

# ST BONS NEWSLETTER 29<sup>th</sup> September 2024

## DEACON ANDREW'S MESSAGE

**BUT YOU, WHO DO YOU SAY I AM** - This question of identity in Matthew 16:15, a very deep conversation between our Lord Jesus and Peter, his disciple, has been the guiding principle for me throughout this first year of ministry as a deacon.

In inviting Peter into this conversation and revelation that would change history and defined who Jesus is, Peter was actually being drawn into the heart of God, into the heart of love, goodness, mercy, fellowship forgiveness. Twice in this conversation Jesus uses the holy name of God. Firstly, who do people say that I AM, and secondly who do you, Peter say that I AM. This was not just a mere conversation with Peter, it was a revelation. I AM who I AM. As Moses had his own encounter with the name of God, so does Peter in revealing him as the Christ.

On the journey this year I also had to discover who the Christ is just as the disciples on their Emmaus road journey. I could only start to discover who Christ is when, like millions of others who have encountered him on their journey, I start to look away from self. As Peter was told - flesh and blood cannot reveal who Christ is. Serving this discovery is the partnership of the people and community of St Bonaventure and Monsignor Bernard, who have swung wide the door of hospitality and friendship and have allowed me Sunday after Sunday and at other times to sit at the table of the eucharist and to break the bread of healing and communion.

I am very grateful to be a part of this journey with the parish community, and I'm excited for where God is taking the parish in this coming Jubilee year of hope. May our heart burn within us with love as we each encounter him on our journey.

## EVENTS, PARISH & COMMUNITY

**Please Pray For:** Enzo Maniglia. Peter Sewell. Eddie Williams. Paul Tooze. Margaret Rogers. Rosemary Hatherly. Sheelagh Gaines. Ninette Bateman. Madeline Walsh.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Gina Compagni and Rosie O'Hagan, Sarah Cuellar, Fr George Malecki (from Thornbury) and Fr Derrick D'Mello (Knowle West) who died recently.

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

**Baptisms:** We welcome Zachary Fenton baptised into the family of the Church this Saturday.

**Your Donations to St Bons in the cash baskets** are greatly appreciated - thank you. Since April you have donated just over £5000. We are able to claim 25% Gift Aid on SOME of this, but we are potentially missing out on the rest. If anyone who pays UK tax would please consider donating by other means (card machine or Standing Order) it could generate more free money for St Bons at no cost to you.

**Cake and Produce Sale:** Next Sunday, 6th October, there will be a sale of cakes, produce and plants after both Masses in aid of CAFOD and our Food Pantry. Bakers, jam and pickle makers and gardeners please bring contributions for sale. Email [stbonsclimateaction@gmail.com](mailto:stbonsclimateaction@gmail.com) with questions or offers of help.

**Parish Fairtrade Wine Tasting and Meal:** Following on from Fairtrade fortnight there will be a meal on Friday evening 18<sup>th</sup> October in the Presbytery at 6.45pm. If you would like to attend, please contact Chris Swann on 07796 595056 - cost will be £10 per person and booking is required as places are limited. The evening will include servings of 6 fairtrade wines with character notes provided by ex-parishioner Florence Fagan, a wine professional.



**CAFOD's Family Fast Day appeal – Harvest** (Friday 4 October): Daniel, a young man in Democratic Republic of the Congo, is carving a better future for his family with carpentry skills he learned in a CAFOD-funded training centre. Give to CAFOD today and you'll fund training, tools, equipment and safe spaces so more people like Daniel can learn new skills and fulfil their God-given potential. Use the envelope in church or give online at [cafod.org.uk/envelope](http://cafod.org.uk/envelope).

**Red Box MISSIO holders:** The Autumn 2024 edition of "Mission Today" is now available from the back of the church. In it you will find some interesting Gospel reflections for October plus information about World Mission Sunday on October 20th. There are plenty of copies so if anyone is interested then please help yourself.

If you would like your Red Box emptied so your donations can be banked, then please bring it to Mass and hand it in so it can be put in a safe place. With many thanks for your continued generosity and support.

**Climate Action Group:** Our next meeting will be on Monday 14th October . There won't be a shared meal this month. We'll meet at 7.30pm sharp at the presbytery, and walk together to visit a house in Egerton Road with a heat pump to find out how it works and ask questions. We'll conclude our meeting back at the presbytery with tea, coffee and cakes. (9.00pm finish). Everybody is very welcome.

**St Bede's Open Evening** will be on Thursday, 3rd October at 6pm.

**Livesimply Thought for the Week:** This Sunday is designated the World Day for Migrants and Refugees. Refugees are frequently portrayed as a burden and cost to our economy, but they often come with skills which they are eager to use for our benefit. They have escaped, at great cost, financial and emotional, from conflicts and the devastation caused by climate change which they have been the least responsible for. Pope Francis has repeatedly asked us to welcome and support asylum seekers and refugees, and has personally done so in the Vatican. In Bristol there are several organisations which support them, including Borderlands, Bristol Hospitality Network and Bristol Refugee Rights, but they struggle to raise enough funds for their work, and there is an acute shortage of accommodation for those who achieve their right to remain. So we pray that asylum seekers and refugees be given the support they deserve and honoured for the courage, resourcefulness and endurance that they demonstrate.

**Community Food Pantry Update:** It's a dreary September and many of us are back to the old routine after the Summer holidays. Speaking of routines, don't forget to regularly pop a couple of bits into your shopping basket to donate to the Pantry. We really appreciate any and all food items you give, and - as a certain supermarket says - every little helps! Take a look at the list of most-needed items below. You can drop off any food donations in the postbox outside the Presbytery door or in the clear plastic box at the back of the church. The Pantry is open for donations or collections 8am - 5pm every day, except Monday.

**Please donate:** Longlife milk (dairy), Longlife milk (soya), Tinned tuna, Tinned fish, Tinned fruit, Toilet paper

**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: 9 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.

**Breviary Morning Prayer:** Every Thursday 9am in the church.

**Friday Soup Lunches:** Our team of soup makers will be back on 20th September, as usual in the Presbytery from 12 noon. 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.

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## LITURGY SCHEDULE

Sunday 29	26th Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.00	Dan Hanley RIP
		15.00	Hungarian Mass
		18.00	Michael Quigley RIP
Sunday 6	27th Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.00	Rosie O'Hagan
		18.00	People of the Parish

**\*There will be no weekday Masses this week**