



ST BONAVENTURE'S NEWSLETTER

OT Week 28
13th October
2019

A Community of Missionary
Disciples With Contemplative Hearts

This weekend Blessed John Henry Newman will become St John Henry Newman, he will be canonised on Sunday by Pope Francis in a solemn Mass at the Vatican. Some of us will remember the visit of Pope Benedict in 2010 when Venerable John Henry Newman was Beatified. Normally the Canonisation of one's countryman is something to get very excited about, the Italians and Spanish go mad for their national saints but while there is excitement, the bunting is not being put out. No directives have been sent for big celebrations in parishes, in fact if I were not mentioning it now may be you would not know it was happening. Why is that, why is this man who the church certifies as Holy, as an example for us to follow not stirring up our national catholic excitement levels? I have a few suggestions.

He was an outsider. John Henry Newman was born in 1801, he died in 1890. At the age of 44 he was received into the Catholic Church. He was not a cradle catholic, he is a convert. That special breed of catholic who lives the faith often in an exemplary way but is not always considered as part of the club. I always wonder why that is the case and I can only guess that we cradle Catholics are a bit suspicious of converts because they have a conviction we often don't, they had to make a choice which we often haven't. They may have lost family and friends through their decision to become catholic and of course they escaped a catholic childhood, they have all the faith without the childhood trauma! Maybe it is for these reasons that the Catholic Church in the UK has not taken John Henry Newman to its heart.

Another reason is that he is clever. I have long been of the opinion that Britishness is often at odds with intellectualism. We like our intellectual to be slightly eccentric, dismissible maybe, rather than serious. JH Newman was a serious theologian, he is revered in many American Catholic colleges, more so it seems than here. He made profound contributions on the development of Christian doctrine, on freedom of conscience and on the role of the laity of the church. Much of his work influenced the second Vatican Council in the 1960's. One of his greatest fans is Pope Benedict. He is loved by many catholic intellectuals but is maybe harder to relate to for the masses.

He was never made a bishop but he was unusually made a Cardinal as a priest as sign of the then popes recognition of his contribution to the church. Cardinal Newman wrote a number of Hymns (Lead Kindly Light) and Poems (The Dream of Gerontius) and lived a humble life of serving the poor in Birmingham, he was an Oratorian and you can visit his room at the Birmingham oratory today. John Henry Newman is a special gift to the church. Maybe his contribution to the Catholic Church will become more widely known in his own country and maybe his profound intercession in the heavenly courts will become a source of consolation for his native Brits. Maybe, it is just a very British thing not to get too excited about your own home grown saint, hopefully though we will all take this wonderful Saint to our hearts!

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

First Holy Communion: As a Parish Community we have been evolving our ethos over the last few years. We are seeking to be a more welcoming community. It has become apparent over this period of time that building relationships is an important aspect of being a welcoming community. We have been looking at how we celebrate the sacraments in the context of relationship. Our FHC programme this coming year will be focussing on your relationship with God and the parish. This year we will be meeting with each family to get to know you, to see where you are in your faith journey and your relationship with the parish. Together we can see if now is the right time to go forward with FHC. We want to invite you to be part of a lovely community of faith where your life can be changed by the grace of God. Applications for first Holy Communion need to be submitted before the end of half term. You will be invited to an informal meeting with Fr Tom and a member of the team to get to know you and your family.

OUR COMMUNITY

Vacancy at St Bons School: The governors and Headteacher at St Bons Catholic Primary school are seeking to appoint an exceptional, dedicated and committed Caretaker. Closing date for your CV or letter of interest is Friday 18th October. Contact st.bonaventures.p@bristol-schools.uk or 0117 353 2830.

Bristol Refugee Rights: Thank you to those parishioners who donate regularly and generously. As winter approaches a gift of gloves would be especially welcome. Tins of fish and peanut butter are the main source of protein that we can offer to those destitute who have no cooking options. Please leave items in the box in the porch. Larger household goods can be taken to Aid Box Community, now open on the Gloucester Rd near Colston Girls' school.

Mary Poppins: The St Bonaventure's school and community production is for adults (and children) who would like to have a go at treading the boards. All proceeds from this production will go to St Bonaventure's. The final rehearsals and performances will be in St Bonaventure's parish hall during the week of 14th – 21st March 2020. Auditions will take place on Sunday 6th October 5.30pm - 7pm at St Bonaventure's school hall.

livesimply Thought for the Week: Over the next few weeks Bishops from around the world are attending a special meeting in Rome on the theme of 'Amazonia, new paths for the Church and for an integral ecology'. They will hear from the people of the Amazon who face environmental and cultural devastation and discern a response with them and for the whole Church. You can see regular reports here: <https://www.indcatholicnews.com/>

200 Club: Congratulations to the winners of the October draw. £60 Mrs G Spoto 68. £25 Anne Browne 167. £10 Andy and Jane Nelson 32. Thank you to all parishioners who have supported the 200 Club this year. Profits raised from the club go to our parish HCPT group, enabling children with special needs to visit Lourdes. Membership now needs to be renewed. Representatives from the club will be at all Masses this weekend and next to collect subscriptions. Its £24 per year. Cheques should be made payable to St Bonaventures 200 Club please. Alternatively, please leave your cheque in an envelope in the Presbytery, clearly marked FAO Angela Parry 200 Club. New members welcome!

TWEET OF THE WEEK



GUVNA B
@GuvnaB

Prayers up for anyone who's got a lot on their plate at the moment. Stay strong and positive. Peace and love.



12:37 am · 11 Oct 2019 · Twitter for iPhone

68 Retweets 214 Likes

YEAR OF PRAYER

The Diocese's Department for Adult Education share these reflections.

28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

There is a well-known slogan which encourages us to cultivate 'an attitude of gratitude'. Positive, healthy relationships grow when we have the capacity to express our gratitude and not simply take things for granted. Numerous books have been written on the benefits to us of having the attitude of expressing our appreciation or thanks. Each Sunday when we come to Mass we come to give thanks to God. Eucharist means 'thanksgiving', essentially giving gratitude. In our gospel today, Jesus heals ten lepers but only one of them, the Samaritan, an outsider, comes back to say thank you. Jesus appreciates this and sends him on his way. In the knowledge that his faith, expressed in his gratitude has saved him. This is the power and importance of expressing our thanks or appreciation. Gratitude is an expression which comes from a place in the heart that recognises the kindness of another and acknowledges it, not out of some sense of duty or expectation, but because it is an authentic expression of our thoughts and feelings. Is there someone in our own life or community who deserves our gratitude? Perhaps this week we can make a point of saying thank you to them.

WHAT'S ON?

Art Club: The Art Club continues on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month 10-11:30am. All 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.

Welfare Group: The next meeting for the Welfare Group will take place on Wednesday 16th October (11.00am - 12 noon).

Book of Remembrance: From the 1st November this will be made available for us to record the names of those who have died whom we hold dear.

All Souls Mass: Saturday 2nd November 10.30am followed by the Annual Blessing of the Cemetery.

Praying the Rosary: The monthly Parish Rosary Revival Prayer Group meet on the first Tuesday of every month and our next meeting will be on Tuesday 5th November.

Remembrance Mass: Friday 15th November 7.00pm. For all those who have died in the parish since November 2018.

Sunday 8th December: 2pm Mass with the Anointing of the Sick followed by the Christmas Tea for Senior Citizens.

SAVE THE DATE: Our Christmas Carol Service will be held on 13th December. It's going to be special, watch this space!

Alpha: Our next Alpha will start on 15th January 2020, please contact Oliver on 07879023709 or email at oliver@oliverr.co.uk for more information.

PICTURE OF THE WEEK



The 6th General Congregation of the Special Synod of Bishops for the Amazon region discussed the tragedy of drug trafficking and its consequences and the call to ecological conservation.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Ray Gunning. Anne James.

Bob James. Veronica.

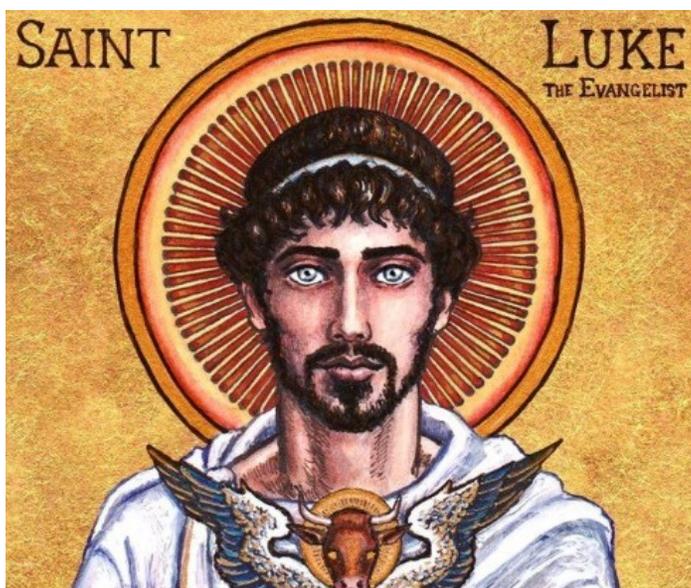
Anna McGinn. Nachtter Kaur. Kathleen Ward.

Pat Kissane. Reena James.

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

SAINT OF THE WEEK

St Luke



Luke was a Greek physician and a disciple of St Paul and his companion on some of his missionary journeys. He is the author of the third Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles. Luke emphasises compassion, poverty prayer and purity of heart.

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Ordinary Time Week 28 (Year C)

Sunday 13th October

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9.30am Mass *Fatima & Family Intention*

7:00pm Mass *Richard Jones R.I.P.*

Monday 14th October

Weekday in Ordinary Time

9.00am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass *Bernadette Minihane R.I.P.*

Tuesday 15th October

Memorial of St Teresa of Jesus

No Mass

Wednesday 16th October

Solemnity of the Anniversary of the Dedication of Parish Churches

10.00am Harvest Mass with school

Thursday 17th October

Memorial of St Ignatius of Antioch

10.00am Mass

1.00pm Wedding Service

Friday 18th October

Feast of St Luke

7.00pm Mass *Kay & Pat Letmon*

Saturday 19th October

Weekday in Ordinary Time

6.00pm Mass *John & Mary Maszuchin (70th Wedding Anniversary)*

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday 5.00pm-5.40pm

Adoration: Monday at 10.00am-

10.00pm and Tuesday 10.00am-8.00pm