



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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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)

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - 'Good Shepherd' Sunday



Jesus, the gateway to a full life!

A shepherd who really knows each sheep and loves them in their individuality and uniqueness. A shepherd who leads them into the fullness of their lives, who nurtures love and life in them. A shepherd who protects them from the false voices, the siren voices who would lead them not to themselves but into a servitude that diminishes their humanity.

Such is the shepherd, Jesus. Indeed He is the gateway to life - a life filled with joyous self-offering, courageous transcendence, and simple but dynamic loving.

Jesus is the shepherd who guides us safely through the gateway of freedom - the freedom to serve, to love, to proclaim, to give life, to build peace, to create community: the freedom of God!

And he calls, you and me, to be shepherds with his heart to one another, to be life-givers, love-bearers and freedom makers! Will you be His kind of Shepherd, His kind of Love, His kind of

SUNDAY: PARISH MASS at 10.00am (*live-streamed on Parish website*)

MONDAY: *No Liturgy today*

TUESDAY: *Feast of St Joseph the Worker*
Adoration at 6.00pm Mass at 6.30pm (*live-streamed Parish Website*)

WEDNESDAY: *Feast of Ss Philip and James, Apostles*
Adoration at 6.30pm Mass at 7.00pm

THURSDAY: *Feast of 284 English Martyrs of the Reformation (from 1535 to 1690's)*
Adoration at 11.30am Mass at 12 noon (*offered for Sr Austin Donnelly RIP*)

Jesus said: 'I am the gate of the sheepfold, that you might enter into life in all fulness; just listen to my voice and I will lead you into freedom!'

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] The **Fourth Sunday of Easter** celebrates the Risen Christ who is our Good Shepherd who leads into the eternal pastures of joy and Resurrection Life. He is the gateway to life in all its fulness. Let us listen to voice of the Shepherd as He leads us and all the Church during this time of Global Synod - leading us to new pastures, new ministries, a renewed sense of mission. We are called as the Body of our Shepherd Christ to be a Gateway of hope, healing and peace for humanity and indeed all creation. Are we ready to be a Shepherd community, to each other and to the wider community and world around us? Will we listen to His voice as He calls each one of us to the adventure of being missionary disciples?

[2] This is **Vocations Sunday**, praying as we do for a deepened sense of God's calling in each of our lives. Every one of us has a particular vocation from God - let us listen to the 'whispers of the Spirit' in our heart. Each of us is called to proclaim the Good News and serve the Kingdom of Justice, Love and Peace; each of us is called to care for our environment and seek to heal the abuse of our good Earth so that future generations will be able to thrive on this planet. Vocations to marriage, to ordained ministries and to the religious life are necessary to the mission of God's Church. **We seek to call members of our community to the many ministries of the Spirit (preparing for a future without a resident priest).** Let us pray that through this Global Synod the Church will affirm, recognise and accept God's calling of both men **and** women to new forms of ordained ministry. We must tolerate no longer the Eucharist famine that the rules of the Church impose on most Catholics around the world. This is not being a 'Shepherd Church'!

NEXT SUNDAY: [1] The **Fifth Sunday of Easter** Jesus the Way, the Truth and the Life. He is the 'Icon' of the Father, the fulness of Divine Love made flesh walking in our humanity. In His Resurrection He is the victory of love over hate, of light over darkness, of life over death. He reveals the Way we should live, the Truth that liberates us and our authentic Life ... because He is the Love that creates the Universe!

[2] There is a **Retiring Collection for the Clergy Training Fund.**

[3] There is Mass for the catholic Handicapped Fellowship at 3.00pm - all invited!

DIOCESAN PRAYER The Diocese prays today for the Parish in Communion for Mission of St Mary, Bath, served by Mgr Jeremy Rigden, Provost of the Diocesan Chapter, Parish Administrator Mrs Charlotte Boyall and all their community.

PRAY FOR THIS WEEK'S PARISH MINISTRY OR MISSION We pray for the **Parish Pastoral Council**, with Co-chairs Marta Bolognani and Reagan d'Mello. Elected by the parish community they are to listen to our voices, discern together God's vision for our parish and give leadership into the future development of our parish's life and mission. The role of the PPC is crucial as we journey towards a lay-led parish without a resident priest.

COLLECTION LAST WEEK

16/04/23 G.A. Env £23.00 + Loose £284.22 + Card Reader £27.04 + S/O £165.88 = £500.14

23/04/23 G.A. Env £10.10 + Loose £212.10 + Card Reader £? + S/O £165.88 = £388.08

CAFOD £102.50 **'Caritas'** £40.00 **Donation (Zimbabwean)** £36.00 **thank you!**

Thank you for your generosity in supporting the annual 'salary' of your priest through this collection (and also at Christmas).

DATES FOR THE DIARY 2023

2nd May Borderland Trustees meeting

Jesus said: 'I am the gate of the sheepfold, that you might enter into life in all fulness; just listen to my voice and I will lead you into freedom!'

6th May	Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla
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
21st May	Appeal for new members of the SVP (Society of St Vincent de Paul)
29th May	Parish Finance Committee meets at 7.30pm (via Zoom)
4th June	Feast of the Holy Trinity - Baptismal Sunday
8th June	Parish Pastoral Council meets at 7.15pm
11th June	Feast of Corpus Christi - First Eucharist Sunday
8th July	Christians at Bristol Pride Service at 10.00am (Cotham Parish Church)
12th July	Ashley Churches Together meet at Salvation Army Ashley Road Citadel 12.30pm
23rd July	Bishop Declan celebrates Confirmation with our young people at 10am Mass

SR AUSTIN DONNELLY RIP Sr Austin DC a member of the Sisters of Charity, lived, prayed and worked in our parish for many years. Most of this time she was part of the Team at Clifton Catholic Adoption Society which is still located in Pennywell Road. She died peacefully in Southport in the north of England and is on Thursday 4th May at 12 noon. I have been in contact with her community in Southport and assured them of our prayer for Sr Austin and all who grieve her. Regrettably I am unable to attend her Funeral Mass, but **I will offer the 12noon Mass on Thursday 4th may for her Happy Repose in the eternal love and joy of God.** All are invited to come and share this Mass.

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 Option for the Poor'. Please be as generous as you can. Thank you!*

PARENTS PREPARATION FOR CHILD BAPTISMS ON 4th JUNE Parents seeking the baptism of their children on Trinity Sunday, 4th June at 10am Mass are asked to inform Eustace Tameh or Fr Richard as soon as possible. Details of the Baptism Preparation course and celebration:

BAPTISMS ON TRINITY SUNDAY SUNDAY JUNE 4th at 10am Mass
Preparation Sessions: to be confirmed (Assisi Centre)

'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!

'LIGHT OF TRUTH' - a five-week course on how we talk about our Catholic Faith

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| 3. How to talk about Salvation (and the problem of evil) | May 4 |
| 4. How to talk about the human person | May 11 |
| 5. How to talk about the Church | May 18 |

To sign up, parishioners need to click on: <https://www.lightoftruth.uk/event-details/further-training-for-catechists-2023-04-20-19-30>

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NEW APPOINTMENTS SERVING THE PARISH MISSION:

I am very pleased to announce that we have appointed a Food Bank Manager and welcome Mike Conway to serve the Parish's Mission to the disadvantaged. We have also appointed a Parish Office Co-ordinator, Mrs Astrid Thompson, who will support both the administrative and pastoral work through the parish office. She begins work this coming week. We welcome both Mike and Astrid to the 'Parish Team'. I would like to thank Margaret Ulloa who has voluntarily carried both roles for the past 15 months. We owe her a great debt of gratitude.

MARKING THE CORONATION OF KING CHARLES III

This event on Saturday 6th May marks a very significant moment in the history of our nations of the United Kingdom and is of great constitutional importance. I invite suggestions about how we might as a Parish mark the event. Please let me or members of the Parish Pastoral Council know in the two weeks - thank you!

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME BEGINS FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

It is a great joy for our community that there are 10-12 young people (over 13 years old) who have expressed an interest in being Confirmed in the Holy Spirit to take their place with us in the Mission of the Church and to be gifted to build up the Body of Christ in love and faith. **The Confirmation Preparation Programme is held each Friday at 5.30pm in the Assisi Centre.**

FROM THE DIOCESAN VOCATIONS DIRECTOR:***"Come, follow me"***

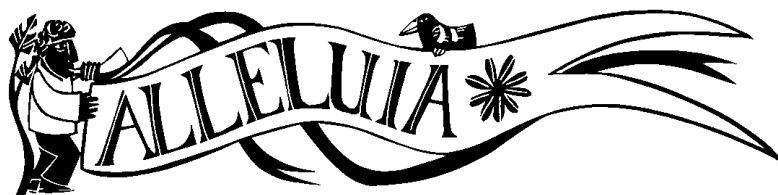
This coming Sunday is Good Shepherd Sunday - the worldwide day of prayer for vocations. This year we are encouraged in Clifton Diocese to pray for vocations to the priesthood for our diocese. Please watch our two seminarians talk about vocation and their own journey to seminary, how they responded to the call, and their life at seminary: go to www.cliftondiocese.com/vocations.

TRADITIONAL STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN LADY CHAPEL

We have erected a set of the traditional Stations of the Cross in the Lady Chapel. They were originally displayed in our former Chapel of St Maximilian Kolbe, Edith Stein and the Holocaust Martyrs (next to the former St Thomas More Secondary School). These will complement the larger Biblical Stations, (carved in Malawi) which begin with the Last Supper, in the main body of the Church. All who wish to pray the Stations of the Cross that begin at the Judgement Seat of Pontius Pilate which appears in most Catholic prayer books, are very welcome to use the Lady Chapel for this purpose. Please pray the Stations for the suffering of our world, for the Crucified One walks among all who suffer.

ST NICHOLAS OF TOLENTINE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEEDS YOU!

As a school we are so proud to be a part of the parish of St Nicholas, we are fast on our journey to improving the Catholic Education provided for all children at our school. An integral part of our development is creating a strong Local Governing Body. We have spaces for foundation governors and would love if some of the positions were filled with representation from our Parish. If this is something you would be interested in, you can find more information <https://schools.cliftondiocese.com/governance> or please contact the Principal Mrs Rachael James to arrange a meeting.



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