at the Parish Office) - we are supporting so many people as unemployment hits so many people at this time.**

DATES FOR THE DIARY

5th April **PALM SUNDAY - HOLY WEEK BEGINS**
 9th April **Maundy Thursday - Streamed Mass of the Last Supper at 7.00pm**
 10th April **Good Friday - Streamed Liturgy of the Passion at 3.00pm**
 11th March **EASTER VIGIL MASS streamed at 9.00pm**
 12th March **Streamed MASS OF EASTER DAY at 10am**
 19th April **Low Sunday Mass streamed at 10am**

SUSPENSION OF PUBLIC GATHERINGS FOR WORSHIP AND LITURGY The Conference of Catholic Bishops of England and Wales, listening to the strong advice of the Government and its medical and scientific advisers, have taken certain, measures to support the efforts to limit and delay the spread of the COVID-19 for the sake of Public Health during this emergency.

[1] Mass and other services are to be celebrated privately, without a congregation. ***We are arranging for Sunday and weekday Mass to be live streamed on the Parish Face Book***

[2] The Sacrament of Reconciliation to be celebrated by appointment

[3] All are encouraged to take part in Mass through the internet (**daily Mass broadcast from St Nicks daily, except Mondays**) and make a 'spiritual communion'

[4] Hold the Sunday Holy by prayer and reflecting upon the Scriptures of the Day (**made available on our Parish Website**) - the Rosary or the Stations of the Cross recommended

[5] Baptisms to be deferred (except for extreme pastoral need) until Public Worship resumes, and celebrations of First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation likewise postponed.

[6] Weddings also to be postponed until gatherings are resumed: except in exceptional circumstances and with only priest, bride and groom and immediate family present.

[7] Funerals to take place only at Crematorium or graveside with immediate family, with Memorial Mass postponed until public gatherings resume.

DAILY MASS AND SOME TIMES OF REFLECTION BROADCAST ON FACEBOOK

You can see the times of live-streaming for Mass at the beginning of the Weekly Newsletter. Try to join your community in Spiritual Communion, reflecting on the Scriptures, praising God and interceding for our world in these crisis days. In these times of severely restricted movement and activity, use some of that time to deepen your faith and your understanding of the Scriptures. Resources will be posted on our Parish Website: www.tolentino.org.uk and Mass and other prayer and reflections will be broadcast on the parish facebook page: [St Nicholas of Tolentino RC Church Bristol](https://www.facebook.com/StNicholasofTolentinoRCChurchBristol). Please excuse the temporary varied quality (we are using Richard's iPhone), but we expect better broadcasting as we acquire better equipment this week. ***We had 650 viewings of last Sunday's broadcast Mass and between 150 and 250 for our weekday Masses!*** It is gratifying that we can reach out to so many people during this time of isolation.

PARISH MINISTRY CONTINUES [1] **The Parish Office will be open from 10am to 4.00pm Monday to Friday and Saturday 10am-12noon** so that our ministry of care and support, especially for the poorest who need our Food Bank and Caritas Fund, can continue. Please phone the parish office (0117-9090419) during these times or myself at the presbytery

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(0117-9098810 – at any reasonable time) with your questions, concerns or need for any kind of support.

[2] **The Parish Office and members of the Parish Pastoral Council will co-ordinate care and support** for those who are in isolation or are vulnerable in any way. Volunteers to help from those able to do so are very welcome. We must care for one another as well as pray for each other. Please do not hesitate to contact us for support (telephone no above)

[3] Apologies, but a word about **Parish Finance!** We are experiencing a marked increase of calls on our Caritas Fund and Foodbank as the health crisis increases and many more people find themselves with little or no income. We are committed to meet this need as far as we possibly can – as Pope Francis says ‘we are the Church of the Poor, the Church for the Poor’. But we need your continued help and generosity! We are dependent upon our weekly collections but if no Public Mass there is problem! We ask you to continue your weekly offering: either by making a standing order to the parish account or filling in the Diocesan Standing Order and Gift Aid Form (email for details); or by giving you money offering and donations to the Food Bank to the Parish Office during Office hours.

[4] **Finally**, this is a Lent like no other – a call to walk with Jesus in the wilderness and in the emptiness and loss of the desert of this crisis to grow in love and deeper faith. This is **a call to prayer and care to a new sacrificial level. May the Holy Spirit lead us and empower our prayer and care for one another.**

CORONAVIRUS EPIDEMIC - A CALL TO PRAYER AND CARE Please download from our parish website a copy of the prayers issued by our Bishops and use it daily in your own homes - support the sick, all medical staff caring for them, those caring in our nursing and elderly people's homes and countries without our sophisticated health service. Let us all care for the vulnerable in our neighbourhoods, especially all self-isolating? ***Prayer and Care.***

40th ANNIVERSARY OF ST OSCAR ROMERO'S MARTYRDOM *We were unable to broadcast this very special Mass last Tuesday, so we will celebrate the Mass of St Oscar Romero this coming Tuesday at 6.00pm - please join us.* On the 24th March, eve of the Feast of the Annunciation (celebrating the Word made Flesh in the womb of Mary), Archbishop Oscar Romero was shot by a government death squad while he was celebrating Mass. Immediately hailed by his stricken people (and all the poor of Latin America) as a Saint and Martyr, he was recognised as such and canonised by Pope Francis in 2018. This Prophet of the Poor and tireless servant of Peace and Liberation is undoubtedly the Patron Saint of the Church's core Mission of promoting Justice, Peace and Freedom and calls us all to live with courage God's Option for the Poor..

FOODBANK - URGENT REQUEST We have had a significant increase in demand for our Parish Foodbank since the Emergency and we need supplies of ***EVERYTHING - primarily non-perishable foods and drinks in tins and packets.*** Please ring the door bell at the Parish Office Door (old Presbytery door) at the Assisi Centre to drop off any contributions. What kind of things? Long-life milk and juices, small jars of coffee, tins of meat, fish, vegetables, tinned tomatoes baked beans, soups, custard and fruit; packets of rice, pasta, cereals; jars of pasta sauce, ketchup, mayonaise, packet soups; toilet rolls, bars of soap, toothpaste, and other toiletries. ***You are helping us to meet a vital need, making practical in these difficult times 'love of our neighbour' and 'God's Option for the Poor'. Please be as generous as you can. Thank you in the name of all whom we are serving.***

CAFOD LENTEN FAST DAY Please support CAFOD's work in solidarity and sacred communion with the hungry of the world by making every Friday in Lent a CAFOD Fast Day; bring more justice & equality to our world! Place your contributions in the CAFOD envelopes, and bring them to the Parish Office or the Presbytery letter box along with your normal parish offering. **Thanks!**

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