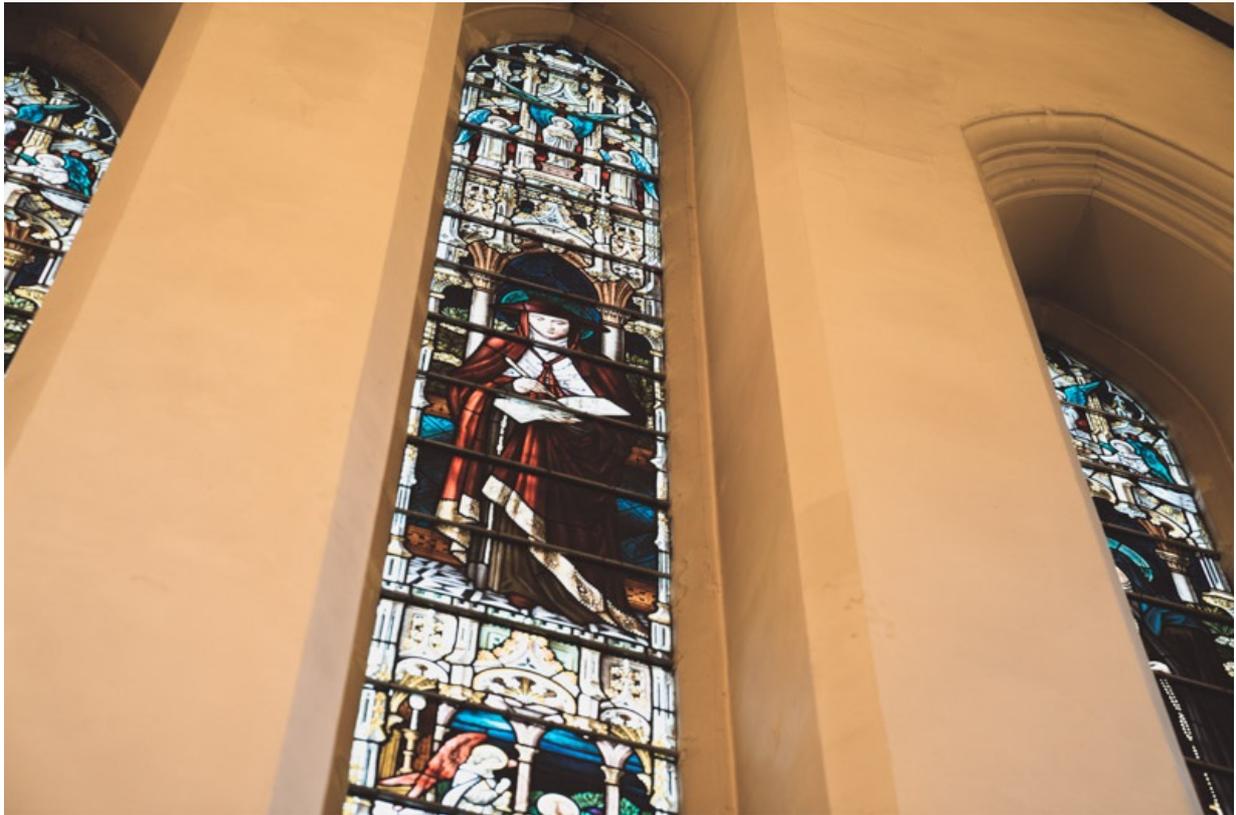


[View this email in your browser](#)



St Bon's eNewsletter

13th October 2017

Welcome to our new newsletter bringing you Sunday's news on Friday!

A Message from Fr Tom

Things appear a little gloomy at the moment. There seems to be tension in the world and a sense that things are unsettled. It is at times like this that I would like to be ninety years old. A ninety year old will have lived through decades of unrest and war and would probably be able to give a measured opinion and perspective on what we are experiencing at the moment. Being barely able to remember the Falklands War, I don't feel I have much upon which to compare our current tensions. What is clear though and this is highlighted by Brexit is how money driven we are as a nation. Have you noticed how everything is looked at in light of its impact on the national economy? Bank Holidays - bad for the economy, bad weather - bad for the economy. Basically, anything that stops us shopping is bad for economy. Despite giving us two days off, Christmas is good for the economy- well done Jesus you got something right! General elections are now judged by their effect on the economy. We seem besotted with the sacred cow of the economy. It seems sad that everything is so unquestioningly judged on its economic impact. As a nation, we could not have set our standards much further from the gospel. As Christ's followers, we are called to be free of concern for money but we live in a country that breaths economics like air and is locked in a materialist mind set.

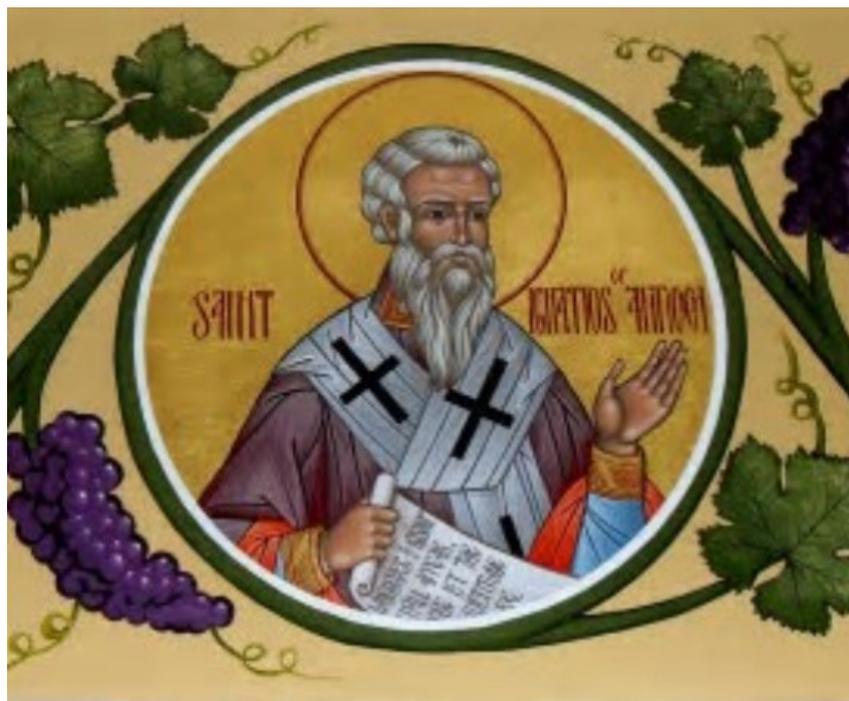
We can't complain, we all enjoy the benefits and privileges that our nation's wealth brings. But is the way we think right? If we look at some of the economically weaker countries of Europe, we see Italy, Spain and Portugal. They are Catholic. I defy you to point out a successful western economy which is Catholic. My

time living in Spain helped me see that they are too busy enjoying life to worry about their global ranking as an economy. That Spain closes down for a few hours each afternoon probably means that it will never be completely up there with larger economies. The fact that they have many religious holidays also means that they will not compete. But they have a strong family culture and a positive way of living. I would swap economic prowess for that. What is the strength of the family unit in Britain? Maybe that can be judged by the number of care homes we have. We have tonnes of them., while in Spain, elderly parents often live with their children - the family is number one, not the economy. A stronger family means less crime and deprivation, issues that we often look to the state to control.

Catholicism does not support any particular economic system but it does continually highlight the importance of the family. The church believes that the family is the bedrock of society. That of course means defending and promoting the importance of marriage as a God given gift. But what about those who don't have families or those who choose not to get married. What about same sex couples who cannot get married in the way we intend or divorcees whose marriages have broken down. By promoting marriage are we not being discriminatory? We might be told that by some but our faith calls us to cherish marriage respectfully and lovingly. What can we do to live more by the values of our faith than by the economy driven society we live in? Do we thoughtfully work towards building a cohesive society based on marriage and the family unit as God intended? Whilst we are driven by economy, some of the best countries for family life are not economic powerhouses. Do we live more according to God's plan or by the values of the sacred cow we have made for ourselves?

Fr Tom

Saint of the Week



St Ignatius of Antioch

Ignatius was a convert from paganism to Christianity. He succeeded St Peter the Apostle as bishop of Antioch, Syria. During the persecution of Trajan, he was taken to Rome to be killed by wild animals. On the way, he wrote a series of encouraging letters to the churches under his care. In his letter to the Romans he wrote 'I am God's wheat and shall be ground by the teeth of wild animals. I am writing to all the churches to let it be known that I will gladly die for God if only you do not stand in my way. I plead with you: show me no untimely kindness. Let me be food for the wild beasts, for they are my way to God. I am God's wheat and shall be ground by their teeth so that I may become Christ's pure bread. Pray to Christ for me that the animals will be the means of making me a sacrificial victim for God'. He was the first writer to use the term the Catholic Church. His name occurs in the in the Roman Canon.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday 7th November 7pm

Modern Slavery Presentation, Presbytery Dining Room

Friday 17th November 7pm

St Bon's Quiz Night, St Bon's School Hall

Sunday 26th November 12pm

New Parishioners Lunch, Parish Hall

Sunday 3rd December after 9.30am Mass

Volunteers Thank You Party, Parish Hall

Sunday 10th December 12pm

Senior Citizens Anointing the Sick Mass and Christmas Social, Church & Presbytery

News and Events

October Month of our Lady: The Rosary will be said every week day after Mass in October.

November Month of all Souls: The Annual Mass of Remembrance for all those who have died during the past year will take place on Friday 10th November at 7pm. In addition to letting the Parish Office know if you would like a Mass said for a loved one who has died, the Book of Remembrance will be available at weekends for you to enter the names of those whom you wish to record there. The Annual Blessing of the Parish Cemetery will take place after 9.15 Mass on Tuesday 28th November.

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.

First Holy Communion (FHC) Programme: Parents/carers of children who would like to take their First Holy Communion next year are invited to a meeting on Sunday 19th November 2017 at 11am in the Parish Hall to learn more about the programme and register your interest. Please be aware that as part of your commitment to placing your child in our FHC programme, we expect you to take them to weekly Sunday mass and to each FHC session. We know that time is a precious commodity so to make things easier we are going to run the programme on a Sunday morning after Mass so that you only need to commit to coming to Church on one day of your weekend. The classes will begin in early 2018 and will run from 11am-12pm on Sundays during term time after the 9.30am Mass.

Volunteers Thank You Party: There will be a bring & share brunch after Mass on Sunday 3rd December for all who volunteer at St Bon's and their families. Please do come along and if you can help please contact Neta Roylance-Smith: email: neta_pourhosseini@hotmail.com or call 07980175565.

Year of Mission: Bishop Declan invites you all on Wednesday 29th November 7pm to gather in the Cathedral for a celebration of Evening Prayer, launching our Diocese into a Year of Mission.

Praying the Rosary: The monthly Parish Rosary Revival Prayer Group will meet on Tuesday 7th November 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.

Sister Cecilia Memorial Service: Sister Cecilia, former headmistress of St Ursula's High School, died on Thursday 28th September at the Convent of Mercy Fishguard where she had lived for 9 years. There will be a memorial service for Sister on Saturday 27th January at midday at Sacred Heart Church.

200 Club: Thank you to all parishioners who have supported the 200 Club this year. Profits raised from the Club go to

HCPT - The Children's Pilgrimage Trust, enabling children with special needs to visit Lourdes at Easter. Membership now needs to be renewed. Representatives from the Club will be at all Masses this weekend to collect subscriptions. Its £24 per year. Cheques should be made payable to "St Bonaventures 200 Club" please. Alternatively, please leave your cheque in an envelope in the Presbytery, clearly marked FAO Angela Parry - 200 Club. New members welcome!

Starting School: Parents of children born between 1st September 2013 and 31st August 2014 must apply now for a school place for September 2018 onwards. Application forms are available from Bristol City Council or you can apply online. You must apply by 15th January 2018. For St Bonaventure's Primary School Catholic children you must also provide a copy of the baptism certificate to the School.

St Brendan's Open Events: The College welcomes any prospective pupils and their families to their open events on: 5-8pm on Thursday 19th October, Wednesday 15th November and Thursday 8th February.

Mentor Me Training: Mentor Me supports ex-offenders and is looking for volunteers who, driven by their faith, can help offer the unique services of friendship, hospitality, encouragement, support, care and a patient listening ear to those leaving prison or who have already done so and who wish to make positive changes to their lives. Are you interested? Training with a view to becoming a mentor is now taking place Contact alison@mentormeuk.org or on 0117 403 7905 for more information.

Old Reading Glasses: Do you or your friends have any old glasses hidden away in drawers that you no longer use? MentorMe take old pairs of glasses into HMP Bristol as so often those men who are desperate to learn to read and write or study, simply cannot see. They don't have to be men's glasses - if they can see through them they will wear them! With or without cases is fine. Giving something away that we no longer use may be of little cost to us but to those men it can make a world of difference. Please drop them into the Parish Office.

CAFOD school volunteers needed: Could you spare some time to volunteer with CAFOD and help children and young people learn about global poverty, and motivate them to take action? We are looking for volunteers to cover the Gloucester/Cheltenham and Salisbury/Yeovil areas to visit Catholic schools and parish groups. For further information please contact Liz Baldwin at CAFOD Clifton on 01179 428 328 or email clifton@cafod.org.uk

Mission Mass: St. Augustine of Canterbury, Downend - Thursday 26th October at 7pm. All parishioners, not just Red Missio box holders, are warmly invited to this special Mass at St Augustine of Canterbury, Downend. Further details are available from the Missio notice in the church porch.

Parish e-Newsletter & Website: If you're reading the paper version of our newsletter, have you considered subscribing to our e-Newsletter? For every new subscriber, we can print one less copy of the paper Newsletter and do a little bit towards helping our environment. Don't forget to confirm your subscription when you get the email prompt. If you're reading the e-Newsletter, thank you—we hope you're enjoying it! Please do also check out our new website www.stbonsbristol.co.uk -all feedback is greatly welcomed!

Newsletter Items: Please can any items be emailed to the Parish Office by Wednesday 10am to ensure that they are included in that weekend's newsletter.

Church Porch: If you do put literature in the porch, please also be responsible for removing it when it is no longer relevant so that we can keep this area clean and inviting for all that come to our Church.

Mass Times

Sunday 15th October - 28th Sunday in O.T

9.30am Mass *Cris Grealley R.I.P.*
7.00am Mass *Richard Jones R.I.P.*

Monday 16th October - Weekday in Ordinary Time

9.00am Morning Prayer
9.15am Mass *Denis Frank R.I.P.*

Tuesday 17th October - Memorial of St Ignatius of Antioch

9.00am Morning Prayer
9.15am Mass *Deceased Members of the Zanetti Family*

Wednesday 18th October - Feast of St Luke

9.00am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass *Deceased Members of the Maddalena Family*

9.45am Holy Hour

Thursday 19th October - Weekday in Ordinary Time

No Morning prayer or Mass

Friday 20th October - Weekday in Ordinary Time

7.00pm Mass *Private Intentions*

7.30pm - 8.30pm Holy Hour

Saturday 21st October - Weekday in Ordinary Time

7.00pm Mass (Vigil) *June & John Krysta & Family*

Confession

Saturday 6.00pm - 6.40pm

Eucharistic Exposition

Monday 10.00am - Wednesday 12.00am

Wednesday 9.45am - 10.45am

Friday 7.30pm - 8.30pm

Saturday 6.00pm - 6.40pm

Please Pray For: Anita Bridges, Una Cunniffe, Celia Dolan, Monica Fletcher, Sheelagh Gaines, June Krysta, Pat Parry, Nedra Paynter, Roger Paynter, Margaret Rogers, Zygmunt Sawko, Bernard Seward, Ivy Sewell, Martin Sewell, Peter Sewell and Maria Wysocka.

Copyright © 2017 St Bon's, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

MailChimp