



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

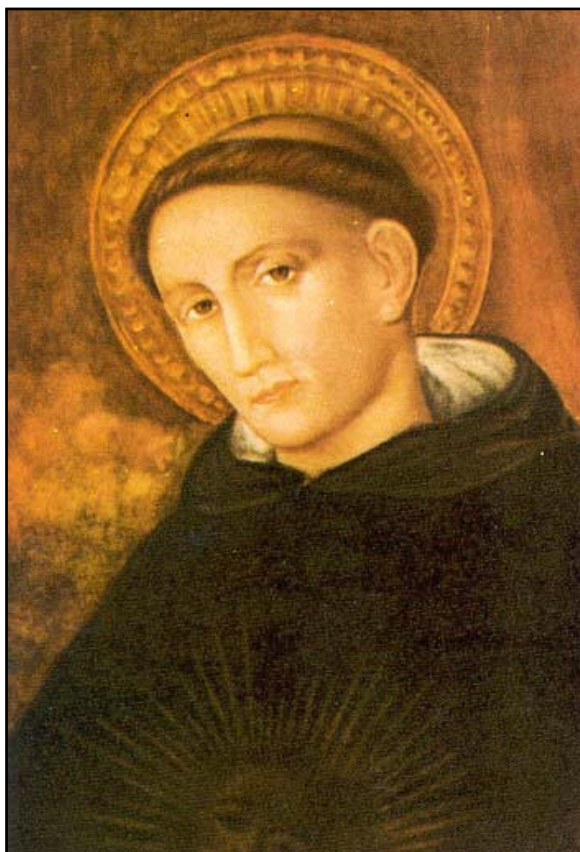
Parish Priest - Rev Richard McKay (tel: 0117-909-8810 / mob: 07779677370)

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-SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR PATRONAL FEAST OF ST NICHOLAS OF TOLENTINO



LOVER OF GOD, LOVER OF THE POOR

St Nicholas, lover of children, born like Samuel, Samson and John the Baptist of barren parents, the gift of God and his parents gift to God.

St Nicholas, who learnt to break bread with the poor long before he learnt to break the Bread of the Eucharist - risking his future in obedience to the God of the Poor and disobeying the voices of those who knew not the poor man of Nazareth.

St Nicholas, man of prayer who entered Love's silence in order to proclaim Love's Saving Word.

St Nicholas, vessel of God's healing love, from whom healing and life flowed in all abundance, raising the dead, healing the wounds, setting free.

St Nicholas, God's compassion to the prisoner, God's protector and rescuer of the prostitute, listening with an gentle heart and open mind.

St Nicholas, reaching in praying love beyond the bridge of death, holding the Departed in the purifying love of God. **St Nicholas, inspirer of our mission, healer of our wounds!**

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

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

MONDAY: *No Liturgy today*

TUESDAY: *Feast of St Cuthbert, Celtic monk and Bishop of Lindisfarne (634-687)*

Adoration at 6.00pm

Mass at 6.30pm

Called to be Good News to the Poor, raising up the downtrodden and oppressed bringing about a Jubilee world of Justice and Equality - our Covenant as disciples!

WEDNESDAY: *Adoration* at 6.00pm **Mass at 6.30pm**

THURSDAY: *Adoration* at 11.30pm **Mass at 12noon**

FRIDAY: *Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary*
Mass with the School for beginning of the Academic Year at 9.30am - all welcome

SATURDAY: *Feast of Bl Frederick Ozanam, Founder of the SVP*
Adoration at 11.30am **Mass with Anointing of the Sick at 12 noon**

Sacrament of Reconciliation: After Mass and 4.00-4.30pm

TODAY: [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 heat-waves, 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.

[3] September Mass with the Catholic Handicapped Fellowship **has been cancelled** - this Mass will resume on Sunday 1st October at 3.00pm

NEXT SUNDAY: [1] On the **Twenty-Third Sunday of the Year** we celebrate Jesus who is not afraid to challenge His disciples - challenge us - to grow in His love. A disciple is one who seeks to model his/her life and behaviour on Jesus and His love. And we are called to community in Christ and so to be open and welcome when others help us to grow in awareness of our need to change and challenge attitudes and behaviour inconsistent with being a disciple of Christ Jesus and a witness to His love.

[2] The **Annual Financial Statement will be given by the Parish Finance Committee** together with information and support in making Gift-aided Offertory and other donations. The Financial Statement will cover the Financial Year 2022. The PFC apologises that this statement is so late in the year (due to technical problems) and we are committed to ensuring the 2023 Statement will be much earlier in 2024!

[3] **Nominations for Parish Pastoral Council** close today.

DIOCESAN PRAYER The Diocese prays today for the Parishes in Communion for Mission of St Gregory the Great and St Thomas More, both in Cheltenham, served by Fr David Mills, Fr Joby Vellaplackel, Parish Administrators Mrs Linda Portwain, Mrs Christine Davies and both their communities. We pray too for the Polish and Keralite Communities that also worship in these churches.

PRAY FOR THIS WEEK'S PARISH MINISTRY OR MISSION We pray for the **Ministry of our Foodbank**. This is a very important part of our commitment to being 'Good News to the Poor' as Jesus commanded us to be. There has been a big increase in the numbers of people needing our help in this way, yet sadly also increasing difficulty to sourcing food supplies. There is also need for more volunteers from the parish community, as well as donations of food or money. Please contact our Food Bank Manager, Michael Conway on 07482425539.

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COLLECTION LAST WEEK

G.A.Env £10.00 + Loose £178.52 + Card Reader £206.45 + S/O £165.88 = £560.85- **thanks!**

DATES FOR THE DIARY 2023

3rd Sept	Celebration of Parish Feast of St Nicholas of Tolentino at 10.00am
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	Annual Financial Statement of Church accounts by PFC for 2022
10th Sept	Nominations for enlarged Parish Pastoral Council members close
23rd Sept	Andrew Bent's Ordination to the Diaconate in Cathedral at 11.00am
24th Sept	Election of 8 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
14th Oct	Mass in Celebration of Marriage, Clifton Cathedral at 12 noon
17th Nov	First Parents Baptismal Preparation Session at 6.30pm (Assisi Centre)
19th Nov	Rite of Child Catechumen (or Welcoming) at 10.00am Mass
24th Nov	Second Parents Baptismal Preparation Session at 6.30pm (Assisi Centre)
26th Nov	Feast of Christ the King and Baptismal Sunday

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!'*

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION FOR PARENTS Our next **Baptismal Sunday is on the Feast of Christ the King, 26th November at 10.00am Mass**. The first Preparation Session will be on Friday 17th November at 6.30pm in the Assisi Centre, with **Rite of Child Catechumen on Sunday 19th November at 10.00am Mass**. Second Preparation Session is on Friday 24th November at 6.30pm in the Assisi Centre. Any parents seeking the Baptism of their child, please contact Eustace Tameh or Richard.

JOURNEY OF FAITH We have begun this year's Journey of Faith. We will meet each ... at ... in the Assisi Centre. 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. Please contact Richard, Margaret or Mary for more information.

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.

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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 8 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 who should counter-sign the nomination form. 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.

MASS IN CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE Once again Bishop Declan is inviting all couples who are celebrating a significant anniversary of Marriage to gather for this special **Annual Mass in Clifton Cathedral on Saturday October 14th at 12 noon.** All preparing to be married in the coming 12 months are also invited. If you have a significant anniversary, could you let me know so that I can forward your names to Bishop's House. The Diocese wishes to value all seek to live the Sacrament of Matrimony. Thank you.

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.

A DAY TO EXPLORE THE MINISTRY OF CATECHESIS In partnership with the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph, the Diocese is offering a day to explore the Ministry of Catechesis. With Mass and taking time to pray together, we will look at the vocation of the catechist, integrating catechesis into the wider Church, the formation of the catechist and how to plan a catechetical session. This day is for seasoned catechists, and anyone who feels called to this ministry but might not feel equipped. **Saturday 28 October at St John the Baptist, Trowbridge.** Beginning 10am, refreshments from 9.15am and ending at 4pm. Please bring a packed lunch. Participants can sign up for the day via Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/668215439367>

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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@clifftondiocese.com

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