



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

Safeguarding Reps: Mary Hopper (01275-830788) & Paul Bradshaw-Price

Parish Administration & Hall/Room Bookings: Office Team (0117-909-0419)

Community Stewards: Eustace Tameh (Finance), Margaret Ulloa (Property),

Benedicta Lobela Amba (Youth), Epiphania Chipato (Pastoral) Mary Hopper (Catechesis)

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



Glory! Humanity or God?

What is this Light that shines through Jesus upon the mountain? Is it the glory of God, for He is the son of God? Yet God's glory is experienced more in the dark cloud that overshadows them as they are plunged into the dark mystery of God whose Light blinds us in its radiance!

Is it not rather the glory of God-touched humanity - the New Humanity that Jesus comes to bring into the world to transform the course of history? That same glory that we have within ourselves, that is within every human person. This strange and awesome event on the Mountain of Divine Presence reveals to us that we are indeed glorious creations of God.

But we are to listen to Him! He is the New Moses who brings us a Law beyond all law - the 'law' of limitless love. He is the New Elijah, the prophet of justice, of freedom, of the Poor - the Prophet of God in whose Kingdom the poor and broken have first place.

And this Glory is a work - to touch every human person with this same Glory!

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

Stations of the Cross approx 12.30pm

Mass with the Catholic Handicapped Fellowship at 3.00pm - all welcome

MONDAY: No Liturgy

Peter said 'Lord, it is wonderful for us to be here!' and the Father said: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased - Listen to Him!'

TUESDAY: No Liturgy

WEDNESDAY: No Liturgy

THURSDAY: Adoration 11.30am Mass 12.00 noon

**FRIDAY: Adoration 11.30am Mass at 12.00 noon
Lenten Area House Mass at 7.00pm at 32b St John's Lane BS3 5AD**

SATURDAY: Feast of Ss Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs (died 203)

**Adoration 11.30am Mass at 12.00 noon
Sacrament of Reconciliation 4.00-4.30pm only**

TODAY [1] The **Second Sunday of Lent A** celebrates Jesus transfigured in glory on the mountain of the Presence. Transfigured by the overshadowing Spirit and the Father's voice, Jesus is encouraged to walk to the Cross and the apostles are prepared for the suffering that lies ahead. We have little moments of transfiguration, to reassure us and strengthen us to continue our Pilgrimage of Faith.

[2] **We pray the Stations of the Cross** at approximately 12.30pm (ie after refreshments following our 10am Mass). We offer this ancient prayer devotion today for all refugees and those seeking safe asylum among us. May the anti-migrant narrative in our politics today be challenged and changed!

[3] **Mass with the Catholic Handicapped Fellowship** at 3.00pm - all are welcome.

[4] **Retiring Collection for CAFOD LENTEN FAST DAY**

NEXT SUNDAY [1] The **Third Sunday of Lent** celebrates Jesus calling us to conversion and mission, and gifting us with the Holy Spirit to fulfil the mission. Jesus meets the excluded Woman of Samaria, speaks to her deepest need, embraces her with forgiveness and love and sends her back to the villagers that excluded her to evangelise them. She does very successfully! We too are forgiven, loved and sent as missionary disciples - will we do His work?

[2] **We pray the Stations of the Cross** at approximately 12.30pm (ie after refreshments following our 10am Mass). We offer this ancient prayer devotion today for peace in our world - especially between Israel and Palestine, Russia and Ukraine, among the Sudanese people, between US and Iran. Blessed are the peacemakers!

[3] Last year we missed out on the **Missionary Orders annual Collection for 2025**. So we are taking it this week as a **Retiring Collection for the African Sisters of Divine Love. Please be as generous as you can - Lent is a special time for giving of our money especially to the Mission of the Church.**

PRAY FOR THIS WEEK'S PARISH MINISTRY OR MISSION 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.

DIOCESAN PRAYER We pray for the parish in communion for mission of St Thomas of Canterbury, Fairford with St Mary, Cricklade, served by Fr Michael Robertson, and both their communities.

COLLECTIONS

GA: £25 + Loose £146.11 + Card Reader £97.50 + S.O. £206.35 = £474.96 - thanks!

***Peter said 'Lord, it is wonderful for us to be here!' and the Father said:
This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased - Listen to Him!***

Him through the desert of silence and prayer, of deprivation and hunger, of thirst and yearning. Why? To grow to become more like Jesus in generosity of spirit, openness of heart, deeper communion with God, a readiness to give of ourselves to the Mission of the Gospel. These 40 Days express our communion with all catechumens of the Church journeying to the great moment of Baptism (or reception into Full Communion with the Church; these 40 Days are our journey to the renewal of our Baptism at Easter when we say again our 'YES' to being plunged into the Mystery of Christ and become truly Christ People, filled with His Spirit and knowing ourselves to be 'Beloved of the Father'. Let us embrace these most precious days of renewal.

PREPARING FOR LENT - A SEASON OF RENEWAL [1] As part of our Lenten journey of renewal, we wish to hold **Area Masses each week of Lent** (except Holy Week). **Would you be willing to host such a Mass in your home, welcoming parishioners who live in your geographical area.** We will supply known addresses in the particular area so that the host can invite them to their home for the Mass. This will be in addition to other initiatives such as Stations of the Cross each Sunday after the refreshments after the Mass. If you are willing to host such a Mass in your home, please contact either Richard or the Parish Office Team as soon as possible.

[2] **Try to come to at least one weekday mass each week, and joint the Stations of the Cross on Sundays after Mass**

[3] **Diocesan Lenten Reconciliation Services with Bishop Bosco** - The Bristol Area Service is at 7.00pm on **Thursday 24th March at Christ the King Church, Thornbury, Castle Street, BS35 1HA** - all very welcome with many priests available.

[4] **Lenten Retreats** a) Feb 20-22 at Monastery of Our Lady & St Bernard, Brownshill, nr Stroud GL6 8AL (Also quiet day March 5th; Vocations Weekend 17-19 April)
b) Feb 20-22 at Stonyhurst Christian Heritage Centre, a Carmelite Spirituality Retreat on St John of the Cross apply on-line: christianheritagecentre.com

THE TRUE FAST - ACCORDING TO POPE FRANCIS

"Fast from hurting words and say kind words. Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude. Fast from anger and be filled with patience. Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope. Fast from worries and trust in God. Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity. Fast from pressures and be prayerful. Fast from bitterness and fill your heart with joy. Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others. Fast from grudges and be reconciled. Fast from words and be silent - so you can listen."

WORK EXPERIENCE OFFER FOR 1ST AND 2ND YEAR UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

The Catholic Fund for Overseas Development (CAFOD) and the Society of St Vincent de Paul (SVP) are working together to offer residential work experience for 20 young adults. All accommodation costs, meals and travel to the Office for the week are covered. It will be focussed on CAFOD NATIONAL OFFICE, ROMERO HOUSE, LONDON SE17JB. More information from email: KeziaH@svp.org.uk

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

"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," Pope Leo writes in the opening paragraphs. "I too consider it essential to insist on this path". God's Option for the Poor leaves us Christians with no option but to follow the Way of Christ, the Way of the Gospel and share God's Option!

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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

[Survey Flyer Caregivers](#) [Survey Flyer Adults](#)

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