



ST. BONIFACE



Bringing Christ to the people and people to Christ

Parish Priest
Fr. Tom Kleinschmidt, OMV

Assistant Priest
Fr. Godwin Kambai, OMV

Assistant Priest
Fr. Jufel (Alex) Baldado, OMV

April 28, 2024 – FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

On the Vine: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Fifth Sunday of Easter - In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us that He is the true vine that God intended Israel to be—the source of divine life and wisdom for the nations (see [Sirach 24:17–24](#)). In Baptism, each of us was joined to Him by the Holy Spirit. As a branch grows from a tree, our souls are to draw life from Him, nourished by His word and the Eucharist. Paul in today's First Reading seeks to be grafted onto the visible expression of Christ the true vine—His Church. Once the chief persecutor of the Church, Paul encounters initial resistance and suspicion. But he is known by his fruits, by his powerful witness to the Lord working in his life (see [Matthew 7:16–20](#)). We too are commanded today to bear good fruits as His disciples so that our lives give glory to God. Like Paul's life, our lives must bear witness to His goodness. Jesus cautions us, however, that if we're bearing fruit, we can expect that God will "prune" us—as a gardener trims and cuts back a plant so that it will grow stronger and bear even more fruit. He is teaching us today how to look at our sufferings and trials with the eyes of faith. We need to see our struggles as pruning, by which we are being disciplined and trained so that we can grow in holiness and bear fruits of righteousness (see [Hebrews 12:4–11](#)). We need to always remain rooted in Him, as today's Epistle tells us. We remain in Him by keeping His commandment of love, by pondering His words, letting them dwell richly in us (see [Colossians 3:16](#)), and by always seeking to do what pleases Him. In everything we must be guided by humility, remembering that apart from Him we can do nothing. As we sing in today's Psalm, we must fulfil our vows, turning to the Lord in worship, proclaiming his praises, until all families come to know His justice in their lives.

St Boniface Catholic Parish Church Community would like to invite everyone to come and join in this year's **FLORES DE MAYO (Flowers of May) Celebration on Saturday 4 May at St Boniface Church**. The celebration will start with praying the **Holy Rosary at 9am** followed by **Holy Mass at 10 am**. This day is also the Feast of the English Martyrs, so we pray for their intercession. Flores de Mayo as a festival combines religious devotion to the Virgin Mary with the tradition of offering flowers as a tribute to the Blessed Mother. We encourage everyone attending to bring flowers on the day for offering, especially our children. This day also begins the **Commemoration of the Month of May as the Month of the Holy Rosary** – everyone is warmly welcome to join in and pray the rosary **on all Sundays of May at 5 pm**. For more information, please approach any of the church volunteers or email office@st-boniface.org.uk. **Please note that we will also be praying the Rosary before the 10am weekday Masses during the month of May.**

Some Powerful Things St Louis de Montfort said about the Rosary and Marian Devotion: St Louis was one of the most important promoters of true devotion to Mary, the Rosary and consecration to Jesus through Mary as a sure means of growing in grace and in love for Jesus her Son and our Lord. It was de Montfort's method of consecration to Jesus through Mary that greatly inspired St John Paul II and led to his papal motto: Totus Tuus (all yours). In *Crossing the Threshold of Hope*, St John Paul II wrote: "Thanks to St Louis de Montfort, I came to understand that true devotion to the Mother of God is actually Christocentric, indeed, it is very profoundly rooted in the mystery of the Blessed Trinity and the mysteries of the Incarnation and Redemption." Here are some powerful quotes of St Louis: "It is through the most Blessed Virgin Mary that Jesus Christ came into the world, and it is also through her that He will reign in the world." "Our entire perfection consists in being conformed, united and consecrated to Jesus Christ. Hence the most perfect of all devotions is undoubtedly that which conforms, unites and consecrates us most perfectly to Jesus Christ. Now, since Mary is of all creatures the one most conformed to Jesus Christ, it follows that among all devotions that which most consecrates and conforms a soul to our Lord is devotion to Mary, His holy Mother, and that the more a soul is consecrated to her, the more will it be consecrated to Jesus Christ." "If you say the Rosary faithfully until death, I do assure you that, in spite of the gravity of your sins, you shall receive a never-fading crown of glory. Even if you are on the brink of damnation, even if you have one foot in hell, even if you have sold your soul to the devil as sorcerers do who practise black magic, and even if you are a heretic as obstinate as a devil, sooner or later you will be converted and will amend your life and will save your soul, if – and mark well what I say – if you say the Holy Rosary devoutly every day until death for the purpose of knowing the truth and obtaining contrition and pardon for your sins."

Special Notice! We would like to renew the sick list on a quarterly basis. On the Mass Intention sheet we always include a list of persons struggling with illness, who need our prayers. To ensure that this list is always kept up to date, we will renew it every three months. If you would like to add your name to the list, or if you would like your name added back onto the list, then simply get in touch with the parish office. You can also submit a request through our website.

Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2024 - The dates for the annual Pilgrimage to Lourdes have been confirmed as 22 – 26 July 2024. If wishing to take part, a Booking form and digital poster for newsletters can be found at: [2024 Booking Form - Diocese of Portsmouth v2.pdf](#); [2024 UK Lourdes Poster - Diocese of Portsmouth v2.pdf](#)

St Boniface Baptism News: Our parish warmly welcomes **Larra Yngrd Nobleza Gil** who is to be baptised on Sunday 28 April at 2pm into our parish family. **May God bless and keep her and her family.**

St Boniface Wedding News: we are pleased to announce that **Chibuzor Kenneth Amechi & Chigozie Lynda Ezika** are to be married on **Saturday 27 April at 11:30am. May God bless this holy matrimony now and forever.**

Read, Pray, Share, Action – Acts of the Apostles – Following on from our Lenten programme of the introduction to the story of our Salvation in the first 11 chapters of the book of Genesis, we will prepare for Pentecost by exploring the book of the Acts of the Apostles through reading, praying, and discussing this inspiring book about the infancy of the Church, AD 33 to the present. The Holy Spirit descends on the followers of Jesus, filling them with wisdom and strength. The apostles and disciples boldly proclaim the Gospel to all who will listen, and Christianity spreads to the gentiles and to many nations. Under the leadership of Peter, the Church begins its mission, which continues to this day. Starting on **Friday 12 April till Friday 17 May from 6:30 to 7:30 pm.**

To Celebrate Pentecost – there will be tea and cake **served after 11am Mass on 19 May in our hall** – please come and join us! If you would like to organise additional cakes for Pentecost after a different Mass, please contact Helen by emailing social@st-boniface.org.uk.

Youth Conference! Youth Conference!! Youth Conference!! The Parish Youth Formation program titled 'Explore' starts with a youth conference on Saturday, June 15, 2024, from 11 am. Come and explore your Catholic faith and get answers to many questions on the Christian living and the Catholic faith. It is going to be an exciting experience. Attendance is free. You can sign up today on the parish website: www.st-boniface.org.uk. Contact any of these people for further inquiries: Augustine 07883014954, Petronena 07730622425, or Hannah 07565972106.

“I publish the Banns of marriage between Adenigba Temitope Samuel and Amagoh Gabriella Ebelechukwu, which will take place on July 20, 2024, at Emmanuel the Saviour Catholic Church in Asaba, Nigeria. If you know any reason in law why these persons may not marry each other, please declare it!”, Fr Tom.

Sacrament of Penance – To support the ongoing formation of the newly baptised and confirmed at the Easter vigil, Fr Tom is giving a talk and reflection about the Sacrament of Penance on Monday 29 April at 7:30pm in the St MC Room. The talk is open to all parishioners who might find it helpful in their own faith formation and instruction.

On Friday 3rd of May, please come and join us as we recommence **Lunch in the Hall** on the **1st Friday of the month, from midday**. On the menu will be jacket potatoes and a range of fillings plus the usual tea, coffee, and cake. £5 donation recommended. Please come and enjoy some fellowship with other parishioners.

Special St Boniface Event! Pilgrimage to The Friars, Aylesford (Kent), and Canterbury on Saturday 6 July 2024: the parish of St Boniface is organising a pilgrimage to Aylesford priory to ask for God's blessing and in honour of Our Lady. As you may know, there is also a relic of St Simon Stock, who had an apparition from Our Lady while in Cambridge, promising that whoever died wearing the brown Carmelite scapular would be saved. We will celebrate Holy Mass at Aylesford. After visiting the shrine and lunch we will travel to Canterbury where those who wish can visit the Cathedral (Entrance fee is not included in the pilgrimage fee). **Cost £33/person. Deposit £20.00 by the 30th of April. Final payment by the 31st of May 2024.** Please contact Diana Agacy to register or for any other inquiries via email to: fhc@st-boniface.org.uk. All payments to be made to the parish secretary.

Parish Office: if anyone would like to receive a larger print of the Newsletter/Mass Intention sheet, please contact the Parish Office.

Second Collection this weekend (27-28 April) is for St Boniface's Building & Maintenance Fund! The 2nd Collection (Obligatory) for next weekend (4-5 May) is for Catholic Communications Network. Please support us where you can!

Mass Intention Offering – Please be advised that offerings can be made by cash (in an envelope clearly marked “Mass Intention”), or by cheque payable to **CDP Oblates of the Virgin Mary**; or via a bank transfer using the details given here: Payee Name: **CDP Oblates of the Virgin Mary**; Branch Sort Code: **30-80-27**; Account Number: **36062268**; Reference: **Mass Intention**. Or simply give it to the Priest on the day of your Mass requested/attended.

Presbytery: St Boniface House, 413 Shirley Road,

Southampton SO15 3JD Tel: 023 8077 0277

Parish website: www.st-boniface.org.uk

Parish Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/stbonifacesouthampton>

Parish Office opening hours: Mon to Fri – 9:30am to 12:30pm

Parish Secretary: Margaretta Livingstone

office@st-boniface.org.uk Tel: 023 8077 3640

Safeguarding Officer: Angela Braga

safeguarding@st-boniface.org.uk

Parish Pastoral Council: ppc@st-boniface.org.uk