



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: Astrid Fagon and Team (0117-909-0419)

TWENTIETH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR



The Cry that changes the Heart

Statistics and reports are important if we are to understand our world. But they can deafen us to the cry of the human heart. They can substitute for compassion. They can be our hiding place from human suffering.

Our asylum-seeking sisters and brothers experience this. The numbers game becomes the manipulative tool of the media and the weapon of political rhetoric. Yet when the cry of pain is heard, when people can gaze into the eyes of the suffering, a change of attitude comes and compassion is born.

Jesus hears the cry of the pagan woman and He comes to understand His mission in new and universal terms. His Church needs to place before the world a heart that listens, eyes of compassion that gaze, a community who places the poor and broken, the wounded and hurting first before all the statistics and political rhetoric. The Church - the place of the heart!

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

Mass with LGBTQ+ community and friends at 3.00pm - all welcome (Live-streamed)

MONDAY: *Feast of St Pius X, Pope (1835-1914)*

No Liturgy today

TUESDAY: *Feast of Mary, Queen of Heaven*

Adoration at 6.00pm

Service of Word & Communion at 6.30pm

WEDNESDAY: *Feast of St Rose of Lima, first Saint of the Americas (1586-1617)*

Adoration at 6.00pm

Service of Word & Communion at 6.30pm

A foreign woman came to Jesus, the Jewish Messiah, pleading that he heal her daughter - He said 'Woman, you have great faith' ... and her daughter was healed!

THURSDAY: *Feast of St Bartholmew, Apostle**Adoration* at 11.30pm *Service of Word & Communion* at 12noon**FRIDAY:** *Adoration* at 8.30am **Mass** at 9.00am**SATURDAY:** *Feast of Blessed Dominic Barberi, Passionist Priest (1792-1849)**Adoration* 11.30am **Mass** at 12noon**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** After Mass and 4.00-4.30pm

TODAY: [1] With the **Twentieth Sunday of the Year** we celebrate Jesus who is sent by the Father to gather all humanity into the orbit of God's love. A foreign woman, a Canaanite, helps him discover that He is not simply the Jewish Messiah, but has a Universal Mission. He is the Sacrament, the Living Icon, of God's Universal Love. Are we truly His Body, the Church? Do we share His Universal Love where all really are welcome, all really do belong?

[2] As an expression of God's universal Love, we celebrate **Mass with the LBGTQ+ community**, families and friends at 3.00pm - and all we are welcome!

[3] Last Sunday we marked '**Sea Sunday**', when we pray for and support financially the Church's Mission among those who serve (in very hard and often exploitative conditions) in the shipping transport, holiday cruises and fishing industries. **Unfortunately the Retiring Collection was not taken, so we do so today - please be as generous as you can - thank you.**

[4] David from the Diocesan Safeguarding Office is available after Mass until 1.00pm to **help all those who need DBS checks** (or renewal of the checks) in order to work in various roles in the parish. **Please be sure to see him after Mass today.**

NEXT SUNDAY: [1] The **Twenty-First Sunday of the Year** poses each of us the question 'Who do you say Jesus is?' Does Jesus belong to the small world of my personal belief? Does He inhabit church and sanctuary? Or is He truly Lord of Heaven and Earth? Does He bring us a new religion, or liberate a New Humanity. Is His concern that I attend Sunday Mass or does He seek to transform my life - and through me the world about me?

DIOCESAN PRAYER The Diocese prays today for the Parish in Communion for Mission of English Martyrs, Chard, together with Crewkerne and St Joseph, Ilminster served by Fr Michael Faney MSP, Parish Administrator Maggie Weedon, and all their communities.

PRAY FOR THIS WEEK'S PARISH MINISTRY OR MISSION We pray for the **Ministry of our Parish Choir**. The Music Ministry of our parish is so important, a vital part of enabling us to praise and worship our God in a fitting way as we gather Sunday by Sunday. We invite volunteers from all our different cultures to come forward to sing or play instruments. We particularly need a keyboard player. The choir tries to gather weekly for a practice. Please contact Jackie Chenier or Richard.

COLLECTION LAST WEEKG.A. Env £35.00 + Loose £226.96 + Card Reader £4.92 + S/O £165.88 = £432.76- **thanks!****DATES FOR THE DIARY 2023**

29th Aug Parish Finance Committee meets (via Zoom) at 7.30pm

30th Aug Parish Pastoral Council meets at 7.30pm

1st Sept Journey of Faith 2023/2024 begins at 6.30pm (Assisi Centre)

3rd Sept **Celebration of Parish Feast of St Nicholas of Tolentino at 10.00am**

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3rd Sept	Mass with Catholic Handicapped Fellowship at 3.00pm
5th Sept	Borderlands Trustees meet
8th Sept	Beginning of School Year Mass at 9.30am
10th Sept	Nominations for enlarged Parish Pastoral Council members close
24th Sept	Election of 6 new members for the Parish Pastoral Council
5th Oct	Enlarged Parish Pastoral Council meets at 7.15pm (Assisi Centre)
7th Oct	Gathering of the Diocese at St Brendans Sixth Form College

UPDATING SAFEGUARDING AND DBS CHECKS There are a number of new volunteers in roles that need a DBS check as part of Safeguarding Procedures; there are also a number of us who need to renew our DBS checks. Illness has hampered this process, but David Oliva Arbues of the Diocesan Safeguarding Office will be here on Sunday 20th August after Mass (12noon to 2.00pm) to process the checks. For all concerned please bring one photo ID (passport or photo driving licence) and two address ID's (eg utility bills, bank statements etc). All applying for a diocesan DBS check for the first time will need to bring two referee names and addresses.

REPAIRS TO ROOFING, GUTTERING AND WALLS OF THE CHURCH

Long overdue work to make our buildings weather-proof will begin shortly - work that will be funded by the Legacy Management Group rather than normal parish funds. Scaffolding will be erected all around the church and parish hall. As soon as I have a definite date for this I will publish it. There is bound to be some inconvenience but the work is essential. Thank you for your understanding and patience.

JOURNEY OF FAITH We have concluded this year's Journey of Faith. We will begin the 2023/2024 Journey of Faith on **Friday 1st September at 6.30pm** with the 'Come and See' meeting. We invite all who wish to consider becoming Catholics to come to this meeting (and contact Richard before then); together with those who wish to explore their faith more, Catholic adults who have not been confirmed in the Holy Spirit and all who desire a 'renewal' of faith and commitment as Disciples of Christ.

ANDREW BENT'S ORDINATION TO THE DIACONATE Andrew is being ordained a Permanent Deacon on **Saturday 23rd September in Clifton Cathedral at 11.00am**. He invites all who wish to share this special day with him to come to the Mass of Ordination. Very sadly I will be on holiday that weekend (normally the Ordination is held in July!), but I do encourage our community to share the Mass and pray for him as he takes this profound step of commitment to the service of the Church and the poor and marginalised.

PATRONAL FEAST OF ST NICHOLAS OF TOLENTINO We will celebrate our Patronal Feast and rededicate ourselves to the shared community Life and Mission of our parish on Sunday 3rd September. All are invited to wear their national or cultural dress and bring food from around the world to share. Please bring the food to the Parish Hall **before** the 10am Mass. Let us all make it a priority to come together for the Patronal Feast and recommit ourselves to the work of Christ Jesus in our parish.

BORDERLANDS NEWS Borderlands was established by the parish as an independent Christian Charity in 2011, with Richard as its founding Chair. The time has come for him to step back from this role and so he has resigned as Chair and as a Trustee, but of course will continue to support and champion the excellent work of our refugee and asylum charity. He is delighted that a former parishioner, Kimberlee Carstensen, has been elected the new Chair of Borderlands. He is very confident that with her leadership and a gifted Board of Trustees, the Charity will go from strength to strength and develop greatly its life-giving work.

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CAROLINE PRICE TO MAKE VOWS For some years Caroline was an Anglican Nun until she became a Roman Catholic. Since then she has sought to continue to live this vocation to the 'Religious Life' as a lay woman. Bishop Declan has agreed to receive her private Religious Vows at Mass in St James's Priory on August 26th at 2.00pm. All are welcome to share her joy that day by participating in the Mass.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS The PPC decided recently that we needed to enlarge the Council, as in this period of transition towards Richard's 'semi-retirement' the work and responsibility increases while some members' capacity has lessened. **So we seek nominations in order to elect 6 new Parish Pastoral Councillors no later than Sept 10th with Elections on Sept 24th.** Please think and pray carefully about this: who might be suitable and have the capacity to offer the servant leadership PPC members to which commit themselves. Availability, cultural, gender and age diversity are all aspects to reflect upon. Please make sure you have the consent of the person you are nominating prior to nomination. All Nominations to be submitted by Sunday 10th September.

THE CHURCH IN SYNOD - BOTH GLOBALLY AND LOCALLY Pope Francis is seeking reform to the way decisions are made in the Catholic Church - moving from a top down 'hierarchy' delivering edicts to a process of mutual listening and prayerful consideration leading to greater consensus in which all Catholics take part. This radical change can only happen if at local parish, deanery and diocesan level we seek ways of engaging all of us in this prayerful listening and 'communal discernment'. The PPC are asking convenors of the Synod groups of 18 months ago to reconvene their groups in September, so that together we can build a truly 'synodal' parish of equality, ministry and mission.

POPE FRANCIS SENDS BLESSING TO THE WORK OF QUEST UK Our Diocesan Ministry among the LGBTQ+ community is linked with QUEST SW. Quest celebrated its 50th Anniversary this year and Pope Francis sent a message thanking Quest for its service of the LGBTQ+ community stressing that 'all are welcome' and valued in the Church. He also sent his blessing upon Quest's work and witness. Thank God for Pope Francis and Quest!

Clifton Diocese in partnership with 'Light of Truth' are offering a six-week course for the formation of catechists.

The six sessions cover:

1. Introduction to catechesis – 21 September
2. Proclaiming the Good News: Jesus Christ at the heart of catechesis – 28 September
3. The Faith of the Church: Introduction to the Catechism – 5 October
4. Scriptural catechesis: introduction to the Bible – 12 October
5. Methods and Resources – 19 October
6. Preparing a Catechetical Session – 26 October

This training is for seasoned or new catechists working with children, young people or adults, for everyone involved in Children's Liturgy of the Word, and for anyone interested in passing on the faith.

To sign up for the series please contact:

Sarah Adams adult.education@cliftondiocese.com

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