



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

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 (Office open: Monday-Friday 10am - 12 noon & Tuesday 2 - 4pm; Friday 5 - 7pm)
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Clifton Diocesan Website: www.cliftondiocese.com

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

Parish Priest - Rev Richard McKay (mob: 07779677370)

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

Safeguarding Reps: Mary Hopper (01275-830788) & Paul Bradshaw-Price (0117-915-0486)

Food Bank Manager: Lahiru Gunatilake (07438976736)

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)

PASSION SUNDAY - HOLY WEEK BEGINS



HOSANNA TO CRUCIFY HIM!

'Behold your King comes! Riding on a donkey!' The King on a beast of burden, for He carries the burden of the sin of the world, of the inhumanity that children of God are capable of. The donkey, the impure animal carrying the holiest of all our brothers and sisters - but a holiness that refuses to protect itself in sacred aura, but rather dives into the world of the impure to bring a love that purifies and cleanses.

They acclaim Him with Royal title - 'Son of David' and greet him with the ancient Battle cry - 'Hosanna!' as He rides towards the greatest of battles and the strangest of victories: the battle against hate and brutality, sin and unforgiveness; the Victory of Life over Death, Peace over Violence. He rides towards the Drama that will see Unconquerable Love born forever among us from the wounded lance-opened side of the Servant King enthroned upon the wood of the Cross and crowned with the thorns of the world's pain. These Palms of Victory that carry the scent of pain and death - for Life!

SUNDAY: *PARISH MASS with Solemn Procession of Palms at 10.00am (begins at school)*

MONDAY: *Adoration at 6.00pm Mass for Refugees & all fleeing war and oppression at 6.30pm,
Sacrament of Reconciliation 7.15-7.45pm*

TUESDAY: *Adoration at 6.00pm Mass for Victims/Survivors of Abuse at 6.30pm,
Sacrament of Reconciliation 7.15-7.45pm*

WEDNESDAY: *MASS OF THE CHRISM at 11.00am (Clifton Cathedral) - all invited
 Adoration at 6.00pm Mass for Peace - Middle East, Ukraine, Sudan at 6.30pm
Final Sacrament of Reconciliation before Easter 7.15-7.45pm*

PSALM RESPONSE: 'MY GOD! MY GOD! WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?'

+++ *The Sacred Triduum* +++

MAUNDY THURSDAY: **Tenebrae Morning Prayer** at 9.00am

MASS OF THE LAST SUPPER at 7.00pm (live-streamed on Parish Website)

This beautiful Liturgy includes:

*the Reception of the Holy Oils that were consecrated at the Cathedral Chrism Mass;
the Mandatum (or the celebration of the Servant Christ washing the feet of his disciples);
the Procession to the Altar of Repose, and Gethsemane Watching with Jesus until midnight.*

"COME WATCH WITH ME ONE HOUR": *watching with love for Him who is all love!*

Rosary for Peace ... approx 10.30pm

Night Prayer of the Church ... 11.45pm

GOOD FRIDAY: **[Day of Prayer, Fasting and Abstinence]**

Tenebrae Morning Prayer at 9.00am

GOOD FRIDAY UNITED OPEN-AIR WAY OF THE CROSS

Begins at St Nicks at 11.00am, walks up Stapleton Road and St Mark's Road, concluding at the Baptist Church around 1.00pm. We walk with Cross as witnesses to Christ's sacrificing love through our local community, praying for the needs of this community.

SOLEMN LITURGY OF THE PASSION at 3.00pm (live-streamed on Parish Website)

*This meditative and moving Liturgy includes the Proclamation of the Passion, Veneration of the Cross, Solemn Intercessions, and Mass of the Pre-Sanctified. **This is the most important Service of the Day, so please prioritise attending the Liturgy of the Passion***

HOLY SATURDAY: **'Tenebrae' Morning Prayer** at 9.30am

Today, we wait in stillness by the Tomb of Christ, the Crucified God. The Church celebrates no Sacraments, but holds a silent, mournful but hope-filled vigil at the tomb, waiting for death to explode into life with the dawn of Easter. Come and pray awhile waiting with love for the Divine Lover to wake from Sabbath rest and liberate the captive slaves of death as it's power is destroyed.

+++ *The Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ* +++

HOLY SATURDAY: **THE VIGIL MASS OF EASTER** at 9.00pm

This is the greatest Mass of the year, one for which we prepare most especially. throughout Lent. We keep vigil into the dark hours of the night, opening ourselves in prayer, Word and song to the Rising of the Light of Christ's Resurrection Glory. Every shadow of death scattered! Every member of our parish family should try to be a part of the great Vigil Mass. Let us fill the church! During our Vigil, we renew our Baptismal Commitment to Christ; affirming our faith in the Gospel of Life and limitless love; decide afresh to be a community of faith and proclamation.

There is an Agape after the Easter Vigil: please bring some food to share - I will look after the liquids! Please bring your offering of food to the Parish Hall before the Vigil begins.

[The Vigil Mass fulfils your Easter obligation, but you are warmly invited also to the Easter Morning Mass, a very different Liturgy]

EASTER DAY: **SOLEMN DAY MASS OF EASTER** at 10.00am

(streamed on Parish Website)

EASTER MONDAY: **Adoration** at 9.30am **Mass** at 10.00am (Bank Holiday)

PSALM RESPONSE: 'MY GOD! MY GOD! WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?'

PLEASE NOTE: IN THE ANCIENT TRADITION OF THE CHURCH, RECONCILIATION WILL NOT BE CELEBRATED AFTER THE WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK.

TODAY: [1] **HOLY WEEK BEGINS** with the Celebration of Passion (Palm) Sunday - we begin the great drama of the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ. We bless and process with Palms - the ancient sign of victory, hailing a King, who will win our victory by embracing the failure of the Cross. We welcome our King who will be enthroned on the wood of the Cross, crowned only with thorns and whose death becomes our Life.

[2] **I hope and pray that all of us will make it a priority to be part of the great Liturgies of Holy Week**, beginning with Palm Sunday and concluding with the Easter Vigil and Easter Morning Masses. Holy Week is a kind of week-long Retreat for the whole Church, for all of us missionary disciples. Let us all come together and fill our church for each of the great Liturgies.

[3] **There is a Retiring Collection for Easter Flowers**

NEXT SUNDAY: **EASTER CELEBRATIONS!!** We celebrate the incomparable joy of Love's victory over hatred, Life's victory over death, Light's victory over all darkness, Holiness' victory over sin. The Spirit raises the dead Jesus into our Risen Living and Life-giving Lord. We all renew the promises of our baptism and commit ourselves to serving the Kingdom, living the Resurrection and being Good News to the Poor of the world.

DIOCESAN PRAYER We pray for the parishes in communion for mission of St St Benet, Kemerton, St Joseph, Tewkesbury, and St Nicholas, Winchcombe served by Fr Francis Hughes OSB Fr Luke Lukose CST, Parish Administrator Christine Davies and all their communities

PRAY FOR THIS WEEK'S PARISH MINISTRY OR MISSION We pray today for the work and Mission of our Borderlands Charity - from exclusion to Belonging. Since the year 2000 our parish has been involved in serving and accompanying the refugee and asylum community. We set up this Charity about 12 years ago to resource and develop this Mission and over the years many of our community have volunteered with Borderlands. Three of the Trustees of the Charity are parishioners. An independent Charity, Borderlands is a most valued partner organisation as we continue to serve and rejoice in our refugee and asylum community and friends.

EASTER OFFERINGS: This Easter Collection (together with the Christmas Offerings) is your personal contribution to the annual 'wage' of your parish priest. Envelopes are available at the door - you can also give through the digital card reader; thank you for your generosity.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

G.A. Env £65.00 + Loose £92.98 + Card Reader £?? + S/O £206.35 = £ - thanks!
Caritas £100.00 Priests' Retirement Fund £55.00

EASTER FLOWERS: Donations of money towards flowers will be gratefully received, to help decorate the church for Easter (& at other times). Minette is no longer able to oversee this ministry - can you help with flower arranging? Please see Richard. **There is a Retiring Collection for Church Flowers - thank you!**

DATES FOR THE DIARY

29th March **PALM SUNDAY - HOLY WEEK BEGINS**

Mass & Procession begins in school at 10.00am

1st April **Mass of the Chrism, Clifton Cathedral at 11.00am - all welcome**

PSALM RESPONSE: 'MY GOD! MY GOD! WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?'

2nd April	Holy Thursday Mass of the Last Supper at 7.00pm, watching to midnight
3rd April	Good Friday Open Air Stations at 11.00am LITURGY OF THE PASSION 3.00pm
4th April	EASTER VIGIL MASS at 9.00pm
5th April	EASTER SUNDAY MASS OF THE RESURRECTION AT 10.00am
25th April	Meet the Curia Day at St Brendan's College
29th April	Parish Pastoral Council after 6.30pm Mass
30th April	Parish Finance Committee at 7.30pm (on Zoom)
6th May	Clergy and PSR's Safeguarding Training 9.30am to 3.00pm
12th May	School Governors at 5.00pm
24th May	FEAST OF PENTECOST - COME HOILY SPIRIT! RENEW US ALL
27th May	Parish Pastoral Council after 6.30pm Mass
4th June	Parish Finance Committee at 7.30pm (on Zoom)
7th June	FIRST EUCHARIST SUNDAY & FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI - 10am Mass
4th July	Diocesan Celebration Day at Downside Abbey 10.00am - 4.30pm

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY PLACES Please be especially generous to this collection, supporting both the Holy Places and the beleaguered Christians of the Holy Land and the Middle East, supporting the many refugees fleeing the terror and war especially in Gaza and the West Bank, as well as Iran.

MONTHLY YOUTH-LED MASS Thank you to our young people for leading the Mass last Sunday when our Bishop was with us - you were exceptional and we are so proud of you all. Next Youth-led Mass on Sunday 19th April.

PRE-EASTER CELEBRATION OF RECONCILIATION (Confession) Lent is a journey we take together as a community - a journey of Repentance, of turning back to the Lord, a journey of renewal in the Holy Spirit of God's love and mercy. The Church encourages us to express this journey by celebrating the Sacrament of God's Mercy - the Sacrament of Reconciliation (see below), so that our hearts are truly prepared for our recommitment as disciples of the Risen Christ this Easter ('Renewal of Baptismal Promises'). Please see the times for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, especially in the early part of Holy Week. **We observe the ancient tradition of the Church by celebrating Reconciliation up to the Wednesday of Holy Week, but not after that day** - so that we are well prepared to celebrate the Sacred Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday night).

ALTAR SERVERS PRACTICES This is the most important week of the Year. Will all Servers please inform me of their attendance or otherwise at practices and the Liturgies - parents please make sure this happens - thank you!

Saturday 28th March (for Palm Sunday) 3.30-4.00pm

Thursday 2nd April (for Mass of the Last Supper) 10.00-11.00am

Friday 3rd April (for Solemn Liturgy of the Passion) 10.00-11.00am

Saturday 4th April (for Easter Vigil) 10.30-11.30am

VOLUNTEERS FOR EASTER CLEANING OF THE CHURCH On Wednesday 1st April at 10.00am - please come and help clean the Church in preparation for Easter. Thank you!

IS GOD CALLING YOU TO ORDAINED MINISTRY OR RELIGIOUS LIFE? There will be a **Vocations Weekend 17-19 April** at the Monastery of Our Lady & St Bernard, Brownshill, nr Stroud GL6 8AL. Please contact them directly - details in the porch.

PSALM RESPONSE: 'MY GOD! MY GOD! WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?'