



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

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(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

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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)

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR



The Kingdom of Divine Littleness!

A King who comes humbly on a donkey! A God who is the servant who kneels at our feet to wash the dirt and pain away! Our Divine Lord who is a brother walking at our side, sharing the burden, shouldering the yoke with us! The infinite all-encompassing God who delights in being small and lowly in the child, in a scrap of bread and drop of wine!

It is indeed an 'upside-down kingdom' that Jesus brings. The poor are raised up and the powerful thrown down! The over-stuffed will be sent empty away while the hungry are fed! Those who think they are so holy with all the trappings of religion will have to plead with prostitutes, addicts and the broken to be allowed in to Heaven!

The King of Heaven and Earth calls us to learn from Him that humility of heart that delights with God in the small and lowly, and uses all our energy and love to raise the poor.

SUNDAY: PARISH MASS of the Feast- live-streamed on Facebook 10am

MONDAY: streamed Faith Reflection on Facebook at 10.30am
Adoration at 5.30pm Mass at 6.00pm

TUESDAY: Streamed Faith Reflection on Facebook at 10.30am
Adoration at 5.30pm Mass at 6.00pm

WEDNESDAY: Streamed Faith Reflection on Facebook at 10.30am
Adoration at 5.30pm Mass at 6.00pm

'Come to Me, all who labour and are burdened and I will give you Healing Peace!'

THURSDAY: ***Feast of St Augustine Zhao Rong, priest & 119 Chinese Martyrs (1648-1930)***
Streamed Faith Reflection on Facebook at 10.30am
Adoration at 5.30pm. Mass for the People & Church of China at 6.00pm

FRIDAY: **Streamed Faith Reflection on Facebook at 10.30am**
Adoration at 5.30pm. Mass at 6.00pm

SATURDAY: ***Feast of St Benedict, Abbot, Patron of Europe (480-550)***
Adoration at 11.00am. Mass at 12 noon
Streamed Faith Reflection on Facebook at 6.00pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation: by appointment only

TODAY [1] With the **Fourteenth Sunday of the Year** we celebrate Jesus calling us to come to Him with our every burden and every joy - to find healing and peace. Jesus is the Prince of Peace, challenging us to build a nation and a world of peace. Can we say to the peoples of our city and our world 'Come to us and find the Peace of Christ?'

[2] We rejoice that **we return to celebrating Mass together in our church of St Nicks** after 3 months of a Eucharistic Famine! It will not yet be 'back to normal' as there are restrictions on how we can celebrate - some of which will be very difficult for our community. These will be explained after our PPC meeting on Tuesday - please watch out for announcements on the Parish website and Parish Facebook Page. **There will be restricted numbers and once we have welcomed as many as we can safely accommodate the church will be locked! So please arrive in good time - if you are late you are very unlikely to be allowed into the church for Mass!**

[2] **Evening Prayer and Adoration** cancelled today - sorry!

NEXT SUNDAY [1] The **Fifteenth Sunday of the Year** celebrates Jesus the Word, sown into the soil of the Earth, the Soil of our lives and hearts. We are called to be fertile soil through our openness to the Holy Spirit, so that our lives will yield a harvest of life and love to be given to the world around us.

DIOCESAN PRAYER The Diocese prays for the Parishes in Communion for Mission of St Benet, Kemerton, St Joseph's Tewkesbury and St Nicholas, Winchcombe, with Bishop's Cleeve, Gloucester served by Dom Francis Hughes OSB, temporarily vacant, Deacon John Torr Parish Administrator Christine Davies and all their communities.

PRAY FOR THIS WEEK'S PARISH MINISTRY OR MISSION This week, pray God's Blessing upon the mission of our **Borderlands Charity**. St Nicks has been involved serving our asylum and refugee community for over 20 years and some six years ago established an independent Christian Charity to expand the work and secure it long-term. Please pray for staff, volunteers and especially our wonderful members.

WORD OF GOD FOR THIRTEENTH WEEK OF ORDINARY TIME

Sunday Zechariah 9: 9-10 / Psalm 144 / Romans 8: 9, 11-13 / Matthew 11: 25-30

Monday Hosea 2: 16-18, 21-22 / Psalm 144 / Matthew 9: 18-26

Tuesday Hosea 8: 4-7, 11-13 / Psalm 113 / Matthew 9: 32-38

Wednesday Hosea 10: 1-3, 7-8, 12 / Psalm 104 / Matthew 10: 1-7

Thursday Hosea 11: 1-4, 8-9 / Psalm 79 / Matthew 10: 7-15

Friday Hosea 14: 2-10 / Psalm 50 / Matthew 10: 16-23

Saturday Isaiah 6: 1-8 / Psalm 92 / Matthew 10: 24-33

COLLECTION LAST WEEK

Env £400 + Loose £ + S/O's £90.58 = TOTAL: £490.58 - Thank you!

'Come to Me, all who labour and are burdened and I will give you Healing Peace!'

Donation to Caritas Fund £250 - many thanks

WE ARE GRATEFUL TO ALL THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY MADE STANDING ORDERS IN FAVOUR OF THE PARISH OR MADE OTHER DONATIONS TO THE PARISH (eg Foodbank or the Caritas Fund) - thank you for your generosity.

If you have not yet contributed, 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). And our Caritas Fund is supporting so many people as those unemployed are increasing in at this time. **THANK TO ALL** who are supporting our Foodbank with donations of food or money.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

5th July **St Nicks opens for Public Mass at 10.00am - restrictions in place!**
 8th July Bristol City of Sanctuary Trustees meeting via Zoom
 9th July Diocesan Safeguarding Commission meets via Microsoft Teams

RE-OPENING ST NICKS FOR MASS ON SUNDAY 5TH JULY - Letter from Richard

Dear Sisters and Brothers of our Parish Community,

Can I thank you all for your continued support of each other, the parish family and the mission of the parish, by your prayer, your communication with each other, your financial giving, your sharing in live-streaming talks and Mass and in so many other ways. I believe our community has shown its strength and its commitment to care for another and all those in our area entrusted to us by the Lord. **THANK YOU!**

On Sunday we can begin to return to Mass. This is a great joy for us, but it will also involve sadness as we come to terms with necessary restrictions. The restrictions are in the interest of public health - keeping each other and our city community safe from the potentially fatal Covid 19 virus. This calls on us to make sacrifices even as we return to Mass. Both the government and our Bishops have laid down strict protocols we must observe during Mass.

These will be operative until notified otherwise.

At our Parish Pastoral Council meeting on Tuesday the following was decided:

[1] In order to welcome as many as possible to our Sunday Mass it was decided that we adopt 1 mtr+ safe distancing **WITH THE COMPULSORY WEARING OF FACE COVERINGS**. Family groups will be able to sit together with 1 mtr+ gap between adjacent family groups or individuals. We estimate that we can accommodate up to 140 people in this way, though until we have celebrated Mass we cannot be sure and the number may be less.

[2] Everyone (except the presiding priest and the three assisting servers on the sanctuary) **MUST WEAR FACE COVERINGS**. If you do not have one, then one will be supplied to you.

[3] There will be three stewards at the entrance to the church who will guide family groups and individuals to a designated seating space. You are likely not to be able to sit where you are accustomed to sitting, so please co-operate with the stewards.

[4] Stewards will also guide you to and from Holy Communion, observing the 1 mtr+ spacing while queuing for Communion (which is to be received only in the hand and -sadly- under One Kind only - no chalice).

[5] Stewards will also guide you at the end of Mass to exit the church safely. Again, please co-operate. When greeting one another outside the church please be aware of others exiting and the need to observe safe distancing on Church premises.

[6] There will be no singing, as singing projects droplets potentially carrying the virus twice the distance.

[7] Sadly there will be no Children Liturgy as being not possible to offer this with safe distancing.

[8] There can be no Offertory Procession, so please leave your offerings in the baskets at the door, either on the way in or on the way out - thank you. Also please leave goods for the

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Food Bank at the door of the Sacristy and they will be taken to the Food Bank at the earliest opportunity.

[9] Please note that only the priest, 3 altar servers and sacristans are allowed into the Sacristy before and after Mass - again because of the requirement for safe distancing.

[10] Please collect your box of new Offertory envelopes from Robert at the door when leaving - thank you.

[11] Everyone will need to sanitise their hands on entering and exiting the church.

[12] All will have to remain in their places for the non-contact sign of peace.

[13] There will be one toilet only available and we ask this be used only if really necessary - the disabled access toilet in the parish hall. Entry will be guided by a steward who will also be responsible for cleansing the toilet after each person has used it. Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult when going to the toilet.

[14] The Lady Chapel will not be in use, because safe distancing is difficult and the enclosed and poorly ventilated nature of the Lady Chapel presents extra risk of infection.

[15] Readers, Eucharistic Ministers (2 only at Sunday Mass) and servers (3 only at Sunday Mass) will need to attend a practice on Saturdays at 2.00pm

[16] We need suitable volunteers for stewarding (4 each Sunday), for deep cleaning the Church on Friday mornings and after Sunday Mass. Please contact the Parish Office 01179090419 to volunteer - thank you)

Please note that Monday to Friday Mass (or a Service of Word and Communion) will be celebrated at 6.00pm, with Adoration from 5.30pm; Saturday Mass at 12 noon with Adoration from 11.00am; **Sunday mass at 10.00am, with the church open from 9.30am and doors locked at 10.00am as Mass begins.** All Masses will be on the main altar and we will live-stream the Mass as soon as we can do so reliably. The cost of enabling this to happen will be in the region of £2500. Already we have received donations of £1500 for which we are most grateful to help us maintain this new form of mission and ministry.

Your Parish Pastoral Council will keep these measures under constant review so that we can adjust them in the light of experience and new guidance.

Thank you to all volunteers enabling us to gather for Mass safely, abiding by the above necessary measures. Thanks to all of you also, for doing all you can to make our Mass as prayerful, joyful and safe as possible in these strange circumstances. *Shalom! Richard*

LIVE-STREAMING MASS FROM THE CHURCH From Sunday July 5th, both Sunday and weekday Mass will be celebrated in the church. Before Covid-19 the Parish Pastoral Council had decided to arrange for the Sunday Mass to be live-streamed for those unable to attend Mass because of age, work or illness. We did not have the opportunity to act on this decision before the church had to close. However we have live-streamed daily and Sunday Mass throughout the Lockdown. Daily Mass attracts between 35 and 55 'viewers' and Sunday Mass at least 250, usually 350 and even reached 970 one Sunday! People from around the world have benefitted from these live-streamed services. Clearly there is a new ministry developing here! We are arranging for the equipment to live-stream Mass effectively (especially the sound reproduction) as soon as possible. **This will cost about £2500 - thank you for the generous donations already received of £1500! We invite donations. Thank you!_**

FOODBANK NEWS! Thanks to the Gubay Foundations Covid Grant of £10,000 which our parish has received (with the support of our bishop), we have purchased a 'container office' to be placed in the forecourt of the church which will house the FoodBank - because we can no longer house the FoodBank in the Assisi Centre as it comes back into more normal use in the coming months. This should be in place in the next couple of weeks. **There will however be extra expenses to service this expanded long-term mission to the poor of our community - adapting fencing, equipping internally will extra fridges and freezers, shelving etc. We will need to re-site the bicycle racks and the refuse bins - all of which will cost money! We are so grateful for all who have supported the rapid expansion of the Food Bank - volunteers working there and donations of money and food supplies.**

'Come to Me, all who labour and are burdened and I will give you Healing Peace!'

We hesitate to ask for more support, but we do need to ask for help in raising a further £2000 to carry out the necessary 'works' to enable the FoodBank to continue serving impoverished families and individuals. This is part of our parish's 'Covenant with the Poor', inspired by the Gospel and our Patron Saint - Nicholas of Tolentino.

REFLECTING TOGETHER ON THE FUTURE [1] A number of us have been sharing that we need opportunities to 'unpack' the experience of the Covid-19 lockdown so as to recognise what God might be saying to us through this experience and to learn from it. In this sharing we can also receive healing of the wounds this experience might well have inflicted upon us and our families and loved ones.

[2] Also some have shared that we need to come together to reflect more deeply upon the Black Lives Matter Movement and how we should respond.

I support these suggestions and we will discuss with our Parish Pastoral Council at the earliest appropriate moment how we might engage in this 'deeper thinking' so that it becomes a 'rethinking of the future'. I and the PPC welcome your ideas and suggestions - PLEASE!

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