



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)

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR



A Love too Radical - and so Necessary!

Is Jesus serious? Can He really expect us to be foolish enough to forgive enemies, lend without expecting the money to be repaid? Keep on giving with a generous heart?

But are we not made in the image and likeness of God? Are we not Temples of the Holy Spirit? Were we not clothed in Christ, with Baptismal garments of a New Life - the Life of God's love in us?

I suppose the answer is YES! He really does expect us to love like Him, because we share the same Spirit, the same Father, the same Mission as Jesus! And He knows more than anyone - the world absolutely needs us to be lovers like Him! His foolishness is in fact the wisdom our world needs!

SUNDAY PARISH MASS at 10am (*streamed: Parish Website*)

Mass with LBGTQ+ community and friends at 3.00pm - all welcome (streamed: Parish Website)

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

TUESDAY: Feast of the Chair of St Peter the Apostle & First Bishop of Rome
Adoration at 6.00pm Service of Word & Communion at 6.30pm

WEDNESDAY: Feast of St Polycarp, Bishop & Martyr (69-155)
Adoration at 6.00pm Service of Word & Communion at 6.30pm (*live streamed: Website*)

THURSDAY: Adoration at 11.30am Service of Word & Communion at 12 noon

FRIDAY: Adoration at 8.30am Service of Word & Communion at 9.00am

Jesus teaches his disciples (us!) to forgive, especially 'enemies' and all who hurt us; give with a generous heart; to overflow with compassion: to love!!

SATURDAY: *Adoration* at 11.30am **Mass at 12 noon**
Adoration & Evening Prayer at 5.30pm (live-streamed on Face Book)
Sacrament of Reconciliation: after Mass & 4.00-4.30pm

EIGHTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

SUNDAY PARISH MASS with Affirmation of Parish Synod Report at 10am (*streamed: Website*)

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

TUESDAY: ***Feast of St David, Bishop, Patron of Wales***
Adoration at 6.00pm **Mass at 6.30pm**

LENT BEGINS

WEDNESDAY: ***ASH WEDNESDAY - Day of Fast and Abstinence***
Mass (with the School and in Church) at 9.30am
Mass at 12noon at St Brendans Sixth Form College
Reception of Maisy Bouton RIP at 5.00pm
Adoration at 6.30pm **Parish Mass at 7.00pm (live streamed: Website)**

THURSDAY: *Adoration* at 11.30am **Requiem Mass for Maisy Bouton RIP at 12 noon**

FRIDAY: *Adoration* at 8.30am **Mass at 9.00am**

SATURDAY: *Adoration* at 11.30am **Mass at 12 noon**
Adoration & Evening Prayer at 5.30pm (live-streamed on Face Book)
Sacrament of Reconciliation: after Mass & 4.00-4.30pm

20/02/2022 [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] 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!).

27/02/2022 [1] On the **Eighth Sunday of the Year** we celebrate Jesus the Teacher of his disciples. He calls us as his disciples to seek to be like Jesus in all ways - not an 'Imitation of Christ', but a living out of his heart of love in our flesh, our lives, our minds and hearts. Before we look at others lives (and too often make judgements) we must look into our own hearts and lives and let the Lord gently but firmly bring light into our own darkness!

[2] We will as a Parish Community **welcome and affirm the Parish's Synod Report to the Diocese**. This is an important moment in the life our parish and our Church as we submit the fruit of our listening to each other in order to listen to what the Spirit is saying to the Church in our time. The Report will be published on our Parish Website on Friday 25th February after it is has been approved by your Parish Pastoral Council.

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DIOCESAN PRAYER The Diocese prays for the Parish in Communion for Mission of St Peter and Paul, served by Fr Bill McLoughlin OSM, and all their community. We remember also the Chaplaincy, staff and students of Bath University.

PRAY FOR THIS WEEK'S PARISH MINISTRY OR MISSION Pray God's Blessing for **Ministry of Catechists**. As Covid restrictions are lifted it is time to come together as community and rebuild our ministries. **We have an urgent need for people (young adults and parents?) to offer to help with our Catechetical Programmes** - preparing our children for First Eucharist and First Reconciliation, our young people for Confirmation and parents for the baptism of their children. There is also **a grave need for help on a rota basis with our Children's Liturgy of the Word** (during Sunday Mass) that we would like to restart, but do not have enough people to do so. *If you feel you can help with these programmes please contact Mary Hopper as soon as possible.*

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

Sunday 1 Samuel 26: 2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23/ Psalm 102 / 1 Corinthians 15: 45-49 / Luke 6: 27-38
Monday James 3: 13-18/ Psalm 18 / Mark 9: 14-29
Tuesday 1 Peter 5: 1-4 / Psalm 22 / Matthew 16: 13-19
Wednesday James 4: 13-17 / Psalm 48 / Mark 9: 38-40
Thursday James 5: 1-6 / Psalm 48 / Mark 9: 41-50
Friday James 5: 9-12 / Psalm 102 / Mark 10: 1-12
Saturday James 5: 13-20 / Psalm 140 / Mark 10: 13-16

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK

Env £121.00 + Loose £229.00 + PayPal ? + S/O £111.05 = TOTAL: £461.05 - many thanks!
 Caritas £10.00 - thank you!

DATES FOR THE DIARY 2022

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)
 6th March Catholic Handicapped Fellowship monthly resume Mass at 3.00pm (St Nicks)
 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
 20th March Parish Celebration & Lunch for Richard's 50th Anniversary of Ordination at 10.00am
 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**

STRESS IN YOUR MARRIAGE? Retrouvaille is a program for married couples that feel bored, disillusioned, frustrated, or angry in their marriage. Some experience coldness. Others experience conflict in their relationship. Most don't know how to change the situation or even communicate with their spouse about it. This programme has helped 6,000 couples who were experiencing difficulties in their marriage in the past year. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the programme commencing with a 'Virtual weekend on ... **3rd-6th March 2022**

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Call or text+44 788 7296983 - or Email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

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'.

Act or Die: Christians and the Climate Crisis: Our Responsibilities Now!

"We have to act quickly. What we do, I believe, in the next 3-4 years will determine the future of humanity." Sir David King, former chief scientific advisor to the Blair and Brown administrations (February 2021)

"If governments are serious about the climate crisis, there can be no new investments in oil, gas and coal, from now – from this year." Fatih Birol, Executive Director of the International Energy Agency (May 2021)

Christian Climate Action Bristol have arranged a zoom meeting for Christians across the UK, given by Dr. Larch Maxey, a leading climate crisis speaker, and activists Revd Sue Parfitt and Revd Mark Coleman. This will take place at **3.00 pm – 4.30 pm on Sunday 27th February.**

Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/our-responsibilities-as-christians-at-this-time-online-tickets-268091507917>

Over the next few months, thousands of people – students, trade unionists, members of the churches and people from all walks of life are preparing to do whatever it takes, non-violently, to prevent the Government from extracting from the ground more oil and other fossil fuels. There will be sustained action in March and April demanding that the Government initiates a rapid transition to renewables. It is unthinkable that the poor be left to suffer and die from the Government's failure to act.

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.)

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