



## 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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Download this Bulletin from the Parish Website: [www.tolentino.org.uk](http://www.tolentino.org.uk)

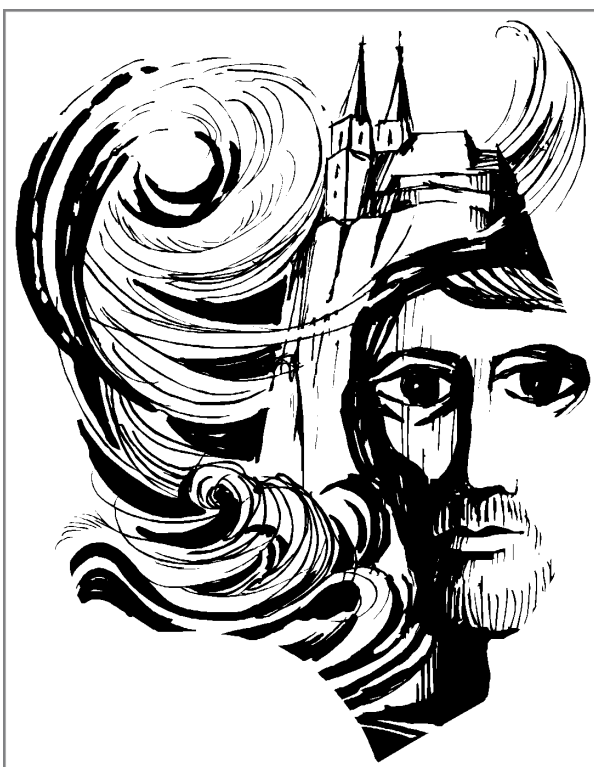
Parish Priest - Rev Richard McKay (tel: 0117-909-8810 / mob: 07779677370)

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)

## TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF THE YEAR



### *The Power of the Keys... the Power of Hope*

Jesus gives Peter and the Church power to bind and loose - but what is this power?

The only power given to the Church, and the only power the Church should ever seek (it is the only power that really matters) is the power of love. So the power of the Holy Spirit given by Jesus is the power to bind us together in love, the power to bind us as a community of Hope for a world that too often seems to be falling apart, dividing, rioting and warring.

The power to loose is the power to loosen the chains that imprison humanity into destructive patterns, to fling wide open the doors of Hope, the Doors of Kingdom mercy and healing. The Power of Love draws all to enter through the gates of Holiness and Wholeness, to find a life rich with hope and divine humanity! May the Church never seek any other power!

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

**MONDAY:** *No Liturgy today*

**TUESDAY:** *Feast of St Augustine of Hippo, Bishop & Theologian (354-430)*  
Adoration at 6.00pm Mass at 6.30pm

**WEDNESDAY:** *Feast of Ss Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line, Margaret Ward, Martyrs (16th cent)*  
Adoration at 6.00pm Mass at 6.30pm

**THURSDAY:** *Feast of St Aidan (died 651) and the Saints and Martyrs of Lindisfarne*  
Adoration at 11.30pm Mass at 12noon

*How rich are the depths of God - how deep His wisdom and knowledge. All that exists comes from Him; all is by Him and for Him. To Him be glory for ever! Amen.*

**FRIDAY:**     **World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation**  
*Adoration* 5.30pm     **Mass for Creation at 6.00pm**

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

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** After Mass and 4.00-4.30pm

**TODAY:**     [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?

**NEXT SUNDAY:** [1]     We celebrate our **Patronal Feast of St Nicholas of Tolentino, and our Rededication to being 'Good News to the Poor'**. Jesus is God's Option for the Poor and we His Body, His Church, are likewise called to be that same Option for the Poor and marginalised. We are called to build a world where all human persons can grow and flourish in peace, equality and freedom. We are called to be the People of God who care for our Earth and listen to its cries of pain so loud this year with heatwaves, wildfires, floods and hurricanes. As we listen we must act and NOW!  
 [2]     All are invited to wear their national or cultural dress and bring food from around the world to share, as we continue the celebrations after Mass. 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.

**DIOCESAN PRAYER**     The Diocese prays today for the Parishes in Communion for Mission of Our Lady Mary of Glastonbury, St Michael, Shepton Mallet, Our Lady Queen of Apostles, Cheddar and St Joseph and St Teresa, Wells served by Fr Dominic Findlay-Wilson, Fr Tony Pazhayakalam CST, Parish Administrators Miss Kim Woolmer, Mrs Charlotte Lythaby and all their communities.

**PRAY FOR THIS WEEK'S PARISH MINISTRY OR MISSION**     We pray for the **Ministry of our Catechists**. This is a fundamental ministry in our parish, laying the building blocks of a community of disciples of Christ. Our Catechists 'break the Bread of the Word' in preparing parents and children for Baptism, First Eucharist, First Reconciliation, and our young people for Confirmation. We are in great need of volunteers to come forward to help in this ministry - training both diocesan (see elsewhere in this bulletin) and parish is given. Contact Mary Hopper who co-ordinates this ministry.

**COLLECTION LAST WEEK**

G.A. Env £22.00 + Loose £294.57 + Card Reader £19.66 + S/O £165.88 = £502.11- **thanks!**  
**Retiring Collection (Sea Sunday) £68.73 CAFOD £26.00 Caritas £62.52 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 5.00pm (Assisi Centre)
3rd Sept	<b>Celebration of Parish Feast of St Nicholas of Tolentino at 10.00am</b>
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

***How rich are the depths of God - how deep His wisdom and knowledge. All that exists comes from Him; all is by Him and for Him. To Him be glory for ever! Amen.***

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

**THE SEASON OF CREATION - A CALL TO PRAYER AND ACTION** Pope Francis has placed the issues of Global Warming and Justice for the Poor at the heart of the Church's mission and witness. He has also *established September as 'The Season of Creation'*. We have witnessed in recent months the ravages of Climate Change in heatwaves and wild fires, together with drought and floods. We all need both to pray and to act to bring healing to our planet and all its creatures. When will we wake up to our responsibility to make radical changes to our life-styles and force our governments to enact policies that are faithful to pledges made to limit Global Warming to 1.5C. Our 'common home' our 'Mother Earth' is heading for catastrophic harm unless we act NOW! *'Lord, open our eyes to see, our ears to hear and our wills to act decisively and urgently!'*

**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. Thank you to David Oliva Arbues of the Diocesan Safeguarding Office who came here last Sunday to process the checks. Will those who were not able to attend last Sunday's session please contact Margaret as soon as possible to arrange urgent catch-up. All concerned need to 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.

**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 5.00pm** 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.

**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 your are nominating prior to nomination. All Nominations to be submitted by Sunday 10th September.

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**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. He has also sent blessing and congratulations to the Catholic LGBTQ+ Ministry in Australia who also celebrate 50 years of work and witness this year. Thank God for Pope Francis, Quest and the world-wide Catholic LGBTQ+ community and all who welcome and serve them!

**CLIMBING SNOWDEN IN PRAYER TO RAISE FUNDS - PLEASE SPONSOR**

Join the LOV Verbum Dei Hikers on a remarkable journey of faith and charity! On September 9th, they will ascend Snowdon, Wales' highest peak, dedicating their steps to prayer intentions and raising £5,000. **Their mission is twofold: aid the Foodbank of St Nicholas of Tolentino, helping over 250 individuals in need, and repair the Broken Lift at St Mary On-the-Quay, Bristol's oldest Roman Catholic church, ensuring accessibility for all.**

As members of the LOV Verbum Dei Ministry, they are committed to living the Word of God through action. By supporting them, you uplift the marginalised and empower parishioners seeking Mass attendance. Join hands with them to create positive change. Donate generously and be part of their shared journey. Your contributions will make a significant impact, amplifying Christ's love and compassion in the world.

**To give go on this website:** <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/lov-verbumdei> or use the QR code.

**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](mailto:adult.education@cliftondiocese.com)

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