



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: 07718598188

Parish email: bristol.stnicholasoftolentino@cliftondiocese.com

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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)

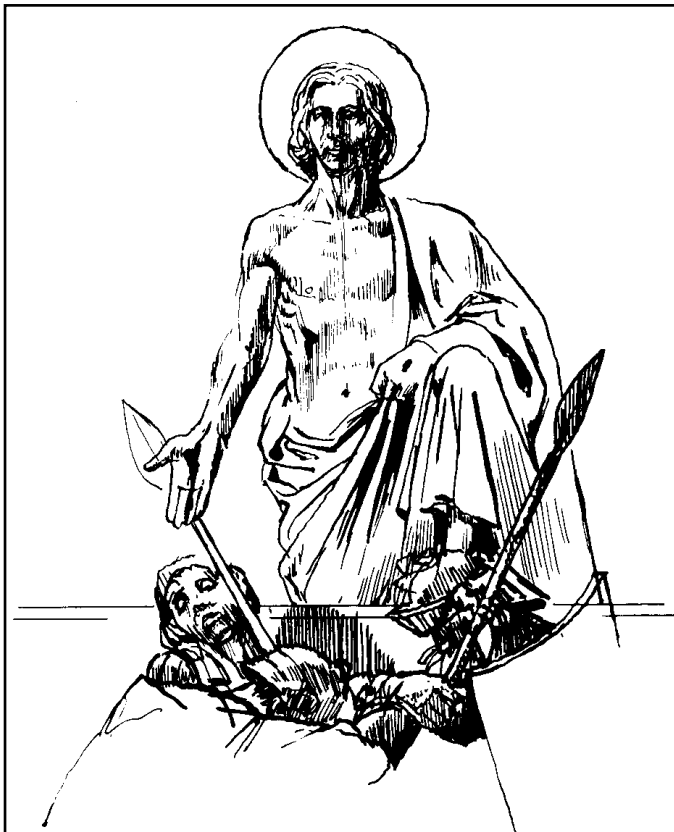
Deacon - Rev Jack Brannigan [retired] (01934-5195140)

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)

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST



A NEW WORLD BEGINS, ALLELUIA!

Death is conquered - on the First Day of the week! The Day according to the Book of Genesis that God began creating the Universe. And God created a Paradise Garden where all was harmony ... UNTIL we sinned, we rebelled from our dignity as Children of God and began to destroy our world.

Now there is a New Garden - a Garden of Transformation - a Garden of Calvary death that becomes a Garden of Easter Resurrection. On the First Day of the Week! A New World has begun.

The Resurrection of Jesus is God's recreative, transformative Work, not just for His Son, the Word made Flesh, but for all the children of the earth, for all creation. Love has overcome hate, forgiveness has healed every wound, transformed humanity has overwhelmed our inhumanity, hope has replaced despair.

And we are Risen with Him - now not just after death. Already we are living the New Creation, touching our world with unconquerable love, bring true justice to the farthest islands, burning with a Light that no darkness can ever overcome!

SUNDAY: THE GREAT VIGIL MASS OF THE RESURRECTION (Sat at 9.00pm)

SOLEMN MASS OF RESURRECTION at 10.00am

MONDAY: Adoration at 9.30am Mass at 10.00am (Bank Holiday)

TUESDAY: Adoration at 6.00pm Mass at 6.30pm

WEDNESDAY: Prayer and Reflection at 10.30am (live-streamed on Face Book)
Adoration at 6.00pm Mass at 6.30pm (live-streamed: Parish Website)

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THURSDAY: *Adoration* at 6.00pm **Mass at 6.30pm**

FRIDAY: *Adoration* at 6.00pm **Mass at 6.30pm**

SATURDAY: *Adoration* at 11.00am **Mass at 12.00 noon**
Stations of the Resurrection at 5.30pm (*live-streamed on Parish Face Book*)

Sacrament of Reconciliation: by appointment only

TODAY: As we celebrate **New Life in Christ**, we pray for our catechumens, both adult and children, who were to be baptised today or next Sunday, but because of the Covid-19 restrictions this has had to be postponed. After the weeks of this extraordinary Lent, and the pain-filled journey through the Passion and Death of the Lord, we arrive at the Victory of Love over Hate, the Victory of Light over Darkness, the victory of Holiness over the Sin, the Victory of Life over Death - the Resurrection of Our Lord and Brother Jesus Christ.

NEXT SUNDAY: [1] '**Low Sunday**', the Octave Day of Easter: we celebrate the wonder of this Feast of Feasts throughout the week. In the early Church this was the only other day that Baptism was celebrated - an overflow if there were too many to be baptised during the Vigil itself. Sadly and unexpectedly, this year we have no baptism to celebrate.

[2] The Word of God speaks to us of that **first Christian Community in Jerusalem that was so close and loving** that its life together that 'great signs and wonders were worked among them' and healing flowed from them into their city. They witnessed to the Risen Lord, the source of New Life! They were a community overflowing with healing and life empowering the witness of Peter and the other Apostles. The conversion of St Thomas from his doubt to profound faith came about because he returned to the Community of the Resurrection and discovered Jesus alive in the midst of them! Does this describe our parish, our Church?

DIOCESAN PRAYER The Diocese prays today for the Parishes in Communion for Mission of Our Lady of the Rosary, Lawrence Weston and St Bernard's, Shirehampton, served by Fr Cosmas Ikiridah MSP, The Sisters of the Holy Spirit, and both their communities.

WORD OF GOD FOR EASTER WEEK LITURGY

Sunday	Acts 10: 34-43 / Psalm 117 / Colossians 3: 1-4/ John 20: 1-9
Monday	Acts 2: 14, 22-32 / Psalm 15 / Matthew 28: 8-15
Tuesday	Acts 2: 36-41 / Psalm 32 / John 11-18
Wednesday	Acts 3: 1-10 / Psalm 104 / Luke 24: 13-35
Thursday	Acts 3: 11-26 / Psalm 8 / Luke 13: 35-48
Friday	Acts 4: 1-12 / Psalm 17 / John 21: 1-14
Saturday	Acts 4: 13-21 / Psalm 117 / Mark 16: 9-15

Fr. Richard, Mary (Catechist), Robert (& Parish Administration lead), Andrew, our Parish Pastoral Council & Parish Office Team wish each one of you, our community and our friends, the joy and the glory of Easter.

Thankfully, Covid restrictions are easing at this time, so
 May the Risen Jesus live in your hearts
 and give you His Peace beyond all measure
 ... He is Risen! Alleluia!

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WELCOME! It has been a very special joy (and surprise) to welcome hundreds of friends (old and new) to our Holy Week and Sacred Triduum Celebrations via the wonder of the internet and Facebook. While our live streaming is not perfect and we have from time to time encountered difficulties with internet and wifi, it is clearly a ministry and mission (which I am still getting used to!) that needs to continue long after the Coronavirus restrictions are lifted.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

Env: £138.00 + Loose: £87.00 + S/O £111.05 = £346.05 - Thank you

Covenant with the Poor £10.00 **CAFOD** £686.00 **Donation** £500.00 **Flowers** £5.00

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 ALL!

EASTER OFFERINGS: This Easter Collection is your personal contribution to the annual 'wage' of your parish priest, (together with the Christmas Offerings). This year for some of us it is more difficult to make your contributions but if you drop them in marked envelopes through either the Presbytery or the Assisi Centre letterbox - or make a bank transfer... thank you for your generosity.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

3rd April	GREAT EASTER VIGIL MASS at 9.00pm
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 (4.00pm)
14th April	Ashley Churches Together Serving meets on Zoom
18th April	Mass with our LBGTQ+ friends and community at 3.00pm
22nd April	Diocesan Safeguarding Commission meets (on Teams)
12th May	ASCENSION DAY - Holy Day of Obligation
16th May	Mass with our LBGTQ+ friends and community at 3.00pm
19th May	Diocesan Safeguarding meeting (on Teams)
23rd May	PENTECOST SUNDAY - celebration of Adult baptism and Confirmation
30th May	TRINITY SUNDAY - child Baptism Sunday
6th June	Feast of Corpus Christ (Body and Blood of the Lord)
29th June	Feast Ss Peter and Paul (Holy Day of Obligation)
18th July	First Eucharist Sunday

THANK YOU SO MUCH: Although we cannot celebrate Holy Week as we usually do (with so many people helping), nevertheless so many of you give generously of your time and energy, and your prayer, to serve God and our community throughout the whole year. I and our whole community are very grateful to you all:

- + those who give flowers, or contributed to them,
and to those who arrange them beautifully and lovingly;
- + those who clean and prepare the church and those doing the sacristy work;
- + our altar servers, music ministry and Parish Choir, the whole year round;
- + all our Ministers of the Word and of the Eucharist, serving us so prayerfully;
- + Margaret who prepared our Paschal Candle and our Easter banners & posters;
- + All who help with the Sacristy behind the scenes, especially Mary

+AND TO YOU ALL, FOR CELEBRATING SO PRAYERFULLY OUR LITURGY WEEK BY WEEK, AND FOR ALL WHO HAVE SHARED OUR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER LITUR-

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GIES THROUGH THE WONDER OF THE INTERNET. JESUS' PASSOVER FROM DEATH TO LIFE ENRICH YOU WITH HIS LOVE AND PEACE, AS YOU ENRICH OUR WORLD WITH FAITH AND NEW CREATION.

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY - Sunday 25th April - Day of Prayer for Vocations We are asked to pray for a deepened sense of vocation in each of our lives and in our parish community. Each one of us has a unique vocation from God; each of us is called to proclaim the Good News and serve the Kingdom of Justice, Love and Peace; each of us is called to care for our environment and seek to heal the abuse of our good Earth so that future generations will be able to thrive on this planet. Vocations to marriage, to ordained ministries and to the religious life are necessary to the mission of God's Church. We seek especially to call members of our community to the Permanent Diaconate, preparing for a future without a resident priest. **Sunday 25th April.** Pray also for new expressions of ordained ministry!

PARISH MINISTRY CONTINUES [1] **The Parish Office is open from 10am to 1.30pm Monday to Friday** so that our ministry of care and support, especially for those for whom life is particularly hard with rising unemployment and need our Caritas Fund, can continue. Please phone the parish office (0117-9090419) during these times or myself at the presbytery (0117-9098810 – at any reasonable time) with your questions, concerns or need for any kind of support.

[2] The **Parish Food Bank (called 'St Nicholas Bread' or 'The Eucharist on the Street')** is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday between 10am and 1.00pm. We are getting between 250 and 300 callers a week and estimate we are providing essential food for some 600 people (including many children) EACH WEEK. Thank you to all who help with this Ministry - those who donate food, those who serve in the foodbank and those who help organise in the background. ***You are 'breaking bread on the street!', as followers of Jesus, the 'Bread-Breaker'!***

A STRANGE YEAR OF DEPRIVATION AND GROWTH! Our parish community (like everyone else of course!) has experienced so much **deprivation** to our parish life. For over a year we have not been able to meet and share our friendships as the Body of Christ. For many months there has been no public Mass and we have endured locked churches. Even when we have been able to return to Mass, it has been in limited numbers and so many could not come for fear of Covid transmission and their own vulnerabilities. Children have not been baptised, funerals were a shadow of might have been expected. The housebound have not been able to receive Holy Communion in their own homes. First Eucharist and First Reconciliation were severely delayed and then celebrated in such a low key manner.

And yet in the midst of this there has been so much growth. The Foodbank within a week became a major ministry, a mission of mercy; so much so that we had to acquire a new 'building' - our container foodbank - the 'Eucharist on the Street'. We have developed a wider family through the internet - being part of us through live-streaming services, talks, reflections: this too is now a permanent part of 'Proclaiming the Good News' and is reaching hundreds around the country and in deed the world. The Assisi Centre is being transformed to enable more effective service of the local community and our refugee and sanctuary-seeking sisters and brothers. The Parish Office has become an expanded ministry, the interface of the welcome and service of our local community. Meanwhile our charity Borderlands has continued serving our refugee and asylum community and indeed has increased and broadened its provision and planned for more increase in the coming year. And so many of you in our parish have worked hard to support our isolated sisters and brothers as well as working to raise the funds and resources need for our expanded mission! **THANK YOU ALL!**

There is no Resurrection without Dying - in the midst of deprivation we have seen such growth! It is 'Passover' story, Holy Week Liturgy made real in our parish life! **ALLELUIA!**

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