

ST BONS NEWSLETTER - 9th February 2025

DEACON BART'S MESSAGE

Great news is that our Bishop Bosco MacDonald is now a Lead Bishop for Marriage and Family Life at the Bishops' Conference. Ahead of **National Marriage Week 2025**, celebrated from 7-14 February, he heralds marriage as a source of stability and happiness, showing us the endless love that God has for all of us. More on Clifton Diocese website: [Marriage is the key foundation for a happy, healthy society, says Bishop Bosco | Clifton Diocese](#) .

We aim that Marriage and Family is included at the heart of what we are trying to do at St Bons. For example, you may remember the Encounter event we co-organised last May. We invited Don't Forget the Holy Spirit (DFTHS) ministry to lead us in praise and worship of our Lord. They normally organise such meetings on weekdays' evenings. However, I had proposed that we organise the event in a way that families with kids could attend and be involved. It then happened on the Saturday and with activities for kids whilst parents could enjoy the conferences and praise and worship.

Since then, many in our Parish have asked to repeat this. We have some initial ideas and pray for similar meetings. Kind of mini versions and, hopefully, on a regular basis. However, the good news is that the DFTHS' Encounter has grown into an official diocesan event. It will be next organised in our **Clifton Cathedral on Saturday, 3rd May!** It will include conferences, praise and worship AND, of course, streams for children hence the whole families can attend that day. Please mark your calendars!

This will be followed by prayer/teaching meetings on Wednesdays' evenings (in person, online and will be recorded) leading us to Pentecost Vigil Mass on Saturday, 7th June.

EVENTS, PARISH & COMMUNITY

Please Pray For: Enzo Maniglia. Peter Sewell. Eddie Williams. Paul Tooze. Margaret Rogers. Rosemary Hatherly. Sheelagh Gaines. Ninette Bateman. Madeline Walsh. Giovanni Maniglia. We also pray for Harold Peters and Anthony Robinson who died recently. If you would like to be named in the Newsletter, please contact the Parish Office.

Thank you to Fr Frank Bermingham for covering this Sunday morning's Mass.

HCPT Quiz: Friday 21st March – 7.30pm: – Raise a team and pit your wits against a range of questions at Newman Hall, Sacred Heart Parish, Westbury-on-Trym. Hot dogs and burgers included on the night, all for the reasonable price of £10 pp. All profits go to support children with additional needs on a trip to Lourdes. Please email Tom to book a team in for the evening (21st March) tafosman@hotmail.co.uk

Camino De Santiago: Have you thought of walking the Camino De Santiago? Well, let us help you. Please come to a Returned Pilgrims/Practical Pilgrim Day on Saturday 15 March 2025, upstairs in Santiago's Cafe by Bristol Bus Station (Cannon St, Bristol BS1 3NZ) from 11am - 2pm. You will meet people who have walked a Camino who will tell you about their experience. We will cover such things as how to get there, where to stay, what to pack, what route to walk etc, etc. As 2025 has been designated a Holy Year, walking the Camino will make you a "Pilgrim of Hope". So that I have some idea of numbers, please would you let me know if you intend to come along on 15 March - Annie Sparkes - annie_sparkes@hotmail.co.uk

As with everything these days, costs are increasing, and the cafe has imposed a charge of £7 per head for the privilege of having sole use of the upstairs room. But for that £7 you can have anything from their menu up to the same value. I will be issuing vouchers on your arrival, so please come to the upstairs room before you even grab a coffee

Livesimply Thought for the Week: Do you have an old computer or laptop languishing at the back of a cupboard or collecting dust on a shelf? If so, you might like to know that Bristol Waste Company operates a Digital Inclusion Scheme which donates free computers, laptops and mobile phones to schools, charities, and marginalised communities. The devices and IT equipment no longer needed by their owners can be dropped off at the [Household Reuse and Recycling Centres](#) and via the [computer recycling collection service](#) aimed at businesses. The Digital Inclusion Scheme has donated more than 3,500 devices over the past 3 years. This includes Laptops, mobile phones, tablets and desktops all improving digital access for thousands of Bristol residents.

Community Food Pantry Update:

Please donate: Tuna, Pesto, Jars of cook-in sauces, Tinned meat and tinned veggie meals, Shampoo, Deodorant

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 February. 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: 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 9	5 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.00 Private intentions 18.00 People of the Parish
Monday 10	St Scholastica, Virgin	No Mass
Tuesday 11	Ordinary Time	9.30 Migrants
Wednesday 12	Ordinary Time	No Mass
Thursday 13	Ordinary Time	9.30 Bishop Bosco
Friday 14	St Cyril, Monk & Methodius, Bishop	9.30 Families
Saturday 15	Ordinary Time	9.30 Christians of the Holy Land
Sunday 16	6 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.00 The O'Gorman and McCarthy Families and Friends 18.00 People of the Parish