



ST BONAVENTURE'S NEWSLETTER

Easter Week 1
21st April
2019

A Community of Missionary
Disciples With Contemplative Hearts

On Wednesday I gathered with Bishop Declan, the Priests and many of the lay faithful from all over our diocese for the annual Chrism Mass. This is the Mass where the Priests renew their vows and the Holy Oils, used throughout the year, are blessed. It is always a moving occasion, we gather in Clifton Cathedral, the mother Church of the Diocese for what is a celebration of our diocese. Bishop Declan gave an impassioned homily in which he spoke of the changes in society and the Church being unsettling and challenging. He spoke clearly of the Church's mission to evangelize and the Priest's vocation to serve the Church, in particular to serve the lay faithful in their role as missionaries of the Gospel.

Easter is the perfect time for us to reflect on our vocation as disciples of Jesus and as missionaries of his love. Jesus calls us by baptism to be Missionary Disciples, we are to sit at his feet in prayer and learn from him and we are to actively and intentionally share his saving message with people we meet. The second Vatican Council defines this as the 'Universal call to holiness.' Our way of living holiness is to be disciples, actively praying each day, and to be missionaries, intentionally sharing the message of Jesus with people around us.

I am sure that most of us saw and have been moved by the haunting images of Notre Dame engulfed in flames this last week. I was deeply saddened by the image of a pink Paris skyline filled with smoke billowing from the ancient Cathedral. I have only visited the Cathedral once, 20 years ago, and I still remember the atmosphere that greeted me then. It is a building that has memories and meaning for countless millions of people. I was struck over the media reporting of the event at how little was mentioned about the sacredness of the Church to Catholics, there appeared to be little sensitivity to Catholicism and in all the tributes posted on Twitter only the Archbishop of Canterbury mentioned the name of Jesus.

It appears that a Catholicism which is not explicit about its purpose, that is about Jesus and his message can become insipid. For many of the last decades Catholicism in Europe has sought to appease secular culture. It has not been a Catholicism of missionary zeal, a community of joyful missionaries talking about and witnessing to Jesus. Is it because of this that much of the media reporting showed a lack of any knowledge of or respect for Catholicism? Notre Dame was a 'tourist attraction' or an 'ancient monument' or a 'symbol of France'. But it didn't seem that it was a Catholic Church. One tweeter @CatholicYMGuy showed that of eleven news items on Notre Dame by our national non-commercial broadcaster only one mentioned the word Catholic. To cover a disaster in the most important Catholic Church in France and not mention Catholicism is beyond belief, it seems fair to say that Catholicism does not mean much to our secular world.

Easter is a time of renewal. This is both personal renewal but also renewal for the church. Let us pray that as we receive the graces of Easter we may be renewed in our commitment to holiness, to be Missionary Disciples. Our Church may have lost its meaning for our society but we are called to renew its mission and by proclaiming Jesus we can give our world the light and life it seeks and longs for - a light which will never go out, Jesus Christ himself. Happy Easter!

Fr Tom

Egerton Road, Bishopston, Bristol BS7 8HP
Tel: 0117 942 4448
bristol.stbonaventure@cliftondiocese.com
<https://stbonsbristol.co.uk/>

 @stbonsbristol  @stbonsbristol
 www.facebook.com/stbonsbristol
 St Bons Bristol #frtomtalks

Parish Priest: Fr. Tom Smith
Parish Office Hours: Monday
& Friday 9:30am-12:30pm.
Wednesday 11am-1pm.

OUR PARISH

Fr Tom's Vlog: Fr Tom's latest vlog is now available on our YouTube page (St Bons Bristol). Fr Tom relives having a proud moment and discusses Adoration: <https://youtu.be/xSS61Z2E940>

Change of Mass Time: Please be aware of the Summer Mass time change: Sunday 6.00pm to 7.00pm.

OUR COMMUNITY

Divine Mercy: This year the Divine Mercy celebrations have moved to Sacred Heart Parish in Westbury in Trym. They will begin at 2.30pm, everyone is warmly invited to attend this service which focussed on the love and mercy Jesus has for us. Confessions will be available.

HCPT 200 Club: Congratulations to the winners of the April draw. £60 Ninette Bateman 93, £25 Frances Wright 59, £10 Sheamus Garry 58.

livesimply Thought for the Week: Let us give thanks to God for all that he has made. Let us rejoice that through the power of the resurrection, all things have been made new. May this renewal inspire us to do what we can to bring about a change for the better in our lives and in our world. (Based on a CAFOD prayer).

Summer Camps 2019: The Clifton Diocese Summer Camps are now taking bookings for 2019. A residential week of outdoor activities, catechesis, faith development, friendship and much more, all for only £200 per child! For more information, please visit the Clifton Diocese [website](#), or go to <http://livingyourfaith.co.uk>. Week 1 (ages 7-11): 12-16 August, Week 2 (ages 12-16): 19-23 August.

Day of Prayer and Reflection: As part of the Diocesan Year of Prayer, we will hold a special Day of Prayer and Reflection on Mary, Disciple and Prophet on Saturday 11th May, at St Nicholas of Tolentino Church, Bristol. It will be led by Fr Richard McKay and will begin with Morning Prayer at 10.00am, and include teaching on the Mary we find in the Scriptures, the Rosary, Adoration and Midday Mass with Anointing for Healing. The Day will conclude at 4.00pm. Please bring food to share for lunch together.

St Bon's Cricket XI: St Bon's Cricket XI welcomes new players, young and old, experienced or newcomers, male or female to add their squad this season. We play 20:20 fixtures, weekly, on various nights over the Summer and are always on the look out for new talent. Come along and try, you only have to commit to one game at a time! FFI please contact John Hickey: jjhickey55@gmail.com

PICTURE OF THE WEEK



Chrism Mass
at Clifton
Cathedral.

WHAT'S ON?

Art Club: The Art Club continues on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month 10-11:30am. All are very welcome to either come and do some art or play some board games, puzzles etc. and have a drink and a chat.

Friday Soup Lunch: All are very welcome to come for a chat and to share a simple lunch. Fridays 12pm in the St Bon's Presbytery. A donation is made to charity.

Alpha: Our next Alpha Course is beginning Weds 1st May at 7:30pm. If you have never been on one before and if you're interested in learning more about God's call in your life, we'd love to see you.

GIVING

Since last year (2017 to 2018), our costs of running have increased by 8.3% (this just includes costs of council tax, heating, lighting, rubbish, gardening, cleaning & admin). We'd greatly appreciate it if your giving could reflect that.

YEAR OF PRAYER

As we prepare to journey into the diocesan *Year of Prayer*, Fr Christopher from the Diocese's Department for Adult Education and Evangelisation shares these reflections with us.

SOLEMNITY OF EASTER

The joy of Easter is like an explosion of love bursting into our lives. The light of Christ is a light so bright that it transforms our lives. We have journeyed through Lent and through Christ's passion and death. Now we can rejoice, knowing that his death is not the end. Faith and hope are the great gifts of Easter which we are called to share with one another and with the world. The light we have received is a light for all. It is not for us to keep but to take to the far corners of our society where darkness may prevail amongst the lost and the forsaken. Faith lived amongst the poor and the marginalised is a transforming faith. It is the light for those who live in darkness and despair. Like the disciples we are called to run from the darkness of the tomb and proclaim to the world: Christ is Risen, Alleluia, alleluia!

TWEET OF THE WEEK

CH Catholic Herald
@CatholicHerald

Following

'In many places, our Christian sisters and brothers face persecution of an intensity and extent unprecedented in many centuries.'



PLEASE PRAY FOR

Veronica. Maria Alfano.
Anna McGinn. Nachtter Kaur.
Kathleen Ward. Reenie Slattery.
Pat Kissane. Reena James.

If you would like to be named in the Newsletter, please contact the Parish Office to give your consent so that it can be recorded.

St. Bonaventure's Feast Day 2019

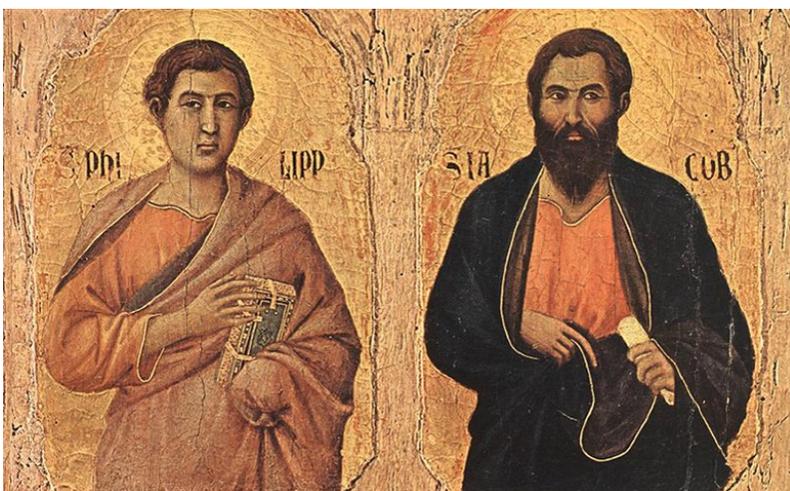
SUNDAY 14TH JULY 11AM-2PM
ST BONS SCHOOL PLAYGROUND, EGERTON RD, BS7 8HP



DETAILS
COMING
SOON!

SAINT OF THE WEEK

Sts Philip and James, Apostles



Philip was an early follower of Jesus. When the Greeks wanted to meet Jesus, they approached Philip. James is often called the first Bishop of Jerusalem. They are the patron saints of Uruguay.

We celebrate them on the same day because their relics were brought to Rome together on the same day. They rest there still, in the Basilica of the Holy Apostles.

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Easter Week 1 (Year C)

Sunday 21st April

Sunday of the Resurrection

9.30am Mass *Private Intention*

7.00pm Mass *Anne Hefferman R.I.P.*

Monday 22nd April

Monday within the Octave of Easter

10.00am Mass *Vincent Mullan R.I.P.*

Tuesday 23rd April

Tuesday within the Octave of Easter

9.00am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass *Gerry Caudron R.I.P.*

Wednesday 24th April

Wednesday within the Octave of Easter

9.00am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass *Quigley Family R.I.P.*

Thursday 25th April

Thursday within the Octave of Easter

No Mass

Friday 26th April

Friday within the Octave of Easter

7:00pm Mass *Private Intention*

Saturday 27th April

Saturday within the Octave of Easter

6.00pm Mass *Sean Golden R.I.P.*

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday 5.00pm-5.40pm

Adoration: Monday at 10am after Mass through to 8pm on Tuesday.