



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

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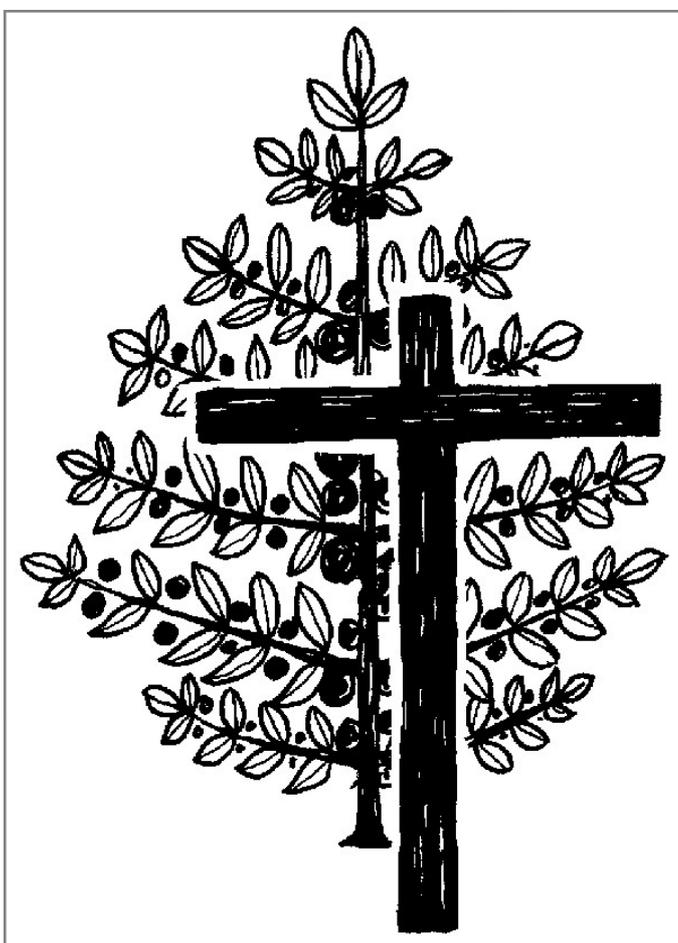
Parish Priest - Rev Richard McKay (tel: 07779677370)

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)

FEAST OF THE HOLY CROSS - Season of Creation



LIFT HIGH THE CROSS BEHOLD THE CRUCIFIED ONE!

What kind of strange 'Triumph' is this? An innocent man of limitless love is brutalised, humiliated, executed in a travesty of justice and an exercise of oppressive power - how can this be a 'triumph'?

Yet from this death emerged Life in all fullness! From this darkness was kindled a Light that darkness would never overthrow! From this hatred was born a Love that would reconcile the world and transform humanity. The tree of death becomes the Tree of unconquerable Life. What streams of holiness have flowed through the history of the world from this torrent of evil. What inspiration has emerged from this dark despair.

The Triumph of the Cross is the power of Love that embraces the hatred and forgives, a Love that embraces the death and gives life to all the world, a Love that embraces the darkness and enkindles a Light that has shaped countless millions of lives to the heroism of love, the courage of mercy and the daring of enlightening. This is the Triumph that has changed the world forever - the source of our prophetic energy!

SUNDAY: PARISH MASS at 10.00am (Live-streamed)

MONDAY: Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows No liturgy

TUESDAY: Feast of St Cornelius, Pope, & St Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs No Liturgy

WEDNESDAY: Feast of St Edith of Wilton, Virgin No Liturgy

THURSDAY: Adoration at 11.30am Service of Word & Communion at 12noon

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FRIDAY: **Feast of St Theodore of Canterbury, Bishop**
Adoration at 11.30am **Service of Word & Communion** at 12.00noon

SATURDAY: **Feast of St Andrew Kim Tae-gon and 103 Korean Martyrs**
Adoration at 11.30am **Service of Word & Communion** at 12.00noon
Sacrament of Reconciliation: none today

TODAY [1] We celebrate the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. This feast commemorates the finding of the True Cross by St Helen, mother of the first Christian Emperor, Constantine, in about 320. Jesus said, 'When I am lifted up, then I shall draw people to myself'. The Cross lifted high draws us into unity, forgiveness, new life and endless love. Let us 'lift high the Cross' for all the world to see!

[2] It is also **Education Sunday** when we pray for the Church's Mission in the field of education - from nurseries, schools, colleges to University and all forms of education. It is a ministry of empowerment for education sets us free to develop our innate skills and knowledge is power! Pray for all teachers and learners!

DIOCESAN PRAYER The Diocese prays today for the former parish of Holy Cross, Bedminster, as their parishioners integrate into the St Gerard Majella Parish and are served by Fr George Henwood (who is currently sick).

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY YEAR C - Season of Creation

SUNDAY: **PARISH MASS** at 10.00am (Live-streamed)

MONDAY: No liturgy

TUESDAY: **Feast of St Pius of Petrelcina ('Padre Pio') Franciscan Priest** No Liturgy

WEDNESDAY: **Feast of Our Lady of Walsingham (Patron of England)** No Liturgy

THURSDAY: **Adoration** at 11.30am **Service of Word & Communion** at 12noon

FRIDAY: **Feast of St Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs (early 4th century)**
Adoration at 11.30am **Service of Word & Communion** at 12.00noon

SATURDAY: **Feast of St Vincent de Paul, priest & founder of Vincentian family (d 1660)**
Adoration at 11.30am **Service of Word & Communion** at 12.00noon
Sacrament of Reconciliation: none today

21/09/2025 [1] On the **25th Sunday of Year C** we celebrate 'The Joy of the Gospel' - World Mission Sunday. St Pope Paul VI wrote: 'Joyful disciples are needed to proclaim the Gospel and evangelise the world'. The Gospel speaks of a dishonest servant who decides to restore justice in his dealings, so as 'to win friends' when he is sacked. Too often we do the right thing for the wrong reasons!

[2] **Mass with the LGBTQ+ community and friends** at 3.00pm - all welcome.

[3] **Retiring Collection for the world wide Mission of the Church**

THOUGHT FOR 25th SUNDAY YC

WHO DO WE SERVE - REALLY??

'You cannot serve two masters' Jesus says emphatically to us today! We are either serving the Justice of the Kingdom of God, or we are serving the oppression of the poor. We like to think that there is a neutral place, but Jesus calls us off our every fence and says - serve Me by serving the Poor, serve Me by struggling with the Poor

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for Justice. They will be your friends in the tents of eternity, ready to welcome you home to the Father's Love which one day will succeed in fashioning this world into a New Heaven and a New Earth, where there will be no more weeping, no more mourning, only equality, freedom and a fair sharing of the world's resources that belongs to all the world's peoples, not just those who dedicate themselves to the accumulation of money and power. The dishonest steward rectifies the injustices he has caused only in the cause of self-preservation. Will we be honest stewards of the Lord's Abundance by acting always with integrity, with justice, with sensitivity to the poorest, seeking always to raise them up. One day they will raise us up!

DIOCESAN PRAYER 21/09/2025 The Diocese prays today for the Parish in Communion for Mission of St Mary-on-the-Quay, served by Fr Sanjeeb Xaxa SVD, Fr Joseph Mensah SVD. and their weekday and Sunday communities

PRAY FOR THIS WEEK'S PARISH MINISTRY OR MISSION 14/9/2025 We pray today for the **Ministry of our Pastor**, Fr Richard. The priest is the servant of the Eucharist, who gathers the People of God that the Spirit might form us as the Missionary Body of Christ, and then sends us out into the world to work with God - co-creators with the Father, bearers of healing Salvation with Jesus and renewers of the face of the Earth with the Spirit. The priest is our brother who walks with us and helps us listen together to the Voice of the Spirit in our times - to see 'the Sign of the Times' that we the Church might be God's radical love poured out with abundant generosity into the hurting heart of the world. As a brother he is our shepherd who needs us all to be shepherds; he is a prophet who challenges us - and wants to be challenged by us! He is a leader who knows how to serve, a preacher who knows how to listen, a prophet who has the courage both to challenge and be challenged. The ordained priest and the Priestly People - journeying with one another in faith and love, forming each other as a People of Hope, a People of Love, a People of Mission - God's People!

21/9/2025 We pray today for the **Ministry of our Zimbabwean Community**. Giving thanks for all our Zimbabweans have brought to our parish and the Church in our diocese, we pray that in our parish of many cultures and languages we may work together to build a strong and loving 'communion of communities' in the service of God's great Good News offered to all the world.

COLLECTIONS

GA: £10.00 + Loose £142.16 + Card Reader £39.12 + S.O. £165.88 = £357.16 *thanks!*

DATES FOR THE DIARY

8th Oct Ashley Churches Together Serving (ACTS) meet at 12.30pm Ivy Church
 10th Oct Pre-Baptism Course First Session 6.30pm in Assisi Centre
 11th Oct Diocesan Formation Day ('Joyful Evangelists') St Brendans 9.30am-3.30pm
 12th Oct Rite of Child Catechumen at 10.am Mass
 17th Oct Pre-Baptism Course Second Session 6.30pm in Assisi Centre
 26th Oct Baptismal Sunday at 10.00am Mass
 2nd Nov **FEAST OF ALL SAINTS - Mass at 10.00am**
 3rd Nov **Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed, All Souls Day mass 7pm**
 11th Nov Remembrance Sunday - Praying for Peace with Justice

ST BERNADETTE'S SECONDARY SCHOOL - OPEN EVENTS Thinking about the right Secondary school for your child? Please consider seriously one of our Catholic Schools. Come see what St Bernadette's offers:

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Open Evening: Wednesday 24th Sept 5-8pm (Head's Talks 5.45 and 6.45pm)

Open Mornings: Wednesday 1st Oct 9.15-10.45am; Thursday 16th Oct 9.15-10.45am

ST BEDE'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE - OPEN EVENING Parents and Pupils are invited to view the College at an **Open Evening on Thursday 2nd October at 6.00-8.00pm. Morning visits welcomed throughout then year - by appointment only please.**

THREADS THROUGH CREATION - Spectacular display of Textile Art A powerful exhibition of textiles and tapestries depicting Creation in the Scriptures. Having visited this remarkable exhibition, I thoroughly recommend all who can to visit it, especially in this 'Season of Creation'. At Victoria Methodist Church, Whiteladies Road, Bristol 25th August to 4th October. Free Entry Monday/Wednesday/Friday 11am - 4pm ; Tuesday/Thursday/Saturday 11am-6pm

THIS MONTH'S 'LAUDATO SI' TASK - Get the best out of your food Jesus invited us to share food with the hungry. In "Laudato Si'," Pope Francis taught the moral imperative to reduce food waste: a social justice issue - responsibility to both the environment and those in need. 60% of food waste comes from UK homes. 18 million tons of carbon dioxide (CO2) are generated by UK homes from wasted food at home.

[1] **What do you actually need?** Plan what you are going to eat each meal and each day, prepare your shopping list of the ingredients you just need. Check your fridge and food cabinets before shopping, move older food to the front of the shelf and make space for food you'll be buying.

[2] **Stay-in-control shopping.** Adopt a few simple habits to take the stress out of shopping, keep it simple and help you stick to your list. Remember to take your shopping list, focus on what you need. Set your budget before you get to the store.

[3] **Storing your food after shopping.** Putting your food away in all the right places will keep it fresher for longer - more time for you to use it in delicious meals. The less you waste, the better our common home.

'GOING THE DISTANCE' - an evening session to support vibrant and lasting marriage organised by the ecumenical 'Care for the Family' charity. Held on **23rd October at 7.30pm at the OTHER St Nicholas Church, BS1 1UE - NOT here at St Nicholas of Tolentino.** Early bird ticket £6.00 (until 23 Sept), after that Couples ticket £22, single ticket £11. contact www.cff.org.uk/goingthedistance or 029 2081 0800

A ROOM TO HELP A TEMPORARILY HOMELESS MAN AND HIS CAT? I became homeless on 31st August in Newport. I came to Bristol and my mom came from Iran to support me in this difficult situation. Staying in an airbnb, we try to look for places to rent: finding a trustworthy landlord in short time is very difficult. My mother returns to Iran on 10th September. I have only a few days left to find a place for myself and the cat. I need urgently temporary accommodation for 3-4 months. By then I hope to find a job and find a permanent place. I have relatives who accept to pay the whole rent for this period fully and in advance as soon as I find a place.

DIOCESAN FORMATION DAY - 11th OCTOBER at ST BRENDAN'S COLLEGE Come together as a diocesan family to reflect on the theme - **'Being an Evangelist today: the tools required to be a joyful witness of Jesus'**. Keynote speaker Mgr John Armitage (formerly Rector of Our Lady of Walsingham Basilica - our National Shrine). 9.30am-3.30pm bring your lunch. book diocesanformationday.eventbrite.co.uk

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