



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

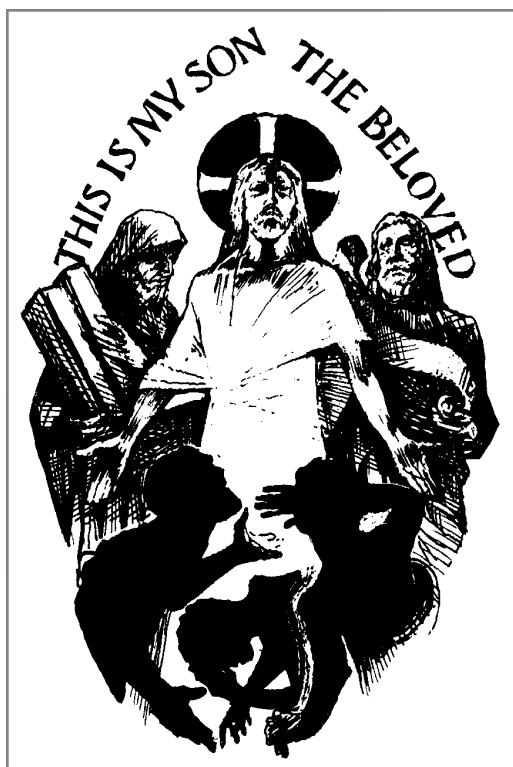
Parish Priest - Rev Richard McKay (tel: 0117-909-8810 / mob: 07779677370)

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

FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD



Transfigured by Love - Light in our Darkness

On the stillness of the mountain, in the solitude of God, there is community - the community of the disciples overwhelmed by the experience of Love's glory; the community of the Prophets, Moses, Elijah and Jesus talking of Love's Victory over Law that will be the Cross that lies ahead; and the Community above all Communities - the Father who speaks, the Son who hears and witnesses and the Spirit who overshadows with empowering stillness.

Three interlocking communities, all with the same aim and objective: that Love should transfigure the world. Into the silence the Word of Love is spoken ('my beloved son'); into the darkness of the cloud light shines forth with Love's blazing brightness; into the loneliness of the mountainside, loving community is celebrated and glimpsed - and love breaks forever loneliness. Only Love truly transfigures, only Love will heal the world that is broken, divided, unjust and at war. Do we have the courage to love another as He loves us. Real community will bring miracles of Transfiguration to our cold, dark, loveless world!

SUNDAY: PARISH MASS for Peace & Nuclear Disarmament 10.00am (*streamed on website*)

MONDAY: *No Liturgy today*

TUESDAY: *Feast of St Dominic, priest & Founder of the Order of Preachers (1170-1221)*
Adoration at 6.00pm Service of Word & Communion at 6.30pm

WEDNESDAY: Adoration at 6.00pm Service of Word & Communion at 6.30pm

THURSDAY: *Feast of St Lawrence, Deacon & Martyr (died 258)*
Adoration at 11.30pm Mass at 12noon

The Father's Voice cries out: 'This is my Beloved Son - Listen to Him!' But do we?

FRIDAY: *Feast of St Clare of Assisi, Nun Founder of Poor Clares (1194-1253)*
Adoration at 8.30am *Mass at 9.00am*

SATURDAY: *Feast of Ss Maximilian Kolbe, Priest (1894-1941)*
and Edith Stein, Carmelite Nun, Martyrs of Auswicz (1891-1942)

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

TODAY: [1] We celebrate the **Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord**. We like the three apostles glimpse the glory of God-touched humanity; we too are overshadowed by the cloud of the Spirit's embrace; we also hear Abba Father say to us 'This is my Son the Beloved - Listen to Him'. This the Feast not only of the Glory of God in Jesus, but is also the Feast of the Glory of God in each one of us! Alleluia!

[2] It is also the anniversary of the **dropping of the first Atomic Bomb** on the city of Hiroshima - a crime of immense proportions that has ever since made our world a more dangerous and less human place! We must work for total Nuclear disarmament, and the end of all war and the injustices that often lie at the root cause of war.

NEXT SUNDAY: [1] On the **Nineteenth Sunday of the Year** we celebrate Jesus our brother who comes walking alongside us in the midst of every storm and crisis in our own lives and the life of the Church. We need to fix our gaze upon him, trust his love for us and for His Church, and 'listen to the voice of the Lord'.

[2] We will mark '**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. **There will be a Retiring Collection - please be as generous as you can - thank you.**

DIOCESAN PRAYER The Diocese prays today for the Parishes in Communion for Mission of St Edmund, Calne and St Anthony of Padua, Melksham, served by Fr Vincent Curtis, Parish Administrator Mrs Sharon Pearce, and both their communities.

PRAY FOR THIS WEEK'S PARISH MINISTRY OR MISSION We pray for the **Ministry of our Journey of Faith (or RCIA group - 'Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults')**. Every week from September to Pentecost this group meets to accompany those seeking faith and praying about becoming Catholic Christians, and those seeking a deeper understanding or renewal of their faith. We also prepare adults Catholics for Confirmation. All are welcome to come and share the Journey, share their faith experience and faith questions. Can you encourage someone to who might consider becoming a Catholic or an adult seeking Baptism to come and join us? If you are interested contact Richard or Mary Hopper.

COLLECTION LAST WEEK

G.A. Env £30 + Loose £363.86 + Card Reader £44.86 + S/O £165.88 = £604.60

Donation (Foodbank) £50.00 - many thanks

DATES FOR THE DIARY 2023

6th Aug	Feast of the Transfiguration & Hiroshima Day: Prayer for disarmament
15th Aug	Feast of the Assumption of Mary - HolyDay of Obligation
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

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.

CHURCH CLEANING - FRIDAY MORNINGS Thank you to those who have been serving the parish in this way each Friday morning from about 10.00am onwards. **Some have found work so we urgently need more volunteers who can commit once or twice a month to come.** Please Contact Eddie or Richard to volunteer for this ministry, act of service to God and the whole community. Thank you!

GOD'S CALL TO SERVE THE LIFE AND MISSION OF YOUR PARISH It is very clear that our parish, together with all churches and voluntary organisations around the country, has not yet recovered fully from the effects of the Covid Pandemic and the restrictions placed upon our meeting together during that time. A significant number of our community are not coming to Mass here for a variety of reasons. It is a joy to welcome new families and individuals who have found their way to St Nicks. However there has been great difficulty in drawing members of the parish into being part of the many ministries and tasks of the parish. Whether it is the SVP, the welcoming Ministry, Church Cleaning, the Foodbank, Catechists, too few are doing too much in support of the parish's life and mission. We are all called by our baptism to serve and build the Church as a mission community. We are all called to sacrifice time and energy to build our parish community and supports the Mission of Christ entrusted to us. I realise only too well that many have heavy commitments caring for children or elderly family members and juggling work and family. They are indeed serving Christ in these ways. But I do ask everyone to reflect whether some time can be given to sustain the parish's life and mission as we move towards a lay-led parish. This will be a great challenge for all of us. Please pray about this urgent need in building our parish.

THE CRISES OF OUR TIME - A CALL TO URGENT ACTION! This week we have witnessed two major events that must challenge our Christian conscience! **Firstly, the Passing of an immoral and internationally illegal Immigration Act** in Parliament this week is traumatising even further so many of our refugee and asylum sisters and brothers. When there are so few legal paths for refugees to enter UK to detain and remove those who do manage to get here along dangerous journeys is contrary to all we believe as Christians. God in our Scriptures tells us to 'welcome the stranger', to treat them justly and with respect. This new Act does the opposite and needs to be opposed by all peaceful ways. **Secondly, we have witnessed the ravages of Climate Change in heatwaves and wild fires, together with drought.** 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 reduce 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!'**

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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

NEW LECTIONARY INTRODUCED IN ADVENT 2024 It has just been confirmed that a new translation of the Lectionary Readings will come into use on the first Sunday of Advent 2024. The 'English Standard Version - Catholic Edition' (already used in India) will replace the Jerusalem Bible that we have been using for over 50 years. The translation of the psalms will be 'Abbey' rather than the Grail version we are so used to hearing, reading and singing. It will take time to get used to the new translations.

POPE FRANCIS ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS Pope Francis stated the following last November: *'Now is the time to affirm not only the immorality of the use of nuclear weapons, but the immorality of their possession... genuinely concerned by the catastrophic humanitarian effects of any employment of nuclear devices and the risk of accidental detonation as a result of any kind of error, the threat of their use, as well as their very possession, is to be firmly condemned. They exist in the service of a mentality of fear.'*

NEED FOR WELCOMERS It is so important that when people come to Mass on Sundays (especially if they are visitors or have not been to Church for a long time) that they are warmly welcomed. We need more volunteers for our Welcoming Ministry. It makes such a difference when people are greeted at the door. Welcomers will need to arrive no later than 9.30am for this Ministry, ready to hand out the bulletin and any Liturgy sheets.

SCHOOL CAR PARK OFF LIMITS! Because of essential building works taking place in our parish school over the summer holidays, we cannot park our cars in the school car park. Many apologies for any inconvenience. This does not affect the Parish Car park area.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL UPDATE [1] It was decided at last week's meeting that we needed to enlarge our PPC, 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 for 6 new Parish Pastoral Councillors no later than Sept 10th with Elections on Sept 24th.

[2] The PPC wants to embed a 'synodal' pattern of making decisions in the parish as well as re-building our community (post-Covid), and so will be contacting past conveners of 'synodal' groups (last January, February) to gather groups together once more.

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