



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

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FEAST OF CHRIST THE UNIVERSAL KING



What kind of King is this...?

Strange King! A Cross of pain for a throne, thorns of torture for a crown, the stripped garments of a slave washing feet, bending low before his 'subjects' whom he calls brothers and sisters. Weapons? Only love and truth.

His Kingdom will not get very far like that, will it? Or will it? Everyone can be a citizen of this Kingdom - you do not have to make applications and sign papers and get references: you just have to love! You do not have to salute a flag, just reverence every human person, welcome every culture, value every child, struggle against every poverty and injustice.

Will this Kingdom get anywhere? YES! It is the power of perpetual revolution; it is the humble powerless of love that is the strongest and most transformative influence on Earth. Because the Kingdom is within you, and among us, and in every atom of creation, here is Kingdom, a Reign of God's Love and Truth that can transform the human heart and therefore will one day transform all Heaven and Earth. The whole of Creation, the Universe will radiate this love. will become the Body of Christ. Univer-

SUNDAY: PARISH CELEBRATION OF WORD AND COMMUNION at 10.00am
(live-streamed on Parish Website)

Service of Word and Communion with LBGTQ+ friends at 3.00pm - all welcome!

MONDAY: *Feast of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary*
Adoration at 5.30pm Service of Word and Communion at 6.00pm

TUESDAY: *Feast of St Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr, Patron of Musicians (3rd Century)*
Adoration at 6.00pm Service of Word and Communion at 6.30pm
(live-streamed Parish Website)

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WEDNESDAY: *Feast of St Andrew Dung-Lac (1175-1240), Priest and 117 Martyrs of Vietnam*
Adoration at 6.30pm Service of Word and Communion at 7.00pm

THURSDAY: *Feast of St Clement I, Pope & Martyr and St Columbanus, Celtic Missionary monk*
Adoration at 11.30pm Service of Word and Communion at 12 noon

FRIDAY: *Adoration at 8.30am Service of Word and Communion at 9.00am*

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

TODAY: [1] We celebrate the **Feast of the Christ, King of the Universe** on this last Sunday of the Liturgical Year. Pope Francis speaks of the Eucharist (in his Encyclical 'Laudato si' on Climate Change and Justice) as Christ's Cosmic Love! Christ the Creator is present in every atom of our Cosmos, is the heart of every star and galaxy! He is embedded in every scrap of dust on our beautiful planet. Our Mission is to share with him the task of caring for and developing our evolving 'Mother Earth' and liberate the poor and oppressed - especially as we confront the greatest human crisis in our history - Global warming.

[2] **Service of Word and Communion with the LGBTQ+ community** and friends at 3.00pm ... all are very welcome.

[3] I cannot be with you for this great Feast as I have been invited to share in a Thanksgiving Pilgrimage to Rome for UK priests celebrating 40/50/60 year anniversary of Ordination, and my flight is at midday from Bristol airport. I am saddened that I cannot celebrate this Feast with you all, but I will remember you all in prayer during this week of Pilgrimage.

[4] It is **National Youth Sunday**, a day when we support by prayer and giving the Church's ministry among young people, and value all our community's young people who bring their gifts and enthusiasm to the life, worship and work of our parish family. There is a Retiring Collection for the Catholic Youth Service: a national collection with some funding going to support work with young people in our parishes and the work done by the Diocesan Youth Worker(s), the Youth Ministry Coordinators for our diocese.

NEXT SUNDAY: [1] **With the First Sunday of Advent** we begin a new Liturgical Year (Year A readings Sundays and Year 1 readings weekdays), with most Gospels taken from Matthew's Gospel. The Season of Advent is the Season of Hope, the Season of Mission for a Church sent to build a 'New Heaven and new Earth' of justice, equality, peace - so that the Lord Jesus can come again and gather all creation into His Glorified Body for all eternity. We celebrate Jesus who came to 'wake us up' to our responsibility to serve His transformation of our world. With the crisis of Global Warming, the words of Paul are so challenging: 'You know "the time" has come: you must wake up now'!

[2] **With great joy we start again our 'Children's Liturgy of the Word' (CLOW)**, after a Covid enforced gap of two years. We are always looking for new helpers and leaders - please see Mary for information if you are willing to help perhaps once every 6 weeks.

DIOCESAN PRAYER The Diocese prays for the Parishes in Communion for Mission of St Dunstan, Somerton, and Holy Ghost, Yeovil, served by Fr Jean-Patrice Coulon MSFS, Fr Jose Maliekal MSFS, Parish Administrator Sue Chant and both their communities.

PRAY FOR THIS WEEK'S PARISH MINISTRY OR MISSION This week we pray for the **Ministry of our Ethiopian Orthodox Community**. We rejoice in the cultural diversity of our parish and the many gifts that each community brings to build our parish family and resource our mission. We are privileged to host the weekly Orthodox Liturgy in the Assisi Centre at 2.00pm. Please pray for peace in Ethiopia at this time.

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COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK

G.A. Env £30.00 + Loose £241.22 + Card Reader £5.00 + S/O £111.05 = £387.27- thanks
Donation (Ethiopians) £100.00 CARITAS FUND £500.00 Covenant with Poor £12.00

DATES FOR THE DIARY

27th Nov	First Sunday of Advent - a new Liturgical Year
3rd Dec	Memorial Mass for Mary Dowd RIP at 12 noon - all welcome
6th Dec	Parish Finance Committee at 7.30pm (via Zoom)
8th Dec	Legacy Management Group meeting at 7.15pm (Assisi Centre)
14th Dec	Parish Pastoral Council meets at 7.30pm - Assisi Centre
24th Dec	CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT MASS at 10.00pm
25th Dec	CHRISTMAS SOLEMN DAY MASS at 10.00am
31st Dec 2023	Watchnight Mass for New Year 2023 at 10.00pm
1st Jan	New Years Day - Feast of Mary Mother of God - Mass for Peace 10.00am
7th Jan	FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (Holyday of Obligation)
8th Jan	Feast of the Baptism of the Lord - Baptismal Sunday
13th Jan	First Reconciliation Programme begins at 4.00pm (Assisi Centre)
19th Jan	First Eucharist Programme begins at 4.00pm (Assisi Centre)

TIME TO START SCHOOL? If you have a child born between 1 September 2018 and 31 August 2019, now is the time to apply for a place at a Catholic primary school in the Diocese. You must complete an application form (either online or on paper) that is available from the school admissions team of the Bristol City Council, for admission during the 2023-24 school year. If your child has been baptised, you must also provide a copy of the baptism certificate to your preferred school. Please ensure you apply by the closing date of 15 Jan 2023.

JOURNEY OF FAITH This year's Journey of faith will now be on Wednesdays at 5.30pm followed by Mass at 7.00pm. For those enquiring about becoming Catholics, and for adults seeking the Sacrament of Confirmation, or a renewal and understanding of their faith.

CARING FOR THE POOR AND THE HOMELESS THIS WINTER

[1] How should we respond as a parish to the fuel poverty crisis? Can we offer our Parish hall as a **'Warm Space' to those suffering from this winters cold and cannot heat their homes?** We would need volunteers willing to open the Hall and provide warm drinks etc.

[2] **CHURCHES WINTER NIGHT SHELTER AND ST NICKS** Volunteers are still needed to take part in the Bristol Night Shelter project: we will be taking part in phase 1 of the project running **one day a week (Saturdays) from the beginning of January to March 2023** This winter again the project used a B&B in Bristol to house homeless people where each person will have their own room to use 24 hours from November 2022 running until March 2023

Volunteers are needed to share 2 shifts:

2x volunteers for Saturday lunch time from 12pm - 2pm

2x volunteers for Saturday evening from 6pm - 10pm

4x volunteers in reserve to act as cover

If you are unable to volunteer in person and would still like to help, as there is a need for volunteers to help make packed lunch sandwiches and cook the evening meals - catering also for vegetarians. All consumables such as sandwich bags, plastic tubs etc... will be provided. **FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO VOLUNTEER PLEASE CONTACT ASHLEY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, EMAIL- stnicks.bcwns@gmail.com.**

A FAITH FULL JOURNEY An evening series of on-line conversations to help deepen people's awareness of certain areas of faith and mission. The next session is on 23rd No-

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vember, 'How do we become and evangelising presence in the digital world' led by James Abbott. Each session will be from 7.30-8.45pm. For further information and the required internet link, please contact email: adult.education@cliftondiocese.com

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL FEEDBACK I am struck how dynamic our new Pastoral Council is, recognising the responsibility we have to plan well during these two years preparing for my semi-retirement by September 2024 and likely full retirement in 2026. Last week's meeting concentrated on how to embed the process of 'synodality' in our parish community and decision-making, a major part of that process, as well as sketching out the 'roadmap' towards the time when St Nicks will be a lay-led parish served by a non-resident priest (likely to be myself between 2024 and 2026). The PPC recognised the challenge of recruiting volunteers at this time willing to serve in the ministries that enable our parish life and mission to continue (eg parish office ministry, food bank ministry, cleaning the church ministry etc, catechesis ministry). Thanks to the Legacy we have received from the late Jean Hamnett we are in a position to employ both a Food Bank Manager and a Parish Administration Co-ordinator to support the work of the parish. These posts will be advertised early December.

LIVE-STREAMING MASS I am concerned to hear that some are using the live-streamed masses as a substitute for attending Mass in person, gathering with their community. Live-streaming is for those who cannot get to mass, not a substitute for those who can!

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS THIS CHRISTMAS Why not give a friend or family a gift that benefits the poorest of our world. Jesus is not honoured by lavish gifts to each other - when you give someone a CAFOD World Gift, you are giving to Jesus who identified himself with the poor who benefit from your Gift. Remember what He taught us in his final parable (Matt 25) - 'Whatever you do to the least of my sisters and brothers you do to me!' The catalogues for these CAFOD World Gifts are in the porch.

WANT TO SHARE THE TRUE CHRISTMAS STORY WITH NON-CHURCH FRIENDS then why not apply for free tickets to watch 'Why the Nativity' - a new feature film from 'Turning Point'. It will be screened at Cineworld Cinema in Bristol on Saturday December 3rd 10am to 12noon. A cinema quality film setting 'a new standard for how to reach the world with the Good news of Jesus Christ'. Get your free tickets by tel: 0800 058 2856 or visit www.WhyTheNativity.co.uk

CALLING PARENTS OF CHILDREN SEEKING FIRST EUCHARIST All parents wishing to enlist their children in our Parish First Eucharist Programme are asked to return the application forms by Monday 28th November to the School Office, the Presbytery or the Parish Office. You need to attend the Parents (only) meeting on Thursday 1st December at 4.00pm in the Assisi Centre. The course for the children will start on Thursday 19th January at 4.00pm in the Assisi Centre.

CALLING PARENTS OF CHILDREN SEEKING FIRST EUCHARIST Parents of children who have already celebrated their First Eucharist, but not yet celebrated their First Reconciliation are reminded that the commitment they made in bringing their children to First Eucharist includes the commitment to bring them to First Reconciliation the following year. You are also asked to return the application forms by Monday 28th November to the School Office, the Presbytery or the Parish Office. You need to attend the Parents (only) meeting on Thursday 1st December at 4.00pm in the Assisi Centre. The course for the children will start on Friday 13th January at 4.00pm in the Assisi Centre.

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