



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)

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)

FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR - HMD SUNDAY



With authority? Or Authoritarian? A challenge to the Church!

It is a crucial question for a Church that claims authority to teach and to guide - what is the nature and origin of Jesus' 'authority'?

His only power - only authority - was the infinite love in His Heart, the utter Truth in His Word, the complete integrity of Action and Word in His Life. Never a shade of dominance or coercion. Truth and Love ever united, hand in hand. No silencing of prophets who speak troublesome truths! He, the Lord of Lords, King of Kings, God in humanity, He lived, loved, spoke and acted as a brother among sisters and brothers, offering Life.

That is Jesus' power and authority - the Church must claim no more and no less!

SUNDAY: PARISH MASS with Holocaust Memorial at 10am (live-streamed: [Parish Website](http://www.tolentino.org.uk))

MONDAY: Adoration at 6.00pm Service of Word & Communion at 6.30pm

TUESDAY: *Feast of the Presentation of the Lord - Candlemas*
 Prayer and Reflection at 11.30am (live-streamed on Face Book)
 Adoration at 6.00pm Mass with blessing of Candles at 6.30pm

WEDNESDAY: *Feast of St Blaise, Bishop & Martyr (4th Century Armenia)*
 Adoration at 6.00pm Mass with Prayer for Healing of throats at 6.30pm

'The time has come! Follow Me, gather the World's children, and you will build the Kingdom, a place of Unity and Love that will build a new world'

THURSDAY: *Funeral Mass for Cecil Gallion* at 12.00noon (family & guests only)
Adoration at 6.00pm **Mass at 6.30pm (live-streamed: Parish Website)**

FRIDAY: *Feast of St Agatha, Virgin and Martyr (3rd century Sicily)*
Prayer and Reflection at 10.30am (live-streamed on Face Book)
Mass for St Brendan's 6th Form College at 12.15pm (*live-streamed on Face Book*)
Adoration at 6.00pm **Mass at 6.30pm**

SATURDAY: *Feast of St Paul Miki and Martyrs of Nagasaki (18th Century Japan)*
Adoration at 11.00am **Mass** at 12.00 noon
Evening Prayer & Adoration at 6.00pm (*live-streamed - Parish Face Book*)
Sacrament of Reconciliation: by appointment only

TODAY [1] On the **Fourth Sunday of the Year** we celebrate Jesus, the Saviour, who challenges every form of evil; Jesus the Liberator who hears the cries of pain and sets us free! Our mission might not be to cast out evil spirits, but it certainly is to eradicate the evils of corruption, lies, 'fake news', violence, slavery, human trafficking, and so much more. We share the same anointing of the Spirit as Jesus - given the same Mission as Jesus: will we have the same courage and faith to challenge everything that enslaves and imprisons our sisters and brothers today - as Jesus did in His day?

[2] We commemorate **Holocaust Memorial Day**, recognising that our saints, Maximilian Kolbe, Edith Stein and the Holocaust martyrs lead us to remember with sorrow and repentance the long history of Christian anti-Semitism which became the fertile soil that allowed the Nazi regime to perpetrate the industrial killing of 7 million Jews and 1 million others in the death camps and elsewhere throughout Europe. This Memorial challenges us to work for a world free forever of Holocaust and Genocide.

[3] This is also **Racial Justice Sunday** - and the Black Lives Matter movement challenged us all, especially we who belong to a global, 'universal' Church, to eradicate the evil of every form of racism and discrimination (including negative tribalism). We must begin with our own hearts and minds, and then look to our own practices as a Church, otherwise our confronting of society and government has no authenticity.

NEXT SUNDAY [1] The **Fifth Sunday of the Year** celebrates Jesus the Healer, the One who heals our wounds guides us to wholeness and holiness and liberates our world from evil. He also challenges our comfortable cultural norms (ie going into the women's room to heal Peter's mother-in-law). If only we as a Church would take seriously that Jesus liberates women, recognising radical equality and equal ministry.

[2] February 11th, the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, is the **Church's World Day of Prayer for the Sick and all who care for them**. We will observe this during our Sunday Mass, as well as celebrating a Healing Mass on February 11th.

[3] This Sunday Mass will be a **Mass 'Signed for the Deaf'** to enable our deaf sisters and brothers to participate more fully. Thank you to Sherrie Eugene-Hart for agreeing to sign the Mass on the First Sunday of each month (unless otherwise notified).

CHURCHES OPEN FOR PUBLIC WORSHIP DURING THIS LOCKDOWN

Gratefully we can continue to come to Mass during this current National Lockdown: **BUT** we must observe the necessary restrictions: People are to attend Mass only in their household or support bubble groups and **must not socialise/interact with people from outside of their household/support bubble inside or outside of the church**. Please note that by current Covid Laws passed by Parliament, a 'bubble' is one household and one other individual (either to support or who is supporting with childcare etc). If we do not observe these rules then we can be closed down for public worship! Your Priest can be fined up to £15,000!

'The time has come! Follow Me, gather the World's children, and you will build the Kingdom, a place of Unity and Love that will build a new world'

DIOCESAN PRAYER The Diocese prays today for the Parish in Communion for Mission of our Cathedral Church of Ss Pater and Paul, served by Canon Bosco McDonald, Fr Cavan McElligott, Deacons Kevin Moloney, James Patrick, Paul Brandon, Parish Administrator Mary Manners, other cathedral staff and all the community. We pray for the Cathedral's particular ministry to the whole diocese and to our City of Bristol.

PRAY FOR THIS WEEK'S PARISH MINISTRY OR MISSION This week, pray God's Blessing for the **Ministry of our Journey of Faith groups** who week by week meet together (currently on Zoom) to explore our Catholic-Christian Faith. We currently have two groups - an adult group and a young adults group. Some are discerning and journeying towards Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist, some are preparing for Confirmation and others possibly to be Received into Full Communion. Others are also wanting to deepen their understanding of their Faith. Richard, Mary and Margaret co-lead the adult group and Mary, Richard and Debo co-lead the Young Adults group. Please pray for the inspiration of the Holy Spirit for leaders and participants as we journey together along paths in the Way of Christ.

WORD OF GOD FOR FOURTH WEEK OF ORDINARY TIME

Sunday	Deuteronomy 18: 15-20, / Psalm 94 / 1 Corinthians 7: 32-35 / Mark 1: 21-28
Monday	Hebrews 11: 32-40 / Psalm 30 / Mark 5: 1-20
Tuesday	Malachy 3: 1-4 / Psalm 23 / Luke 2: 22-40
Wednesday	Hebrews 12: 4-7, 11-15 / Psalm 102 / Mark 6: 1-6
Thursday	Hebrews 12: 18-19, 21-24 / Ps 47 / Mark 6: 7-13
Friday	Hebrews 13: 1-8 / Psalm 26 / Mark 6: 14-29
Saturday	Hebrews 13: 15-17, 20-21 / Psalm 22 / Mark 6: 30-34

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK

Env £0 + Loose £90.00 + PayPal £0 + S/O £111.05 = TOTAL: £201.05 thanks!

CAFOD £40.00 - many thanks!

I wish also to thank all who give great and small amounts to the work and mission of the parish. Every gift and every giver is equally valued and these gifts are used to serve the growth of the Kingdom of God. Thank you!

Our Caritas Fund is supporting so many people as those unemployed are increasing.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

2nd Feb	Feast of Candlemas (Presentation of the Lord in the Temple)
3rd Feb	Anti-Slavery Partnership meeting (on Teams)
4th Feb	Diocesan Safeguarding Commission meeting (via Microsoft Teams)
7th Feb	New Monthly Signed Mass for the Deaf live-streamed at 10am Mass
9th Feb	Feast of St Josephine Bakhita, Patron of enslaved and trafficked people
11th Feb	Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes and World Day of the Sick (Healing Mass)
14th Feb	Baptismal Sunday
17th Feb	ASH-WEDNESDAY - LENT BEGINS
21st Feb	Mass with LGBTQ community at 3.00pm - all welcome
25th Feb	Borderlands Trustees meeting (via Zoom)
4th March	Parish Pastoral Council - Vision Meeting
17th March	Ashley Churches Together Serving (ACTS) meeting (via Zoom)
24th March	Feast of St Oscar Romero
25th March	Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord
28th March	PALM SUNDAY - HOLY WEEK BEGINS
4th April	EASTER SUNDAY - Baptismal Sunday

WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE IN HOSPITAL: Can I remind everyone that when a Catholic goes into hospital, the patient or their family **MUST** request a visit from the Catholic

'The time has come! Follow Me, gather the World's children, and you will build the Kingdom, a place of Unity and Love that will build a new world'

Chaplain - data protection and confidentiality rules in hospitals prohibit the passing on of information to chaplaincies otherwise. The Chaplain will not know of your presence in hospital and cannot visit a patient without the patient's prior request and permission.

TALKING AND LISTENING GROUP - the group runs every Tuesday from 2pm to 3.30pm and offers a safe place for people to come and talk about the issues which are affecting them and listen to others. The group supports those with low mood, lack of self-esteem and anxiety as well as those struggling with, for example, bereavement, isolation, guilt, serious illness and relationship issues. One to one sessions over the phone or social media are available. Confidentiality is assured. For more information contact Robert on 07767 706 163 or robertvh@hotmail.co.uk. Or, just come along.

ADULT JOURNEY OF FAITH GROUP In November we began our 2020/2021 Journey of faith group, using Zoom. The group includes some who had originally contacted St Mary-on-the-Quay who can no longer support such a group, so unusually we have not met most of the group at church. But the group is now progressing well and numbers are growing. Meeting on Tuesdays 4.30-5.45pm, we are about ten people, including two parishioners who wish to deepen their understanding of the Faith through participating in the 'course', led by Richard, Mary and Margaret, it is interactive and thoroughly Bible based. If anyone wishes to join us, let Richard have your email address so we can send a Zoom 'invitation'.

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.

POST-PANDEMIC CHALLENGES It is clear that so many are struggling with physical and emotional exhaustion because of the Lockdown and especially serving the sick and vulnerable during this Public Health Crisis. Enforced isolation has worsened the mental health of so many people. How can we respond as a Healing community to this situation? how can we develop our parish as 'God's Field Hospital', creating safe spaces for people to recover their inner well-being and self-confidence? Can our parish's mental health workers advise?

WHAT IS THE COVENANT WITH THE POOR? *In preparation for the great Millennium of year 2000 the Bishops of England and Wales asked every parish to draw up and make a 'Covenant with the Poor'. As part of our parish's Covenant we pledged to pray regularly for Justice & Peace, to serve the homeless and poor who come in increasing numbers to our extensive Food Bank and the Wild Goose Café and to encourage parishioners to volunteer time and energy to work in the Food Bank and the Wild Goose Café; and also to give non-perishable food (especially rice, pasta, tinned fruit and tomatoes, tinned fish and meat etc) and/or money (in special envelopes) to be used for the poor. This food and money goes to support our ministry among the poor of our area. During Lockdown this has greatly expanded and very many people in Bristol are supporting us, in addition to our parishioners. We also founded and developed our Borderlands Charity ('from exclusion to belonging') to serve our asylum & refugee community that has remained serving throughout the periods of Lockdown. In normal times, the Offertory Procession at Mass regularly sees gifts to be shared with the poor and vulnerable, carried to the Altar (restoring the ancient meaning of the Offertory Procession). So the Covenant with the Poor that we renew solemnly at each Patronal Feast of St Nicholas of Tolentino (early September) has continued to grow and develop and as such has shaped the life, mission and witness of our parish community. The development of the ministry of the Parish Office has enabled us to develop our 'Option for the Poor' in obedience to the Gospel Let us praise God for such rich grace and love poured out upon our community, and through our community to many in their need.*

'The time has come! Follow Me, gather the World's children, and you will build the Kingdom, a place of Unity and Love that will build a new world'