



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

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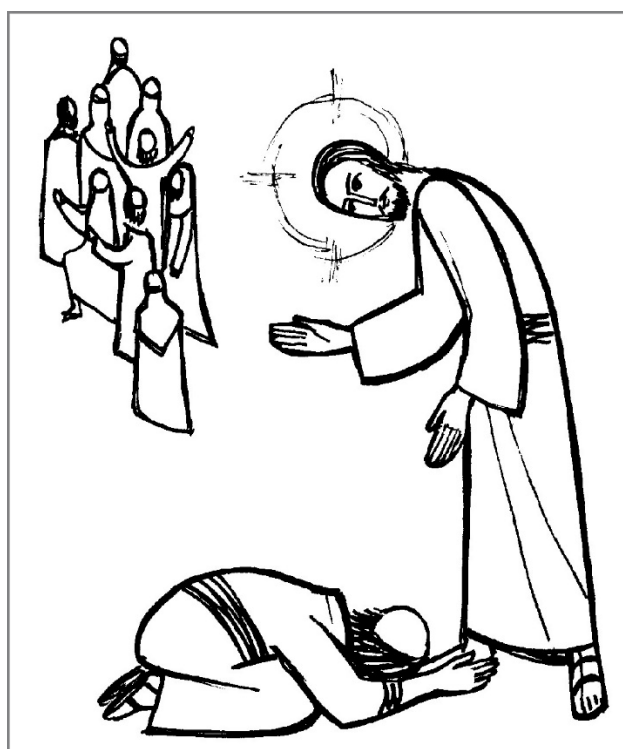
Parish Priest - Rev Richard McKay (tel: 07779677370)

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)

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY Year C



Freedom to Praise and Give Thanks!

All were healed, all brought from their exclusion through leprosy back into the main stream of their society, restored to their families! What joy! But why did only one come back?

He was the Samaritan - even more excluded by the hatred and prejudice of Israel! But because he was not bound up by Law, he had the freedom of heart to shout his praise and return to Jesus! All healing sets us free, and praising God in all spontaneity and joyousness is the sound of freedom, the sound of healing! That is why 'we are an Easter People and Alleluia! is our song' - why we 'sing a new song to the Lord' - and the real song is our lives set free for Love!

And who is it being healed and integrated back into the community - the most feared, those seen as 'unclean' and cursed by God. But God says - I love those you do not! I reach out to those you shun!

SUNDAY: PARISH MASS at 10.00am (Live-streamed) Followed by 'Social Sunday'

MONDAY: Feast of St Edward the Confessor, King of England No liturgy

TUESDAY: No Liturgy

WEDNESDAY: No Liturgy

THURSDAY: Feast of St Theresa of Avila, Reforming Carmelite Nun and 'Doctor'
Adoration at 11.30am Mass at 12noon

FRIDAY: Feast of St Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop, Disciple of St Peter, Martyr
Adoration at 11.30am Mass at 12.00noon

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SATURDAY: Feast of St Luke, Evangelist**Adoration** at 11.30am **Mass** at 12.00noon**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** after Mass and 4.00-4.43pm

TODAY: [1] With the **28th Sunday of Year C** we celebrate Jesus who touches the most wounded, the most marginalised, the most despised and feared - with healing love. He sets free those we imprison in our discriminations and prejudices. That is the Good News He carries - is it the Good News our lives and actions carry? If not, why not? If we love Jesus!

[2] **We give thanks for the ceasefire between Hamas and Israel** and pray it will open the door to a peace built on justice, freedom and security for Palestine and Israel. The intention of our Mass today.

[3] There is the October **CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY Retiring collection** supporting the huge demand of CAFOD for humanitarian Aid (eg Sudan and Gaza) and its work of nurturing development among the poorest nations.

NEXT SUNDAY: [1] On the **29th Sunday of Year C** we celebrate Jesus the teacher of persevering prayer and the bearer of the justice of God.

[2] It is **World Mission Sunday with the theme 'Missionaries of Hope among all Peoples'** in this Jubilee Year of Hope. We too are called 'Proclaim the Good News - welcome or unwelcome'! A **Retiring Collection for 'Missio' - the world-wide fund for the missionary work of the Church**. Please be generous.

[3] **Mass for the LGBTQ+ community & friends** at 3.00pm - all are welcome

PRAY FOR THIS WEEK'S PARISH MINISTRY OR MISSION We pray today for the work and **Mission of the Wild Goose Café and the 'In Hope' Ministries**. We appreciate John Flannery who has for a long time been a faithful volunteer, helping to provide hot meals to the homeless and the impoverished of our Inner City. This ecumenical Ministry draws Christians from many traditions in humble service of some of the most disadvantaged of our city. This includes a Women's Homeless Shelter and many life-skills courses helping individuals towards more independent and stable living. If you wish to volunteer in support of the Wild Goose Café and its ministries, please contact John Flannery for more information.

DIOCESAN PRAYER The Diocese prays today for parishes in communion of St Theresa of the Child Jesus, Filton, and St Vincent de Paul, Southmead, served by Fr James Finan, Deacons Tom Douglas, Charles Hickman and Ludgero Ferreira and Parish Administrator Debbie Nicholls and both their communities.

COLLECTIONS **CAFOD** £35.00 **Flowers** £6.00 **Caritas** £3000.00 - thank you!
14/9/25 GA: £10.00 + Loose £128.54 + Card Reader £113.06 + S.O. £165.88 = £417.48
28/9/25 GA: £25.00 + Loose £105.22 + Card Reader £132.33 + S.O. £165.88 = £428.43
5/10/25 GA: £10.00 + Loose £180.02 + Card Reader £19.68 + S.O. £165.88 = £375.58

DATES FOR THE DIARY

16th Oct Parish Finance Committee at 7.30pm (via Zoom)
 17th Oct Pre-Baptism Course Second Session 6.30pm in Assisi Centre
 19th Oct Affirmation of new Parish Pastoral Council
 22nd Oct Parish Pastoral Council at 7.15pm Assisi Centre (Mass at 6.30pm)
 26th Oct Baptismal Sunday at 10.00am Mass
 2nd Nov **FEAST OF ALL SAINTS - Mass at 10.00am**

Having been healed by Jesus of leprosy, only one returned to give thanks - the stranger, the Samaritan. 'Listen all who have ears and heart to hear'.

3rd Nov **Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed, All Souls Day Mass 7pm**
 11th Nov Remembrance Sunday - Praying for Peace built on 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:

Open Morning: Thursday 16th Oct 9.15-10.45am

ST BEDE'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE - OPEN EVENING Parents and Pupils are invited to view the College - **Morning visits welcomed throughout the year - by appointment**

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 26th OCTOBER at 10am Mass

Preparation Sessions: Friday 17th October at 6.30pm (Assisi Centre)

Rite of Child Catechumen Sunday 12th October at 10am Mass

PRAYING FOR PEACE IN SOLIDARITY WITH HOLY FAMILY CHURCH IN GAZA There is a movement inviting us all to pray in solidarity with the beleaguered Catholic Church in Gaza (Holy Family Church - Pope Francis and now Pope Leo phones them regularly). Pray together the Rosary for Peace at or around 7.00pm each Monday evening also supporting spiritually the small Catholic community who are still caring for 450 displaced people in their precinct. Please respond to the call to prayer

'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

Neurodiversity and our Faith research The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England & Wales and Birmingham Newman University are conducting research into Neurodiversity and our Faith. If you're an adult neurodivergent Catholic or a Caregiver of a neurodivergent Catholic, we want to hear from you. Your experiences will help us to become more inclusive and responsive to your needs. To find out more and to fill in our short surveys look here: www.godwhospeaks.uk/neurodivergent-catholic-surveys

'AROUND SACRED TEXTS' - INTERFAITH DIALOGUE MEETINGS

All are invited to share in three evenings looking at sacred texts:

7-9pm Monday 27th October | 7-9pm Tuesday 11th November | 7-9pm Tuesday 25th November. The first session is being hosted by St Nick's .

These 3 sessions look at common themes in texts that are sacred to people of Christianity, Judaism and Islam, with the hope of deepening our understanding of one another. The events are being co-hosted by a member of each faith, and all sacred texts will be checked by a trusted and learned leader. The themes for these evenings will be 'Prayer', 'Fasting', and 'Generosity'. These events are free but booking is required:

<https://www.bridgesforcommunities.com/event/around-sacred-texts-2/>

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World Mission Sunday 2025: The Holy Father calls us all to be Missionaries of Hope

This year, World Mission Sunday takes place on 19 October 2025

On this special day in the Church's year, Pope Leo XIV asks people in every Catholic parish around the world to support Missio, his charity for World Mission. We stand united in prayer and solidarity with our sisters and brothers in need, as together we strive to make God's love more visible in the world.

As part of the global Missio family, Missio England and Wales invites every parish, school and community to join this special event through prayer and giving.

Catholic parishes worldwide are called to play their part through their prayers and offerings. Each parish plays their part so that those in greatest need receive support.

In 2024, Catholics in Rwanda raised £12,000; Ecuador raised £197,000; Italy raised £3.3 million; and in England and Wales we raised £790,000. A heartfelt 'Thank you' to everyone who so generously gave their time and belief!

Visit missio.org.uk/wmsdonate to give to this year's World Mission Sunday Appeal, and ensure our missionaries may continue to work alongside communities worldwide, regardless of background or belief.

Pope Leo XIV has released the first document of his pontificate, an Apostolic Exhortation called *Dilexi te* – 'I have loved you'.

Underpinned by Scripture, Catholic social teaching, and the teaching of his predecessors, *Dilexi te* focuses on the Church's love for the poor and God's special concern for those living in poverty. It affirms the ways in which the magisterium should inform our pastoral practice in accompanying the poor and vulnerable to serve the common good. In continuity with Pope Francis's final encyclical, *Dilexit nos* on the human and divine love of the heart of Jesus Christ, Pope Leo makes a clear link between this document and the new Exhortation:

"I share the desire of my beloved predecessor that all Christians come to appreciate the close connection between Christ's love and his summons to care for the poor," he writes in the opening paragraphs. "I too consider it essential to insist on this path."

Baby Loss Awareness Week 9-15th October 2025

This is a national initiative of remembrance, an opportunity to pause and acknowledge the deep sorrow suffered by parents who have experienced the loss of a baby, especially through miscarriage, ectopic pregnancy, or stillbirth and infant loss. Each of these losses involves the death of a small child and the parents need our compassion and support through their bereavement. Let us pray.

Many women and parents carry this painful loss silently. It is difficult to talk about, even for the Church. We invite parents to mark baby loss in meaningful ways: through prayer, memorials or liturgical remembrance and mass. These affirm the dignity and innocence of the child and support you in your journey of grief and healing. We encourage parishes to invite parents to pray in front of the Most Blessed Sacrament or light a candle for their children at any time.

"You formed my inmost being; you knit me in my mother's womb" (Psalm 139). The psalmist sings of the divine origin of every human life starting from conception. During this Baby Loss Awareness Week, we remember all babies who have died before birth or in infancy and the families who mourn them.

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