

ST BONS NEWSLETTER - 9th March 2025

MONSIGNOR BERNARD'S & CANON TOM'S MESSAGE

As announced during last Sunday's Masses, Canon Tom Finnegan will be taking over as Parish Priest at St. Bonaventure's when Mgr. Bernard Massey retires in September. He will also be remaining as Parish Priest at Sacred Heart (Westbury on Trym) and St. Antony's (Henbury). There will have to be a restructuring of Mass times in all three parishes. Canon Tom will be having some consultation in the forthcoming weeks ahead. Please feel free to express an opinion to him when the opportunity arises.

Canon Tom was an assistant priest here, when Fr Michael McAndrew was the parish priest, so he has some knowledge of the parish. He left here and went as Parish Priest to Christ the King (Knowle West) for 6 years, then to St Teresa's (Filton) for 12 years, and then to St John's (Trowbridge) for 7 years, before coming to the Sacred Heart just over 9 months ago. He is looking forward to the challenge of running 3 parishes and meeting old friends and making new ones.

He was Mgr Bernard's golf partner for over 15 years so they know each other well and would say they have similar views on running parishes.

Please do not ask Mgr Bernard about what changes in Mass times may take place, as it is not his decision, and all he will tell you is that he will support Canon Tom's decisions 100%.

EVENTS, PARISH & COMMUNITY

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

Baptism: We welcome Benjamin O'Connor and Isabel Harnett baptised into the family of the Church this Saturday.

Hungarian Mass: Fr Szende would like to invite you all again to a Sunday Mass celebrated in Hungarian - at 3pm on the 9th March. Coffee and cakes afterwards in the presbytery. All welcome.

St Bon's Litter Pickers: The next litter pick will be on Sunday 16 March. Please meet at 2pm at the bottom of Somerville Road with your litter picking sticks if you have them; if not, I will have a couple of spares. If it is raining on 16 March, I will slip the activity to Sunday 23 March. Any queries, please contact me at annie_sparkes@hotmail.co.uk.

Stations of the Cross: All welcome to join in Stations of the Cross in the church on Fridays during Lent - starting at 11.30am from Friday, 7th March to 4th April

CAFOD Lent Appeal – Family Fast Day (14th March): Please donate to our Family Fast Day parish collection and be a Pilgrim of Hope with CAFOD this Jubilee Year. You'll be supporting communities experiencing the impacts of war, poverty and climate change to find solutions and hope. Use the CAFOD envelope in church, donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or call us on 0303 303 3030. You can also text CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10.

St Bon's Climate Action Group: You would be most welcome to join us at our next meeting on Monday, 31 March - watch this space for further details.

Camino De Santiago: Please come to a Returned Pilgrims/Practical Pilgrim Day on Saturday 15 March, upstairs in Santiago's Cafe by Bristol Bus Station (Cannon St, 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". Please let me know if you intend to come along, Annie: annie_sparkes@hotmail.co.uk

Livesimply Thought for the Week: Saturday 22, March is World Water Day. Let's listen to what Pope Francis says about water in his encyclical 'Laudato Si: On Care for Our Common Home'. 'Access to safe drinkable water is a basic and universal human right, since it is essential to human survival and, as such, is a condition for the exercise of other

human rights. Our world has a grave social debt towards the poor who lack access to drinking water, because they are denied the right to a life consistent with their inalienable dignity.” (Laudato Si’, 30). Perhaps as part of our Lenten practices we could adopt water-only days, choosing specific days on which our only drink is water, remembering those who don't have this luxury of choice.

Community Food Pantry Update:

Please donate: Pasta sauces, curry sauces, coffee, tinned soups, tinned peas, washing up liquid, 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: 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 March. 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	1 st Sunday of Lent	10.00	Marjorie Williams RIP
		15.00	Hungarian Mass
		18.00	People of the Parish
Monday 10	Weekday of Lent	No Mass	
Tuesday 11	Weekday of Lent	9.30	Frances Smyth
Wednesday 12	Weekday of Lent	9.30	Pope Francis
Thursday 13	Weekday of Lent	9.30	Private intention
Friday 14	Weekday of Lent	9.30	FHC Families
Saturday 15	Weekday of Lent	9.30	Bishop Bosco
Sunday 16	2 nd Sunday of Lent	10.00	Harold Peters RIP
		18.00	People of the Parish

16th March – second collection: CAFOD