



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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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) & Paul Bradshaw-Price

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

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF YEAR B



Miracles - little and large!

So often Jesus tells us to look to the child to see clearly - to see the nature of Kingdom-living which is to live a 'pilgrimage of trust among humanity' as the saintly Bro Roger of Taizé has said. To see the generosity of spirit, the foolish goodness of the child that sadly we lose too easily. That is why we are to 'born again' in baptism so as to recapture the wonder, spontaneity and joyful generosity of the child.

So it is the little boy who shares his 'lunch packet' that triggers off the miracle of the feeding of the multitude. Did Jesus multiply loaves and fishes? Certainly he could as Son of God. Or did he work the greater miracle of changing the hearts of the multitude so that they no longer protected their little, but shared it generously and discovered there was more than enough for everyone! I think this is the greater miracle, one that we are to work in the power of Jesus' love every day in our world, so that all will be fed!

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

MONDAY: *No Liturgy*

TUESDAY: *Feast of Ss Mary, Martha and Lazarus of Bethany*
Adoration at 6.00pm Mass at 6.30pm

WEDNESDAY: *Feast of St Ignatius Loyola, priest, founder of Jesuits (1491-1556)*
Adoration at 6.00pm Mass at 6.30pm

THURSDAY: *Feast of St Alphonsus Ligouri, Bishop, Moral Theologian, Redemptorist founder*
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

29th Aug	Local Community meets with Police and City Officials at ECFC at 7-8.30pm
30th Aug	Zimbabwean Youth Day of Prayer and Reflection 9am to 2.00pm
1st Sept	Commissioning of our Lay Preaching Team at 10.00am Mass
8th Sept	Patronal Feast of St Nicholas of Tolentino - Parish Day of Celebration
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 had a good first meeting last week as we prepare to take on extra responsibility for various areas of the Parish's ministry and mission. Please pray for us - Eustace, Benedicta, Epiphania, Margaret, Mary and Richard. There will be a fuller report after our next meeting. **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! 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 can 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!**

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

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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, 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-bristol.sch.uk or via our social media Facebook or [Instagram](#) We look forward to welcoming you and your child to the school.

JESUS YOUTH HOLD VIGIL AT ST NICKS On Saturday 10th August, young adults (18+) are invited to share an evening of prayer and praise at St Nicks, led by the 'Jesus Youth' Team. It begins with Mass at 8.00pm and finishes at 10.30pm. All young adults are welcome to come and share this time of prayer and reflection.

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. 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

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