

ST BONS NEWSLETTER – 5th October 2025

CANON TOM'S MESSAGE

A huge thank you to the lovely welcome I experienced last Sunday at Mass. It felt so very good to be back at St. Bon's. It was and is such a lovely community of faith and community.

On Wednesday I attended for the second time the Parish Pastoral Council. At this meeting we reflected on all that is good about St. Bonaventure's but also what needs to be done. With Sacred Heart in Westbury on Trym and St. Antony's in Henbury we are now Parishes in Communion with Mission. We remember vividly Bishop Declan regularly using the phrase "DES", meaning Deepening Prayer, Enabling Communion and Strengthening Mission. This is our duty and our responsibility as we move forward. May the grace of God, give us the courage to do so.

EVENTS, PARISH & COMMUNITY

Please Pray For: Eddie Williams, Margaret Rogers, Rosemary Hatherly, Sheelagh Gaines, Ninette Bateman, Madeline Walsh, Giovanni Maniglia. We also pray for Mary Carroll who died recently. If you would like to be named in the Newsletter, please contact the Parish Office.

Funeral: Mary Carroll's funeral will be on Friday, 31 October at 11am at St Bon's.

Baptism: We welcome Annette Ikeanyi baptised into the Family of the Church this Saturday.

Creation Celebration - Sunday 5th October: We will celebrate the Season of Creation at Mass, and there will be stalls selling cakes, home-made produce and plants during coffee after Mass, in aid of CAFOD and our Food Pantry. Donations of cakes, jams and chutneys etc and plants will be very welcome. Our CAFOD Harvest Fast Appeal will take place on Sunday 12th October.

Missionary Appeal by the Sisters of the Needy: We are looking forward to welcoming a Missionary Sister from the Holy Family Sisters of the Needy, who will be visiting our Parishes next weekend. She will arrive by train at Bristol Temple Meads on Saturday 11th October at 4.05pm. Support is needed to offer her accommodation and a lift between the station and our three parishes: St Antony's – Saturday 6pm Mass, Sacred Heart – Sunday 9.15am Mass and St Bon's – Sunday 11am Mass. If you are able to help in any way, please speak with Canon Tom or contact the Parish Office by email.

Volunteers needed: We are still looking for local volunteers at St Bons who would be willing to help with opening and closing the church on monthly rota basis. We're also welcoming those interested in joining our team of Church Welcomers. If you can assist and/or need more information, please speak to Joanna or email the parish office at bristol.stbonaventure@cliftondiocese.com.

ABC: ABC Group - About Becoming Catholic. This course is for all those interested in becoming Catholic, knowing more about the Catholic Church or those who were baptised Catholic but missed making their First Holy Communion or Confirmation. The first session for 2025 session takes place on Tuesday 7th October at 6.45pm in Sacred Heart Church. Please ask Canon Tom for details if you wish to know more or just come along to the first session if you are interested.

Recycling for good cause: It is wonderful to see the donation box in the Presbytery filling up with your unwanted goods! Thanks to your recent donations, CAFOD received £46.10 this week. A full list of items you can donate is available on the poster by the box (Presbytery corridor) – every contribution makes a difference! Thank you.

The Clifton Diocesan Annual Formation Day will take place on Saturday 11 October at St Brendan's College, Brislington, with Mgr John Armitage as our keynote speaker. He will be reflecting on the theme of 'Being an Evangelist Today: the tools required to be a joyful witness of Jesus'. There will also be several workshop options to attend where you can choose one for the morning and another for the afternoon when booking a ticket. More details and to register for the day, please use the Eventbrite link: <https://diocesanformationday.eventbrite.co.uk>

Livesimply Thought for the Week: The Jubilee of Migrants and Refugees (celebrated this weekend) invites us to reflect deeply on the Gospel call to welcome the stranger. In Matthew 25:35, Jesus says, 'I was a stranger and you welcomed me.' This simple yet profound statement reminds us that in every refugee and displaced person, we encounter Christ himself. Welcoming the stranger is not just an act of charity—it is a sacred duty, a living expression of our faith. In his message for the Jubilee of Migrants and Refugees, Pope Leo XIV reminds us that: “refugees and displaced persons are privileged witnesses of hope. Indeed, they demonstrate this daily through their resilience and trust in God, as they face adversity while seeking a future in which they glimpse that integral human development and happiness are possible

Regular groups:

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 Wednesday 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: 8 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: 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. Our next meeting will be on 22nd October.

Children's Liturgy: For Primary school-aged children, at every Sunday morning Mass.

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

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Sunday 5	27 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	11.00	People of the Parishes
Thursday 9	St John Henry Newman	9.15	Special intention
Sunday 12	28 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	11.00	Héctor Uriel Rodríguez Sánchez RIP

Second collection - 5th October: Harvest Fast Day (CAFOD)



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