



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)
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Download this Bulletin from the Parish Website: www.tolentino.org.uk

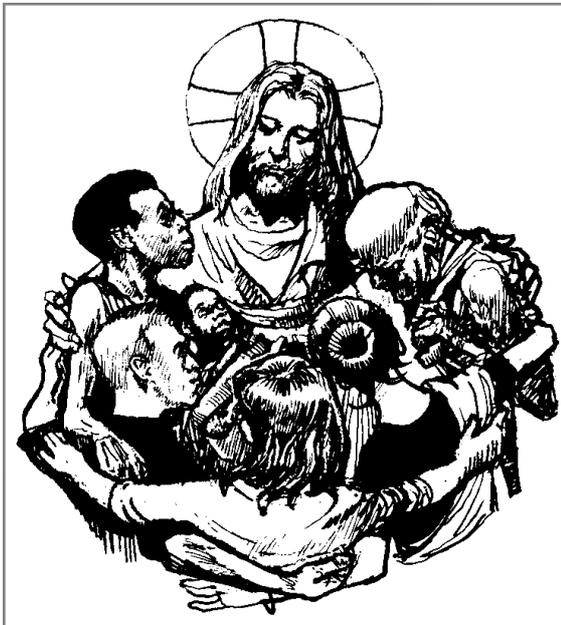
Parish Priest - Rev Richard McKay (tel: 0117-909-8810 / mob: 07779677370)

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)

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



Ten Commandments? Or One - Love?

How can you 'command' love? Love can only be a response to being loved, and invitation to enter into loving relationship. Jesus replaces all the commandments by this one but many-faceted invitation - to love one another as He has loved us; to love God the source of all love; to love the world with the heart of Jesus; to live in the divine revolution of love!

The Hebrew word translated as 'commandment' is 'Dabar' - which means 'Word that is event' - a Word that transforms and creates because it is the very presence of God among us. So when Jesus 'commands' in reality He utters the Word that can enter deep within and transform us, renew us in His love. He says 'This is the one yearning of my heart - that you will allow me to love through you; that you will allow yourselves to be loved in being Love!'

This is not a command in the sense of an order to be obeyed - it is a Word to be listened to with the Divine Heart beating within us. It is always the challenge to go beyond command - an invitation to

SUNDAY: PARISH MASS with Rite of Election at 10.00am (live-steamed: Parish Website)

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

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

THURSDAY: FEAST OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD (HolyDay of Obligation)
 Adoration at 11.30am Mass at 12 noon
 Adoration at 6.00pm Evening Mass at 6.30pm (live-steamed: Parish Website)

***'As the Father has loved, so I have love you': remain in My love ...
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NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT BEGINS - COME RENEW THE FACE OF THE EARTH!

FRIDAY: *Feast of St Matthias, Apostle*
Adoration at 8.30.am **Mass at 9.00am**

SATURDAY: *Adoration* at 11.00am **Mass at 12.00 noon**
Adoration and Evening Prayer at 5.30pm (*live-streamed on Parish Face Book*)
Sacrament of Reconciliation: by appointment only

TODAY [1] The **Sixth Sunday of Easter** is a wonderful celebration of God's immense love and our call to share that love with everyone, with all peoples and cultures in all the diversity of our human community and our world. 'God has no favourites' says Peter as he preaches Christ to the Roman Centurion, Cornelius. 'God is love' writes John in his First Letter, echoing the Gospel that brings us Jesus' only command - to love as He loves! What else is the Church for but to make God's infinite loving real and tangible for all our world to behold and experience? Let us all witness to the Risen Christ by putting love first!

[2] We celebrate the **Rite of Election** - choosing Naomi, Mary and Jordan for Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist; Kimberlee for Reception into Full Communion and Confirmation and Eucharist; Michaela for Confirmation and Eucharist; and Abel and Issa for Confirmation ... to be celebrated on Pentecost morning 10.00am Mass.

NEXT SUNDAY [1] The **Seventh Sunday of Easter** celebrates Jesus' calling us to mission and to waiting upon the Holy Spirit for the wisdom we need, the vision we need and the power of Divine Love which is the energy for that Mission. Without the Holy Spirit we are ritualists in our devotions and activists in our work: but with the Holy Spirit we are servants and instruments of God's action and love in the world. So let us join those first disciples in the Upper Room of waiting, yearning, praying as we too cry out 'Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people, enkindle the fire of Your love in us, may we be part of Your renewing the face of the Earth'!

[2] It is also **World Communication Sunday** as we pray that all will use modern media especially in our instant digital age, in a way that will 'consecrate in truth' and strengthen our awareness and our communion with all humanity and all creation.

[3] **Rite of Child Catechumen** at 10.00am Mass - please pray for the children & families.

[4] We rejoice to share **Mass with our LGBTQ+ community** at 3.00pm.

FEAST OF THE ASCENSION *Descending and Ascending - the God of Love!*

'Jesus did not cling to His equality with God but emptied himself becoming human, a slave, dying on the Cross .. And therefore God raised Him higher than the Angels'. Jesus is the Flesh of God's loving, descending to the lowest place, in poverty, the victim of injustice and summarily executed through the cries of the manipulated crowds - and all for us! The Sinless One made Sin for us! He shares the darkness to redeem us all into the Light; He is wounded to make us Whole!

And now He ascends - to Glory, to the throne of God. But not just Jesus: in His ascended Flesh and Humanity you and I and all the world are gathered forever into the Glory, into the inner life of God. We are 'divinised'! We now sit at the right hand of the Father - our humanity is enthroned above the angels. Humanity is forever changed, transformed.

And so He sends us to the very creation itself both to proclaim and to be the Good News that there is a new reality - a new World. Let us live it and speak it!

DIOCESAN PRAYER Today the Diocese prays for the parishes in Communion for Mission of Our Lady, St Mary of Glastonbury, Glastonbury, St Michael, Shepton Mallet, Our

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Lady Queen of Apostles, Cheddar, St Joseph and St Teresa, Wells, served by Fr Bede Rowe and Fr Anselm Redman, Parish Administrators, Miss Kim Woolmer, Mrs Charlotte Lethaby and all their communities. We pray also for all who serve our annual Glastonbury Pilgrimage.

PRAY FOR THIS WEEK'S PARISH MINISTRY OR MISSION This week, pray God's Blessing for our **Parish Office and Administration Team**. Led by Robert von Hawrylak, this group staff the Parish office which is not only the centre for administration but also fulfils a very important pastoral role in the local community - with many people bringing various needs which we can support. The Office is also closely linked with the Food Bank, co-ordinating much of its infrastructure and work. It is expected that the pastoral aspect of this Team's work will increase as Covid restrictions ease and poverty, unemployment and mental well-being issues increase.

WORD OF GOD FOR SIXTH WEEK OF EASTER

Sunday Acts of the Apostles 10: 25-26, 34-35, 44-48 / Psalm 97 / 1 John 4: 7-10 / John 15: 9-17
Monday Acts of the Apostles 16: 11-15 / Psalm 149 / John 15: 26-16: 4
Tuesday Acts of the Apostles 16: 22-34 / Psalm 137 / John 16: 5-11
Wednesday Acts of the Apostles 17: 15, 22-18: 1 / Psalm 148 / John 16: 12-15
Thursday Acts of the Apostles 1: 1-11 / Ps 46 / Ephesians 4: 1-13 / Mark 16: 15-20
Friday Acts of the Apostles 11: 15-17, 20-26 / Psalm 112 / John 15: 9-17
Saturday Acts of the Apostles 18: 23-28 / Psalm 46 / John 16: 23-28

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK

Env £125.00 + Loose £111.74 + PayPal £ + S/O £111.05 = TOTAL: £347.79 thanks!

CARITAS £3.26 **CAFOD** £20.00 *I wish to thank all who give great and small amounts to the work and mission of the parish serving the Kingdom of God. Thank you!*

DATES FOR THE DIARY

9th May Rite of Election for Sacraments of Initiation at 10am Mass
 12th May Borderlands Trustees at 1.30pm (on Zoom)
 13th May **ASCENSION DAY - Holy Day of Obligation**
 14th May Parents Baptismal Preparation - Session One at 6.30pm (on Zoom)
 15th May Parish Forum at 5.00pm (on Zoom) - all welcome!
 16th May Rite of Child Catechumen at 10.00am Mass
 16th May Mass with our LBGTQ+ friends and community at 3.00pm
 21st May Parents Baptismal Preparation - Session Two at 6.30pm (on Zoom)
 22nd May Pentecost Vigil Mass at 7.00pm - 'Come Holy Spirit'
 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**

PARENTS BAPTISMAL PREPARATION COURSE Parents seeking the baptism of their children this year are asked to inform Eustace Tameh or Christopher and Epiphania Chipato or Fr Richard as soon as possible. Next Baptism course and celebration:

BAPTISMAL SUNDAY 30th MAY at 10am Mass (Trinity Sunday)

Preparation Sessions: Friday 14th & 21st May at 6.30pm (on Zoom - link from Eustace)

Rite of Child Catechumen Sunday 16th May at 10am Mass

FIRST EUCHARIST PROGRAMME - PARENTS MEETINGS *Thank you to all parents for ensuring their children do not miss any of the meetings (except for illness of course).*

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The special sessions for the parents are also very important and an essential part of the Preparation programme - we meet each fortnight:

The Spanish-speaking parents in the church on alternate Saturdays at 2.30-4.15pm

The English-speaking parents on Zoom alternate Fridays at 6.30-7.30pm.

THESE PARENTS MEETINGS ARE ESSENTIAL TO THE PROGRAMME OF PREPARATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES JOURNEYING TO FIRST EUCHARIST.

CHILD HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT - A LIVE 'WEBINAR' Bristol Inner City Primary Care Network are holding a 'Webinar' featuring Dr Tom Allport, Community Consultant Children's doctor, who will be talking about child developmental issues (eg delayed speech, learning difficulties and Autism. If you would like to be part of this live 'Webinar', please contact lucy.taylor63@nhs.net for the internet link and if you want to ask any questions of Dr Allport.

SCRIPTURE SHARING GROUP - CHANGE OF DAY AND TIME 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 will now meet on **Thursdays at 5.30pm**. Contact John Flannery (email: j.flannery@btinternet.com) or Richard (email above) for the Zoom link.

PARISH FORUM - LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD! Because of Covid restrictions it is over a year since our last Parish Forum. **What is the 'Parish Forum'?** It is a gathering open to everyone in the our parish community - **EVERYONE** is invited! You are invited to come and speak your voice, raise your questions, bring you ideas and contribute to and guide the future development of our parish community. Everyone's voice is important. We might not all agree on everything, but everyone's voice needs to be heard so that we can discern or 'distill' what the Holy Spirit is saying to our parish community - where the Spirit is leading us and how the Spirit wants to empower each of us and lead us as a community into God's future and vision for us. ***Our next Parish Forum is on Saturday 15th May at 5.00pm on Zoom (ie on-line through the internet). There will be time spent in small groups (called 'rooms' in Zoom language!) as well as all together.*** It will be led by members of our Parish pastoral Council and will help set the Agenda for the future development of the parish.

Why is the Parish Forum important? As we come out of Covid restrictions it is very important to 'gather' our community again, to help us all rebuild our community and our relationships after this more than a year of isolation and apartness. It is important to plan how we can do this effectively and to hear how we have experienced this past Pandemic year. ***So please come and be part of this meeting. I will need your email address so I can send you the 'invitation' to the meeting together with instructions how to be part of it. Please send us details to the parish email: bristol.stnicholasoftolentino@cliftondiocese.com***

LAUDATO SI' WEEK - 16-24th MAY 2021 Just imagine if 1.3 billion Catholics from six continents come together to celebrate the great progress we have made and prepare for the future of our 'common home', Planet Earth, with HOPE! From 16-24th May (part of the Novena to the Holy Spirit leading to Pentecost) Catholics all over the world will reflect on and prayer for the success of Pope Francis great Encyclical on Global Warming, Climate Change and Justice for the Poor of the Earth. We will seek renewed inspiration of the Holy Spirit for our next steps on our Ecological Conversion Journey. Resources will be posted on our Parish Website and will be incorporated into the Prayer and reflection of our parish community between Ascension Day and Pentecost - 'Come Holy Spirit, renew the face of the Earth - through us!' - as Pope Francis says 'We know things can change!'

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