



ST BONAVENTURE'S NEWSLETTER

OT Week 15
14th July
2019

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

St Bon's is a really exciting place to be. I have to put that in context, some of you reading this might be thinking, how can 'church,' be exciting? We are not a casino or a Spice Girls concert or many of the other things that people would consider exciting. But as a Priest with experience of different parishes I can say that being at St Bon's is exciting. What makes being part of our Parish exciting? For me it is the sense of joy we have, this has been created as we have got to know one another more deeply over the course of 'Prayer Partners'. It is also the sense of hope that we have, hope that our joy will blossom as we continue to renew in the Holy Spirit.

Parish renewal is something communities around the world are grappling with. I have a dream for St Bon's that we will become an even more exciting place to be as we grow in our knowledge of the unique gifts God has given us and learn how to use them in his service. For so long, as a church, we have had a notion that giving people jobs involves and includes them. It seems that while these jobs are important, being Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EOMHC) for example, they fail to bring the change that was hoped for. I believe this is for two reasons. Firstly, while important, the jobs are not connected to mission, to fearlessly introducing Jesus to the world. The jobs we invited people to do are not concerned with bringing Jesus to those who do not know him. The roles, although fundamental, are more functional rather than challenging and engaging.

The second reason that these jobs fail to bring change is because they are of a limited nature, there are only so many EOMHC's or readers you can have. In other words, while some people have a job or role, there are many others who do not feel included. How can people feel excited or that they belong when there are many members of the parish community without roles. This can easily lead to a lack of a sense of purpose for many people who want to belong to a parish. It also reinforces a decades old model that you only have to turn up and religion will be 'done to you' rather than you participating. I want that to change here at St Bon's. I want every member of our community to grow in their awareness of God's love for them and of the unique gifts he has given them for service in his Kingdom and in our community. That is exciting! That is our future. My dream of a parish working together is not a few people having roles but for each person to be able to harness their passion for the mission of the church, to share Jesus with the world.

We have so much to be proud of in our parish and we have many exciting years ahead. As we celebrate our Feast Day this weekend let us give thanks to God for our community and let's ask him to bless us that we may flourish and grow for his glory!

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

Celebrating St. Bonaventure: In his latest vlog, Fr Tom explains who St. Bonaventure was and how we are celebrating on Sunday, Click here to watch: <https://youtu.be/mfhlm0RnOBM>

R.I.P. Please pray for the repose of the soul of Vito Parinello who passed away recently. His Funeral details will follow as soon as we are informed.

Second Collections: Apostleship of the Sea - 14th July.

OUR COMMUNITY

Vacancy: CAFOD Clifton is looking for a new staff member to recruit and manage volunteers who work in our parishes and schools around the diocese. The role is based in Bristol. The role is 17.5 hours per week, permanent and a great opportunity for someone who cares passionately about poverty and injustice. Please see cafod.org.uk/jobs for details, from 1st July. The closing date is 17th July.

Livesimply Thought for the Week: A smile or word of appreciation can lift someone's day. Start conversations with strangers – and not just those who dress and speak like you. Make time to communicate your thanks to strangers doing essential, undervalued jobs – street cleaners, car park attendants, parking wardens, shop assistants.

Feast of St James: 25th July. Abbot David will celebrate Holy Mass at St James Priory Bristol at 6pm. All are welcome. Tea & Coffee afterwards.

Vacancies: 3 Foundation Governor positions at St Bernard's Catholic Primary School, Shirehampton. There is an important role that a lay member of the Diocese can volunteer to do . In Catholic schools. Foundation governors – practising Catholics appointed by the Bishop – make up the majority of a governing body. A foundation governor has a responsibility to preserve and develop the Catholic character of the school, but like all governors, also has to ensure high standards of educational achievement by the children. A foundation governor with experience of budgets, ideally with accountancy skills and/or a person who might be particularly interested in RE would be of great assistance. For further information please contact the Clerk to Governors at e-mail clerk@stbernardsprimary.co.uk or the school on 0117 9030352 who can put you in contact with the Chair of Governors, Mr Stephen Draper.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Veronica. Maria Alfano. Anna McGinn. Nachtter Kaur. Kathleen Ward. 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.

PICTURE OF THE WEEK

Fr Pratap Reddy send his thanks for everyone's generosity and contributions. We also thank all those who came along to the Parish Curry Lunch. It was a great social event and we raised £320



for Fr Pratap's work with education and community projects for the poor of his parish in Andhra Pradesh India. If anyone wants to find out more about this work, please contact Heather Cowper heather.cowper@yahoo.co.uk

YEAR OF PRAYER

As we prepare to journey into the diocesan *Year of Prayer*, the Diocese's Department for Adult Education and Evangelisation share these reflections.

15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

'Who is my neighbour?' asks a doctor of the Law in his attempt to clarify exactly what is being asked of him when the law speaks of loving God and neighbour. Jesus recognises his narrow concern and responds by recounting an incident of rural violence. We know the story well. It teaches clearly that love is the core and meaning of life and there are no limits. The lawyer's question concerns the genuineness and depth of our love. How far will we go? Are their limits to our love? Do we only love when it is convenient or does our love for our neighbour take us out of our comfort zone? The neighbour in the story is a Samaritan, despised by the Jews for apparently having little concern for morality or for religion. Yet, he is the one who stops when he sees someone in need and responds with compassion and kindness. If there are parallels for us today I might want to ask myself how I would respond if my neighbour happened to be a refugee struggling across dangerous seas to reach safety or a drug addict on the street or someone from a different faith or culture who does things differently to me? Following the Gospel is not an easy option. It can challenge the very heart of who we are. Today, let us pray for an open and generous heart which is ready and willing to respond to anyone who might need our help this week.

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 6th August 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 07771161259.

Feast of St Bonaventure's: Sunday 14th July 11am-2pm in the School Playground.

Mrs Charles's Retirement Mass: Tuesday 16th July 1:30pm.

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!

SAINT OF THE WEEK

St. Bonaventure



Born Giovanni de Fidanza in Bagnoregio, in central Italy, in 1221, he received the name of Bonaventure from St. Francis of Assisi. At 22, he entered the Franciscan Order. He is known as the Doctor of the Church and the Patron Saint of Bowel & Intestinal Trouble. To find out more on St Bonaventure, listen to Fr Tom's latest vlog (link on previous page).

TWEET OF THE WEEK



Unfollow

I went to Alpha and...
"found an amazing space for people to meet with each other and Jesus. I felt listened to!"
[#BeAnInviter](#)

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Ordinary Time Week 15 (Year C)

Sunday 14th July

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

11.00am Feast Day Mass at the School
7:00pm *Brenda Yip*

Monday 15th July

Memorial of St. Bonaventure

9.00am Morning Prayer
9.15am Mass *Bill Cratchley*

Tuesday 16th July

Weekday of Ordinary Time

1:30pm Mass for Lucille Charles

Wednesday 17th July

Weekday of Ordinary Time

9.00am Morning Prayer
9.15am Mass *Matt & Eileen O'Leary*

Thursday 18th July

Weekday of Ordinary Time

No Mass

Friday 19th July

Weekday of Ordinary Time

7.00pm Mass *Jo Terry R.I.P.*

Saturday 20th July

Weekday of Ordinary Time

12:00pm Wedding
6.00pm Mass *Maureen Reilly R.I.P.*

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday 5.00pm-5.40pm

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