



St Nicholas of Tolentino RC Church, Lawford's Gate, Bristol BS5 ORE

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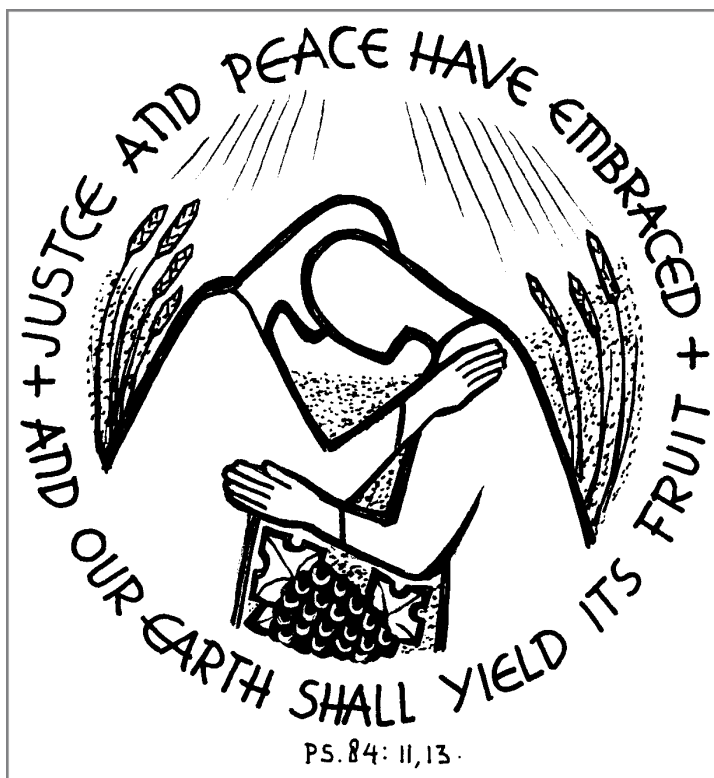
Parish Priest - Rev Richard McKay (tel: 0117-909-8810 / mob: 07779677370)

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)

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY - World Day of the Poor



WHEN HE COMES AGAIN - WHAT WILL WE GIVE HIM?

When Jesus ascended into Heaven He entrusted the Gospel, the New Way of Being and being community, the New Way of shaping our world - he entrusted this into our poor and weak hands and hearts. He did not just send us in Mission to the world, He gave us His power, Love's power, the Holy Spirit so that we could work with Him to change the world. We are a gifted People.

When He returns He will simply ask - what have you done with the Gifts I gave you? Have you trusted the power of Love I have placed in your hearts? Have you touched My world with healing and challenged My sisters and brothers to live humanly and lovingly? Have you used the power I gave you to build a more just society, to free the captives and unbind the slaves? Have you used My power, love's power, to heal Creation and answer the cries of the Earth and the cries of the Poor? I hope He will say to us 'Well done good and faithful servant!'

SUNDAY: PARISH MASS with Rite of Child Catechumen at 10.00am (*streamed on website*)
Mass with the LGBTQ+ community and friends at 3.00pm - all very welcome

MONDAY: No Liturgy today

TUESDAY: Feast of the Presentation of Mary in the Temple
Adoration at 6.00pm Mass at 6.30pm

WEDNESDAY: Feast of St Cecelia, Martyr, Patron of Music (3rd century)
Adoration at 6.00pm Mass at 6.30pm

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THURSDAY: ***Feast of St Clement, Pope & Martyr and St Columbanus, Celtic Abbot***
Adoration at 11.30pm **Mass at 12noon**

FRIDAY: ***Feast of St Andrew Dung-Lac Priest & 117 Vietnamese Martyrs (1745-1862)***
Adoration at 8.30am **Mass at 9.00am**

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation: After Mass and 4.00-4.30pm

TODAY: [1] On the **Thirty-Third Sunday of Year A** we celebrate Jesus the giver of gifts, the one who entrusts us with gifts of the Holy Spirit, to be used for the renewing and building of the Church and for our Mission to transform our world into a place of equality, peace, freedom and justice - the Kingdom come upon the Earth. Do we welcome the Gifts of the Holy Spirit and the responsibility to serve and witness they bring?

[2] With joy we welcome families preparing for the baptism of their children as we celebrate the **Rite of Child Catechumen** at our 10am Mass - please for them and their families.

[3] This is the Church's '**World Day of the Poor**' and we are asked to pray and reflect upon the action each of us might take to care for the poor and marginalised and build a society and world where the voices and cries of the Poor will be heard and acted upon decisively.

[4] It is also '**Safeguarding Sunday**' as we pray for the work of strengthening the Church as a safe place for all children and people with vulnerabilities. Those fulfilling ministry of various kinds to these groups need DBS checks and extra awareness of Safeguarding procedures.

[5] **Mass with the LBGTO+ community, friends and families** at 3.00pm - all welcome.

NEXT SUNDAY: [1] We celebrate the **Feast of Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**. As we conclude this Liturgical Year and prepare for Advent we celebrate the 'Cosmic Christ' who is the beginning of all creation and the the goal and fulfilment of all creation - the 'Alpha' and the 'Omega'. Christ Jesus has a truly cosmic mission and cosmic presence - the Church as the Body of Christ shares this same cosmic mission. Let us expand our minds and hearts to embrace a Christ 'bigger' than the universe! Let us care for the Creation which is His evolving work and we are part of its evolution towards Christ Omega!

[2] It is **Youth Sunday** as we value and pray for our young people, seeking with them to build a Church that belongs to them and their world as much as to ours!

DIOCESAN PRAYER The Diocese prays today for the Parish in Communion for Mission of St Thomas of Canterbury, Fairford with St Mary, Cricklade, served by Fr Michael Robertson and both their communities.

PRAY FOR THIS WEEK'S PARISH MINISTRY OR MISSION We pray for the **ministry of the Zimbabwean Community** that meets monthly for the Mass in Shona and supports the life and ministry of our parish so well. Their organisation among themselves is an example to us all and the participation of our Zimbabwean parishioners in the life and ministries of the parish is a sign of our commitment to build a diverse and inclusive Church where 'all are welcome' and all are valued, a truly 'Universal' Catholic Church

COLLECTION LAST WEEK

G.A.Env £45.00 + Loose £121.26 + Card Reader £? + S/O £165.88 = £332.14 - thanks!

CAFOD £45.00

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DATES FOR THE DIARY 2023

19th Nov	Rite of Child Catechumen (or Welcoming) at 10.00am Mass
22nd Nov	Meeting of St Nick's School Governors
24th Nov	Second Parents Baptismal Preparation Session at 6.30pm (Assisi Centre)
26th Nov	Feast of Christ the King and Baptismal Sunday
1st Dec	Funeral Mass for Caroline Price RIP at 12.30pm St James Priory
2nd Dec	Meeting of Lay Parish Reps in St Edmund of Abingdon Pastoral Area
23rd Dec	First Sunday of Advent
7th Dec	Parents meeting in preparation for First Eucharist Programme at 6.00pm
9th Dec	Preaching Group meets 9am-12noon (Assisi Centre)
10th Dec	Special United Advent Celebration with the LGBTQ+ community at 3.00pm
13th Dec	St Nick's First Year Nativity Play at 1.30pm (in church)
14th Dec	Funeral mass for Marjorie Kelly at 11.00am
14th Dec	St Nick's School Carol Concert at 2.30pm (in church)
14th Dec	Parish Pastoral Council meets at 7.30pm (Assisi Centre)
19th Dec	Advent Reconciliation Service at Holy Family Church Patchway at 7.00pm
20th Dec	Advent Reconciliation Service at St Augustine's Church, Downend at 7.00pm
24th Dec	Christmas Eve - Midnight Mass at 10.30pm
25th Dec	Christmas Day - Solemn Day Mass of Christmas at 10.00am
31st Jan	'Watchnight' Mass to pray the New Year in at 10.30pm
<u>2024</u>	
14th Jan	Feast of the Baptism of the Lord - Baptismal Sunday

ISRAEL-PALESTINE WAR - A CALL TO PRAYER AND HUMANITY The horror of this war between Israel and Palestine in creasing with the population of Gaza (2 million people) on the verge of starvation and only one hospital functioning at even a minimal level. **THIS MUST STOP NOW!** Pray for peace and political action on world leaders to bring this horror end. The overwhelming number of victims on both sides are women and children. Each side are conducting war crimes. We must call for a ceasefire immediately. **PLEASE PRAY AND ACT FOR PEACE IN THE LAND WE CALL 'HOLY'!**

CALLING PARENTS OF CHILDREN TO PREPARE FOR FIRST EUCHARIST IN JUNE 2024

Parents seeking the First Eucharist for their children are asked to register their child (need to be 7 years old before May 2024) and attend a parents meeting on **Thursday 6th December at 6.00pm** in the Assisi Centre. Registration forms back by Monday 4th Dec at the latest.

SYNOD ASSEMBLY 2023 REPORT Our parish made a very considered contribution to the Global Synod Process (and are embedding 'synodality' into our parish's discernment and decision-making). You can read/download the official Synthesis of the Assembly Report with this link: https://www.synod.va/content/dam/synod/assembly/synthesis/english/2023.10.28-ENG-Synthesis-Report_IMP.pdf

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION FOR PARENTS The second Preparation Session is on Friday 24th November at 6.30pm in the Assisi Centre. Our **next Baptismal Sunday will be the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, 14th January**. Parents seeking the baptism of their child on that day please contact Eustace Tameh or Richard soon as possible.

THE PARISH DATABASE **THE PPC APOLOGIES TO YOU ALL** - by error it seems that someone disposed of the registration forms - so **unfortunately we have to repeat the exercise. As way of a reminder** - The Parish Pastoral Council seeks to create a comprehensive database to include all our parish members. Today forms will be distributed asking for some essential information - names of all family members, address with postcode, telephone and email contact details etc. The purpose of this is to enable effective pastoral care, community building and effective communication. ***The information given will be used solely for***

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internal parish and pastoral reasons and will not be divulged to any other party. Please sign the forms giving your permission for us to hold your details on our database - this is essential for compliance with GDPR (Data Protection legislation). THANK YOU!

IMPORTANT CHANGES TO PARISH CAR PARKING AND FUND-RAISING

The company 'YourParkingSpace' has installed a car registration recognition camera at the entrance to the parish and Dunstan centre car park, together with signs giving full instructions of how to pay digitally for daily or weekly parking. Those who are already contracted with the parish for parking are not affected, but all others who wish to park there will need to comply with the instruction panels. There will be fines issued to those who park without paying or a contract with the parish. ***IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT PARISHIONERS NOTE THE FOLLOWING: This system operates from Monday to Friday 24 hours, but does not operate on Saturdays and Sundays. Also all parishioners parking because of attending weekday Mass, parish meetings, volunteering or coming to the parish office or presbytery will be exempt from parking charges or fines - provided they register their car number plate in the church or parish office. We have no intention of charging parishioners for parking here on parish business or for worship.***

ST NICK'S SCHOOL NEWS

Reception Class September 2024

Are you looking for a place for your child in Reception class in September 2024, or know of anyone who is, then please do come along to our Reception open mornings. This is a chance for you see our caring and inclusive school in action. If you are unable to attend on the dates below, please do call the school office (01173772260) and book a convenient time - every day is an open day! Thursday 7th December 9.30am - 11.30am

STARTING SCHOOL? If you have a child born between **1 Sept 2019 & 31 August 2020**, now is the time to apply for a place at a primary school for admission from **September 2024** onwards. You must complete an application form available from the school admissions team of the Local Council (Bristol/North Glos, Banes etc). If your child has been baptised and you are applying for a Catholic school, you **must** also provide a copy of the baptism certificate to the school. Please ensure you apply by the closing date of **15 January 2024**.

PROPOSED AREA HOUSE MASSES With work schedules, distance from St Nick's church and traffic congestion in Bristol, attendance at weekday Mass has fallen considerably. Yet the Eucharist is the heart of our community and the source of energy for our Mission. It is the praying foundation supporting all we do and are as a Parish Community. We are a very dispersed parish community most living a distance from our church. As part of our Pastoral strategy for fostering community, we will hold regular House Masses (eventually one each week) to gather parishioners in that part of Bristol and so build community around the Eucharist. The database and the location 'dots' on the Map in the church will help to develop this pastoral initiative. If you are willing to host a House Mass in your area, inviting other parishioners living locally, please let Margaret or Richard know.

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS THIS CHRISTMAS

Why not give a friend or family a gift that benefits the poorest of our world. Jesus is not honoured by lavish gifts to each other - when you give someone a CAFOD World Gift, you are giving to Jesus who identified himself with the poor who benefit from your Gift. 'Whatever you do to the least of my sisters and brothers you do to me!' The catalogues for these CAFOD World Gifts are in the porch.

FUNERAL MASS FOR CAROLINE PRICE RIP

Caroline had requested that her Funeral Mass be at **St James Priory** (by the bus station) and will be at **12.30pm Friday Dec 1st**. It will be a very ecumenical celebration. Her burial will be at a place she greatly loved - Llanmadoc in the Gower, South Wales. She also requested that after the Mass at St James we share food and memories together. All are most welcome.

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