



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)

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT



RESURRECTION AND LIFE!

When Jesus called his first disciples, He said, 'Come and see' - see my life and discover new Life! Now shortly before His Passion, the people say to Jesus, 'Come and See' - not just the tomb of Lazarus, but come and see your coming death, by which we will receive your New Life!

Jesus wept at the grave, wept for the death of his friend, wept with Martha and Mary in their bereavement - and also wept for His own coming suffering and death. We need the courage to help those we love who are dying to weep, to grieve, for their own deaths. Help speak of death for that will help them come to live their death well, to welcome 'sister death' with faith and courage, knowing death is the friend who ushers us into the fullness of our life and the final liberation of our love.

Already we live the Resurrection and the Life, already we have 'died with Christ that we might rise with Him'. That is why we can live with the Holy Spirit's courage, and die with the same courage and tranquillity. Let us 'come and see' behold the Cross and the Tomb that holds the beloved and gaze into the mystery of our eternity, our Life!

SUNDAY: PARISH MASS with Rite of Child Catechumen at 10am
Stations of the Cross (for all suffering poverty and famine) 12.45pm

MONDAY: *No Liturgy today*

TUESDAY: *Adoration at 6.00pm* *Mass at 6.30pm (live-streamed Parish Website)*

WEDNESDAY: *Adoration at 6.30pm* *Mass at 7.00pm*

THURSDAY: *Adoration at 11.30am* *Mass at 12 noon*

Jesus said: 'I am the Resurrection and the life! Come out of the tombs and the darkness...I send you to unbind and set free for life in all fulness'.

FRIDAY: *Adoration* at 8.300pm **Mass** at 9.00am

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

TODAY: [1] On the **Fifth Sunday of Lent** we celebrate Jesus the Resurrection and the Life, who brings his friend Lazarus back from the tomb of death, sets him free to live and so prophecies in action His own death and resurrection. He calls us to 'unbind and set free' in the power of his overflowing life and love. We are called, challenged to be always Bearers of the Gospel of Life challenging the 'culture of death'.

[2] We celebrate the **Rite of Child Catechumen** with our families preparing for the baptism of their children on Easter Sunday morning at 10.00am Mass.

[3] We are consulting the community on the proposals about the **parish's future after Richard's retirement Autumn 2024** to be discussed with Bishop Declan when he meets the Parish Pastoral Council in May. Having given serious thought and prayer in the past week, please give your views. This is part of embedding the 'Parish in Synod' into the life and practice of our parish community and its decision-making.

[4] **Stations of the Cross (praying for all suffering poverty and famine both in UK and globally)** at 1.00pm (approx).

NEXT SUNDAY: [1] We begin Holy Week with **Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**. We greet the Lord as our Suffering Servant King and journey with Him from the 'triumph' of the joyous entry in Jerusalem with the cries of 'Hosanna' to the darkness of the mob shouting 'Crucify him' and leading Him to the Cross. Mass will start **in the school playing field at 10.00am** with the blessing of Palms and the Solemn Procession.

[2] There will not be Stations of the Cross, as we will have celebrated the suffering and passion of Christ in the Mass (the Gospel being the Passion according to Matthew).

DIOCESAN PRAYER The Diocese prays today for all Hospital and Prison Chaplaincies in the diocese. The Church is committed to be a healing community in Christ, alongside the sick and dying; and is committed to go to the margins of society to serve our sisters and brothers who are prisoners. Please pray for the priests, deacons and lay people involved in these Chaplaincies ... and for the ministries of Healing and Reconciliation they serve.

PRAY FOR THIS WEEK'S PARISH MINISTRY OR MISSION We pray for the **Ministry of Proclaiming the Word of God**. Co-ordinated by Reagan D'Mello, this ministry is not just about 'reading' but **Proclaiming our faith through the Word of God** during the Liturgy. The Word of God 'is alive and active' and as a Church we are sent by Jesus to proclaim His Word to encourage faith, to enlighten and guide, to inspire and give life. The Word is 'bread for our Journey' and at mass Jesus is truly present in the Word proclaimed.

COLLECTION LAST WEEK

G.A. Env £55 + Loose £340.26 + Card Reader £29.51 + S/O £165.88 = £590.39 - thanks!

Donation (Zim community) £61.00 CAFOD LENTEN FAST DAY £327.91 - still open, thank you!

FOODBANK There is a significant increase in demand for our Parish Foodbank since the cost of living crisis kicked in. Please deliver your gifts either during Mass on Sunday or to the Parish Office at the Assisi Centre. What kind of things? Long-life milk and juices, small jars of coffee, tins of meat, fish, vegetables, tinned tomatoes baked beans, soups, custard and fruit; packets of rice, pasta, cereals; jars of pasta sauce, ketchup, mayonaise, packet soups; toilet rolls, bars of soap, toothpaste, and other toiletries. *You are helping us to meet a vital need, making practical in these difficult times 'love of our neighbour' and 'God's Op-Jesus said: 'I am the Resurrection and the life! Come out of the tombs and the darkness...I send you to unbind and set free for life in all fulness'.*

tion for the Poor'. Please be as generous as you can. Thank you in the name of all whom we are serving.

DATES FOR THE DIARY 2023

26th March	Rite of Child Catechumen at 10.00am Mass
31st March	Parents Course for Child Baptisms Session Two at 6.30pm (Assisi Centre)
2nd April	PALM SUNDAY - HOLY WEEK BEGINS Mass at 10am (beginning with procession of Palms at School)
5th April	Mass of the Chrism at Clifton Cathedral at 11.00am
6th April	HOLY THURSDAY Mass of the Last Supper at 7.30pm, followed by Watching until midnight
7th April	GOOD FRIDAY - DAY OF CRUCIFIXION Walk of Witness & Way of the Cross at 11.00am (starts at St Nicks) SOLEMN LITURGY OF THE PASSION at 3.00pm
8th April	THE GREAT EASTER VIGIL - WELCOMING THE RISEN CHRIST MASS OF THE VIGIL at 9.00pm
9th April	EASTER SUNDAY - THE LORD IS RISEN! ALLELUIA! SOLEMN DAY MASS OF EASTER with Baptisms at 10.00am
25th April	Parish Finance Committee at 7.15pm (via Zoom)
29th April	Joint Meeting of Parish Pastoral Council, Parish Finance Committee and Legacy Group 9.30am-1.30pm (Assisi Centre)
11th May	Meeting of Parish Pastoral Council with Bishop Declan at 7.00pm (Assisi Ctr)
13th May	Lay Readers ('Proclaimer of the Word') Training Day 9.30am to 1.00pm
18th May	Feast of the Ascension of the Lord - Holy Day of Obligation
4th June	Feast of the Holy Trinity - Baptismal Sunday
11th June	Feast of Corpus Christi - First Eucharist Sunday

CAFOD LENTEN FAST DAY The 'Catholic Fund for Overseas Development' is the 'Jewel in the Crown' of the Catholic Church in England and Wales, and is greatly respected throughout the Relief and Development agencies in UK. Working closely with partner organisations in the developing world and using the local knowledge and expertise because of the global presence of the Catholic Church, CAFOD is your and my outreach into the world of the poorest communities in the world and is an expression of the Church as 'God's Field Hospital' in those areas in crisis because of poverty and/or natural disasters. It is the Church being a Prophet of Justice and Healing, and deserves our strong support and generous giving especially during this time of Lent. **Please support the annual CAFOD Lenten Fast Day on March 2nd and perhaps every Friday in Lent. Use the CAFOD envelopes or the Digital Card Readers by the Church entrance to give to CAFOD regularly. Thank you!**

PARENTS PREPARATION FOR CHILD BAPTISMS AT EASTER Parents seeking the baptism of their children this Easter are asked to inform Eustace Tameh or Fr Richard as soon as possible. Next Baptism course and celebration:

BAPTISMAL SUNDAY EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 9th at 10am Mass
Preparation Session: Friday 31st March at 6.30pm (Assisi Centre)

SECURITY ISSUES AT ST NICKS We have in recent weeks some strange 'thefts' from the Lady Chapel - a few weeks ago our small Icon of 'Our Lady of Peace' (Arabic script); a couple of weeks ago the plastic box with hosts ready for the weekday mass (twice!); and this week, two of our Holy Oils flasks (in Murano glass from Venice!). It seems we are being targeted but for some 'religious' motive? Please be aware of our need for heightened security.

St Nicholas of Tolentine Catholic Primary School - Governor Recruitment:

Jesus said: 'I am the Resurrection and the life! Come out of the tombs and the darkness...I send you to unbind and set free for life in all fulness'.

Our parish has had a school, supporting parents in raising their children in the Catholic faith, since 1852. The school is an integral part of our parish and is due to become part of the **Cardinal Newman Catholic Educational Trust** on 1 April and so will join together with other Catholic schools in the Diocese. This is to help secure the long term future of the school for future generations of Catholic and other children. Thank you to the governors who have helped the school to reach this stage. This new development provides the opportunity for new people to come forward and join the school's governing body, to help lead the school on the next stage of its journey.

“To be a governor of a Catholic School is to be involved in the mission of the Church because our Catholic schools are a very important part of our work for young people in the Church.” (Cardinal Basil Hume)”

If you would like to be part of the school's journey, helping to shape the lives of our children and so be involved in the Church's mission in Education, then apply to be a Foundation Governor. Please complete a nomination form <https://schools.cliftondiocese.com/form-2> as soon as possible. If you have queries or want more details, contact Bill McEntee, Governance Officer at Clifton Diocese via bill.mcentee@cliftondiocese.com or on 07710094976 – he would be delighted to hear from you!

LOVE THE CHRIST OF THE POOR - WORDS OF ST JOHN CHRYSOSTOM “Would you honour the Body of Christ? Do not despise His nakedness; do not honour him here in church clothed in silk vestments and then pass him by unclothed and frozen outside. Remember that He who said ‘This is my Body’ also said ‘You saw he hungry and gave me no food’. I am insisting that nothing can take the place of care for the poor. What use is it to adorn the altar with gold cloths and deny Christ a coat for his back? He would be outraged!”

COMMUNION UNDER BOTH KINDS RE-INTRODUCED POST-PANDEMIC Do please read the leaflet concerning restoring the Cup of the Lord's Blood to us, which will begin here at St Nicks on Palm Sunday - Good News indeed!

CALLING ALL LAY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST It is now about three years since Holy Communion was administered ‘under both kinds’ - ie offering the Chalice to God's people. Some of our newer Lay Ministers have not distributed the Precious Blood of the Lord before and others have not done so for so long. So I am asking all Lay Ministers at Mass today to stay behind for a short ‘practice’. I apologise for the late notice and understand if some cannot wait on after Mass, but I hope as many as possible will be able to do so.

‘PROCLAIMERS OF THE WORD’ - LAY READERS TRAINING DAY This is a very important Ministry - people of faith and love for the Word of God, called to proclaim the life-giving Word to God's people at Mass. We are seeking to call more people to this Ministry, so if you are interested and have a love of the Scriptures, please let Richard or Reagan know. There will be a Training Day for **ALL LAY READERS (‘PROCLAIMERS OF THE WORD’)** on Saturday May 13th from 9.30am, concluding with Mass at 12noon. Please keep this day and time free - thank you!

ALTAR SERVERS PRACTICES FOR HOLY WEEK Would all Altar Servers please attend the following serving practices to prepare for the most important week of the year - Holy Week. Please arrive on time - thank you!

Saturday 1st April at 10.30am - for Palm Sunday Liturgy

Thursday 6th April at 10.00am - for Holy Thursday Mass of the Last Supper

Friday 7th April at 10.00am - for Good Friday - Solemn Liturgy of the Passion

Saturday 8th April at 10.30am - for the Great Easter Vigil.

Jesus said: ‘I am the Resurrection and the life! Come out of the tombs and the darkness...I send you to unbind and set free for life in all fulness’.