



## 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](http://www.cliftondiocese.com)

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) & Paul Bradshaw-Price

Parish Administration & Hall/Room Bookings: Astrid Fagon and Team (0117-909-0419)

### SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF YEAR B



#### *Sheep without a Shepherd*

They just needed a break - a rest after weeks and months spent with Jesus experiencing a new and challenging world. Not the tranquility of fishing anymore! Not the gentle rhythms of farming the seasons anymore! Not the settled round of companionship and family anymore!

Now they had opened their lives to the pain and despairs, the oppression and injustice the people around them suffered. And it was hard work, no matter how exciting and thrilling to be involved in a new world emerging with this amazing Jesus.

And when they found their quiet retreat just to be together - they were all waiting for them: the broken, the hurting, the questioning, the hoping, the searching. And Jesus put aside His need - and His disciples' - to serve, to give hope and healing, to be the Shepherd

**SUNDAY:** PARISH MASS at 10.00am (live-streamed on parish website)  
Monthly Mass with the LBGTO+ community and friends at 3.00pm (all welcome)

**MONDAY:** No Liturgy

**TUESDAY:** Feast of St Mary Magdalene, Apostle to the Apostles  
Adoration at 6.00pm Mass at 6.30pm

**WEDNESDAY:** Feast of St Charbel Maklouf, Maronite Monk and Priest (1828-1898)  
Adoration at 6.00pm Mass at 6.30pm

**THURSDAY:** Feast of St James, Apostle  
Adoration at 11.30am Mass at 12noon

**Jesus tells the Twelve 'Come aside, rest awhile,' share the experience of mission and ministry. The crowds found them & He took pity on them - sheep without a shepherd**

**FRIDAY:** *Feast of Ss Joachim and Anne, Parents of Mary, Mother of the Lord*  
*Adoration* at 8.30am                      **Mass** at 9.00am

**SATURDAY:** *Adoration* at 11.30am              **Mass** at 12.00 noon  
*Sacrament of Reconciliation:*              After Mass and 4.00-4.30pm

**TODAY** [1] On the **Sixteenth Sunday of Year B** we celebrate Jesus the Good Shepherd who puts aside his and the Apostles need for space to rest and 'de-brief' after their first experience of mission. Always the needs of broken humanity, wounded, defeated people come before His own need. He serves and shepherds with a generous heart that knows no limits. Our world of today needs us to touch the wounds and serve with the same heart overflowing with the love of the Good Shepherd. Will we be His Heart, His compassion?

[2] Jenny Sowah (our new **GiftAid** co-ordinator) and Joel Etounde are speaking at the end of Mass about how you can support the parish by simply making a standing order and signing a **GiftAid** form so that the parish can receive in addition to the money you give, the income tax you will be paying on that sum. In that way your gift of eg £4 becomes £5!

[3] We gather with the **LGBTQ+ community, families and friends for their monthly Mass** at 3.00pm. As ever all are welcome - why not come and share and encourage them.

**NEXT SUNDAY** [1] With the **Seventeenth Sunday of Year B** we celebrate Jesus Bread of Life who responds to physical hunger and deprivation as well as spiritual hunger for meaning and hope. We interrupt the series of readings from Mark's Gospel to proclaim and explore John's great teaching of the Word and Eucharist which we find in his Sixth Chapter. We hear how he embraces the gift of a child and then feeds over 5000 people! Was it multiplying loaves and fishes or was it changing people's hearts to sharing the little they have so that all are fed? Like Jesus we need to feed a world of hunger and famine as well as feeding the inner search for hope and freedom in God.

[2] It is also **SEA SUNDAY** and we are praying for and taking a **Retiring Collection** in support of the Church's mission among those serving on the seas. Seafarers and fishers can lead hard and dangerous lives. Your gifts and prayers will help them get the support they need. The Church's Mission to seafarers is a vital life-line for so many, helping to protect them from exploitation and working conditions very like modern forms of slavery. Do please support Sea Sunday as generously as you can

**DIOCESAN PRAYER** The Diocese prays today for Parish in Communion for Mission of St Bonaventure, Bristol, served by Mgr Canon Bernard Massey, Deacons Andrew Bent, Bartek Kowalewski, Parish Administrator Joanna Adamek, and all their community.

**PRAY FOR THIS WEEK'S PARISH MINISTRY OR MISSION** We pray for our **Ministry of Church Cleaning**. Our church building is a sacred space where the awesome act of Eucharist is celebrated and the People of God gather to worship and build together community for mission. Every week the church needs cleaning so that we can worthily offer worship to God. We really need more volunteers to share the ministry and work. There can be some flexibility about day and time for the cleaning - please contact Richard to join the team.

### **COLLECTIONS**

G.A.Env £70.00 + Loose £207.80 + Card Reader £5.00 + S/O £165.88 = £444.68 - thanks!  
**Donation from Ethiopian Community** £200.00

### **DATES FOR THE DIARY**

25th July Preachers Team meets at 7.00pm

6th Aug **Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord, Hiroshima Day of Prayer for Peace**

6th Aug Parish Pastoral Council meets at 7.30pm

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15th Aug	<b>Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady - HolyDay of Obligation</b>
22nd Aug	Parish Finance Committee meets on Zoom at 7.30pm
25th Aug	Baptismal Sunday
30th Aug	Zimbabwean Youth Day of Prayer and Reflection 9am to 2.00pm
8th Sept	<b>Patronal Feast of St Nicholas of Tolentino - Parish Day of Celebration</b>
29th Sept	Community Meeting with Police at Easton Christian Family Centre 7-8.30pm
19th Oct	LGBTQ+ Day Conference at St Nicks - all welcome

**PREPARING FOR YOUR CHILD'S BAPTISM** Parents seeking the baptism of their children are asked to inform Eustace Tameh or Christopher and Epiphania Chipato or Fr Richard as soon as possible. Next Baptism course and celebration:

**BAPTISMAL SUNDAY 25th AUGUST** at 10am Mass

**Preparation Sessions:** Friday 9th and 16th August at 6.30pm (Assisi Centre)

**Rite of Child Catechumen** Sunday 11th August at 10am Mass

**DO YOU WANT TO VOLUNTEER TO SUPPORT THE PARISH MISSION?** The Parish Pastoral Council was delighted that at our last Parish Forum on the future of our parish many expressed the wish to offer some time and energy in support of the life and mission of St Nicks. So the PPC established a '**Volunteers Whatsapp**' to let people know the needs and opportunities for volunteering either on a long-term or an occasional basis. Some cannot commit themselves to a regular slot or programme but could volunteer from time to time and for limited periods. *However hardly anyone has come forward as willing to join such a team of volunteers on this Whatsapp Group. WE REALLY NEED YOU TO OFFER WHAT TIME YOU CAN TO SUPPORT THE PARISH'S WORK AND MISSION. Please contact the Parish Office or Patience Bird (07411406411) giving your mobile no. Thanks!*

**'COMMUNITY STEWARDS'** We hold our first meeting this week to preparing to take on extra responsibility and to decide who takes on which area of the Parish's ministry and mission. Please pray for us - Eustace, Benedicta, Epiphania, Margaret, Mary and Richard. **Richard will remain our parish priest while living outside the parish but in Bristol, not retiring (health permitting) until 2028**, when he will be 80 years young! He will reduce his workload and share more fully responsibilities with the Team of 'Community Stewards'. **Richard moves out of the presbytery September 8th - Feast of St Nicholas of Tolentino. We hope to commission our 'Parish Stewards' at our Patronal Feast**

**URGENT NEEDS OF OUR FOODBANK** [1] **Volunteers urgently needed** - we need members of our Christian community with a heart for the disadvantaged and poor to volunteer in our foodbank. Can you give one morning a week? (opening times - Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9.30am to 1.00pm). Some of our existing volunteers cannot help during the school holidays because of childcare. Please see Michael Conway (mob: 07482425539).

[2] **Food and Toiletries needed** - It has become much more difficult to source suitable food and other items and often we have little to offer those with great need. Please bring anything you and ask your friends and neighbours to help and share with those who have so little. We need fresh meat (which can be frozen), bread, eggs, fruit and vegetables; pasta, rice, breakfast cereals, milk, sugar, tea/coffee, pasta sauces, and tinned fruit, vegetables, meat and fish, baked beans etc. Some vegan foodstuffs also needed as well as some pet food. And of course also washing powder, cleaning materials and toiletries. Please bring what you can at the Offertory on Sundays - larger deliveries by arrangement with Michael, our foodbank manager, (mob: 07482425539). **THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**

**FEAST OF ST JAMES:** Come and celebrate the Feast of St James on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> July at St James' Priory. The Rosary will be recited from 9am to 1pm, Confessions from 12.30pm until 1pm and Mass at 1.05pm. All are very welcome to attend.

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**URGENT APPEAL FOR BAME BLOOD DONORS** The NHS has issued an urgent call for more Black people to give blood to meet increasing demand for Asian, Black African, Black Caribbean or mixed ethnicity donors. Some 16,000 new donors from these ethnic groups must be recruited this year as demand rises for life-saving transfusions for people with sickle cell disease, according to the health service. Sickle cell is the fastest growing genetic disorder in the UK, affecting 15,000 people with around 300 babies born with the blood disorder each year; the illness can cause organ failure, stroke or loss of vision, sometimes even leading to death. The disorder is more common in Black people and, as such, people from this ethnic group are more likely to have the rare blood sub-group Ro that many Black sickle cell patients need. *The Church strongly encourages blood donation as a life-saving gift to others.* **PLEASE CONSIDER BECOMING A BLOOD DONOR - ONE PINT OF BLOOD CAN SAVE UP TO THREE LIVES!** To become a blood donor today, register today and book an appointment by visiting [www.blood.co.uk](http://www.blood.co.uk), downloading the GiveBloodNHS app or calling 0300 123 23 23.

**CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWS - OPEN EVENTS** St Bernadette Catholic Secondary School, an outstanding Catholic secondary school, is holding its annual Open Events for parents of children in Year 5 and Year 6 who will transfer to secondary school in 2025/2026. At St Bernadette's we pride ourselves on being a vibrant faith community and an ambitious learning community, where everyone is valued and has a part to play. Strong, caring relationships, high expectations and making the We welcome you to attend the following sessions: **Open Evening: Thursday 19th September 2024, 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm**  
Head's Talk: 5:45 pm Head's Talk: 6:45 pm  
Tours of the school will be running throughout the evening. **Open Mornings: Wednesday 2nd October 2024, 9:15 am - 10:45 am Thursday 17th October 2024, 9:15 am - 10:45 am**  
Please access our school website for more information. This can be found at [www.stbern-s.bristol.sch.uk](http://www.stbern-s.bristol.sch.uk) or via our social media Facebook or [Instagram](#) We look forward to welcoming you and your child to the school.

**POLICE AND CITY OFFICIALS MEET OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY** We all listened to the pain, frustration and anger of local people over so many issues of deprivation, violence, drug addiction and fly-tipping of litter that is harming our Inner City, especially in the Stapleton Road & Newtown areas of the parish. It was very uncomfortable listening and very challenging. What can we do as a Church with a Mission? Somehow we must all come together and act collectively to improve the community and area especially for our children. There will be monthly meetings where police and city officials will be accountable to local people for progress on the issues raised. Next meetings: Thursdays 29th August and 26th September 7.00-8.30pm at Easton Christian Family Centre (next to the swimming pool). St Nicks needs to be part of these meetings and the actions that follow.

**PASSIONATE ABOUT RACE RELATIONS AND POLICING?** We are recruiting people to join our Independent Scrutiny and Advisory Board, to oversee our Race Matters work. Board members will oversee our Race Matters work, holding us accountable for delivering anti-racist policing in Avon and Somerset and ensuring that voices of Black heritage and racially minoritised communities are heard and valued. All Board members will receive induction training and will be required to attend bi-monthly meetings. Members will be paid for their attendance. We are open to applications and particularly welcome applicants from Black heritage and racially minoritised communities. We would refer people to the [Avon and Somerset Police website](#) where full details can be found, including the role profile and an expression of interest form, to be returned by email to [racematters@avonandsomerset.police.uk](mailto:racematters@avonandsomerset.police.uk). Deadline for applications: **31st August 2024**

Eligibility panel discussion (Subject to change): **W/C 16th September 2024.**

For more information about the role and the Board, please register to join one of our information events by emailing [racematters@avonandsomerset.police.uk](mailto:racematters@avonandsomerset.police.uk)

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