



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

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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)

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 fullness 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 at 10am (live-streamed: [Parish Website](http://www.tolentino.org.uk))
Mass with the LBGTQ+ community and friends (live-streamed: [Parish Website](http://www.tolentino.org.uk))

MONDAY: Adoration at 5.30pm Service of Word & Communion at 6.00pm

TUESDAY: Silence at 12 noon Adoration at 6.00pm Mass at 6.30pm

WEDNESDAY: *Feast of St Oscar Romero, Martyred Archbishop of El Salvador (1980)*
 Prayer and Reflection at 10.30am (live-streamed on Face Book)
 Adoration at 6.00pm Mass of the Martyrs of El Salvador at 6.30pm
 (live-streamed: [Parish Website](http://www.tolentino.org.uk))

'I am the Resurrection and the Life - Do you believe this?' Then come with me to those who only 'half-live', to the wounded and oppressed - unbind, set free!

THURSDAY: FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD*Adoration* at 6.00pmMass at 6.30pm (live-streamed: [Parish Website](#))**FRIDAY:***Adoration* at 6.00pm

Mass at 6.30pm

*Mass at St Brendan's Sixth Form College at 12.15pm***SATURDAY:***Adoration* at 11.00am

Mass at 12.00 noon

Stations of the Cross at 5.30pm (live-streamed - [Parish Website](#))**Sacrament of Reconciliation: by appointment only****TODAY**

[1] The **Fifth Sunday of Lent** celebrates Jesus, the Resurrection and the Life. In the calling Lazarus back into life we glimpse something of the wonder of the Christ's Resurrection. He calls our name also so that we will leave the dark tombs of sinfulness - both personal and structural - so that we, in the power of His 'indestructible life', will unbind our world from poverty and discrimination, war and violence and set free our sisters and brothers from the dehumanisation that traps them in dark tombs of oppression.

[2] We celebrate the **Rite of Child Catechumen** with children and families preparing for Baptism at Easter - please pray for them.

[3] **Mass with our LBGTQ+ community at 3.00pm** - all are welcome!

NEXT SUNDAY

[1] We celebrate **Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, the beginning of Holy Week**. Last Holy Week we were in Lockdown with closed churches - this year our church is open, though our celebrations will not be as full and rich as in previous years. But do come if you can and share in the moving and powerful journey from 'Hosanna!' through 'Crucify Him' to 'He is Risen!' On Palm Sunday we greet our humble Servant King who comes to wash feet, preach love and suffer crucifixion. Come and express your love for our King who is crowned with thorns, enthroned upon the gibbet of the Cross, clothed in crimson - His blood flowing to bring forgiveness to all the world.

DIOCESAN PRAYER

The Diocese prays today for the parishes in Communion for Mission of St Teresa of Lisieux, Filton, and St Vincent de Paul, Southmead, served by Fr James Finan, Deacons Thomas Douglas, Ludgero Ferreira, Parish Administrator Debbie Nichols and both the communities. We pray also for the work of Southmead Hospital, its staff, patients and Chaplaincy Team

PRAY FOR THIS WEEK'S PARISH MINISTRY OR MISSION

This week, pray God's Blessing for the **Ministry of the Proclamation of the Word**. Co-ordinated by Brice, each day in our parish family our sisters and brothers proclaim the Word of God with faith and love among our community, so that the Word will be made flesh in our individual lives as missionary disciples, and in our community as a Communion in Mission. If you feel called to this ministry, please contact Brice and preparation and training will be provided.

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK

7/3/21 Env £168.22 + Loose £154.78 + PayPal £ + S/O £111.05 = TOTAL: £420.05 thanks!

14/3/21 Env £ + Loose £ + PayPal £ + S/O £111.05 = TOTAL: £434.05 thanks!

CAFOD £546.00 **Caritas** £22.39 **Donations** £100.00 + £2407 *I wish to thank all who give great and small amounts to the work and mission of the parish. Every gift and giver is equally valued and these gifts are used to serve the growth of the Kingdom of God. Thank you!*

WORD OF GOD FOR FIFTH WEEK OF LENT**Sunday**

Ezechiel 37: 12-14 / Psalm 129 / Romans 5: 8-11 / John 11: 1-45

'I am the Resurrection and the Life - Do you believe this?' Then come with me to those who only 'half-live', to the wounded and oppressed - unbind, set free!

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	Isaiah 7: 10-14, 8:10 / Ps 39 / Hebrews 10: 4-10 / Luke 1: 26-38
Friday	Jeremiah 20: 10-13 / Psalm 17 / John 10: 31-42
Saturday	Ezekiel 37: 21-28 / Responsorial Jeremiah 31 / John 11: 45-56

DATES FOR THE DIARY

21st March	Mass with the LBGTQ+ community at 3.00pm - all welcome!
22nd March	Refurbishment of Assisi Centre begins
23rd March	National Day of Reflection in the light of a Year of Covid
24th March	Feast of St Oscar Romero - Special Mass at 6.30pm
24th March	Borderlands Trustees meet (on Zoom)
25th March	Meeting of Parents of First Eucharist children at 4.00pm
25th March	Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord
28th March	PALM SUNDAY - HOLY WEEK BEGINS
2nd April	GOOD FRIDAY (Day of Fast and Abstinence)
4th April	EASTER SUNDAY - Baptismal Sunday
6th April	Parish Finance Committee meets (on Zoom)
7th April	Diocesan Safeguarding meeting (on Teams)
8th April	Parish Pastoral Council meeting (on Zoom)
8th April	First Meeting of First Eucharist Programme for children and parents (4.30pm)

NATIONAL DAY OF REFLECTION: The Government has asked the Nation to pause at 12 noon for a moment silence for all who have died of Covid this past year, and then to light a candle at 8.00pm - a candle of Hope. This is being supported by our bishops. St Nicks Church will be open 12.00-12.30pm for silent prayer and reflection, as well as Adoration & Mass from 6.00pm. ***PLEASE REMEMBER AND PRAY!***

PARENTS BAPTISMAL PREPARATION COURSE Parents seeking the baptism of their children this Easter or on Trinity Sunday are asked to inform Eustace Tameh or Fr Richard as soon as possible. Next Baptism course and celebration:

BAPTISMAL SUNDAY 4th & 11 April (Easter) and 30th May (Trinity Sunday) at 10am
Preparation Session: Friday 26th March at 6.30pm (on Zoom)
Rite of Child Catechumen Sunday 21st March and 16th May at 10am Mass

FIRST EUCHARIST PROGRAMME 2021 BEGINS Now our children have returned to teaching in school, we can begin the First Eucharist Preparation Programme for 2021. The start has been delayed because of Covid restrictions, but at last we can begin. Letters with a reply form are being distributed in the parish, the school and on the Parish Website this week. Please return the reply form to the Presbytery or the School by Monday 22nd March. There will be a first meeting for Parents who wish their child to be prepared for First Eucharist in 2021 on Thursday 25th March at 4.30pm (on Zoom), and the Programme begins for both children and parents on Thursday 8th April at 4.00pm. The First Eucharist Sunday will be on 18th July at 10am Mass.

REFURBISHMENT OF THE ASSISI CENTRE (Ground Floor) BEGINS The work begins tomorrow, Monday 22nd March when contractors come on site and will continue for at least 14 weeks. It will mean some disruption. The Parish office has temporarily moved to the 'New Room' where normally we have the Children's liturgy of the Word (next to the main Lawfords Gate entrance); the Sacristy has moved temporarily to first 'side room' off the church where the 'Reconciliation Room' (or Confessional) is sited. **FOR THE DURATION**

'I am the Resurrection and the Life - Do you believe this?' Then come with me to those who only 'half-live', to the wounded and oppressed - unbind, set free!

OF THE WORK ENTRANCE TO THE CHURCH IS NOW ONLY FROM PENNYWELL ROAD - NO ACCESS FROM LAWFORDS GATE.

COVID VACCINE PROPOSED AVAILABILITY AFTER MASS AT ST NICKS Please see the letter accompanying this newsletter, inviting you to book an appointment with the Vaccination Clinic being held in St Nicks Church on Monday 29th March - please contact Robert or Richard to book an appointment.

YEAR OF ST JOSEPH - FEAST OF ST JOSEPH 150 years ago Pope Pius IX declared St Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church (St Nicholas of Tolentino was regarded in this role for many centuries before). Pope Francis, to celebrate the anniversary, has appointed 2021 as **the Year of St Joseph**. Francis highlights Joseph as a role model as 'a beloved, tender father ... one who welcomes the will of God ... a creatively, courageous father, example of love ... a father who teaches the value, dignity and joy of work .. a father "in the shadows" centred on Mary and Jesus ... a man of prayer.' Highlights of Pope Francis's teaching on St Joseph (together with the Litany of St Joseph and Pope Francis's prayer) are available after Mass with the Newsletter or can be downloaded from the parish Website (Home Page).

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 effecting 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.

SCRIPTURE SHARING GROUP Each week the group shares reflections, questions, insights on the Scripture Readings used at Mass on the following Sunday: ideal for all of us, but especially for Lay Readers and Lay Ministers of the Eucharist, as well as Children's Liturgy leaders. The group meets on **Wednesdays at 4.30pm until Easter**. Contact John Flannery (email: j.flannery@btinternet.com) or Richard (email above) for the Zoom link.

LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES [1] **CARE FOR OUR 'COMMON HOME', PLANET EARTH!** *"Living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or secondary aspect of our Christian experience... Truly, much can be done!" (Laudato Si', 217, 180)*

[2] The **Diocesan Newsletter** carries a weekly video reflection on the theme '**Dare to Dream**' - a quote from Pope Francis (email: pressandmedia@cliftondiocese.com)

PROJECT TRUTH: Telling, Restoring, Understanding (our) Tapestry (and) History
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/5P8Z5J2>

This is a survey from Bristol City Council asking for the opinions of people with African heritage about the future of Bristol (particularly as it relates to its past). I encourage members of our parish community to respond - thank you.

LENTEN PRAYER:

Lord God,

With all our hearts we beseech you: have mercy on your people; spare your people; strengthen all people in the struggle against the havoc of this pandemic. Lord our God, without you we are so weak and our courage so limited. Give us your strength; give us your love; give us wisdom and skill to continue this fight. Spare your people, O Lord we pray. Comfort those who mourn and gather into your kingdom all who have died. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord, who died and rose to life, who lives and reigns with you, for ever and ever. Amen.

'I am the Resurrection and the Life - Do you believe this?' Then come with me to those who only 'half-live', to the wounded and oppressed - unbind, set free!