

ST BONS NEWSLETTER 23rd October

MGR BERNARD'S MESSAGE

I don't usually comment on politics because there are good Catholics who for various reasons support different political parties. I certainly wouldn't put my political views at the forefront of my preaching; my role is to proclaim the Gospel and not to promote one party or another. Over the years I can tell you that I have, at different elections, voted for all three main political parties.

The realisation this week that we will have a new Prime Minister within a few days is not necessarily a cause for celebration, but a sadness as to the instability of the government. Different commentators will no doubt put the blame at the door of different people and parties, but the reality is the instability that we currently see is not good for anyone. The anxiety that this generates in the public leads to anxieties at home and affects both adults and children. The level of issues of mental health problems over the last few years has been heightened by the pandemic and lockdown, and we are seeing the effects of this in children as well as adults.

So one of the positive things that we can do at this time is to pray for our politicians, that the decisions they make over the coming weeks are based on the needs of the country rather than their own political gains.

Hopefully then we can work together to work for peace and justice at home and overseas. The Gospel recognises that there will always be conflicts, but that we are called to be bridge builders and fence menders. So let us pray for those in Government and in fact for all our politicians. It is easy to sit in an armchair and criticise, but surely it is even better to ask the Holy Spirit to help sort it out.

EVENTS, PARISH & COMMUNITY

Parent & Baby/Toddler Group: Every Monday from 10am to 12pm. Feel free to drop in any time during those hours. For more info or if you'd like to be added to the WhatsApp group please contact Claire on 07871627928.

Rosary Prayer Group: In view of the needs of our country and the need for peace in the world and especially Ukraine it has been decided to hold the prayer meeting Every Tuesday at 2pm in the presbytery. Contact Julia for prayer requests on 01179428696

Drop in Coffee Morning: Everyone is welcome on 2nd Wednesday of the month 10.30-12.00. Come along to the presbytery to meet up with old friends or make new ones while enjoying a cuppa. People living with dementia and their carers particularly welcome. Next date - 9th November. Any questions contact Veronica Swann 0117 9427018.

Art Group: On 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month 10.00 - 12.00. All welcome, including beginners, to join small and very friendly group. Bring your own materials. Any questions contact: Penny Millar 07866138669 or Cath Lucas 078069437664.

Knitting Group: Every Wednesday from 10.00 to 11.30 in the presbytery (St Clare's room). Please bring your own materials. For details contact Ann Pobjoy: ann.pobjoy@blueyonder.co.uk.

Friday Soup Lunches: Fridays in the presbytery from 12pm, all welcome! Donations are sent to charity. more information from Chris Swann on 01179427018.

Please Pray For: Enzo Maniglia. Eric Pitt. Desmond Anglin. Peter Sewell & Ivy Sewell. Eddie Williams. Paul Tooze. Margaret Rogers. Rosemary Hatherly. Sheelagh Gaines. Anne James. Veronica. Anna McGinn. Nachter Kaur. Reena James. Margaret McGuinness. If you would like to be named in the Newsletter, please contact the Parish Office to give your consent so it can be recorded.

Parish buildings questionnaire: hard copies will be distributed after Sunday Masses.

Baptisms: We welcome Rowan Belfourd & Lucia Miller baptised into the family of the Church this Sunday 23rd October. Best wishes to them and their families!

Wedding: Our congratulations and best wishes go out to Andy and Nula getting married this Saturday!

Livesimply Thought for the Week: Walk around your home, room by room, item by item, and ask yourself, "When's the last time I used this?" Depending on the object, if you haven't used it for a while, it might be

something that you don't need - perhaps an inessential book that you'll never read again or clothes that no longer fit. Give them to someone who might welcome them or to a charity shop. Let's use the change of seasons to look at how we can live more simply.

Quiz Night to support the Christians of Bethlehem: Friday 11th November 2022 ~ 6.30pm. Bring your own booze / drinks. Tickets £6.00 per person including baked potatoes with assorted fillings. Team of 4ish! Proceeds to the Friends of the Holy Land. Holy Family Parish Centre, Southsea Road, Patchway, Bristol, BS34 5DP. Email bristol.holyfamily@cliftondiocese.com to book.

Pilgrim Visit of Our Lady of Fatima Statue: Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima and Relics of Ss Jacinta & Francisco will be visiting Clevedon Catholic Parish from 2.20pm on 5th Nov until 12noon on 6th Nov. There will be a programme of events including Mass, Talks about the Fatima Apparitions, a devotional service with prayers and Marian hymns as well as Adoration and Benediction plus refreshments in Greyfriars. You are most welcome to join us to honour Our Lady and ask for her powerful intercession. Please email clevedon@friar.org for more details

Foundation Governors at St Bon's school: We have 2 vacancies for Foundation Governors on the Governing Body of our excellent Parish primary school. We are looking for people with enthusiasm, passion and a belief in Catholic education who are keen to help our school be the best it can be. You don't need to be an expert in education: our board is made up of governors with a range of experience and expertise and we are looking for a diverse range of people to contribute to this. We are particularly looking for people who don't currently have children at the school but would welcome applications from parents whose children have attended in the past or may be attending in the future! For more info please contact Kate Lavington - kate.lavington@bristol-schools.uk or 07753 749926; or Eddie Romero - eduardo.romero@bristol-schools.uk or 07549 186370.

Save the date: for the Annual Healing Mass on 10th December at 3pm – everyone's welcome! This will be followed by the senior citizens' tea party.

Community Food Pantry Update: We've made a few experimental changes to the Food Pantry this week. First, we've decided not to restock the meal bags for a while. These were intended to provide all the elements of a meal for four people in a grab-and-go bag, but we've noticed that people don't tend to take the bags themselves but rather take items out of them. We think it might make more sense to simply stock more individual items on the shelves instead. Secondly, we've added some trial products to the shelves: drinking chocolate, long-lasting tortilla wraps and bars of soap. We'll be monitoring the popularity of them and may add them to the standard shopping list if they prove popular.

PLEASE DONATE: Cooking oil, Tuna, Other tinned fish, Sanitary towels, Tampons, UHT milk, Flour, Kitchen roll, Cereal - but not Weetabix, Vegetable stock cubes, Sweetcorn, Pasta, Rice, Washing up

Please DO NOT donate:

Fresh food (we can't safely store it and it will go to waste)

Tinned soup (it doesn't get taken)

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Sunday 23rd October	30th Sunday of Ordinary Time 10.00 Mass. Robert & Margaret Bennett RIP 18.00 Mass. People of the parish
Monday 24th October	No Mass
Tuesday 25th October	9.30 Mass. Canon Tom Finnegan
Wednesday 26th October	9.30 Mass. Private intention
Thursday 27th October	9.30 Mass. Fr David Savoury
Friday 28th October	No Mass*
Saturday 29th October	9.30 Mass. Ukraine
Sunday 30th October	31st Sunday of Ordinary Time 10.00 Mass. Pete McAnaspie 18.00 Mass. People of the parish

***Please note that there will be no Mass this Friday**

Second collection – there will be a second collection on the 23rd October for World Mission Sunday