

ST BONNS NEWSLETTER - 6th April 2025

MONSIGNOR BERNARD'S MESSAGE

Yesterday, the school children broke up for Easter; however, it's still over 2 weeks away. Easter is very late this year because the date of Easter is always determined by the moon, that is why it's a movable feast. Easter is the 1st Sunday after the 1st full moon after the Spring Equinox. This year the equinox was 20th March (it can be in other years 19th or 21st).

The date of Easter changes because it is related to the Jewish feast of Passover. The Passover was when the angel of death passed over the houses of the Jews, but not the houses of the Egyptians. The Jews celebrate the Passover as their return to liberty from the slavery they had endured for many generations. It marked the story of their journey from Egypt to the Promised Land. A lunar calendar was commonplace in many countries in ancient times, as it was easier to look at the moon and see waxing and waning than it was to look at the Sun and recognise its position accurately.

These days we have digital clocks and satnav to give us a clear understanding of the time and a certainty of where we are on our journey at any time. When the people of Israel set out from Egypt, they knew they were going to the Promised Land, but they weren't quite sure of what direction they were going to be taking.

With all our modern sophistication, we sometimes fool ourselves into thinking that we are in charge of where we are going and how we will get there. However, the wise person is the one who realises one's plans are not always fulfilled, because of the unexpected. Also, we need to remember that God's plans are sometimes 'the unexpected.' So if your plans get changed, don't worry too much. It may be that what you're doing now actually is making you follow God's plan.

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 Thomas McDonagh who died recently. If you would like to be named in the Newsletter, please contact the Parish Office.

Thank you: to everyone who supported the cake sale last Sunday. We raised £254 - to be split between CAFOD Lent appeal and Food Pantry.

Church cleaning: Please join us to help clean the church ready for Easter. The group will meet at the church at 10am on Saturday 12 April for two hours. Bring your cleaning cloths and cleaning products, brooms, hovers... Thank you!

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.

Children's Stations of the Cross: We invite all children and their families to take part in Children's Stations of the Cross on Good Friday (18th April) at 10.30am. There will be hot cross buns and drinks afterwards.

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 11th April.

The Big Lent walk with the school: On Monday, Parents and Parishioners joined KS2 children walking to Horfield Common and back to raise money for CAFOD. There's still time to sponsor them, using the link: <https://schools.walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/st-bonaventures-fundraising-page>

Diocesan Jubilee Celebration of Hope: Bishop Bosco warmly invites you to join him on 19 July for our Diocesan Jubilee Celebration of Hope at Downside School & Abbey. In addition to three keynote speakers, prayer, and reflections we will be offering an exciting and joyful programme for our children & young people. Register via this link: <https://jubileedayofhope.eventbrite.co.uk> or email adult.education@cliftondiocese.com.

Livesimply Thought for the Week: Is your bank fuelling the climate crisis? The driving cause of climate breakdown is increasing activity by big oil and gas companies financed by loans and investments from banks. In 2023 alone, Barclays, HSBC, Santander, Natwest and Lloyds poured almost \$25 billion into companies expanding their fossil fuel production. By switching to ethical banks, we send a powerful message to financial institutions to stop funding the destruction of our planet. A Which? survey of the environmental policies of 13 banks identified Nationwide, Triodos and Co-operative as the greenest current account providers.

Community Food Pantry Update:

Please donate: Tinned meat meals, Tinned vegetarian or vegan meals, Tinned fruit, Tinned tuna and other tinned fish, 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.

Women's prayer group: once a month on a Wednesday at 6.30pm, in the Presbytery. The next date: 30th April.

Tea & Coffee: Join us in the Presbytery after Sunday morning Mass for tea, coffee biscuits and a chance to chat.

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Sunday 6	5 th Sunday of Lent	10.00	Harold Peters RIP
		18.00	People of the Parish
Monday 7	Weekday of Lent	No Mass	
Tuesday 8	Weekday of Lent	9.30	Canon Tom Finnegan
Wednesday 9	Weekday of Lent	9.30	Housebound
		19.00	Parish Penitential Service
Thursday 10	Weekday of Lent	9.30	Special intention
Friday 11	Weekday of Lent	9.30	People of the Parish
Saturday 12	Weekday of Lent	15.00	Healing Mass
Sunday 13	5 th Sunday of Lent	10.00	People of the Parish
		18.00	Virginia McGladdery

If you'd like to make a donation to the parish,
please scan the QR code -

