



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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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)

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



Glory! Humanity or God?

What is this Light that shines through Jesus upon the mountain? Is it the glory of God, for He is the son of God? Yet God's glory is experienced more the in the dark cloud that overshadows them as they are plunged into the dark mystery of god whose Light blinds us in its radiance!

Is it not rather the glory of God-touched humanity - the New Humanity that Jesus comes to bring into the world to transform the course of history? That same glory that we have within ourselves, that is within every human person. This strange and awesome event on the Mountain of Divine Presence reveals to us that we are indeed glorious creations of God.

But we are to listen to Him! He is the New Moses who brings us a Law beyond all law - the 'law' of limitless love. He is the New Elijah, the prophet of justice, of freedom, of the Poor - the Prophet of God in whose Kingdom the poor and broken have first place.

And this Glory is a work - to touch every human person with this same Glory!

SUNDAY: PARISH MASS with Rite of Adult Catechumen at 10am (live-streamed)
Stations of the Cross (for Earthquake Victims) at 12.45pm - all welcome

MONDAY: *No Liturgy today*

TUESDAY: *Feast of Ss Felicity and Perpetua, Martyrs of North Africa (died 203)*
Adoration at 6.00pm Mass at 6.30pm (live-streamed Parish Website)

WEDNESDAY: *Feast of St John of God, Religious, Founder of the 'Hospitallers' (1495-1550)*
Adoration at 6.30pm Mass at 7.00pm

THURSDAY: Adoration at 11.30am Mass at 12 noon

Peter said 'Lord it is wonderful for us to be here!' The Voice from the Cloud of Divine Presence cries out, 'This is my Beloved Son ... Listen to Him.'

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

SATURDAY: *Adoration* at 8.30am **Mass** at 9.00am (In Assisi Centre)
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 4.00-4.30pm only

TODAY: [1] On the **Second Sunday of Lent** we celebrate Jesus who transfigures humanity in glory through his death and resurrection. At prayer on the Mountain of the Transfiguration with Peter, James and John, they glimpse His glory - a glory he wants to share with each of us. The Father is also preparing him for His journey through the darkness of the Cross into Easter Glory. We too make the same journey and we too glimpse the Glory that is both within us and awaiting us!

[2] We have the joy of celebrating the Rite of Adult Catechumen with Alifa, a member of our Journey of Faith group, preparing for Baptism. Please pray for her.

[3] Mass with the Catholic Handicapped Fellowship at 3.00pm - all welcome!

[4] **Retiring Collection for the Annual CAFOD Lenten Fast Day** - an essential part of our Lenten Fast and Charity - seeking justice for the poorest of the world. Huge needs!

NEXT SUNDAY: [1] With the **Third Sunday in Lent** the great Baptismal Gospels from John's Gospel are proclaimed - this week we celebrate Jesus who unseals the fountain of 'Living Water', the Holy Spirit, deep in the heart of the Samaritan woman by the Well. Jesus unseals that same 'fountain of Living Water', the Holy Spirit in us too, especially during these weeks of Lent. Will we come to drink from the Well of His love, His Spirit this Lent?

[2] **Stations of the Cross** at about 12.45pm, praying for the world's 90 million refugees!

[3] **Signed Mass with the Catholic Deaf Association** at 3.00pm - all welcome!

DIOCESAN PRAYER The Diocese prays today for all the background 'infrastructure' supporting the life and mission of our Diocese: the staff serving Bishop's House; the Diocesan 'Curia'; all Diocesan Services (located at Alexander House). This includes Finance, Property Services, Marriage Tribunal, Health & Safety, Education Service, Adult Education and Youth and Children's work, Safeguarding, Liturgy, Clergy Formation, Press Office etc. These services enable our parishes to function and be compliant with UK law. They are essential to the functioning of our parishes, supporting our mission and witness.

PRAY FOR THIS WEEK'S PARISH MINISTRY OR MISSION We pray for the **Ministry of the St Nicholas Bread Foodbank**. This is a core mission of the parish, serving so many individuals and families afflicted by the cost of living crisis by providing food each week for up to 1000 people (including children). We are appointing a Food Bank Manager, but we also need volunteers willing to offer a morning a week (Monday, Wednesday and/or Friday) 9.30am-1.30pm, including preparation time & cleaning up afterwards. Volunteers for this essential and life-giving work, please contact Margaret after Mass on Sundays or via the Parish Office (tel: 0117-909-0419; email: bristol.stnicholasoftolentino@cliftondiocese.com)

COLLECTION LAST WEEK

G.A. Env £67.00 + Loose £212.29 + Card Reader £44.25 + S/O £165.88 = £489.42 - thanks!

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-*

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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

- 9th March Liturgy Planning Group at 6.30-8.30pm (Assisi Centre)
 9th March Liturgy of Reconciliation with Bp Declan, Sacred Heart, Westbury-on-Trym 6pm
 15th March Ashley Churches Together Serving meet at 12.30pm
 15th March Borderlands Trustees meet at 1.30pm
 18th March Proposed Music Ministry Day of Refection 9.30am-3.30pm
 22nd March Mass with National Quest Community (via Zoom) at 7.00pm
 23rd March Parish Pastoral Council Meets at 7.00pm (Assisi Centre)
 24th March Anniversary Mass of St Oscar Romero's Martyrdom at 7.00pm
 24th March Parents Course for Child Baptisms Session One at 6.30pm (Assisi Centre)
 25th March Reconciliation Service including First Reconciliation at 10.30am
 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**
 9th April **EASTER SUNDAY - THE LORD IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!**
 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)
 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 Sessions: Friday 24th & 31st March at 6.30pm (Assisi Centre)
Rite of Child Catechumen Sunday 26th March at 10am Mass

CALLING YOUNG PEOPLE TO CONFIRMATION IN THE HOLY SPIRIT We have a group of about 10 young people interested in exploring whether they are ready to be confirmed in the Holy Spirit. The minimum age for Confirmation is 13 years. While parents are asked to encourage their children, the decision to be confirmed **MUST REMAIN THE DECISION OF THEIR YOUNG PERSON THEMSELVES**. The Confirmation Course will begin on Friday 21st April at 5.30pm. If there are other young people apart from those who met last Sunday, please contact Richard or Mary Hopper as soon as possible.

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PARISH LITURGY PLANNING GROUP BEING FORMED As part of our preparation for the time when we will no longer have a resident priest (Autumn 2024), Richard has invited those who play an important role in the Liturgy to come together to explore the purpose and shape of our Catholic Liturgy and to learn how to plan our Liturgy, especially Sunday Mass. Our first meeting will be on **Thursday 9th March 6.30-8.30pm in the Assisi Centre.**

DAY OF REFLECTION ON THE MUSIC MINISTRY OF OUR PARISH A core ministry of our Parish supporting our worship and growth together as a community is our Music Ministry (singers and instrumentalists making up our choir). **On Saturday 18th March from 9.30am to 3.30pm** members of the Music Ministry are asked to spend this time reflecting prayerfully on the spiritual nature of this ministry and the commitment involved.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT ST NICKS



[1] **Foodbank Manager** 22.5 hrs a week Salary: £25000-28,000 p/a (35 hours fte) pro rata Pension: Clifton Diocese Pension Scheme with Royal London
2 Year Fixed Term Contract (with prospect of becoming permanent)

[2] **Parish Office Co-ordinator** 14hrs a week Salary: starting salary £20,950 (35 hours fte) pro rata Pension: Clifton Diocese Pension Scheme with Royal London 2 Year Fixed Term Contract (with prospect of becoming permanent)
For a suitable candidate the two posts could be combined to make a full-time job.
Person skills and support of the Parish's Mission to the Disadvantaged essential.

Email bristol.stnicholasoftolentino@cliftondiocese.com to express interest.

JOINT MEETING OF PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL, PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE AND LEGACY MANAGEMENT GROUP As part of our planning for the future development of the parish and our mission, there will be a joint meeting of these three decision-making bodies in the parish to work of strategy for the future with its personnel and financial implications. This special meeting will take place **Saturday 29th April 9.30am to 1.30pm** and will help us to prepare for the meeting with Bishop Declan at the Parish Pastoral Council on Thursday 11th May.

St Nicholas of Tolentine Catholic Primary School - Governor Recruitment:

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!

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