



## 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](http://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

Food Bank Manager: Lahiru Gunatilake (07438976736)

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

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

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

### FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR A



#### *The Kingdom of Divine Littleness!*

A King who comes humbly on a donkey! A God who is the servant who kneels at our feet to wash the dirt and pain away! Our Divine Lord who is a brother walking at our side, sharing the burden, shouldering the yoke with us! The infinite all-encompassing God who delights in being small and lowly in the child, in a scrap of bread and drop of wine!

It is indeed an 'upside-down kingdom' that Jesus brings. The poor are raised up and the powerful thrown down! The over-stuffed will be sent empty away while the hungry are fed! Those who think they are so holy with all the trappings of religion will have to plead with prostitutes, addicts and the broken to be allowed in to Heaven!

The King of Heaven and Earth calls us to learn from Him that humility of heart that delights with God in the small and lowly, and uses all our energy and love to raise the poor.

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

Mass with Catholic Handicapped Fellowship at 3.00pm - all welcome

**MONDAY:** No Liturgy

**TUESDAY:** No Liturgy

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**WEDNESDAY: No Liturgy**

**THURSDAY: Feast of St Augustine Zhao Rong & 119 Chinese Martyrs (1648-1930)**

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

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

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

**Mass with Slovenian Pilgrims at 6.00pm**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation after 12 noon Mass and 4.00-4.30pm**

**TODAY** [1] On the **Fourteenth Sunday of Year A** we celebrate Jesus who comes to share our burdens and fill our hearts (and our world!) with peace. Our gentle Saviour and Healer never forces Himself on us, but rather invites us to 'Come to Him' even as He comes to us. He is 'humble of heart' - are we?

[2] **Parish Pastoral Council meets 12noon-1.30pm.** We welcome new members. This is our main decision-making body guiding and shaping the the development of our parish and its mission. Please support with your prayer, and bring your ideas and reflections to our Parish Councillors as we seek to be a truly 'synodal parish'

[3] **Mass with our Catholic Handicapped Fellowship** at 3.00pm - all welcome

[4] **Emergency Retiring Collection for Venezuelan Earthquake Victims**

**NEXT SUNDAY** [1] With the **Fifteenth Sunday of Year A** we celebrate Jesus the Seed of Gd's Word and Love sown into the fertile soil of our lives of faith. Matthew gives us Jesus great parable to the Sowing of the Seed. We are all called to be 'sowers of the Seed' of Jesus Word and Love into the soil of our world, the soil of every human heart. Do we welcome His Word and allow that Word to grow within us and shape our lives? Do we sow the Gospel into our world and it structures?

[2] **We welcome Fr Francis Ezennia MSP**, parish priest of Lawrence Weston and Shirehampton, to preach the Annual Missionary Appeal on behalf of his Congregation - the Missionaries of St Paul of Nigeria. I will be celebrating the masses in Shirehampton and Lawrence Weston while you all make Fr Francis at home here at St Nicks!

[3] We also **welcome a group of 29 Slovenian Pilgrims**, with their Franciscans priests, Fr Pavle Jakop OFM and Fr Vid (Franc) Lisjak OFM. They are celebrating Mass at St Nicks at 8.30am.

**PRAY FOR THIS WEEK'S PARISH MINISTRY OR MISSION** We pray for our **Proclaimers of the Word**, co-ordinated by Lucy Lourenco. This ministry of of life-giving importance as the Word of God is our daily 'Bread for the Journey'. Christ is truly present among us in His Word proclaimed in our Liturgical Assembly. The Word is not simply 'read' but is to be proclaimed with faith and love, with understanding and passion. We also pray for our **Preaching Team** who regularly 'break the Bread of the Word' for us one Sunday a month and when I am away on a Sunday. Training is always given for these ministries.

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**DIOCESAN PRAYER** We pray for the parishes in communion for mission of Corpus Christi, Our Lady of Lourdes and St Jospeh, Weston-super-Mare, served by Canon Tom Gunning, Deacons Stephen Munday, Michael Roberts, Parish Administrators Tracey Nelson, Maricris Magbanua and all communities.

**BISHOP BOSCO - ON SICK LEAVE** This week Bishop Bosco was taken ill with a heart condition. We have and will continue to pray for him. He has successfully received treatment and is now discharged from hospital. He will be taking some leave to recover and with then gradually return to his ministry among us. He has thanked us all for our prayer and expressed great gratitude for the care and skill he received at the heart Institute of the BRI. Please continue to keep him in your prayer.

**COLLECTIONS** **MANY THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT FOR OUR PARISH'S MISSION**  
**14/6/26** GA: £10.50 + Loose £137.30 + Card Reader £25.00 + S.O. £206.35 = £379.15  
**21/6/26** GA: £10.00 + Loose £141.57 + Card Reader £235.95 + S.O. £206.35 = £593.87  
**28/6/26** GA: £10.00 + Loose £158.20 + Card Reader £113.07 + S.O. £206.35 = £487.62  
**Zimbabwean Mass** £141.55, **Peter's Pence** £11.97 - many thanks!

### **DATES FOR THE DIARY**

5th July Parish Pastoral Council meeting 12.00-1.30pm  
 8th July Ashley Churches Together Serving meeting at In Hope 12.30pm  
 9th July Parish Finance Committee at 7.30pm (on Zoom)  
 16th July School Leavers & End of Year Mass at 9.30am - all welcome  
 6th Aug **Feast of the Transfiguration and Hiroshima Day, prayer for Nuclear disarmament**  
 6th Aug Parish Finance Committee at 7.30pm (on Zoom)  
 16th Aug **Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady (celebrated on Sunday)**  
 23rd Aug Journey of Faith 'Come and ~See' meeting after 10am Mass  
 30th Aug Baptismal Sunday - names to Richard or Eustace now please  
 4th Sept First Confirmation Meeting Assisi Centre at 5.30pm  
 4th Oct Parish Synod Meeting 12.30-2.00pm - **for everyone please book it**

**CALLING OUR YOUNG PEOPLE TO CONFIRMATION** At last we are now able to prepare our young people (aged 13 +) for the vital Sacrament of Confirmation. **It is the Church's wish that Confirmation is delayed until an age when our young people can decide for themselves to take this step of commitment as disciples of Christ.** Parents can encourage, but must not make this decision for their children. We wish to gather the names of your g people who would like to explore the possibility of receiving Confirmation. We will have a meeting with them on Friday 4th September at 5.30pm in the Assisi Centre and begin a Programme of Preparation (along the lines of the Journey of Faith) in October. We hope to arrange a date for Confirmation in February/March. Young People, please approach Richard or Mary as soon as possible.

**THINKING ABOUT BECOMING A CATHOLIC?** If you or someone you know might be thinking about becoming a Catholic, or simply want to know more about our faith, then the **Journey of Faith Group** is for them. Or if you are al-  
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ready a Catholic but have not been Confirmed in the Holy Spirit, or simply what to deepen your faith, then this group is also for you. Please contact Richard or Mary Hopper. **We will have a 'Come and See' meeting after Mass on Sunday 23rd August**

### **URGENT NEEDS OF OUR FOODBANK**

**THIS IS AN UGENT APPEAL** Food and Toiletries needed - It has become much more difficult to source suitable food and other items and often we have little to offer those with great need. Please bring anything you can and ask your friends and neighbours to help and share with those who have so little. We need fresh meat (which can be frozen), bread, eggs, fruit and vegetables; pasta, rice, breakfast cereals, milk, sugar, tea/coffee, pasta sauces, and tinned fruit, vegetables, meat and fish, baked beans etc. Some vegan foodstuffs also needed as well as some pet food. And of course also washing powder, cleaning materials and toiletries. Please bring what you can at the Offertory on Sundays - larger deliveries by arrangement with Lahiru our foodbank manager, (mob: 07438976736). **THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**

### **GOD'S CALL TO SERVE THE LIFE AND MISSION OF YOUR PARISH**

Our parish, together with nearly all churches and voluntary organisations around the country, has not yet recovered fully from the effects of the Covid Pandemic. A significant number of our community are not coming to Mass here for a variety of reasons. It is a joy to welcome new families and individuals who have found their way to St Nicks. However we need to draw more members into being part of the many ministries and tasks of the parish. **Whether it is the Welcoming Ministry, Church Cleaning, the Foodbank, Catechists, Parish Office Ministry too few are doing too much in support of the parish's life and mission.** We are all called by our baptism to serve, to sacrifice time and energy to build our parish community and support the Mission of Christ entrusted to us. However difficult, I do ask everyone to reflect whether you can give some time can be given to sustain the parish's life and mission.

### **PREPARING FOR YOUR CHILD'S BAPTISM**

Parents seeking the baptism of their children are asked to inform Eustace Tameh or Fr Richard as soon as possible. Next Baptism celebration:

**BAPTISMAL SUNDAY 30th August** at 10am Mass

### **NEWS OF THE PRESBYTERY**

It has taken two long years but finally we got the diocese to agree to leasing our empty presbytery to Ashley Community Housing for the housing of homeless refugees. The lease is for three years and is renewable. The lease was completed on Wednesday and Richard handed over the keys. The former presbytery will now be called 'Tolentino House' and ACH are in the process of doing the necessary refurbishment work for it to comply with multi-occupancy property. New residents should be occupying it within next 6-8 weeks. Its use for housing homeless refugees accords beautifully with our mission as a parish and I look forward to welcoming your new neighbours!

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