



ST BONAVENTURE'S NEWSLETTER

Easter Week 6
26th May
2019

A Community of Missionary
Disciples With Contemplative Hearts

Having spent most of my life in an education system or one sort of another, it is easy to break the year into terms. For the past few years I have tried hard not to but with a school in our parish I have succumbed. For those of you without children and with jobs that follow a regular calendar, this coming week is half-term. Yes they get another holiday! But once this week is over it is a straight run to the summer holidays. I have come to see this time in our parish as an end of term. The last and most important date of this term is our parish feast day which takes place this year on Sunday 14th July. The Feast of St Bonaventure is on 15th July but we are allowed to move it to the nearest Sunday. Our parish feast day is important for two reasons:

The first reason is that our Patron Saint looks after us. His feast day is an opportunity to pray to him for our needs but also to honour him for all the graces he has won for us and the parishioners down through the generations. A saint is someone who has struggled like us to live a life of sanctity, who has allowed God to make them holy. Because of this they become an icon for us, they show us the way in our journey with God. In St Bonaventure we have a particularly brilliant example of a sanctified life. He was a Franciscan Friar, brain-box: a lecturer in theology in Paris, he was eventually declared a Doctor of the Church for the quality of his writings. He was deeply spiritual. He became the Master General of the Franciscan order at a time when it was in crisis, his leadership brought stability and allowed the burgeoning new Order to take its next step forward. If we don't pray to him and honour him, we are fools.

The second reason our feast day is important is for what it offers us and the wider community. Like last year we will have mass later in the morning, outside on the school grounds followed by an afternoon of entertainment. We will come together as a community to have fun together. Our feast day celebration is an opportunity to welcome the wider community of Bishopston and Bristol to join us. We want to use our feast day as an occasion of welcome. We are becoming a welcoming parish, our Alpha courses are making this possible because we now have something to welcome people to, to show them hospitality and help them encounter God more. One of my dreams is that welcoming others who do not know us or God will be one of our greatest characteristics. Our feast day is a great opportunity to excel at welcoming.

To me our feast day seems like the end of term. But I know that that is not accurate because last summer was very busy and while schools and universities may be off the rest of the world carries on! Let's work together to make the next few months, with our first Holy Communion and Feast Day, a fantastic time at St Bon's. Let's ensure that all who come to St Bon's may experience the life and love of God!

Fr Tom

Egerton Road, Bishopston, Bristol BS7 8HP
Tel: 0117 942 4448
bristol.stbonaventure@cliftodiocese.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

Second Collection: Catholic Communications Network on the 2nd June.

Fr Tom's Vlog: Fr Tom's latest vlog is now available on YouTube. Fr Tom discusses watching Game of Thrones! Click here to view: <https://youtu.be/haki0dNvefE>

OUR COMMUNITY

St Bons School Summer Fair: Saturday 15th June 2-5pm. £1 for adults, kids free!

livesimply Thought for the Week: Ditch Non-Recyclable Wrapping Paper - If you choose fancy patterns or a glittery design for your gift wrap, there's a chance it could be reinforced with plastic, which means it can't be recycled and could stick around on the planet for a long time. Brown wrapping paper or good old-fashioned newspaper tied with string or rafia are good alternatives.

St Bon's Ladies' Skittles team: We are very sad to announce the closure of the Ladies' Catholic Skittles League due to the lack of teams left to compete. The league was started in 1966 and some of our players have been in the team for over 40 years. We have finished our last season in style by winning the Front First cup and as runners up in the All-in. I would like to thank my team for their support, commitment and friendship over many years. Penny Millar (Captain)

Diaconal Formation: The Diocesan Diaconal Discernment process will begin in Autumn. If any men in our congregation feel called to serve God in this way, please speak to Fr Tom.

Climate Lobby: There will be a mass lobby of parliament on Wed June 26th to call on our MPs to act more rapidly to try to prevent climate breakdown. This is organised by CAFOD along with over a hundred other members of the climate change coalition. A target of net zero carbon emissions by 2045 will be demanded. There will be an opportunity to meet as a group with your MP and there will also be workshops and an inter-faith service. There is a coach from Temple Meads at 8am, places are limited so sign up if you would like a place at cafod.org.uk/climatelobby.

Youth Ministry: Young people – We need you! Our Diocesan Day is taking place at St Brendan's College Bristol on Saturday 6th July. We are looking for young people of school Year 10 and beyond to be an important part of the team. Your task is to be the face of the diocese by introducing speakers and workshops, signposting people and making people welcome. You will also have the opportunity to take on the Climbing Wall and Archery range as part of your day! We invite you to a training day on Saturday 15th June 10am – 3pm at St Brendan's. If you and your friends would like to take part email youth@cliftondiocese.com and we'll send you more information.

PICTURE OF THE WEEK



The remainder of the old St Bons altars in the basement.

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.

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Most, if not all people, like to receive gifts. Often the most memorable ones are those we receive from a person who is in the last stages of life. Very often the best gifts are those spoken, the words of advice or wishes which are pertinent and life-affirming. Today, we hear words of advice and consolation from Jesus to his disciples and to us. He offers us peace, the kind of peace that comes not from the world but from him. We need to keep listening to him, to God and to one another. We will face difficulties but when we do we can be assured that the Holy Spirit will come and remind us of Jesus' teachings and help us to understand them, so that we can face our struggles and know how to respond with knowledge and truth.

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 board games, puzzles etc, 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.

Praying the Rosary: The monthly Parish Rosary Revival Prayer Group will meet on Tuesday 4th June at 2pm in the Dining Room in St Bonaventure's Presbytery. We will pray and discuss the rosary and have a cup of tea. Contact Chris Searle 07771161259. All welcome.

TWEET OF THE WEEK



GUVNA B
@GuvnaB

Following

Been learning that the long way with God is better than the shortcut without Him.

10:34 am - 23 May 2019

81 Retweets 244 Likes

3 81 244

PLEASE PRAY FOR

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

If you would like to be named in the Newsletter, please contact the Parish Office to give your consent so 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

St. Justin, Martyr



St. Justin became a Christian at the age of 30. He was well educated in rhetoric, poetry and history before turning to philosophy. He is regarded as the 2nd century Father of the Church and the first Christian Philosopher.

St. Justin gives us the earliest description of the Rite of Baptism and of a Sunday Mass. He was a great apologist, engaging in debates and writing numerous works about the faith, most famously two apologetical treatises called "Apologies" and "Dialogue with Tryphon."

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Easter Week 6 (Year C)

Sunday 26th May

Sixth Sunday of Easter

9.30am Mass *Les Bateman R.I.P.*

7.00pm Mass *Pro Pop*

Monday 27th May

Feast of St. Augustine of Canterbury

10.00am Mass *Jean Sewell*

Tuesday 28th May

Weekday of Easter

9.00am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass

Wednesday 29th May

Weekday of Easter

9.00am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass

Thursday 30th May

Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

Holyday of Obligation

9.15am Mass

7.00pm Mass

Friday 31st May

**Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed
Virgin Mary**

7.00pm Mass *Fr Peter Codd R.I.P.*

Saturday 1st June

Memorial of St. Justin, Martyr

6.00pm Mass *Shemus Phelan*

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday 5.00pm-5.40pm

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