



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

Parish Priest - Rev Richard McKay (tel: 07779677370)

Catechesis: Mary Hopper (01275-830788) Caretaking of our buildings: Eddie Mgbeoduru

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FEAST OF JESUS CHRIST - KING OF THE UNIVERSE



What kind of King is this...?

Strange King! A Cross of pain for a throne, thorns of torture for a crown, the stripped garments of a slave washing feet, bending low before his 'subjects' whom he calls brothers and sisters. Weapons? Only love and truth.

His Kingdom will not get very far like that, will it? Or will it? Everyone can be a citizen of this Kingdom - you do not have to make applications and sign papers and get references: you just have to love! You do not have to salute a flag, just reverence every human person, welcome every culture, value every child, struggle against every poverty and injustice.

Will this Kingdom get anywhere? YES! It is the power of perpetual revolution; it is the humble powerless of love that is the strongest and most transformative influence on Earth. Because the Kingdom is within you, and among us, and in every atom of creation, here is Kingdom, a Reign of God's Love and Truth that can transform the human heart and therefore will one day transform all Heaven and Earth. The whole of Creation, the Universe will radiate this love, will become the Body of Christ, Universal King!

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

MONDAY: Feast of St Andrew Dung-Lac, priest and the Vietnamese Martyrs
No Liturgy

TUESDAY: No Liturgy

WEDNESDAY: Adoration at 6.00pm Mass at 6.30pm (followed by Parish Council)

THURSDAY: Funeral Mass for Albert Phillips RIP at 1.00pm

'We give thanks to God because He has taken us out of the power of darkness and created a place for us in the Kingdom of His Son, and in Him we gain our freedom and forgiveness'

FRIDAY: Adoration at 11.30am Mass at 12.00noon

SATURDAY: Adoration at 11.30am Service of Word & Communion at 12.00noon

Sacrament of Reconciliation: none today

TODAY [1] On this last Sunday of the Liturgical Year, we celebrate the **Feast of Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**. We contemplate a truly cosmic vision - all creation gathered into the Risen Body of Christ! Our awesome Lord and Christ is the one who comes only to serve - a truly 'servant king' who washes the feet of a broken world and brings Good News to all the impoverished and downtrodden. We are called to serve the growth of Christ's Reign in our world - we are servants of Christ's transforming love that brings about a 'new heaven and a new earth'.

[2] This is **National Youth Sunday** - we ask all our young people to take an active part in the Mass serving in the various ministries involved with celebrating our Sunday Liturgy - welcoming, proclaiming the Word of God, Offertory collectors and bringing up the gifts, altar servers, Lay Ministers of the Eucharist, operating the live-streaming, teas and coffee etc after the Mass, **We value our young people, want to serve them better and help them to help us all build our community and mission.**

NEXT SUNDAY [1] We begin a new Liturgical Year with the **First Sunday of Advent**. We are on Cycle A - with the Gospels from St Matthew. Jesus calls us to be truly awake - awake to our world and its needs and crises; awake to those around us - family, friends, community; awake to the cries of the Earth, the cries of the poor! Awake to the 'signs of the times' and ready for action!

[2] The First Sunday of Advent is the **'Day of Prayer for Migrants and Refugees'**. This annual Day of Prayer was inaugurated by Pope Francis and could not be more timely in the light of the proposed legislation from the Home Office and how political leadership has betrayed our beloved refugee community by seeking to pass draconian and inhuman measures and restrictions.

[3] **Meeting after 10.00am Mass for parents of children to be prepared for First Eucharist or First Reconciliation in 2025**

FEAST OF THE CHRIST THE KING - NATIONAL YOUTH SUNDAY Final Sunday of the Liturgical Year, we celebrate the fulfilment of all Creation in Christ's reconciling love. **We invite all our young people to take a special part in our Sunday Mass** - please contact Benedicta and Eustace and fulfil a ministry during the Mass.

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. Tas and Iwona have been on their own fulfilling this ministry every Friday morning for too long - 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.

DIOCESAN PRAYER Today the Diocese prays for the Parish in communion for mission of English Martyrs, Chard, with Crewkerne and St Joseph's, Ilminster, served by Canon John Cunningham, Parish Administrator Maggie Weedon and all their communities.

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COLLECTIONS

9/11/25 GA: £30.00 + Loose £159.75 + Card Reader £238.87 + S.O. £165.88 = £594.50

16/11/25 GA: £20.00 + Loose £140.23 + Card Reader £386.32 + S.O. £165.88 = £712.43
many thanks! **CAFOD Gaza Appeal** £381.50 - many thanks!

DATES FOR THE DIARY

23rd Nov **Feast of Christ the King - Youth Sunday**

24th Nov Parish Pastoral Council (Assisi Centre) 7.15pm (after 6.30pm Mass)

25th Nov Interfaith Dialogue on Sacred Texts 7-9pm (venue later))

26th Nov Parish Pastoral Council (Assisi Centre) 7.15pm (Mass at 6.30pm)

30th Nov **Advent begins - New Liturgical Year - Year A (Matthew's Gospel)**

30th Nov Meeting of Parents seeking First Eucharist & Reconciliation for their children **(after 10.00am Mass)**

4th Dec Advent School Mass (Church) at 9.30am - all welcome

6th Dec Community Stewards Meeting at 1.00pm (Assisi Centre)

9th Dec **Feast of the Immaculate Conception - Mass at 7.00pm**

17th Dec School Infants Nativity Play (Church) at 2.00pm - all welcome

18th Dec School Carol Service (Church) at 2.00pm - all welcome

19th Dec School pre-Christmas Mass at 9.30am - all welcome

24th Dec **CHRISTMAS EVE - MIDNIGHT MASS** at 10.30pm

25th Dec **SOLEMN DAY MASS OF CHRISTMAS** at 10.00am

ADVENT - THE VISION OF MISSION Advent is a time for 'people with far-seeing eyes' - awakened to the reality of our world, ready to listen and to gaze: in order to recognise where, when and how Jesus comes in the 21st century (in the poverty, among the oppressed, disguised as an addict or as homeless, crying out for acceptance and freedom in the asylum-seeker, yearning for peace among the women and children who are the greatest victims of our wars). But you have to have courage to see and to hear - and more courage to speak and to act! The Spirit of God unfolds a vision of Mission - to transform the deserts and wastelands of our world into places of hope, rich and fertile in humanity and justice, healing and freedom. Our Mission is world-challenging and world-changing. Let our worship empower our mission, as we gaze upon bread from the fields and wine from the hills being transformed utterly in Christ by the Spirit and the Word through the ministry of the Church!

THE YEAR OF MATTHEW Throughout the new Liturgical Year (A) most Sundays we will be proclaiming the Gospel of St Matthew. This is the most Jewish of the Gospels, arising from the life experience (and so the questions and issues) of a first century Christian community composed mostly of Jews who had embraced Jesus as the Messiah they had long awaited. The author seems to have been a rabbi as many rabbinical techniques are used in this Gospel (eg grouping miracles, healings, parables in groups of seven). Jesus is presented as a New Moses giving a New Law (the Beatitudes) that fulfils and surpasses the Old Law. At a time when Christian Jews were excommunicated from the Synagogues and Jerusalem and its Temple lay in ruins at the hands of the Roman Army, the author is seeking to reassure them that they were being faithful to God's Covenant with His people in accepting Jesus, Messiah and Son of God ... they were faithful Jews by becoming Christians: the Gospel concludes with the Universal Mission ('all nations') entrusted to them by the Risen and Glorious Christ at the mountain of the Ascension.

ADVENT DAY OF REFLECTION - 'MARY'S YES' Saturday 6th December You are invited to this day of Prayer, Teaching, personal reflection time and sharing at the Apostle Room at Clifton Cathedral - starting at 10.15am (after Mass at 9.30am) and finishing

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at 3.30pm - bring packed lunch. Part of our 'Jubilee Year of Hope' Journey
Contact: adult.education@cliffondiocese.com

ESSENTIAL TRAINING FOR CATECHISTS Clifton Diocese in partnership with 'Light of Truth' are offering [Essential Training for Catechists](#). Parishioners can join us on Saturdays, 6th, 13th & 20th December, online, from 9am to 12 noon for a short course of 3 sessions, to discover the essential nature and principles of catechesis, the sources of catechesis, and the best ways to prepare and deliver our catechesis. This course is open to everyone involved or interested in any kind of catechesis for adults, young people or children. Anyone interested can sign up for the series by clicking on the Zoom link [here](#). More information on other courses & sessions run by the Sisters can be found on the following link: <https://www.lightoftruth.uk/join>

ST NICHOLAS PRIMARY SCHOOL - ADMISSIONS SEPTEMBER 2026 Thinking of Reception Class for your child next year? Please take a look at our parish primary school. **Open Day Visits: Friday 5th December 1.30pm-3.00pm**
Monday 8th Dec 9.30am-11.00am
Friday 9th January 2026 9.30am-11.00am

If you are unable to make any of these times, then please contact the School Office to book a suitable time- tel; 0117-377-2260

MASS CELEBRATING FAMILY LIFE Bishop Bosco is to celebrating Mass in the Cathedral on **Saturday 14 February** (12 noon) and is inviting all families to join him to acknowledge the joys & challenges of family life. In addition, we will celebrate those couples with significant anniversaries in 2026. If you are, or know of a couple, celebrating a special anniversary during 2026 please do let us know. You just need to send names to: adult.education@cliffondiocese.com with an address so that a personal invitation can be sent out from the bishop. Please include the number of years celebrating. It is always a wonderful Mass at the Cathedral, we look forward to seeing you there.

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

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD (CLOW) We have not been able to restart this essential part of our Liturgy and the foundation of catechesis for our children through lack of enough volunteers to help our children and parish in this way. **However we are having Children's Liturgy of the Word each Sunday in Advent - starting next Sunday. BUT WE DESPERATELY NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS TO HELP IN ORDER TO SUSTAIN THIS IMPORTANT MINISTRY. Please offer some time and energy so that our children can enter more fully into the wonder of the Mass - Eucharist and the Word of God.**

OUR NEW PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETS THURSDAY Our new PPC is there to represent your voices, the voices of all our diverse community - so please both pray for the work of the PPC in leadership and decision-making in the parish; and also speak to your Parish Councillors so your voice will be heard around the PPC table.

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