



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 - 1.00pm)

'Borderlands' Charity Office: Assisi Centre, St Nicholas Church tel: 0117-904-0479

Parish email: bristol.stnicholasoftolentino@cliftondiocese.com

Fr Richard's email: richard.mckay@cliftondiocese.com

Clifton Diocesan Website: www.cliftondiocese.com

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

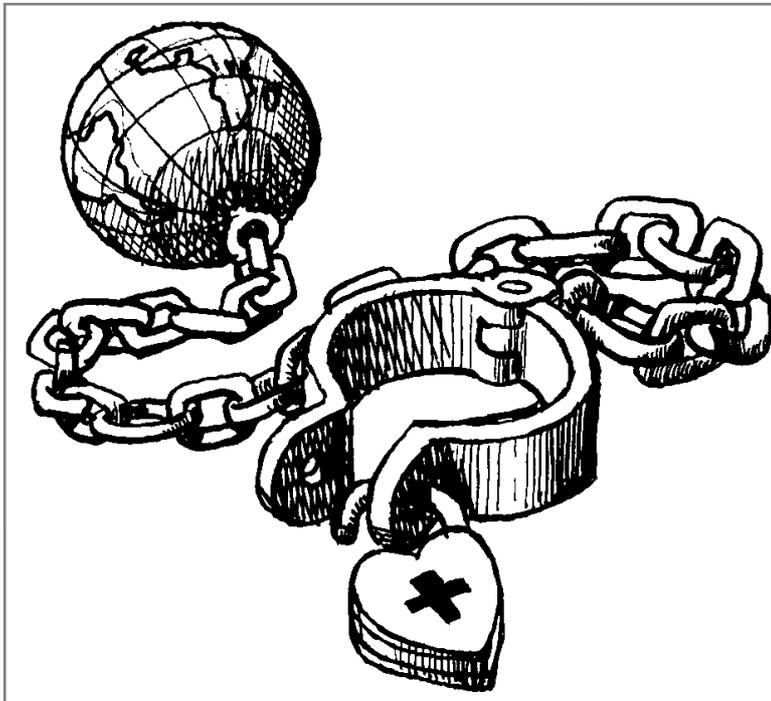
Parish Priest - Rev Richard McKay (tel: 0117-909-8810 / mob: 07779677370)

Catechesis: Mary Hopper (01275-830788) Caretaking of our buildings: Eddie Mgbeoduru

Safeguarding Reps: Mary Hopper (01275-830788) & Jennine Oldis (0117-915-0486)

Parish Administration & Hall/Room Bookings: Margaret Ulloa and Team (0117-909-0419)

SIXTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR



When Good News is Bad News!

St Oscar Romero of El Salvador discovered what many in Latin America came to realise before him - if you preach the Good News of Jesus, Good News to the Poor, then inevitably it becomes Bad News to those who cling to their power, their wealth and their corruption. And so often the powerful will seek to silence the bearers of Good News ... they assassinated St Oscar Romero while he was celebrating Mass!

Bad News if you refuse to change! But of course God's love is for rich and poor - but if the rich do not serve the poor and use their power to build a world where poverty and injustice is eradicated, then they have hardened their heart against God's love and will not experience that 'Joy which is the echo of God's Life in us'. And it will not matter how many prayers we say or Masses we attend or pages of the Bible we read - the only way to experience God's blessing is to love the Jesus of the Poor!

SUNDAY PARISH MASS signed for our Deaf community at 10am (*streamed: Parish Website*)

MONDAY: *Feast of Ss Cyril, monk, and Methodius, bishop, missionaries to the Slavs (9th c)*
Adoration at 5.30pm Service of Word and Communion at 6.00pm

TUESDAY: Adoration at 5.30pm Mass at 6.00pm (NB CHANGE OF TIME)

WEDNESDAY: *Prayer and Reflection at 10.00am (live-streamed on Face Book)*
Adoration at 6.00pm Mass at 6.30pm (*live streamed: Parish Website*)

THURSDAY: Adoration at 11.30am Mass at 12 noon

FRIDAY: Adoration at 8.30am Mass at 9.00am

***Jesus, in the midst of the throng of the poor and marginalised, cried out:
'How happy are you poor, the kingdom is yours! and you hungry - be filled!'***

SATURDAY: *Adoration* at 8.30am **Mass at 9.00am**
Adoration & Evening Prayer at 5.30pm (live-streamed on Face Book)
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 4.00-4.30pm only

TODAY [1] On the **Sixth Sunday of the Year** we celebrate Jesus the Prophet of the Poor, the Voice of the Poor, challenging a rich world to change. Luke gives us a form of the Beatitudes and expresses the cries and yearning of the Poor of the Earth and God's response to those cries! But what is our response? Will we listen and change our world?

[2] The 10.00am Mass will be **Signed for our Deaf sisters and brothers**. May they experience being valued by us, the Church, for gifts they bring us. Thank you, Sherrie & Lucy!

[3] We will also mark the **World Day of the Sick (Friday 11th)** by having Healing Prayer during the 10.00am Mass. Unfortunately it is not possible to offer the Sacrament of Anointing for Healing to the whole community, but there will be **Healing Prayer over the whole parish family and beyond**.

NEXT SUNDAY [1] The **Seventh Sunday of the Year** celebrates Jesus whose heart knows only love without limit. This Gospel passage carries perhaps the most challenging dimension of loving with the heart of Christ - loving enemies, blessing those who hurt us. He reveals the true heart of God, so different from much of the Old Testament understanding of God who they believed in a Warrior God who fights against their enemies. Jesus the pacifist can do nothing but love. He shares the power of the Holy Spirit of limitless love with us His disciples - so that we can carry on His mission of transforming the world and bringing peace, mercy and forgiveness upon the Earth. His grace and love alone can change the human heart!

[2] This is also **Racial Justice Sunday** as we pray and work for the end of all discrimination and anti-semitism, every form of the denial of human dignity and equality.

[3] There will be a **Special Retiring Collection for CAFOD for the Emergency in Afghanistan and Yemen** seeking to bring relief to the humanitarian disaster of starvation in both countries caused by the power games of nations while the people suffer (esp children!).

DIOCESAN PRAYER The Diocese prays for all the Parishes in Communion for Mission of Our Lady & St Alphege, Bath and St Joseph's, Peasedown St John, served by Fr Malcolm Smeaton, Parish Administrator Sara Smeaton, and all their community.

PRAY FOR THIS WEEK'S PARISH MINISTRY OR MISSION Pray God's Blessing for **Ministry of Liturgical Music - our choir and musicians**. As Covid restrictions are lifted it is time to come together as community and rebuild our ministries. Music and singing is an integral part of our worship of God in the Mass ... a life-giving ministry of Song. St Augustine famously said that 'to sing is pray twice over'. We need more musicians and singers please who are ready and willing to practice regularly and help worship God in the beauty of song. Please contact Caroline or Brice to get involved - all are welcome.

WORD OF GOD FOR SIXTH WEEK OF THE YEAR (SUNDAY CYCLE C; WEEKDAY CYCLE II)

Sunday	Jeremiah 17: 5-8 / Psalm 1 / 1 Corinthians 15: 12, 16-20 / Luke 6: 17, 20-26
Monday	James 1: 1-11 / Psalm 118 / Mark 8: 11-13
Tuesday	James 1: 12-18 / Psalm 93 / Mark 8: 14-21
Wednesday	James 1: 19-27 / Psalm 14 / Mark 8: 22-26
Thursday	James 2: 1-9 / Psalm 33 / Mark 8: 27-33
Friday	James 2: 14-24, 26 / Psalm 111 / Mark 8: 34-9: 1
Saturday	James 3: 1-10 / Psalm 11 / Mark 9: 2-13

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK

Env £45.00 + Loose £280.73 + PayPal ? + S/O £111.05 = TOTAL: £436.78 - many thanks!
 Cancer Research £263.27 Caritas £24.00 CAFOD £103.00 - thank you!

***Jesus, in the midst of the throng of the poor and marginalised, cried out:
 'How happy are you poor, the kingdom is yours! and you hungry - be filled!'***

DATES FOR THE DIARY 2022

13th Feb	Signed Mass for the Deaf at 10.00am with Healing Prayer for all present
19th Feb	Mass for Zimbabwean Community (in Shona) at 1.30pm
20th Feb	Mass with the LBGTQ+ community and friends at 3.00pm
2nd March	ASH WEDNESDAY - LENT BEGINS
3rd March	Parish Pastoral Council meets at 7.00pm (Assisi Centre)
9th March	Borderlands Board of Trustees & AGM
16th March	Parish Finance Committee meets at 7.30pm
18th March	Mass of Thanksgiving for Richard's 50th Anniversary of Ordination at 7.00pm
23rd March	Ashley Churches Together meet at City Road Baptist Church at 12.30pm
24th March	Feast of St Oscar Romero & Martyrs of El Salvador - Mass at 7.00pm
25th March	Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord - the Incarnation begins!
27th March	Mothering Sunday
29th March	Borderlands Annual Open Meeting at 2.00pm (Church) - all invited
2nd April	Celebration of First Reconciliation for our children
2nd April	Healing Retreat Day at Holy Family Centre, Prinknash Abbey - see below
10th April	PALM SUNDAY - HOLY WEEK BEGINS

ST NICK'S AND THE GLOBAL SYNOD I want to thank all who have, are or will take part in the Synod consultations that are taking place in the parish. Despite the impossible deadline we have to meet, over 80 people have participated in the groups so far and the reports that have come in are so rich with your experiences, reflections and insights (with so many truly prophetic voices among them). Also, thank you for all who shared their voice during the 'post-it' consultation during Mass last Sunday - this too was valuable and important. **A VERY BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THE FACILITATORS WHO HAVE DONE SUCH A WONDERFUL JOB!** Also thanks to Maggie, Reagan and Jennine who are preparing our parish report which will try to synthesise all the contributions.

It is so important that we continue this process of listening to each other and build this 'synodal process' into the fabric of our parish's communal decision-making. We will be discussing how we will do this going into the future. And it is not too late for more contributions and 'voices'.

Young People - Samantha Masenyama, Rutendo Chipato, Verina Muteve

West African Communities - Eneyi Pemu, Eustace Tameh

Zimbabwean Community - Christopher and Epiphania Chipato

East African communities - Eva Achoch, Fanuel Olala

Elders & Housebound Community - Andrew Bent

Womens Group - Jeninne Oldis, Minette Semper

LBGTQ+ community - Diarmuid White, John Flannery

Journey of Faith Group - Richard McKay, Mary Hopper

Spanish Speaking Group - Jackie Chenier

The Deaf Community - Sherrie Eugene-Hart

Facilitators Group - Richard McKay, Mary Hopper

Open Group - Marta Bolognani, Mary Hopper

If other groups wish to form, please contact Richard

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PROGRAMMES

THE FIRST RECONCILIATION PROGRAMME There are three groups this year:
a] The Spanish speaking families and children meet on Saturdays at 3.00pm in the Assisi Centre;

b] the older group of English-speaking children meet on Tuesdays at 4.00pm;

c] the younger group of children meet on Fridays at 4.00pm, in the Assisi Centre.

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Parents, please collect your children promptly at 5.00pm - thank you.

THE FIRST EUCHARIST PROGRAMME This has begun - each Thursday afternoon at 4.00pm in the Assisi Centre.

JOURNEY OF FAITH The Journey of Faith Group continues to meet on Zoom - each Friday at 6.00pm. New members - please send Richard an email address so he can send you the 'Zoom Invite'.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE MINISTRY OF THE PARISH OFFICE We have an urgent need to increase the size and capacity of our Parish Office Team. We need the following: Rental Car parking admin; Health and Safety officer (with basic computer skills); Welcomers in the parish office; administration (telephone and computer usage); Hall and Room bookings admin. A number of these tasks can be done from home rather than the office, but the Parish Office needs two people present Monday to Friday from 9.30am to 1.30pm. If you can help, please contact Richard, Mary or Margaret as soon as possible.

RICHARD'S 50th ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION As you all now know, there is to be a **Mass of Thanksgiving for the 50th Anniversary of my Ordination to the Presbyterate** (or Priesthood). This will be **on Friday 18th March at 7.00pm**, followed by a finger-food reception in the school hall. Bishop Declan and many friends and guests from around the diocese and beyond will be coming. **I hope very many of you, my parish community, will be able to come and welcome them and share the celebration.** In addition on **Sunday 20th March we will have a Parish Celebration at the 10.00am Mass, followed by our bring and share lunch (and more?).** It will also mark 25 years of ministry together since I came to St Nicks on 1st May 1997. I am profoundly grateful for the opportunity (calling) that God has given me to serve the Gospel, the People of God and the growth of the Kingdom over these 50 years, with 25 of them among you, my beloved community. Please come and share my joy and thanksgiving!

A COURSE ON CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

During the pandemic many people have looked for new paths to wellbeing -including meditation. Some will be Christians unaware that in our tradition meditation is also a prayer practice going back to the earliest times. Whether you seek wellbeing or another way of prayer you might enjoy a free course on Zoom offered to local people of all faiths and none by Bristol and Bath Christian meditators. Starting February 22, running for six consecutive Tuesdays, 7.45 to 8:45 p.m. For information, or to pre-register (essential) email roger.layet@btinternet.com, or call 01275 463727, or via <https://meditationcourse.eventbrite.co.uk>.

(Roger Layet writes on behalf of the Bristol/Bath region of the World Community for Christian Meditation which is organising the event. Patrons of the community include Cardinal Vincent Nichols and Rowan Williams. Our director is Fr. Laurence Freeman OSB.)

HEALING RETREAT DAY Led by Rev John Ryeland, Director of the Christian Healing Mission, is leading a day Retreat **on Saturday 2nd April from 10.30am to 4.00pm at Holy Family Centre, attached to Prinknash Abbey, nr Gloucester.** This day is for anyone who wants to learn more about the God who loves to heal and transform our lives. Donations towards the cost of the day welcome, and lunch and refreshments available at Prinknash Tea Rooms. Essential to register: contact Moira - moira.govan@gmail.com or 07732910554.

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 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.

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