

ST BON'S BISHOPSTON NEWSLETTER

A Community of Missionary Disciples With Contemplative Hearts

Sixth & Seventh Sundays in Ordinary Time

Sunday 12th— Sunday 26th February 2017

Last Tuesday, with twelve parishioners, I attended a very inspiring prisoner charities fair. The evening, organised by the Bristol based prison charity 'SixtyOne', was an opportunity for charities who work with prisoners to advertise what they do. The 'Rehabilitation Fair' was attended by representatives from 58 churches around Bristol and beyond. It was inspiring to meet people who work with charities that bring hope to people's lives. Two of the highlights of the evening for me were short talks from the Chief Constable of Avon & Somerset Constabulary, Andy Marsh, and Rev. Osien Sibanda the Pastor of God's House International Centre in Stokes Croft.

The Chief Constable spoke movingly of the challenges facing modern policing and how the Christian Churches can help with that. He described that most crime today takes place behind closed doors. Domestic abuse, rape and child abuse are all crimes that are increasing and most take place in the home, behind a closed door or online, thus making them very hard to combat. He said that our constabulary want to work in partnership with groups in the city and with the churches and that these charities and groups, which bring hope to people's lives, are important in combating crime. If we can help people to stop ex-offenders re-offending we are helping society. I had never seen our work as being like that. I often feel that our mission is seen as irrelevant by many in society but what the Chief Constable said made me realise that our work and mission is essential to the fabric of society.

Pastor Osien spoke engagingly about helping prisoners to turn around their lives. He has a ministry working with men and he has set up a scheme called 'ManUp' that helps prisoners accept responsibility in life, to help them make the shift to life on the outside. He made it clear that if we can bring Christ to the lives of those who want him, Christ will change their lives. Everyone who has committed a crime has hurt someone along the way. Giving ex-offenders the opportunity to change stops the cycle of harm being repeated.

As I said a few weeks ago, I hope and pray that our Parish will be able to get involved with a charity that helps prisoners to turn their lives around. I am looking forward to meeting with those who enthusiastically came along on Tuesday to listen to what they came away with from the event. When we have a clearer idea, we will let you know so you can get involved too. Jesus says in Matthew 25, 'what you do for the least of my brethren you do to me'. Pastor Osien said that often we like to reach out to those who seem safe and okay. Jesus tells us that it is the sick who need the doctor!

Fr Tom

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Parish Office Hours (term time only): Tuesdays 12-3pm, Thursdays 9am –12pm, Fridays 1-3pm

Parish Priest: Fr. Tom Smith

Parish Administrator: Caroline Evans

Sick and Housebound: Please pray for Una Cunniffe, Ivy Sewell, Maria Wysocka, Isabella King, Monica Fletcher, Zygmunt Sawko, Pat Parry, Gino Lombardi, Nedra Paynter and Eddie Williams.

R.I.P: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Bridie Hearn who has died recently. Bridie's funeral will be on Thursday 2nd March at 10.30am at St Bon's.

Anniversaries: Tom Clements

Ash Wednesday: There will be two Masses at St Bon's on Ash Wednesday. The usual 9.15am Mass which will be attended by Years 3-6 from the School. There will be plenty of space for parishioners. There will also be a Mass at 7pm.

Fasting & Abstinence: Ash Wednesday is one of two days of fasting and abstinence in the Church's calendar. The guidelines will be in our next newsletter.

Fr Clem Memorial Mass: A Memorial Mass will be held for Fr Clem on 14th February 7pm at St. Teresa's. All are very welcome to attend. Details of a St Bon's memorial to follow.

All Night Prayer Vigil: Thank you to all that came to the all night Prayer Vigil last Friday. The next will be on the night of Friday 3rd March.

"I was in prison and you visited me": Thank you for the terrific response to Fr Tom's request for help in building a relationship between our Parish and the prison. If you attended the Charity Fair or are interested in joining our team, please come to a follow up session on Tuesday 21st February at 7.30pm in the St Bon's Presbytery Dining Room.

Parish Visits: If you know of someone who lives alone or may be housebound and would welcome a visit from a Parish Visitor, we can link them up. To arrange this please contact Linda Spong via the Parish Office. If you know of someone who suffers with a mental health condition who would welcome a visit please speak to Fr. Tom.

Journey in Faith Group: If you are not Catholic but interested to learn more about the Catholic faith, Journey in Faith is for you. We welcome all at St Bon's and would love you to join our Journey in Faith group on Wednesday 7.15pm to 9pm in the Presbytery.

Racial Justice Sunday: There will be Second Collection this weekend for Racial Justice Sunday.

Cake Sales for CAFOD: First Holy Communion groups will be holding a cake sale after the Family Mass on Sunday 26th February. Please join us in the Presbytery and, also, enjoy a hot or cold drink. All proceeds from the cakes and drinks will go to CAFOD. There will be a further cake sale by First Holy Communion groups on Sunday 7th May 2017.

Car Boot and Wheelbarrow Sale: Saturday 25th March 10am to noon in St Bon's car park. This event is to raise money for the business centre development. £5 for cars £3 for wheelbarrows. We will be serving drinks and cakes. Helpers will be needed and donations of cakes. Please contact Mary Moore mcmoore@blueyonder.co.uk 07929 399907, Hilary Farey hilary@farey.org or Veronica Swann veronica.swann@hotmail.co.uk for a car/barrow or to offer help.

Musicians/Singers Wanted: We are always glad to welcome any musicians and singers to boost our numbers in the Church Choir so please do let Fr Tom know if you are keen to join. We are especially looking for keyboardists and drummers at present if you are able to help.

St Bon's Brownies: Our very popular Parish Brownie pack meets on a Monday evening from 6.30pm to 8pm. If you have a daughter who is 7 years old or under and would like to add her name to the Brownie waiting list please contact Angela Parry 9423176.

Saturday 18th February 10.30am Clifton Cathedral: All are welcome on 18th February at Clifton Cathedral for a day of renewal reflecting on 50 years of charismatic renewal in the Catholic Church. Mass at 10.30 am followed talks by Fr Richard McKay and Kevin Loud. For more information and timings email renewal@cliftondiocese.com or call 07815 751 556.

HCPT Pig Racing Night with Curry Supper: Saturday 25th February 7.30pm at St. Teresa's Social Centre, Filton. A fun filled evening for all

the family. All are welcome to attend. If you would like to purchase a pig please speak to Angela Parry at the 9.30am Sunday Mass or give her a ring on 9423176. Pigs are £5 each.

Understanding CAFOD: Who are CAFOD? How did CAFOD get started? How can you get more involved? Come to a great day of all things CAFOD: 10.30 – 4.00pm, at St Vincent's Parish Church, Embleton Rd, Bristol BS10 6DS, Saturday 25th February. Refreshments provided.

CAFOD: Hear about CAFOD's work in Zambia this Lent: Come along and hear about the work of our partners, the Sisters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary.

Tuesday 14th February, 7.00pm-8.30pm
Venue: The Presbytery, St Bon's, Egerton Road, Bristol BS7 8HP or

Thursday 16th February, 1.00–2.30pm
Venue: English Martyrs Parish, Tuffley Lane, Tuffley, Gloucester, GL4 0NX

Booking is essential for both events as space is limited. Email Liz on ebaldwin@cafod.org.uk or call 01179 428 328.

“Laudato Si” and developing a Parish CAFOD Live Simply Group: Please come along to reflect and respond to “Laudato Si” and how to develop our CAFOD Live Simply Group here at St Bon's. Sunday 12th March in the St Bon's Presbytery Dining Room after the 9.30am Mass or Wednesday 15th March 6-8pm with light refreshments, in the CAFOD Volunteer Centre, also here at St Bon's. Booking is essential as spaces are limited – contact Liz on ebaldwin@cafod.org.uk or 01179 428 328.

Parish Hall Manager/Committee: The Parish Finance Council are seeking volunteers for a Parish Hall Committee so that they can oversee the management and the running of our much sought after Parish Hall. We are looking for enthusiastic and committed parishioners who are able to take on this responsibility by taking regular bookings, administration duties and ensuring contracts are adhered to. If you are interested please do contact our Parish Administrator.

Parish Treasurer: The Parish Finance Council are now seeking a volunteer as the Parish Treasurer. The role of a treasurer is a very important one and will need to conform to Charity Commis-

sion guidance. Appointing a treasurer is a significant role for our Church. The treasurer does not need to be an accountant, but we are looking for an enthusiastic and committed parishioner who is able to take on this responsibility to prepare the finances of the Church. If you are interested, please do contact our Parish Administrator.

St Bons Development Fund Pledges: This weekend after each Mass, the Parish Finance Council will be completing formalities with the parishioners who have pledged an interest to fund the Business Centre project. Please remember to bring your cheque books. We still need your financial support, and asking if you can be generous with your donations or if you are able to organise more fund raising events. Please contact the Parish Office.

Parish General Meeting; We invite you all to the St Bon's Parish General Meeting on Sunday 2nd April at 11am in the Parish Hall. The meeting is an opportunity to get together to update you all on the progress of the Business Centre project and get involved in a general discussion around the finances of the Parish. We look forward to seeing you there!

Finance and Fabric: Many thanks!
Last week's collection: £727.06
Plus £750 Standing Order each week

Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday 7.30pm-8.30pm

Wednesday 9.45am– 10.45am

Thursday 9.00pm-10.00pm

Friday 9.45am –10.45am

Saturday: 6.00pm –6.45pm



Liturgy Schedule

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Sunday 12th February – Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9.30am Mass *Pro Pop*

7.00pm Mass *Hugh Bodey R.I.P.*

Monday 13th February – Weekday in Ordinary Time

No Mass

Tuesday 14th February – Feast of Ss Cyril and Methodius

7.00pm Mass *Hannah Vaughan-Spruce Intentions*

7.30pm Holy Hour

Wednesday 15th February – Weekday in Ordinary Time

9.00am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass *Josie Willmer Intentions*

Thursday 16th February – Weekday in Ordinary Time

9.00am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass *O’Gorman & McCarthy Friends & Family*

Friday 17th February – Weekday in Ordinary Time

9.00am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass *Jan & June Krysta*

Saturday 18th February – Weekday in Ordinary Time

7.00pm (vigil) Mass *Pro Pop*

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday 6.00pm-6.40pm

Liturgy Schedule

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Sunday 19th February – Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

9.30am Mass *Mary Kearns R.I.P.*

7.00pm Mass *Finbarr Corkery*

Monday 20th February – Weekday in Ordinary Time

No Mass

Tuesday 21st February – Weekday in Ordinary Time

7.00pm Mass *P J Dolan*

7.30pm Holy Hour

Wednesday 22nd February – Feast of the Chair of St Peter the Apostle

9.00am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass *Intentions of Our Lady of Guadalupe*

Thursday 23rd February – Memorial of St Polycarp

9.00am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass *Fr Clem R.I.P.*

Friday 24th February – Weekday in Ordinary Time

9.00am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass *Gerlando Caci*

Saturday 25th February – Weekday in Ordinary Time

7.00pm (vigil) Mass *Pro Pop*

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday 6.00pm-6.40pm