



## St Nicholas of Tolentino RC Church, Lawford's Gate, Bristol BS5 ORE

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Download this Bulletin from the Parish Website: [www.tolentino.org.uk](http://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)

## FOURTH & FIFTH SUNDAYS OF EASTER



### ***CALLED TO BE A SHEPHERD - ME?***

Jesus is the Shepherd, Pope Francis is a shepherd, Bishop Declan and the priests are shepherds - not me, Lord, surely?

And Jesus says - be shepherds to one another. You are all equal, My sisters and brothers; you are all My disciples, all members of My Body. I have given you all My Spirit and in that Spirit you are all gifted for mission and ministry, you are all called and gifted to be witnesses to My Risen Life, all servants of the New World that is My Kingdom, all shepherds guiding, healing, nurturing My world and each other. My whole Church is Shepherd in the midst of the world - or it is not My Body!

All I ask you is - dare to love! Like Peter, love Me and then I can be Shepherd in you as well as Shepherd to you. Love each other and My Church will be a shepherd community in the midst of our broken world. Know your calling - you are all called to Shepherds, Servants, Lovers and Life-givers!

**SUNDAY** PARISH CELEBRATION for Vocation Sunday at 10am (*live on Parish Website*)

**MONDAY:** Adoration at 5.30pm

Service of Word and Communion at 6.00pm

**TUESDAY:** Adoration at 6.00pm

Service of Word and Communion at 6.30pm

**WEDNESDAY:** Adoration at 6.00pm

Service of Word and Communion at 6.30pm  
(*live streamed on Parish Website*)

**THURSDAY:** Adoration at 11.30pm

Service of Word and Communion at 12 noon

**FRIDAY:** *Feast of Our Lady of Fatima (apparitions to three poor shepherd children in 1917)*

Adoration at 6.00pm

Service of Word and Communion at 9.00am

***'I am the Good Shepherd - I lay down my life for you!***

***And I give you a New Commandment: Love one another as I have loved you!'***

**SATURDAY: Feast of St Matthias, Apostle (elected to replace Judas)***Adoration* at 8.30am

Service of Word and Communion at 9.00am

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** none today**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER*****LOVE IS THE LAW AND THE GLORY***

What is God's Glory filling Jesus? The Cross is the moment of Glory - and the Cross is the power of love transforming hate. God's Glory is God's Love!

So we glorify God not by splendid liturgies and churches, we glorify God by the splendour of our humble, gentle, strong and prophetic loving.

A new commandment that is beyond commandment for it is the magnetism of love not the compulsion of law. Law limits whereas Love liberates and opens us to an infinite vista where the impossible becomes the normal!

In the end love is always the answer: love reshaping itself in a million different ways in response to the need for love that cries out: whether it is a friend in pain or a continent starving; whether it is an addict needing acceptance or the Church needing challenging! Always the answer is love - and then more love!

**SUNDAY PARISH CELEBRATION of 3rd Easter at 10am (*live on Parish Website*)****MONDAY:** *Adoration* at 5.30pm

Service of Word and Communion at 6.00pm

**TUESDAY:** *Adoration* at 6.00pm

Service of Word and Communion at 6.30pm

**WEDNESDAY:** *Adoration* at 6.00pm

Service of Word and Communion at 6.30pm

*(live streamed on Parish Website)***THURSDAY: *Feast of St Dunstan, Abbot of Glastonbury & Archbishop of Canterbury (909-980)****Adoration* at 11.30pm

Mass at 12 noon

**FRIDAY:** *Adoration* at 6.00pm

Mass at 9.00am

**SATURDAY: *Feast of St Christopher Magallanes and 24 Martyrs of Mexico (1920's)****Adoration* at 8.30am

Mass at 9.00am

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** after Mass and 4.00-4.30pm

**8/05/2022** [1] **The Fourth Sunday of Easter is 'Good Shepherd' Sunday:** we celebrate the Crucified Lamb of God who was raised from death to become 'the Great Shepherd of the Sheep'. He is the One who comes searching for us when we stray and guides us home to our Father. In Baptism we too become shepherds, searching for the lost and helping them to find hope, identity and belonging in the Flock of Christ.

[2] It is also **Vocation Sunday**, when we pray for a deepened sense of vocation in each of our lives. Everyone is called - married, single, young, old, male, female, gay, straight etc. There is no-one that God does not call - called to intimacy with Him as the child of His love; called to be shepherd to others, supportive companions on the road of discipleship and holiness; called to care for the vulnerable, to care for the planet, to care for freedom, peace and justice. How do we answer God's call in our lives?

**15/05/2022:** [1] On the **Fifth Sunday of Easter** we celebrate the Risen Jesus who reveals the power that raised him from the dead - God's infinite Loving! If we are to work with Jesus to bring about the New Heaven and the New Earth, if we are to make 'all things new', then we are to love one another as he has loved us and so clothe all in the glory of divine love. The sole purpose of the Church is to be, through our words, our action, our shared life together, the Sacrament of God's limitless love! What a joy! What a Mission!

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**DIOCESAN PRAYER** 8/05/2022 The Diocese prays for the Parishes in Communion for Mission of our own St Nicholas of Tolentino, Easton, St Joseph's, Fishponds and St Patrick's, Redfield, Bristol, served by Fr Richard McKay, Fr Paul Vettikkatu CST, Canon Gregory Grant, Deacons Denis Deasey and Robert Easton, Pastoral Assistants Amelia Dunford, the St Nicks Team, Parish Administrators Margaret Ulloa and Team, Mary Ainger, Tracy McNama, and all their communities.

15/05/2022 The Diocese prays for the Parishes in Communion for Mission St Therese of Lisieux, Filton and St Vincent de Paul, Southmead served by Fr James Finan, Deacons Tom Douglas, Ludgero Ferreira Parish Administrator Debbie Nicholls, and both communities.

**PRAY FOR THIS WEEK'S PARISH MINISTRY OR MISSION** 8/04/2022 Pray God's Blessing for **Ministry of the Parish Pastoral Council** elected by the community as servant leaders, listening to the many voices in the parish and through the process of 'Synod' (journeying together with listening hearts) discerning what the Spirit is saying to our parish community about our mission and life. Elections to the PPC are coming very shortly - is God calling you to allow your name to go forward for possible election?

15/05/2022 Pray God's Blessing for the **Ministry of our Parish Office and Administration Team** led by Margaret Ulloa. This team are the 'cogs that keep the wheels of the parish turning smoothly' and effectively for Mission. The Office is not only a place for admin, but a place of pastoral care and outreach into the local community and so many people in their needs. Can you spare a morning a week to be part of the Parish Office Team? Please see Margaret.

### **COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK**

Env £ + Loose £ + Card Reader £ + S/O £111.05 = TOTAL: £ - thanks!  
- thank you!

### **DATES FOR THE DIARY**

19th May	Eucharist Programme resumes (with Parents meeting) 4pm at Assisi Centre
20th May	Journey of Faith resumes at 6.00pm (Assisi Centre)
22nd May	Anglican Ordinand (James Manning) begins placement at St Nicks
24th May	Parish Pastoral Council at 7.00pm (Assisi Centre)
25th May	Parish Finance Committee in Presbytery at 7.30pm
26th May	<b>FEAST OF THE ASCENSION (Holy Day of Obligation)</b>
29th May	Memorial Mass for Faustina Ogbu at 10.00am
4th June	Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations
5th June	<b>FEAST OF PENTECOST - 'COME HOLY SPIRIT'</b>
5th June	United Picnic in the Park (Mina Road Park) celebrating Pentecost 1.00-3.00pm
5th June	Bristol wide Churches gather on College Green to witness to Pentecost 7-8pm
12th June	<b>Feast of the Holy Trinity - Baptismal Sunday</b>
19th June	<b>Feast of the Body &amp; Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) with Procession</b>
2nd July	Mass Celebrating Marriage with Bp Declan in Clifton Cathedral at 12noon
5th July	Newly-elected Parish pastoral Council meets at 7.15pm (Assisi Centre)
10th July	<b>First Eucharist Sunday at 10.00am Mass</b>
15-17th July	National Quest Conference in Bristol
20th July	Ashley Churches Together Serving (ACTS) meets Parkway Methodist 12.30pm

**JOURNEY OF FAITH** The Journey of Faith Group resumes to meet on Friday May 20th at 6.00pm.

### **CATECHISTS AND HELPERS WITH CHILDREN'S LITURGY NEEDED NOW!**

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

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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. These ministries are a vital part of forming our children and young people to grow as People of Faith and Love - essential to the future of the Church and our parish. *If you feel you can help with these programmes please contact Mary Hopper as soon as possible.*

**LGBT+ MINISTRY**      **John Flannery writes:** It is clear from the parish Synod Report that the Clifton diocese LGBT+ ministry hosted by St Nick's has many friends and allies within the parish. If you would like to be kept informed about our activities, and news and events from the wider LGBT+ Catholic world, please consider subscribing to our monthly e-mail news and update. Simply send a message with 'subscribe' as the subject to: [inclusionforall@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:inclusionforall@cliftondiocese.com) Your data will not be shared & you can unsubscribe at any time.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:**      [1]      To help Carol Strainge with re-opening and running our 'Repository Shop' in the Parish Hall during refreshments after Mass on Sundays. It will involve setting up, ordering items, occasional stock-taking etc. For information please contact Richard and Carol as soon as possible

[2]      We are looking to recruit a Parish Treasurer - someone who has accountancy skills, chair our Finance Committee and oversee the parish accounts, annual Financial Return and help set the annual Budget. Please contact Richard as soon as possible.

**MASS WITH BISHOP DECLAN IN CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE** As in previous years, we are invited to celebrate and value the vocation to Christian Marriage at this special Mass in Clifton Cathedral on Saturday 2nd July at 12 noon. He would like to invite personally couples who are celebrating their wedding in 2022 or are celebrating special anniversaries (25, 40, 50, 60, etc). Please let Richard know if you have such an event this year.

**ELECTIONS TO OUR PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**      Because of Covid Restrictions these have been delayed, but it is now time to conduct Elections to our Parish Pastoral Council. As we seek to embed the process of Synod (listening and walking together as Church, discerning what the Spirit is saying to us), the servant leadership of the members of the PPC is crucial. We are moving to an increasingly lay-led parish served by a non-resident priest (likely to be Richard after his 'semi-retirement' in 2-3 years time). The role of the PPC becomes crucially important, giving leadership, ensuring Pastoral Care and Mission outreach, and enabling the liturgical and spiritual life of the parish. Those nominated for election to the PPC need to have commitment to this vision and capacity to foster it. More details to come!

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