

ST BONS NEWSLETTER 1st October

MGR BERNARDS MESSAGE

This morning I spent some time buying a ticket to go and see Take That at Bristol City Stadium next summer. When I first went on the site to buy the ticket, I was in a queue it was in the mid 800s. Fairly quickly got to the front of the queue and soon discovered that it wouldn't let me choose which stand I wanted to sit in. So I had to let them choose it for me. I changed their offer a number of times until I got the correct stand. I paid for my ticket and immediately got an error message to say something had gone wrong. I had to re-login and this time I was in the queue in the 8000s. After quite some considerable time I eventually got into the front of the queue. Only to discover that all the tickets for that date had been sold.

I start thinking to myself, this is a bit of a hassle. I then remind myself very quickly how lucky I am to be able to afford to go and see a band, when some people can't even afford to feed themselves or their children. If really want to put it into perspective and I think I'm having a bit of a bad day, it's nothing compared to the mother of 15 year old Elianna who was senselessly murdered by another teenager at a bus stop in London. Yes, it's always important that we count our blessings and recognise how lucky most of us are most of the time. Having done that, we then need to spend a bit of time saying 'thanks' to God in prayer.

EVENTS, PARISH & COMMUNITY

Please Pray For: Enzo Maniglia. Peter Sewell & Ivy Sewell. Eddie Williams. Paul Tooze. Margaret Rogers. Rosemary Hatherly. Sheelagh Gaines. Ninette Bateman. Stella Sanchez. If you would like to be named in the Newsletter, please contact the Parish Office to give your consent so it can be recorded.

Baptism: We welcome Isabella Blundell baptised into the family of Christ this Saturday.

This Sunday is the last in the Season of Creation 2023. Our Masses will celebrate and give thanks for our beautiful planet and its produce. If you have grown fruit and vegetables, made preserves, baked cakes or have spare plants and seeds, please bring them along to be sold on our stall after Mass. Money raised will be given to support those who struggle to feed their families.

Sponsored Walk: Veronica Swann is taking part in a sponsored walk in aid of Penny Brohn Cancer Centre on 1st October. It is still not too late to sponsor her. You can catch her or Chris after the Mass the next few weeks.

St Bon's Litter Picking Group: It's a while since we last made an effort to clean the streets. So let's get together at 12.30 on Sunday 15 October at the bottom of Somerville Road. Only 3 people turned up for the last litter pick, so please, don't be shy, come and make a difference - kids are welcome too. Please bring your own litter picking sticks. I have couple of spare sticks, but let me know if you need them. Annie

Time for Secondary School: If you have a Year 6 child (born between 1 September 2012 and 31 August 2013), then now is the time to apply for their secondary school place for September 2024. To make your application:

- 1) You must complete the secondary transfer application form provided by your home Local Authority (available on the LA website) by 31 October, and:
- 2) If you are applying for a baptised child for any of the Catholic secondary schools listed below, you should also additionally complete their Supplementary Information Form (available on the school's website) and provide the school with a copy of your child's baptism certificate, also by 31 October.

St Bede's Open Evening: Parents who currently have children in Years 5 and 6 are invited to St Bede's Open Evening on Thursday 5th October from 6pm to 8pm. The children are also welcome to attend.

CAFOD Family Fast Day appeal – Harvest Collection at Masses this week: Dr Nasha's mobile medical clinic gets life-saving help to where it's needed most, fast – so when her team arrived in Meera's village in Pakistan after it had been destroyed by flooding, Meera rushed to the clinic to get her children the treatment they needed. Donate to CAFOD today so that more families can get the expert help they need. Use the envelope in church or give online at cafod.org.uk

Livesimply Thought for the Week: As well as doing our best to live more simply and with gratitude for the wonder of life we are also called to raise our voices on behalf of the vulnerable. Millions of our sisters and brothers around the world are being hit by the climate crisis – and millions more will face even greater catastrophes unless we take urgent action to cut emissions. We can play our part by writing to our MPs expressing our concerns.

Community Food Pantry Update: As the new school year gets properly underway, we know that many of you will be struggling with the usual stresses and strains: the rushing around, the expensive uniforms, making sure the children get up and out of the door on time. On top of all this, some families will also be battling with food poverty and will be trying to ensure their children are getting enough to eat. That's where the Community Food Pantry can help - but at the moment, we're finding our shelves are almost bare at the end of each day. Please consider donating: your support is essential to allow us to help struggling families this Autumn. A big thank you to our volunteers Sue and Richard, who did an extra top-up shop last week when we ran very low on essentials. Your kindness is much appreciated! **Please donate:** Coffee, Tinned fruit, Tinned sweetcorn, Oil, Heinz or Branston baked beans, UHT milk, Dried lentils, Stock cubes, Biscuits, Sanitary towels, Shampoo
Please DO NOT donate: Fresh food (we can't safely store it and it will go to waste)

Parent & Baby/Toddler Group: Monday, 10am - 12pm. 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: 11th October. Any questions, contact Veronica Swann 07884134599.

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: Chris Swann 01179427018 or Cath Lucas 078069437664.

Friday Soup Lunches: Group will re-start on Friday 29th September in the presbytery from 12pm, all welcome! Donations are sent to charity. More information from Chris Swann on 01179427018.

Men of St Joseph: Bible and Catechism study with real life application to become a better Catholic man, Husband, Father and forge a lasting brotherhood of men of the faith. We break off for the summer, but if you're interested, please see Bart or Juan Carlos (altar servers) after 10am Mass.

Tea & Coffee: Join us in the Presbytery after Sunday morning Mass for tea, coffee biscuits and a chance to chat.

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Sunday 1	26th Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.00	People of the parish
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Monday 2	Guardian Angels	No Mass	
Tuesday 3	Weekday in Ordinary Time	09.15	School Harvest Mass
Wednesday 4	St Francis of Assisi	No Mass	
Thursday 5	Weekday in Ordinary Time	11.00	Funeral of Winifred Hosey
Friday 6	Weekday in Ordinary Time	No Mass	
Saturday 7	Our Lady of the Rosary	09.30	Private intention
Sunday 8	27th Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.00	Christina Sewell RIP
Sunday 9	27th Sunday in Ordinary Time	18.00	People of the parish