

ST BONS NEWSLETTER 28th April

MONSIGNOR BERNARD'S MESSAGE

I'm quite a fan of cocktails. I think it first started on a trip to Singapore back in the 1980s and going into the famous hotel Raffles to have a Singapore Gin Sling; then in the 80s and 90s the popular concoctions were such things as a Pina Colada or a Harvey Wallbanger, later it changed to a Long Island Iced Tea and now it's a Negroni or a Cosmopolitan. One of the common denominators with all of them is that they don't taste as strong as they are, so it's easy to consume a couple before you realise what you've done.

Temptation is like that, isn't it? It creeps up on us and we need just to stop at times, and realise the direction in which it's leading us, and make a decision to make sure it doesn't have any unfortunate consequences. The whole thing about temptation is that once we acknowledge and recognise that we are being tempted we also realise that we need to make sure our physical spiritual or moral compass is set in the right direction and not to claim that we have the right to do whatever it is we're doing.

For instance, how many of us have parked somewhere where we shouldn't (just for a few minutes) and justified it by saying either it's not disadvantages anyone else, or I was only dropping the kids off, so I wasn't really doing any harm. This is not quite in the 'mortal sin' category, but the whole thing about sin is that it is always giving in to temptation.

So, this week, let us remember that as we pray the Our Father saying "lead us not into temptation". We are really acknowledging the fact that we need God's guidance in our lives, and He will guide us. The question is, will we listen?

EVENTS, PARISH & COMMUNITY

Please Pray For: Enzo Maniglia. Peter Sewell. Eddie Williams. Paul Tooze. Margaret Rogers. Rosemary Hatherly. Sheelagh Gaines. Ninette Bateman. We also pray for Sheila Bull, Maria Lombardi and Julie Johnson who died recently.

If you would like to be named in the Newsletter, please contact the Parish Office.

ENCOUNTER - DAY OF RENEWAL: There will be a special day of renewal at St Bonaventure's from 10am to 4pm starting with Mass on Saturday 25th May. Mass, uplifting worship, inspiring teaching and testimonies. Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available and prayer for baptism in the Holy Spirit. Childrens' stream available too. Refreshments provided but bring a packed lunch. To give us an idea of numbers for the day, we ask you to book a free ticket for all members of your party here: www.dftholyspirit.com/encounter-may-2024.

Generators for Ukraine: UK registered charity From Bristol with Love for Ukraine has sent over 60 consignments of humanitarian aid ever since the invasion in 2022, including 90+ generators along with power banks to relieve the situation. Russia has increased its attacks in recent days particularly on Ukraine's power plants. All but a handful of the thermal and hydro power plants across the country are either badly damaged or totally destroyed. Any donation you feel you can give, however small, will be gratefully received and will be converted into generators to be transported by volunteers to the Romanian border with Ukraine: <https://www.justgiving.com/page/gen4ukr>.

St Bon's Cricket XI: St Bon's Cricket XI welcomes new players, young and old, experienced or newcomers, male or female, to add to their squad this season. We play 20:20 fixtures, weekly, on various nights over the Summer and are always on the look out for new talent. Come along and try, you only have to commit to one game at a time! FFI please contact Tommy at stbonaventurescricket@gmail.com.

St Bon's Climate Action group: For your diary our next get-together with a simple vegetarian meal is on Monday, May 20th. All are welcome.

Christians in Science lecture Friday May 3rd: Professor Nigel Crook will be speaking on "Consciousness, Creativity and Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)" at Redland Church Hall, BS6 7HE. The talk starts at 7.30pm and will be followed by time for questions with a formal close at 9.30pm. Refreshments will be served from 7pm. There is no entrance charge but if you can afford a donation, £5 would help cover our running costs. Artificial Intelligence has wide ranging implications which are important for Christians to understand and respond to.

Concerned about the Climate and Nature Crisis? Eco Together is a short course we are offering which brings together a group of people for 5 structured sessions. Using an Info Pack designed to bring tangible results and to help build strong support, members help each other in making a difference; there are no costs involved. From responses through, the first session has been confirmed for **Wednesday May 22**, starting at 7pm. Send an email to Liz Baldwin at lizzymac4000@gmail.com to register your place on the course. The sessions run for approx 1.5 hours.

Finance and Property Support Officer: The Clifton Diocese Curia offices are currently looking to recruit a Finance and Property Support Officer to strengthen its central finance and property functions. The role is a part-time, 2year fixed term contract, to be worked over 25 hours per week and based at Alexander House, Pennywell Road, Bristol.

For further information please go to <https://cliftondiocese.com/diocese/working-for-us/> or contact Simon Hussey, Head of Finance on 0117 902 5591. The closing date for receipt of applications is Friday 10th May 2024.

Livesimply Thought for the Week: If you have a lawn give your mower a rest for a few weeks (or longer). By simply putting away our lawnmowers for No Mow May we can free the wildflowers in our lawns and green spaces so they can grow wild and provide a feast for pollinators, tackle pollution, and lock away atmospheric carbon below ground. The campaign was set up by the British Conservation charity, Plantlife, to encourage those of us with gardens to play our part in supporting bees, butterflies and wildlife. We are invited to sign up on the Plantlife [website](#) so that they will have a better picture of how many gardens and green spaces are part of No Mow May, and the size of the area that has been liberated for nature to thrive this year.

Community Food Pantry Update: Please donate: Longlife dairy milk, Tuna, Other tinned fish, Tinned peas, Tinned sweetcorn. 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: Rosary group meets every Tuesday in St Elizabeth dining room in Presbytery at 2pm. All welcome. Prayer requests welcome. Telephone Julia 07746101030

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: 8 May. 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: Fridays in the Presbytery from 12 noon, 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. Meetings every 1st Friday of the month at 7.30pm. If you're interested, please see Deacon Bart or Juan Carlos (altar servers) after 10am Mass or come to the meeting.

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

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Sunday 28	5th Sunday of Easter	10.00	Eric Pitt RIP
Sunday 28	5th Sunday of Easter	18.00	People of the Parish
Monday 29	St Catherine of Siena, Virgin	No Mass	
Tuesday 30	5th week of Eastertide	9.30	Bishop-elect Bosco
Wednesday 1	5th Week of Eastertide	9.30	Private intention
Thursday 2	Saint Athanasius, Bishop	9.30	Dariusz Sliwinski RIP
Friday 3	Saint Philip and James, Apostles	9.30	Special intention
Saturday 4	Feast of the English Martyrs	9.30	People of the Parish
Sunday 5	6th Sunday of Easter	10.00	Penny Millar RIP
Sunday 5	6th Sunday of Easter	18.00	Kevin Spong RIP