

# ST BONS NEWSLETTER - 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2025

## MONSIGNOR BERNARD'S MESSAGE

I had my sister and brother-in-law staying with me last Sunday evening as they were on their way back to their home in Surrey having been in Cardiff to see one of their sons and four of their grandchildren. It's always good to have family around and to spend a bit of time chatting. I was also able to share with them the fact that when I retire it has now been confirmed that I will be living in the flat above the ground floor rooms and offices. So whilst I will still be living here, I will not be involved with the parish, but merely be a tenant and paying rent to the parish for their accommodation. Well actually I won't be paying the rent, but the diocese in the form of its provision for retired clergy, will be paying.

The Advantage of this for me is I don't have to pack up and move, having been a priest for 37 years. I have changed address at least 11 times so whilst I'm well used to packing and moving, it doesn't get any easier as the years go by.

The advantage for the parish is that they get an income for a space that would be hard to let, and also, someone on site just to show that the building is being occupied.

Finally, the advantage to the diocese is because whilst they will be paying the rent, that also means that the parish income will go up and the 'Tax' that the parish pays on its income will go up. The diocese will give with one hand but also take back a proportion with the other. In some ways this is a bit like what happens to us during lent. We do extra for the Lord, but the reward is that we grow in our trust and love for God, so we give with one hand but receive blessings on the other hand.

## EVENTS, PARISH & COMMUNITY

**Please Pray For:** Enzo Maniglia. Eddie Williams. Paul Tooze. Margaret Rogers. Rosemary Hatherly. Sheelagh Gaines. Ninette Bateman. Madeline Walsh. Giovanni Maniglia. If you would like to be named in the Newsletter, please contact the Parish Office.

**Baptism:** We welcome Constance West baptised into the family of the Church this Saturday.

**Cake sale:** There will be a cake sale after 10am Mass on 30th March, Mother's Day. Donations of cakes welcome! Proceeds will be split between CAFOD and Food Pantry.

**Church cleaning:** The parish is looking for 10-12 people to help clean the church ready for Easter. The group will meet at the church at 10.00am on Saturday 12th April for two hours. Please contact the office if you're able to help.

**St Bons Youth Group - FIAT:** We are happy to announce that we are launching a new parish group, especially for secondary school aged pupils (years 8 - 11). The group will meet every second Friday of the month from 6.30pm to 8pm in the Presbytery. The first meeting will be on the 9th May. If you're interested or want to find out more, please contact Sofia on [sofiak24@gmail.com](mailto:sofiak24@gmail.com) or 07762726605.

**Healing Mass:** Saturday 12th April at 3pm. The Healing Mass is the perfect preparation for Easter, so do plan to come with your family to join us for this celebration. Teas and coffees will be served afterwards.

**Message from the Welfare Team:** Are you housebound, sick or just lonely and would welcome an occasional call or visit? Our Welfare Team are happy to help. Please contact the Parish Office.

**St Bon's Climate Action Group** will be hosting a speaker from Greenpeace on Monday 31 March at 7.30 pm, with coffee and tea from 7pm in St Bonaventure's Presbytery. The talk is entitled 'Turning Hope into Action', so seems appropriate in this Jubilee Year. All are welcome.

**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](mailto:stbonaventurescricket@gmail.com).

### February Finance:

Gift Aid Standing Orders: £2,786.50

Non Gift Aid Standing Orders:	£317.00
Gift Aid Envelope:	£48.00
Loose Plate:	£998.36
Gift Aid Contactless:	£455.00
Non Gift Aid Contactless:	£439.00
Total:	£5,043.86
Gas Charges Nov-Dec:	£4,329.97

**Livesimply Thought for the Week:** ‘Let Lent be a season for love and charity and participation. Let us use our Lent to seek reconciliation with our enemies. Let us learn how to forgive and how to prepare ourselves to be raised up in love with Christ at Easter’ This is a quote from St Oscar Romero, whilst he was Archbishop in El Salvador, just four years before his assassination on 24 March, 1984. He spoke out against dictators and violent factions on the right and left, and in defense of the poor who were their powerless victims. We're not all called to be martyrs but we can show love, charity and forgiveness to our brothers and sisters. How are we using our Lent?

**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: 9 April. 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 23	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent	10.00	Edward Williams RIP
		18.00	People of the Parish
Monday 24	Weekday of Lent	No Mass	
Tuesday 25	The Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord	9.30	Harold Peters RIP
Wednesday 26	Weekday of Lent	<b>*No Mass</b>	
Thursday 27	Weekday of Lent	9.30	Private intention
Friday 28	Weekday of Lent	9.30	Paul & Ann Silverton RIP
Saturday 29	Weekday of Lent	9.30	Children of the Parish
Sunday 30	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent	10.00	Ray Rose RIP
		18.00	People of the Parish

**30<sup>th</sup> March – second collection: Priests' Retirement Fund**