

ST BON'S BISHOPSTON NEWSLETTER

A Community of Missionary Disciples With Contemplative Hearts

Seventh Week of Easter & Ninth Week in Ordinary Time

Sunday 28th May 2017—Sunday 11th June 2017

I read recently how scientists have discovered that doing an eight day silent retreat can alter your brain. Apparently, in participants studied there were significant changes in the balance of serotonin and other chemicals which affect our mood and happiness after the retreat. So whilst as a priest I would say that a retreat is good for you, scientists have now proved it! What the research didn't examine and what seems more important to me is what an eight day retreat can do to your heart! I have been able to spend precious time with Jesus who has so much love to share. These retreats make me realise how little I know and how much I have to learn from our Teacher. Jesus is always calling each of us deeper into a relationship with him.

I am aware that many of you have commitments and obligations that can make doing such a retreat difficult. What about a few days in a convent or monastery to recharge your heart? You may think that even that is a push, but there is the opportunity to spend quiet time with Jesus in adoration in our church on Mondays and Tuesdays. But also a place to start is where we are. We can go looking for God in experiences which take us out of the world, they can be very important. But if we look at the Teacher, he spent many nights in prayer only to go back and minister to the throngs of people who needed him. He treated each person with love and courtesy, with tenderness and compassion. The way we treat others has as much of an effect on us as it does on them. If we are angry or cold or short tempered with others it will only make us more miserable and harden our hearts more. So the first place we begin our spiritual renewal is in our everyday interactions with others. By showing love, generosity and courtesy to others, this is a first and very important step in renewing our hearts and opening them to God. It is the little actions that open us to God's greater work.

During the retreat, I was thinking that a nuclear holocaust could be taking place and I wouldn't have a clue. At the end of the retreat, I got the wi-fi code to check in for my flight and as you can imagine it came as a devastating shock to read the news and the events that had happened in Manchester on Monday night. I went to university in Manchester, it is a city I have wonderful memories of but it was the targets of the bomb that signaled the depravity of the attack that led to the feelings of rage and sorrow that I and I know many have felt. My retreat director, who is American, summed it up in a direct way that maybe we wouldn't in the UK, he said of the bomber and those like him—they are 'agents of Satan'. Woah I thought, direct but true. The evil one wants to destroy God's creation and to target innocent children is a heinous thing. Yet if we think about how violence and hatred breed we can see the roots in our everyday experience. An argument can lead to a hurt, which can cause pain which can cause bitterness, this unchecked can lead to hatred, hatred to violence and death. The first place we will combat hatred is in our own hearts, by being ready to forgive quickly, to show love and courtesy, kindness and compassion. We may think we are doing little but our example will show others a way that leads to love.

Fr Tom

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

Parish Priest: Fr. Tom Smith

Parish Administrator: Caroline Evans

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration

Adoration starts each Monday at 10am after Mass and continues in hourly intervals until midnight on Tuesday. The launch of Adoration in our Parish has been successful and for those involved it has been an uplifting spiritual experience. It is the intention of the Parish that Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration will be extended beyond Tuesdays, however, in order to make the current system run more smoothly we could do with the following help:

- Additional volunteers to support people who would prefer to be in a pair.
- Volunteers to agree to be added to an 'occasional Adoration' list to cover times when the permanent Adorers are unable to attend, e.g. appointments, illness or holidays.

Please if you are interested in either of these roles could you contact one of the team leaders:

Ray Gunning (12pm-6pm) 07792892839
thegunnings@blueyonder.co.uk

Gary Aldwell (1am- 6am) 07807095234
garyaldwell@yahoo.com

Becky Molloy (6pm-12am) 07761204411
beckymolloy@hotmail.com

Felicity Cook (6pm-12am) 07787707048
grafee38@gmail.com

Cecilia Browne (6am -12pm) 07812569631
ceciliabrowne1@gmail.com

Thank you in advance.

Sick and Housebound: Please pray for Una Cunniffe, Ivy Sewell, Maria Wysocka, Monica Fletcher, Zygmunt Sawko, Pat Parry, Nedra Paynter and Brendan Woodhouse.

Parish Visits: If you know of someone who lives alone or may be housebound and would welcome a visit from a Parish Visitor, 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.

Seminarian Placement: Stephen Corrigan will be staying with us for the next few weeks on his pastoral placement. Stephen is a student at St John's Seminary in Wonersh. Please do warmly welcome him to our Parish. He will be looking forward to getting involved with the many groups and projects we have in the Parish.

World Communications Day—Ascension Sunday 28th May 2017: On this day, Catholics are encouraged to pray for all those professionals who work in the field of Communications. A particular intention for prayer is for those who are responsible for communicating on behalf of the Catholic Church in this country through the Catholic Communications Network. Please help us continue this work through contributing generously to this special collection. Prayer cards are also available at the back of Church.

Priests' Retirement—Trinity Sunday 11th June: There will be a special collection during the weekend of 10th/11th June. Leaflets and envelopes are at the back of Church. Thank you for your continued support, which is much appreciated by our retired priests.

Altar Wine: To support Christians in the Holy Land, please note that we will soon be changing the Altar Wine to a special wine produced and bottled by the Cistercian Monks in the Latrun Trappist Monastery, Palestine.

Journey in Faith Group: Thank you to all those who have contributed to the running of the Journey in Faith Group. We are now having our Summer break and look forward to welcoming any who are not Catholic but interested to learn more about the Catholic faith when we return in September.

Glastonbury Pilgrimage 9th July: We have organised a coach to the Glastonbury Pilgrimage again this year. Further details will follow but for now please put the date in your diaries!

Business Centre & St Bons Development Fund: Thank you for your tremendous support and pledges towards the proposed Business Centre. Your generosity has been incredible. We do still need your pledges and donations so if you are able to help please do contact the Parish Office.

Car Boot and Wheelbarrow Sale: Our thanks again to Mary, Hilary and Veronica and everyone who supported and helped with this event. An incredible £460.75 was raised for the development fund! The next sale will be on the afternoon of Saturday 15th July so please put that date in your diaries and start getting together items to sell and do come along and pick up a bargain and some yummy cakes and refreshments too!

St. Bons Charity Gig: Ad Hoc returned to our Parish Hall with a fantastic show of brilliant music. It was an amazing event and raised £145 for the Development Fund. Thank you to the band and everyone who supported them.

St Bonaventure's Feast Day: We will be offering bacon butties etc. on Sunday 16th July after the 9.30am Mass to celebrate our Feast Day and raise funds for the Development Fund. Help would be greatly appreciated so please contact Neta Roylance-Smith on 07980175565.

Praying the Rosary: The monthly Parish Rosary Revival Prayer Group will meet on Tuesday 6th June at 2pm in the Dining Room in St Bon's Presbytery. We will pray and discuss the rosary and have a cup of tea. Contact Chris Searle 07771161259. All welcome. Prayer requests most welcome.

St Bon's Art Group: This group is open to anyone who enjoys drawing or painting. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday morning of each month from 10am to 12 noon. Beginners are very welcome. We bring our own materials. Coffee and biscuits are provided. For further information please ring Penny on 9622653 or Catherine 9241671.

Red Missio Box Holders: £342.45 has been collected since January. Thank you very much

for your wonderful generosity - it is much appreciated.

Open Garden: Rod and Sue Jones are opening their garden at 16 Montroy Close, Henleaze, BS9 4RS on Sunday 4th June from 2 - 5.30 pm. Adults £3.50, children free, with teas and plants for sale. All proceeds to the National Garden Scheme's cancer and hospice charities.

Gift Aid: All parishioners who have signed Gift Aid Declarations are reminded to check that they are paying sufficient Income Tax to cover the amount reclaimed from HMRC on their giving. The Diocese, on behalf of the Parish, claims 25p on every £1 given under Gift Aid, and so donating £5 per week requires minimum tax paid of £65 per annum, £10 requires £130 of tax to be paid, and £20 requires £260 etc. All tax paying parishioners are encouraged to give their weekly offering under Gift Aid, forms are available in the Parish Office and further advice can be sought from Peter Ingham our Gift Aid Secretary (01179 243011).

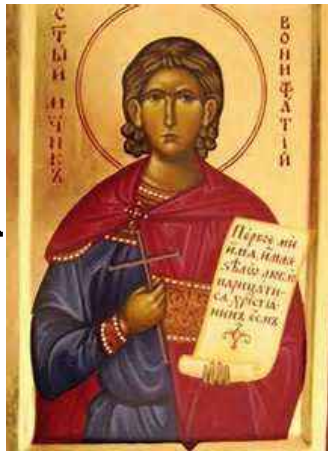
Security within our Parish: As you may be aware, there has been a recent theft at St Bon's, and this, and other incidents in the past, has led the Finance Council to review all aspects of security within the Parish. Firstly, we will be installing CCTV cameras around the Church and its environs. Secondly, we will be changing the code on the entry pad to the Presbytery and installing a similar entry pad on the rear door. The Finance Council understands that this will have an obvious impact on all accessing the Church for the Parish. If you need the code, you are invited to make a request to the Parish Office, where a register of users will be established. We hope you understand that for security and safety reasons they are a necessary step to protect our precious Parish.

Finance and Fabric:
w/e 14 May: £631.39
plus £750 Standing Orders each week
Thank you for your generosity!

Saint of the Week

St Boniface

Boniface (c.672-754), known as the apostle of the Germans, was born in Devon (possibly Crediton) and became an English Benedictine monk.



He gave up being elected abbot to devote his life to the conversion of the Germanic tribes. Two characteristics stand out: his Christian orthodoxy and his fidelity to the Pope of Rome. He was sent to Bavaria and Hesse. The Pope consecrated him bishop. He travelled throughout Germany evangelising; eventually being consecrated archbishop of Mainz. In addition he worked for reform of the church in France. He went to Frisia to end his days but a band of pagans attacked and killed him and his companions.

Liturgy Schedule - Seventh Week of Easter (A)

Sunday 28th May – Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

9.30am Mass *Alfred Pereira R.I.P.*

7.00pm Mass *Pro Pop*

Monday 29th May – Weekday of Easter

9.00am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass *Scott Moffat R.I.P.*

Tuesday 30th May – Weekday of Easter

9.00am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass *Sewell Family Intentions*

Wednesday 31st May – Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9.00am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass *Maggie and Bernie McDonagh & Family*

Thursday 1st June – Memorial of St Justin

No Mass

Friday 2nd June – Weekday of Easter

7.00pm Mass *Rosemary Willoughby & Family*

7.30pm Holy Hour

Saturday 3rd June – Memorial of St Charles Lwanga

7.00pm (vigil) Mass *Kathleen Walsh R.I.P.*

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 6.00pm-6.40pm

IMPORTANT

Changes to WEEKDAY Mass Times

Fr Tom's day off has now changed. The new Mass times are below:

Mondays

9.00am Morning Prayer, 9.15am Mass

Tuesdays

9.00am Morning Prayer, 9.15am Mass

Wednesdays

9.00am Morning Prayer, 9.15am Mass

Thursdays

No Mass

Fridays

7.00pm Mass, 7.30pm Holy Hour
(no morning Mass)

The weekend Masses will remain unchanged (Saturday 7pm, Sunday 9.30am and 7pm).

We hope that we have managed to speak to all those directly affected already but if you do have any queries, please do speak to Fr Tom. Thank you as always for your support.

Liturgy Schedule - Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Sunday 4th June – Solemnity of Pentecost

9.30am Mass *Pro Pop*

7.00pm Mass *Nelia's Intentions*

Monday 5th June – Memorial of St Boniface

9.00am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass *Alice Thema*

Tuesday 6th June – Weekday in Ordinary Time

9.00am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass *Teresa Joseph*

Wednesday 7th June – Weekday in Ordinary Time

9.00am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass *Teresa Abraham*

Thursday 8th June – Weekday in Ordinary Time

No Mass

Friday 9th June – Weekday in Ordinary Time

7.00pm Mass *Isabella King R.I.P.*

7.30pm Holy Hour

Saturday 10th June – Weekday in Ordinary Time

7.00pm (vigil) Mass *Ines Brimble R.I.P.*

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 6.00pm-6.40pm