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St Bon's eNewsletter

10th November 2017

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

A Message from Fr Tom

You may have seen in the news this week that the German Army were on training manoeuvres. Nothing wrong there you may have thought but it was the scenario that they were training in for that caused alarm. They were using the fall of the EU in 2040 as their war scenario. Maybe many of Europe's armies have this as one of the many options for training scenarios and it is just normal for training routines. Within the 2040-scenario the Germans were using the real threat of a hostile Russia. Apart for the Germans almost unbelievable preparedness for this future disaster, this news comes with real sadness when we consider that they are factoring in the fall of the EU a hundred years after the end of the Second World War.

This weekend we remember especially those who died in that conflict giving their lives for freedom and democracy. For me the greatest crime of that era was the Holocaust when six million Jews were exterminated, often by using modern industrial methods. Concentration camps and death camps were set up but often they were simply large factories where Jewish people were mercilessly incinerated. Add to that Hitler's desire for European domination and you have a recipe for the most unimaginable political regimes to ever have existed. It was in that context that countless millions gave their lives, to save Europe but to save our nation as well. As we move further from that time it can be hard to realise the life or death scenario that faced the allied forces.

While we remember the service men and women who gave their lives for our county we also remember those who sacrificed so much on the home front. The fact that many were prepared to fight off the Nazis with broom sticks shows the

desperation of the situation. We may laugh at 'Dad's Army' but they were the very last line of defence. It is thanks to a global collaboration that Nazism was defeated, a collaboration that involved sacrifice from countless millions, many giving their lives, many dedicating every resource they had to fighting for freedom and liberty.

From the ashes of war, the European response was to create circumstances where that could never happen again on this continent. At this present time that is by creating a structure called the European Union, maybe in its current form it will succeed or maybe it is the first attempt of many 'unions' that will exist to preserve freedom and democracy in Europe. It is wise for us to never underestimate the horror of the Second World War. War is a failure of humanity to live as God intended us to, by remembering the horror of the past let us work passionately to preserve, democracy and respect in our day.

As we remember with gratitude the sacrifice of the countless service men and women from all of our armed forces and those of many other countries let us also spare a prayer for the Jewish people who were victimised and destroyed in that conflict, that the respect and dignity of all people's may be upheld and that never again may hatred cast its ugly shadow over our world in such a way again.

Fr Tom

Saint of the Week



St Hugh of Lincoln

Hugh was born in Burgundy about 1135 and early in life became a Carthusian. When the Charterhouse at Witham, near Frome, was founded he was sent by King Henry II to take charge of it. At first he refused to become Prior because people had been evicted from their homes to make room for the new buildings. Only when they had been compensated did he assume office. In 1186 he was appointed to Lincoln, the largest diocese in the country and which had been vacant for 16 years. He was an able and kind shepherd.

Upcoming Events

Friday 17th November 7.30pm (Quiz starts at 8pm)

St Bon's Community Quiz Night, St Bon's School Hall (not the Parish Hall - please note the venue and new time)

Sunday 26th November 12pm

Parishioners Lunch, Parish Hall

Sunday 3rd December after 9.30am Mass

Volunteers Thank You Party, Parish Hall

Sunday 10th December 2pm (not 12pm)

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

Saturday 16th December 3pm

Christmas Nativity, Church & Presbytery

Christmas Dates & Mass Times

Saturday 16th December 3pm

St Bon's Family Nativity Service – an opportunity for children to dress up in their favourite Nativity costumes and join in with our performance of the Nativity. There will be mulled wine/soft drinks and mince pies after the service and some fun activities for the children. All very welcome.

Sunday 24th December 6pm – **First Mass of Christmas**

Sunday 24th December 12pm – **Midnight Mass (Carols to be confirmed—watch this space!)**

Monday 25th December 9.30am – **Christmas Day Mass**

News and Events

November Month of all Souls: During November, we remember especially all those who have died during the past year. There will be those loved ones who were very much a part of our community when they were alive - but also those friends and relatives whom we hold dearly in our hearts whose lives we also wish to commemorate. Do come along and join us for the Remembrance Mass on Friday 10th November at 7pm. All are welcome. 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.

Baby Corner: We now have a baby corner next to the font. This area is for toddlers ages 0-2 years accompanied by their parents. We hope it will be a little sign of how much we value and welcome the youngest members of our Parish community to mass. Thank you to Rachel and Niels Moffat for organising it.

Prisoner Gift Project: We need at least six volunteers to help with packing the gift bags for the Sixty One Project. This is a fantastic project which enables prisoners to receive a gift bag at Christmas. St Bon's has agreed to pack 135 bags. If you would like to take part and you are free between 3-5pm on the afternoon of Saturday 18 November please could you either let us know by contacting us via e-mail bristol.stbonaventure@cliftondiocese.com and provide your name and telephone number or complete the sign up sheet at the back of Church. Each of the packs costs around £5 and we have been asked as a Parish to contribute towards the cost of them. There will be a second collection on the 18th and 19th November which will be put towards this.

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.

St Bon's Community Quiz @ St Bon's School Hall Friday 17th November 7.30pm (Quiz starting at 8pm): Tickets are selling out fast! Please contact the Parish Office if you'd like tickets—£10 per team (maximum of 6 people per team)—to avoid disappointment as they will not be on sale at the door.

Parishioners Lunch Sunday 26th November 12 Noon Parish Hall: This event is particularly to welcome newcomers to the Parish, but is an opportunity for everyone to get together and share food and conversation. Food and drink will be provided and children are very welcome too—there will be a play area for them. Please put the date in your diary now—we look forward to seeing you there!

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.

Remembrance Day Cake Sale: St Bon's Brownies will be having a cake sale in the Parish Hall after the 9.30 Mass this Sunday, Remembrance Day 12th November. Donations of cakes gratefully received. All proceeds will go to the HCPT group who will be taking children with special needs to Lourdes at Easter.

Year of Mission Evening Prayer: Bishop Declan invites you all to Evening Prayer at the Cathedral on Wednesday 29th November at 7pm. During Evening Prayer, the Bishop will present to each community copies of the resource to accompany us through the "Year of Mission". Each parish, school, and religious community will be called forward by name during that evening to receive from the Bishop the resource. Please let Fr Tom know if you can attend and help to represent our Parish.

Community Fund Award: St Bon's Brownies have been shortlisted for an Aviva Community Fund award. Anyone who lives in the UK and registers on the Aviva Community Fund website can vote for projects between 24th October and 21st November. Angela Parry (the Brownie leader) has said she will make donations to our Parish building fund and HCPT Group 176 if they get enough votes and win the award. So, please, please, please get voting and ask your friends/family to vote too: <https://www.avivacommunityfund.co.uk/voting/project/view/17-5622>. Thank you for your support.

Red Missio Box Holders: £464.32 was collected during October. Thank you very much for your wonderful generosity - it is much appreciated. "Mission Today" 2018 calendars are now available to collect from the back of Church.

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.

CAFOD: Learn about how CAFOD receives its funding and how the money is spent at the CAFOD Clifton Roadshow Saturday 18th November - Holy Family Church Patchway BS34 5DP; 2pm. In addition listen to guest speaker Nikki Evans and the update from Harvest Fast Day 2016 Altiplano Bolivia. Enjoy food and drink and take part in a unique CAFOD social following the presentations. To book, contact Liz Baldwin at the CAFOD Clifton Volunteer Centre at clifton@cafod.org.uk or call 0117 942 8328.

Something to Say? : Young People aged 11+ and Young Adults are invited to St Brendan's Catholic Sixth Form College, Bristol. BS4 5RQ on Saturday 25th November 10.30am-3pm for our Diocesan gathering to celebrate National Youth Sunday. Great workshops, praise and worship, the opportunity to tell us what you think and be commissioned to be young disciples in our parishes. Book your place via e-mail: youth@cliftondiocese.com

Little Hearts Toddler Group: Sacred Heart are looking for someone new to run Little Hearts Toddler Group at Sacred Heart Church in Westbury on Trym from January 2018. The group runs every Wednesday during term time [from 10-1130am](#) in Newman Hall. It is well attended by 10-15 families a week and has the full use of the facilities at Newman Hall, including the kitchen, and owns a very good selection of toys to suit all ages. The role would involve setting up tables and chairs, putting out the toys and making teas and coffees for attendees, and clearing away at the end of the session. To find out more, please email littleheartstoddlers@yahoo.co.uk or contact Hilary Wilcox on [07870 726777](tel:07870726777).

Gala Dinner: Bishop Declan will be joining Canon Bosco and parishioners at the Gala Dinner at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Bristol City Centre on the 18th November. The dinner is to raise funds for Clifton Cathedral Cephas Fund, which is dedicated to the upkeep of the Cathedral. The evening starts with a glass of prosecco at 7pm, followed by a four-course meal. A raffle and an auction will be held; the evening finishing with music and dancing. Tickets are £35 and are available from Cathedral House (0117 9738411). Please support this event - we look forward to seeing you there!

Christians in Science Talk: "Science and the Historicity of the Bible" Friday 17th November at 7.30 pm, Christ Church Clifton. BS8 3BN. For further information: www.cis.org.uk/groups/bristol.

Change to Parish Office E-mail Address: Our email is now bristol.stbonaventure@cliftondiocese.com.

Mass Times

Sunday 12th November - 32nd Sunday in O.T.

9.30am Mass *Remembrance Sunday*
7.00am Mass *Pro Pop*

Monday 13th November - Weekday in O.T.

9.00am Morning Prayer
9.15am Mass *Christopher O'Kelly Ints.*

Tuesday 14th November - Memorial of the Beatified Martyrs of the Diocese

9.00am Morning Prayer
9.15am Mass *Alan & Mary Taylor R.I.P.*

Wednesday 15th November - Weekday in O.T.

9.00am Morning Prayer
9.15am Mass *Gerry McClean R.I.P.*
9.45am Holy Hour

Thursday 16th November - Memorial of St Edmund of Abingdon

No Mass

Friday 17th November - Memorial of St Hugh of Lincoln

7.00pm Mass *Vena Garvey R.I.P.*
7.30pm - 8.30pm Holy Hour

Saturday 18th November - Weekday in O.T.

7.00pm Mass (Vigil) *Eugene & Mary Callaghan Ints.*

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, Christopher Browne, 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.

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