



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

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(Office open: Monday-Friday 10am - 1.00pm)

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

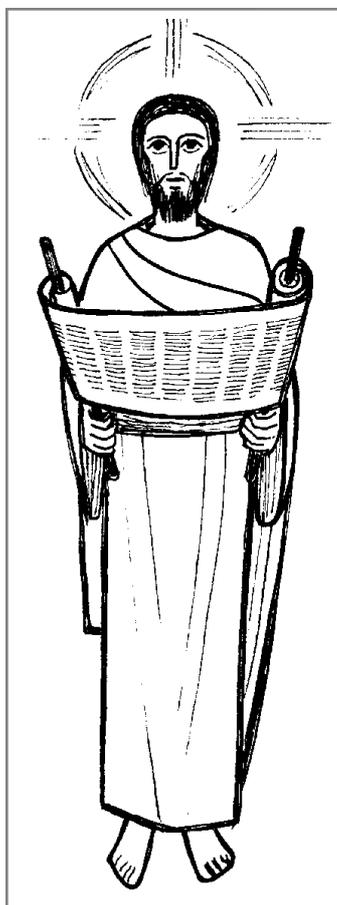
Parish Priest - Rev Richard McKay (tel: 0117-909-8810 / mob: 07779677370)

Catechesis: Mary Hopper (01275-830788) Caretaking of our buildings: 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 EASTER - 'Laudato Si' Week



LOVE - MEANING OF THE WORD, NATURE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Where is our 'home' - the house we live in? The part of the world we come from? The heart of a friend or a loved one?

Jesus says 'Make the Word your home ... as God makes you His home'. That does not mean memorise the Bible (though a better and deeper knowledge of our Scriptures is certainly needed!). It means letting Jesus be our home - make His Heart, His Mind, His Life, His Truth, His Way ... our home! Because the Word is not His words - but Himself, the Eternal Word of the Father forever spoken into the void to create and redeem - and the Word is Love, made flesh, tangible, touchable in Jesus.

So, make Love your Home and you have made the Word, Jesus, your Home ... and God has made you His Home! And our 'home place' is where we can truly be ourselves, with no masks that hide or conceal; a 'place' where I can speak my heart and know it will be heard and held reverently; a 'place' where I can grow and become, a 'place' where I find and live my freedom. The Church is meant to express that Home, that place of freedom, healing and loving - the place of Jesus! Does it?

SUNDAY PARISH MASS with Rite of Election at 10am (*live on Parish Website*)

Mass with the LGBTQ+ community and friends at 3.00pm - all welcome

MONDAY: Adoration at 5.30pm

Service of Word and Communion at 6.00pm

TUESDAY: *Feast of St Aldhelm, Abbot and Bishop (640-709)*

Adoration at 6.00pm

Mass at 6.30pm

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WEDNESDAY: ***Feast of St Bede the Venerable, Celtic monk, theologian and priest (673-735)***
Adoration at 6.00pm Mass at 6.30pm (live streamed on Parish Website)

THURSDAY: ***FEAST OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD (HolyDay of Obligation)***
School Mass at 9.30am (in church) - all welcome (NB NO MASS AT 12 NOON)
Adoration at 6.30pm Mass at 7.00pm (live streamed on Parish Website)

FRIDAY: ***Feast of St Augustine of Canterbury, first Archbishop of Canterbury (died 604)***
Adoration at 6.00pm Mass at 9.00am

SATURDAY: *Adoration at 11.30am Mass at 12 noon*
***Sacrament of Reconciliation:** after Mass & 4.00-4.30pm*

TODAY: [1] On the **Sixth Sunday of Easter** we celebrate Jesus in whom we find the Peace that world cannot give. We celebrate that the Church (you and me together) is called to be the Body of the Risen Christ in today's world, the Sacrament giving today's flesh to His Presence and peace in our world. We are called to be a 'community without borders' a community of open doors and open hearts where every person is a sister or brother, every person belongs and is beloved. To be a true Catholic is to have this 'universal heart' of Christ, making His Church a place of unconditional welcome - a place without borders or barriers.

[2] We have the joy of celebrating, the **Rite of Election** with Tracey who will be received into Full Communion and Confirmed in the Holy Spirit on Pentecost Sunday.

[3] This week marks the **7th anniversary of the publication of Pope Francis** groundbreaking Encyclical Letter on Climate Change and Social Justice - '**Laudato Si**'. We mark this during our mass to day and throughout the coming week.

[4] **We welcome today James Manning, an Anglican Ordinand** studying at Sarum College, Salisbury, who is on placement with our parish for next 3 months. We are privileged to support his journey towards Ordination and hold him and his family in our prayer.

NEXT SUNDAY: [1] With the **Seventh Sunday of Easter** we celebrate Jesus who unites us to Himself, to His Father and to one another in the unbreakable bonds of Love and Unity that His Spirit draws us into. Jesus prays, the night before He died for us, that all future generations of Christians would be united in love and faith, united in mission to our world. Sadly the Church has never fully lived out His prayer, never fully lived this Unity that is essential to our witness to the God of Jesus Christ before all the world. Let us heal our Church!

[2] Our mass is also a **Memorial of our sister Faustina Ogbu** who died two years ago of Covid at a time when we could not all share a proper funeral for her. There will be prayers at her graveside after the Mass and a reception at the Greek Orthodox Community Hall by Junction 3 - all are welcome.

ASCENSION FEAST

Who is this Who ascends into Glory?

Ascension? Some kind of medieval throw-back - a myth that belongs to a 'flat earth' past? As if Heaven was up there somewhere! Can we believe in the Ascension in our modern world of Hubble telescopes and deep space exploration?

Yet this is our brother, our flesh, our humanity, gathered up into the Divine, carrying us and all that is human into the very inner life of God, of the Trinity. His ascension is ours, for He carries us with Him, in Him. Ascension is not some weird and divine form of space travel, but rather the wonder of our transformation into a divine humanity. This is the Feast of our human dignity, for we are being 'divinised' as the great saints and mystics have dared to say, following the teaching of St John and St Paul.

Forever our flesh is now 'seated at the right hand of the Father', sharing the throne of God, utterly caught up in infinite and eternal loving that creates the Universe! No wonder He sends us out with this Good News to tell all the world, all creation!

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DIOCESAN PRAYER The Diocese prays for the Parishes in Communion for Mission of St Gerard Majella, Knowle and Christ the King, Knowle West served by Fr George Henwood, Fr Michael Derrick d'Mello, and both their communities.

PRAY FOR THIS WEEK'S PARISH MINISTRY OR MISSION This week we pray for the Ministry of our **Children's Liturgy of the Word Team**, co-ordinated by Mary Hopper. Since the beginning of Covid restrictions more than two years ago we have not been able to serve our wonderful small children in this way - but as you will see elsewhere in this newsletter we urgently are asking volunteers (including parents) to help us re-launch this ministry. This is a vital early building block of consistent catechesis for our children, for all children of infants school age (ie from 4 years to First Eucharist at 7-8 years). Please do contact Mary for information about volunteering to help rebuild our rota of CLOW leaders and helpers.

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK

24/04/22 Env £176.50 + Loose £123.00 + Card Reader £15.73 + S/O £111.05 = £426.28

1/05/22 Env £190.00 + Loose £100.00 + Card Reader £26.55 + S/O £111.05 = £427.60

8/05/22 Env £189.00 + Loose £111.00 + Card Reader £? + S/O £111.05 = £411.05

15/04/22 Env £117.50 + Loose £172.50 + Card Reader £16.89 + S/O £111.05 = £417.94

Donation £200 Caritas £5.00 - many thanks

DATES FOR THE DIARY

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 **FEAST OF THE ASCENSION (Holy Day of Obligation)**
 27th May St Nick's School Celebration of Queen's Platinum Jubilee at 2.00pm
 29th May Memorial Mass for Faustina Ogbu at 10.00am
 1st June Meeting of Borderlands Trustees
 4th June Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations
 5th June **FEAST OF PENTECOST - 'COME HOLY SPIRIT'**
 5th June Bristol wide Churches gather on College Green to witness to Pentecost 7-8pm
 12th June **Feast of the Holy Trinity - Baptismal Sunday**
 19th June **Feast of the Body & Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) with Procession**
 22nd June Presentation of Diocesan Synod Report at Clifton Cathedral at 7.00pm
 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)
 9th July Ordination of Joseph Meigh to the priesthood at Clifton Cathedral at 11.00am
 10th July **First Eucharist Sunday at 10.00am Mass**
 15-17th July National Quest Conference in Bristol
 20th July St Nicholas of Tolentino School Leavers and End of Year Mass at 9.30am
 20th July Ashley Churches Together Serving (ACTS) meets Parkway Methodist 12.30pm

OUR SCHOOL INVITES US TO SHARE QUEEN'S JUBILEE CELEBRATION Our Parish school will be having a whole school celebration on **Friday 27th May 2022 to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. All parents and parishioners are invited into school at 2pm** for a special performance from all the classes, there will be some whole school singing and each class will be given the opportunity to perform. Then we will have a cake sale, raffle drawer and some 'fete' games within the school grounds. Any money raised will go back to the children to support the learning and curriculum at St Nicholas. If you would like to donate any Raffle prizes or cakes for the cake sale please contact the office to let me know. The event is reliant on the community of St Nicholas coming together. If you know any local businesses that would be willing to donate any raffle prizes, please let me know.

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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 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.*

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.

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, can chair our Finance Committee and oversee the parish accounts, the annual Financial Return and help set the annual Budget. Please contact Richard as soon as possible.

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. All Nominations need to be given into the Presbytery or the Parish office by Sunday May 29th. Thank you.

CAFOD - The paradox of abundance Over 800 million people go hungry each day. Yet the world produces over 4 billion tons of food and we only need 3.7 billion tons to feed everyone. From all this food produced, a third is wasted. St John Paul II called this 'the paradox of abundance.' Clearly the currently global food system is not working. But as Pope Francis said, "Each of us has a role to play in transforming food systems for the benefit of people and the planet." Let's respond to his call! CAFOD's new campaign is called Fix the Food System. See www.cafod.org.uk/food for more information, including an invitation for parish groups to learn about the impact of our food with our Fix the Food System: a 7-station journey resource.

CHANGE OF HEAD TEACHER AT ST NICK'S SCHOOL Firstly I wish to thank Hilary Dunford for all she did for our children and staff at our school, especially though the most difficult period of Covid restrictions. Sadly ill health overtook her which caused her retirement. Secondly, I would like to welcome our new Head, Mrs Rachel James and ask your prayer for her as she assumes leadership of our school - an important ministry of our parish.

CALLING YOUNG PEOPLE 18+ - WORLD DAY OF YOUTH WITH POPE FRANCIS Special Youth Pilgrimage to Lisbon 31 July to 8 August 2023 - please contact Richard.

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