

# ST BONS NEWSLETTER 12<sup>th</sup> May

## MONSIGNOR BERNARD'S MESSAGE

There's not the slightest doubt as to what has been the highlight of the week for me. It took place at Clifton Cathedral at midday on Wednesday. In front of two Cardinals and some 30 bishops as well as the papal Nuncio, I was one of about 100 priests and 70 deacons who were there to witness and be involved in the ordination of Canon Bosco McDonald to be the 10th Bishop of the Clifton Diocese.

Together with the great, the good, and the ordinary, we witnessed an incredibly moving, uplifting and dignified service which lasted almost two and a half hours. Bishop Bosco looked incredibly relaxed during the whole proceedings. It helped that having been the parish priest of the cathedral, it was a building he knew well, and he was surrounded by his clergy, a group of people that he also knows well. In many cases a new Bishop for a diocese is an external appointment, so that at the ordination the new man is in an unfamiliar setting, surrounded by people he hardly knows. Because it was 'one of our own' being ordained, it had an extra special feeling for most of those who were present.

Just as Bishop Declan was not a major change from Bishop Mervyn, then most of us expect Bishop Bosco will build on the work of his predecessors. However, I'm also sure he will be his own man, as he needs to be, in leading the diocese. People look to their Bishop for leadership and guidance and I'm confident that our new Bishop will supply this. Because he has spent nearly all his life in the diocese, this enables him to hit the ground running. However, it is a big step up so please do (as he has asked us to do) keep him in your prayers.

## EVENTS, PARISH & COMMUNITY

**Please Pray For:** Enzo Maniglia. Peter Sewell. Eddie Williams. Paul Tooze. Margaret Rogers. Rosemary Hatherly. Sheelagh Gaines. Ninette Bateman. Rosie O'Hagan. We also pray for Julie Johnson who died recently. If you would like to be named in the Newsletter, please contact the Parish Office.

**RED BOX COLLECTIONS 2023:** In 2023, people in England and Wales gave over £2 million pounds through the Red Box - this amount includes donations in the Red Boxes and by people giving directly via Direct Debits, cheques and online. Clifton Diocese raised over £90,000. Here at St Bon's, we raised a very impressive £982.21 through the Red Boxes and individuals giving directly. Thank you, as always, for your generous giving and support.

**St Bon's Litter Picking Group:** The next litter pick will be on Sunday 19 May. We will meet outside St Peters Hospice shop Gloucester Rd/Dongola Ave at 12.30. Please bring your own stick although I have a few spare sticks if needed. I'd encourage families with young children to come along to instil a sense of civic duty. Any questions, contact [annie\\_sparkes@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:annie_sparkes@hotmail.co.uk)

**Mission Mass for Missio:** Missio supporters, volunteers and the wider Catholic community are invited to come together in prayer for the Global Church at St Bonaventure's on Wednesday 22nd May at 7pm. We hope to welcome people from the parishes in our new Pastoral Area. The Mass will be celebrated by Fr Gary Brassington, Diocesan Director for Missio and followed by refreshments. Br Eddie Slawinski from the Mill Hill Missionaries will be here to share the work of Missio and how Red Box donations are helping to build the Catholic Church and share the Gospel message. All are welcome.

**St Joseph's Home Summer Draw:** Draw tickets costing £2.50 each will be on sale after both Masses next Sunday, 19th May. Star prizes are a Helicopter Flight with bubbly for 2 people, an Apple watch and a Hot Air Balloon flight for 2, plus a dozen other prizes. Winners will be drawn at the Summer Fair on 22nd June.

**NEW START DATE - 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 further responses through, the first session has been confirmed for **Wednesday June 5**, starting at 7pm. Send an email to Liz Baldwin at [lizzymac4000@gmail.com](mailto:lizzymac4000@gmail.com) to register your place on the course. The sessions run for 1.5 hours.

**CAFOD** is holding a special event to talk about gifts in Wills on Wed 12 June, 2pm to 4pm at St John the Evangelist, Bath. We will be joined by CAFOD's Director of International Programmes, Fergus Conmee who will be able to give us a lot of information about many different areas of CAFOD's work and how they are supported through gifts in Wills. They will be able to answer any questions about leaving a gift in a Will to CAFOD. The event is open to anyone who is interested in finding out more about this way of giving. Explore the power of leaving a gift in your Will to make a lasting impact in the world. To find out more and to book your place please go to [cafod.org.uk/legacyevent](http://cafod.org.uk/legacyevent)

**Finances:** Thank you for all your generous donation over the last months. Figures from March and April are listed below:

	<b>March</b>	<b>April</b>
<b>Standing orders</b>	3,125.50	3,419.50
<b>Loose plate</b>	1,009.72	891.00
<b>Contactless</b>	763.00	887.00
<b>Clergy Training</b>		345.17

**Livesimply Thought for the Week:** Fit more active travel into your day and daily routine. As the weather warms up, it's worth considering what journeys can be made by walking or cycling. Could you get off a stop early to walk the rest of your journey, take a relaxing stroll home, or hop on a bike and enjoy a cycle friendly route? Leaving the car at home, when you can, does wonders for your health and fitness, keeps your weight down, saves money, beats traffic jams and helps the environment. For active weekends, you might like to explore local cycle trails or walking routes.

**Community Food Pantry Update:** Please donate: Milk, Coffee, Washing up liquid, Sanitary products  
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: 12 June. 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 12	7th Sunday of Easter	10.00	Eduardo Rivera & Family
Sunday 12	7th Sunday of Easter	18.00	People of the Parish
Monday 13	7th week of Eastertide	No Mass	
Tuesday 14	Saint Matthias, Apostle	9.30	Patrick Strickland RIP
Wednesday 15	7th Week of Eastertide	9.30	Rosy O'Hagan
Thursday 16	7th Week of Eastertide	9.30	Private intention
Friday 17	7th week of Eastertide	No Mass	
Saturday 18	7th Week of Eastertide	9.30	Bishop Bosco
Sunday 19	Solemnity of Pentecost	10.00	Children of the Parish
Sunday 19	Solemnity of Pentecost	18.00	People of the Parish

**12<sup>th</sup> May – Second collection: Catholic Communications Network**