



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

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Download this Bulletin from the Parish Website: www.tolentino.org.uk

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TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF YEAR C - Season of Creation



Be Prepared - Discipleship costs!

Jesus is always honest with us! Following Him is not a trip on the Glory train, but a hard road carrying the Cross. If we truly pray, it will cost us - if we really listen to Him and try to live His Word, His calling in our lives. It will mean letting of a lot of the baggage and clutter that fills our minds, our hearts, our lives. It will mean putting Him first, loving Him with our whole heart and soul. It will mean preparing for a challenging future as He takes us ever deeper into service of the poor and broken, as he grows His heart in us - a Heart willing to be broken in love for the most abandoned of humanity, a Heart willing to forgive those who hurt us most. It will mean a body wearied with all the caring and serving but always willing to go the extra mile ... or more!

To surrender whatever we possess to His service and the service of the Poor; to listen to the cry of the Poor, the cry of the Earth and change our life-style - and yet this hard road, the Way of the Cross ultimately is the secret of a life filled with that Peace that the world cannot give, a joy no-one and nothing can take from us. We are made for an infinite love - let Him be our only treasure, let working for His Kingdom of justice, love and peace, be the real ambition of our lives: then the cost of discipleship will be 'a light burden and an easy yoke'.

SUNDAY: PARISH MASS at 10.00am

(Live-streamed)

GLASTONBURY PILGRIMAGE MASS at 3.00pm (Abbey Grounds)

MONDAY: Feast of the Birth of Mary, Mother of the Lord No liturgy

TUESDAY: No Liturgy

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WEDNESDAY: School Mass of St Nicholas, new school year at 9.30am (all welcome)

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

FRIDAY: Adoration at 11.30am **Mass** at 12.00noon

SATURDAY: Feast of St John Chrysostom, Bishop & 'Doctor' of the Church (347-407)

Adoration at 11.30am **Mass** at 12.00noon

Sacrament of Reconciliation: after Mass and 4.00-4.30pm

TODAY [1] The **Twenty-Third Sunday of Year C** celebrates Jesus, the strange wisdom of the Cross. He calls us to place him first and gather all our other loves around Him, for He is the source of Wisdom and Love. He calls us to carry the Cross of the world's suffering with Him - renunciation is the only way to fulfilment - for Jesus is the only One who can fulfil our deepest longings ... love in all fullness.

[2] Let us join our Bishop and Diocesan Family in **the Glastonbury Pilgrimage of Hope**. I hope many of us will travel to Glastonbury (perhaps after our own Parish Mass) as a Pilgrimage of Hope, praying peace for our world and renewal for our parish, diocese and global Church.

NEXT SUNDAY [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 Parish in Communion for Mission St Bonaventure, served by the Bishopston, served by new parish priest, Canon Tom Finnegan, Deacons Andrew Bent and Bartek Kowalewski, Parish Administrator Joanna Adamec and all their community. Please also pray for retired priest in residence, Mgr Bernard Massey.

PRAY FOR THIS WEEK'S PARISH MINISTRY OR MISSION We pray today for the Ministry of our **Children's Liturgy of the Word Leaders**, who Sunday by Sunday seek to explore the Gospel in a way appropriate for our children 4-8 years old. With the guidance of Mary Hopper, our CLOW leaders work in pairs on a 4/5 week rota. This Ministry is a very important foundation for later catechesis (First Eucharist, Reconciliation etc), as well as building up community among our children - the 'little church'. **To continue this ministry, we urgently need more volunteers.** If you would like to work this way with our children, please contact Mary Hopper

COLLECTIONS

GA: £80.00 + Loose £178.70 + Card Reader £??? + S.O. £165.88 = £424.58 *thanks!*

Caritas Fund £64.00 **CAFOD** £63.38 - many thanks.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

7th Sept Diocesan Glastonbury Pilgrimage - ends with Mass at 3.00pm

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- 9th Sept Mass for Care of Creation at Emmaus, Whitchurch 12noon
 10th Sept Parish Pastoral Council meets at 7.30pm (Assisi Centre)
 11th Sept Parish Finance Committee meets (on Zoom) at 7.30pm
 11th Oct Diocesan Formation Day ('Joyful Evangelists') St Brendans 9.30am-3.30pm
 2nd Nov **FEAST OF ALL SAINTS - Mass at 10.00am**
 3rd Nov **Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed, All Souls Day mass 7pm**

A NEW 'DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH' (THEOLOGIAN/SAINT) - ST JOHN HENRY NEWMAN

Nine years ago this great English Theologian was declared a Saint - now Pope Leo has declared him to be a 'Doctor of the Church' - a saint who has had decisive impact on the Theology shaping the Church and its Proclamation of the Gospel. There are only 37 such 'Doctors of the Church' (including Ss Augustine, Athanasius, Thomas Aquinas, John of the Cross, Teresa of Avila etc) and now just three English 'Doctors' - Venerable Bede (7th century), St Anselm (11th century) and now St John Henry Newman (19th century). His great works were 'The Development of Doctrine' and 'On consulting the Laity on matters of Doctrine', as well as primacy of conscience, and his 'Apologia' - the account of his conversion to the Catholic Church. His theology prepared the Church for the Second Vatican Council and its reforms and the growth of 'Synodality' in the Church of today. Let us be shaped by his faithful and dynamic teaching.

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:

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

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

CANCEL DEBT - CHOOSE HOPE IN THIS JUBILEE YEAR - A CAFOD CAMPAIGN Pope Francis identified Debt Cancellation for the Developing World (especially for African countries) as a vital element of the 2025 Jubilee of Hope celebrations. CAFOD is pressing the UK government for action to address the Debt Crisis. Please sign up and make your voice heard by emailing: cafod.org.uk/cancelthedebt or with the link: www.action.cafod.org.uk/page/161357/petition/1

DIOCESAN JUBILEE YEAR PILGRIMAGE TO GLASTONBURY On Sunday 7th September all are invited to share our annual Pilgrimage in honour of 'Our Lady of Hope'. It begins at 11.00am with Rosary, followed by Adoration and Sacrament of Reconciliation until 2.30pm (in the parish church). In the Abbey Grounds, the Jubilee Year of Hope Procession from the Abbey to the Tor (11am-12.30pm); prayer for Healing in the tented Healing Chapel (11.30-2.30pm); Rosary Procession from Abbey through the town centre (1.45pm); concluding with Mass led by Bishop Bosco at 3.00pm. Plenty of space in the Abbey grounds for a picnic.

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THIS MONTH'S 'LAUDATO SI' TASK - Get the best out of your food Jesus has invited us to share food with the hungry, with those in need. In "Laudato Si'," Pope Francis emphasized the moral imperative to reduce food waste, framing it as a social justice issue and a responsibility towards both the environment and those in need. About 60% of food waste comes from our UK homes. 18 million tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO2) are generated by UK homes from wasted food at home. 8 meals could be saved each week if we stopped binning our food; some tips to stop food waste:

[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. Check who's in and who's out; sense your flexible meal plan and update your shopping list again.

[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, notes on the telephone, photo of dry-wipe list on the fridge. It'll keep you focused on buying only what you need. Set your budget before you get to the store. Use the quick-scan hand-held facility in 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. Find out the best places to store your food and a good time to check the fridge temperature. Fruit bowl in the fridge. The less you waste, the better our common home.

NEW MASS FOR THE CARE OF CREATION Come to Emmaus, Sleep Lane, Whitchurch, Bristol BS14 0QN and Mass in the garden **Tuesday Sept 9th at 12noon** - 'pray with creation, not just for it'. Plant-based lunch to share afterwards. Please notify them your coming email: annemmaus40@gmail.com

'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 Sunday 31st of August in Newport. I came to Bristol the day after and my mom came from Iran to support me in this difficult situation. We are now staying in an airbnb and try to look for places to rent but finding a trustworthy landlord in such a short time is very difficult. My mother has to return to Iran on Wednesday 10th of September. I have only 5 days left to find a place for myself and the cat. I only need an urgent and temporary accommodation for 3-4 months. Hopefully by then I will be able to find a job and find a permanent place. Although I do not have any money myself, I have affluent relatives who kindly accepted to pay the whole rent for this period. This payment can be made fully 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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