



# ST BONAVENTURE'S NEWSLETTER

OT Week 11 & 12  
16-30th June  
2019

**A Community of Missionary  
Disciples With Contemplative Hearts**

This week, on my day of rest, I went to London to visit an old uni friend. It is rare that I go to London, I usually prefer to stay close to home. It was a rainy day so we decided to visit the Postal and Mail Rail museum at Mount Pleasant near Chancery Lane. Mail Rail was a miniature underground railway to carry the post from mail centres around London. In the 1920's the Royal Mail built this underground network to carry the mail from Mount Pleasant to both Paddington Station in the west and to Whitechapel in the east. The Royal Mail devised a whole system of railway lines that ran under the city with automated trains that would run for about twenty-two hours a day.

It was clear from historical testimonies that working on that railway was a source of great pride for those involved. It was an important and pressured job which led to a strong team spirit among the workers. One engineer had said it was like having his own model railway to work on. As we went around the museum it was like taking a trip down memory lane to a time when life seemed simpler and when society seemed to depend on human contact to function properly.

I started to reflect on how as a child all the things we needed to make our life run and our house work, involved other people. We would have milk delivered by a man, post delivered by a man or woman, coal delivered fortnightly by men, the chimney swept by a man, the meters read by a man. Now you can pick up the milk in a shop and go to the self service checkout. There are no more coal fires, no more coal mines, no need for chimney sweeps, we have smart meters and gas heating. The Mail Rail is now a museum as post is now more automated. To live life used to involve relationships with lots of people but as things have become more 'efficient' and services have improved our contact with people has considerably diminished.

All this leads me to ask what a parish can provide in this more efficient but seemingly less connected world. My first thought is that because there is less contact with people a parish would be an important hub for human connection. But this is not always the case, numbers of Catholics move from church to church for Mass, faithfully fulfilling their obligation, but not rooting themselves in a community. Many younger Catholics come to church seeking 'Sacramental Moments' but not wanting to join in. It is like the church is seen by some as a place to get something from rather than a place to give back or belong.

I believe that if our parish is to continue to grow and we are to deepen our community, each of us has to be prepared to give of ourselves in the community. It is easy to see a parish as a place where we get something but for a parish to work properly is also has to be a place where each person is prepared to contribute. Actual human contact is becoming a lost art but if parish life is to develop we have to excel at human contact, offering to those who come through our doors something they no longer experience in their every day lives.

Fr Tom

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 St Bons Bristol #frtomtalks

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

## OUR PARISH

**Feast Day of St Bonaventure's:** This is a simple request for your help and support. As you are all aware we are holding another family day this year in celebration of our very own St Bonaventure! Last year was a success but as all events go we learn year on year where we need to improve to make the day even better for all there! We need volunteers for setting up the evening before, running the stalls, talking to the community attending and letting them know who we are and what we are about, packing up and putting away. Without you chaps this wouldn't be possible. Please have a think dig deep and contact me if you feel you can help. Thanks for your time. Neta Roylance Smith.

**#FrTomTalks Mexico:** Fr Tom's latest vlog is now available on YouTube. Fr Tom discusses his latest trip to Mexico. Click here to view: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s5xUUVVb9LY>

**Second Collections:** Day for Life 16th June. Peter's Pence 30th June. This year the Day for Life will focus on all those who are suffering or have survived domestic abuse.

## OUR COMMUNITY

**livesimply Thought for the Week:** It takes water, energy, fuel and packaging to produce the food we all love and buy. Does it really belong in the bin? Half of the food we throw away can be eaten, keeping it out of the bin is good for our pockets and the planet combined. For lots of ideas including tips on portion planning, shopping and recipes, see: <https://www.lovefoodhatewaste.com/>

**Join the Climate Change Lobby to Parliament:** Join CAFOD and many other charities at an unforgettable event in London on 26 June. Get involved in action for the campaign against the climate and environmental crisis, with CAFOD, and tell our leaders that Britain should no longer contribute to the destruction of our common home. You **can** make a difference by joining in – a coach is going from our Clifton Diocese to the Lobby in London. Please register if you would like to attend <https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Climate/Climate-lobby> or contact Liz Baldwin at the CAFOD office in Bristol: [ebaldwin@cafod.org.uk](mailto:ebaldwin@cafod.org.uk) / 01172 428 328.

**Diocesan Day:** We gather at St Brendan's Sixth Form College on Saturday 6th July with our Bishop and with people from across all parishes in the diocese. The day begins at 9.45am with an opening liturgy and concludes at 4.15pm with Mass.

## TWEET OF THE WEEK



**Angela Parry**  
@AngelaMParry

Following

Grateful to be part of such a special First Communion Mass where everyone was made to feel so welcome. Lovely, prayerful atmosphere, uplifting music and beautiful singing. Well done [@frtomsmith](#) and [@stbonsbristol](#)

4:05 am - 9 Jun 2019

## 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

**BBQ BOUNCY CASTLE  
LIVE MUSIC VEGAN FOOD  
BAR ICE CREAM CAKES  
FACEPAINTING GAMES**

11AM MASS  
12PM BBQ & FUNKCITY BAND

PLEASE JOIN US IN  
CELEBRATING THIS DAY!

### 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 2nd July 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.

### PICTURE OF THE WEEK

St Bons School would like you to join us to celebrate Lucille Charles' Retirement Mass at St Bonaventure's Catholic Church on Tuesday 16th July 2019 at 1:30 pm.

Followed by refreshments at the School.



RSVP to the school office by 21st June.  
st.bonaventures.p@bristol-schools.uk  
0117 353 2830

### 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:

#### **TRINITY SUNDAY**

If you go to the Apsidal chapel, Sant' Agostino, San Gimignano you will find there a fresco by the Italian artist Benozzo Gozzoli. It depicts a young boy attempting to transfer all the waters of the ocean into a sand hole using only a spoon. In a letter of Cyril of Jerusalem it is said that St. Augustine met the child on a beach, while out walking and thinking about the Trinity. Augustine tried to explain to the boy that his plan was impossible to achieve. The boy replied by telling him that the mystery of the Holy Trinity could not be comprehended by the human mind. Another version of this story says that the boy had replied, 'and you cannot fit the Trinity in your tiny little brain.' Whatever the truth the scene speaks of the great gulf there is between faith and reason. Faith is not something that we can tie down. At times we understand and at other times it is a mystery to us. In a sense that is why it is such a gift to us. If we could understand everything we might be overwhelmed by the greatness of God.

**LITURGY SCHEDULE**

**Ordinary Time Week 11 (Year C)**

**Sunday 16th June**

**Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity**

9.30am Mass *For all our Social Media Followers*

12:00pm First Communion Mass

7.00pm Mass *Pro Pop*

**Monday 17th June**

**Weekday of Ordinary Time**

9.00am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass

**Tuesday 18th June**

**Weekday of Ordinary Time**

9.00am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass

**Wednesday 19th June**

**Weekday of Ordinary Time**

9.00am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass

**Thursday 20th June**

**Weekday of Ordinary Time**

No Mass

**Friday 21st June**

**Memorial of St Aloysius Gonzaga**

7.00pm Mass

**Saturday 22nd June**

**Feast of Saints John Fisher, Bishop, & Thomas More, Martyrs**

6.00pm Mass *Tim & Mary Hanley R.I.P.*

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

Saturday 5.00pm-5.40pm

**Ordinary Time Week 12 (Year C)**

**Sunday 23rd June**

**Solemnity of the Most Holy Body & Body of Christ (Corpus Christi)**

9.30am Mass *Pro Pop*

7.00pm Mass

**Monday 24th June**

**Solemnity of the Nativity of St John the Baptist**

9.00am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass

**Tuesday 25th June**

**Weekday of Ordinary Time**

9.00am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass

**Wednesday 26th June**

**Weekday of Ordinary Time**

9.00am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass

**Thursday 27th June**

**Weekday of Ordinary Time**

No Mass

**Friday 28th June**

**Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus**

7.00pm Mass

**Saturday 29th June**

**Memorial of the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

6.00pm Mass

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