



# 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**

**February 11, 2024 – SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**Made Clean: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time** – In the Old Testament, leprosy is depicted as punishment for disobedience of God’s commands (see [Numbers 12:12–15](#); [2 Kings 5:27](#); [15:5](#)). Considered “unclean”—unfit to worship or live with the Israelites, lepers are considered “stillborn,” the living dead (see [Numbers 12:12](#)). Indeed, the requirements imposed on lepers in today’s First Reading—rent garments, shaven head, covered beard—are signs of death, penance, and mourning (see [Leviticus 10:6](#); [Ezekiel 24:17](#)). So there’s more to the story in today’s Gospel than a miraculous healing. When Elisha, invoking God’s name, healed the leper, Naaman, it proved there was a prophet in Israel (see [2 Kings 5:8](#)). Today’s healing reveals Jesus as far more than a great prophet—He is God visiting His people (see [Luke 7:16](#)). Only God can cure leprosy and cleanse from sin (see [2 Kings 5:7](#)), and only God has the power to bring about what He wills (see [Isaiah 55:11](#); [Wisdom 12:18](#)). The Gospel scene has an almost sacramental quality about it. Jesus stretches out His hand—as God, by His outstretched arm, performed mighty deeds to save the Israelites (see [Exodus 14:6](#); [Acts 4:30](#)). His ritual sign is accompanied by a divine word (“Be made clean”). And, like God’s word in creation (“Let there be”), Jesus’ word “does” what He commands (see [Psalm 33:9](#)). The same thing happens when we show ourselves to the priest in the sacrament of penance. On our knees like the leper, we confess our sins to the Lord, as we sing in today’s Psalm. And through the outstretched arm and divine word spoken by His priest, the Lord takes away the guilt of our sin. Like the leper we should rejoice in the Lord and spread the good news of His mercy. We should testify to our healing by living changed lives. As Paul says in today’s Epistle, we should do even the littlest things for the glory of God and that others may be saved.

With great sadness we announce that **Tom Vickers**, a parishioner of St. Boniface since the early 50's, died after a very brief illness on Sunday 21 January. Details for his **funeral Mass are Tuesday 13 February, 12:30pm, St Boniface Church**.

**Lenten programme at St Boniface:** We pray for a deep spiritual renewal, as we undertake this beautiful journey to prepare for the celebration of Easter. Jesus asks us to deepen our prayer life, to practise self-denial and to give special attention to works of charity.

**Ash Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> February.** Mass and distribution of the ashes at 10am and 7pm.

**Exploring the Book of Genesis:** every Friday in Lent beginning **16<sup>th</sup> February at 6:30pm in the church hall**. This will be followed by **Stations of the Cross at 7:15pm** in the church. We will then have **Eucharistic Adoration until 8:30pm**. A priest will be available for confessions.

**Lenten Rosary Prayer Chain** – please join our Prayer Chain again this Lent! You take one decade of the Rosary to say at your convenience, each day. Same decade each day united to everyone else's. It's a very powerful form of prayer! Catheryn will be collecting names and giving out decades after all this weekend's Masses. If you miss her and wish to join, please email [catherynhulme1@hotmail.com](mailto:catherynhulme1@hotmail.com) or ring 07534110228.

**REFRESHER SESSION FOR EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS, Saturday 17 Feb 1:30- 4pm** – All Eucharistic Ministers are warmly invited to attend this session, which takes place in St Boniface Hall and will be led by Tina Quinn. We will be joined by the Eucharistic Ministers from City Centre parish. Tea and coffee from 1.30, session starts at 2. Any parishioner who is not currently a Eucharistic Minister but would like to find out more about the role, is also welcome to attend the session. There will be a similar session for Readers later in the year. Date yet to be confirmed.

**CAFOD Family Fast Day Friday 23 February:** this Lent, your donations to CAFOD’s Family Fast Day appeal will help hardworking people like James the fisherman in Liberia with resources, tools, and training to feed their families for good. Give today using the envelope or online at [www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk) and please join us in praying with James that our sisters and brothers around the world have what they need to feed their families.

**St Boniface Lenten Soup Lunches** start on **Friday, 16 Feb from 12 noon** in the **parish hall and then every Friday until 22 March**. All proceeds will go to CAFOD. Please try and support this worthy venture and meet up with fellow parishioners. (Soup-makers are urgently needed to make a vegetarian soup on a rota basis. Any help or support would be most welcome to ensure that this venture, which helps to bring the parishioners of St Boniface together on a regular basis, can continue. Please contact Catherine Keogh by emailing [catherine.keogh@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:catherine.keogh@hotmail.co.uk). Thank you.)

**Knit & Natter Group** meets every Monday morning (school term times only) 10am-12noon, at the St MC Room. All are welcome.

**St Boniface's own RCIA Programme:** Please pray for **Adrian, Deborah, Matthew, Lynda, Lewis & Chris** who are participating in the parish RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) programme. They are all at different stages in their faith journey; some will be attending the Rite of Election in Portsmouth Cathedral on Sat 17 February. They will all be presented to the parish at the 11am Mass on Sunday, 18 February. Please keep them in your prayers.

**Let us pray for King Charles**, who has begun a series of treatments for cancer.

**Information about the church brass** – All of the brass in our church has now been treated with lacquer, and so Brasso must no longer be used. To maintain a clean polished finish, the brass only needs gently rubbing with a soft cloth and for any stubborn marks, a little water on a soft cloth is adequate. It will now be less time-consuming and demanding. The current brass cleaning team continue to welcome and invite any volunteers to join them. A “Big Thank You to Terry & Terry” for their hard work. A job so well done, so appreciated.

**ADoRE Spiritual Mini-retreat: 24 February 10.00-1.00** “I have chosen you - trusting God's promises.” Including Mass, Adoration, Praise, Prayer for the gifts of the Holy Spirit and inspiring guest speaker **Mary Hirst**. Please register for the Zoom meeting in advance at [bit.ly/ADOREFEB2024](https://bit.ly/ADOREFEB2024) More information at [www.altonrenewal.com](http://www.altonrenewal.com)

**Family Day of Recollection: Saturday 23 March, 10am-3:30pm.** Join the Dominican sisters in the New Forest for a family day! There will be teaching for all the family, games, craft, food, Mass, and a walk. This day is aimed at families with children up to the age of 8. For more information or to book a space, email [catholicmotherssoton@gmail.com](mailto:catholicmotherssoton@gmail.com) Suggested donation of £20 per family.

**Diocesan Recruitments:** please follow the link <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs> for current vacancies throughout the Diocese. This is a permanent link which will be kept up date with all current vacancies throughout the year.

**Lenten Retreat 2024: an Advance Notice from St Vincent de Paul RC Church:** “At St Vincent de Paul, we are organising the Lenten Retreat scheduled to take place on **Saturday 16 March 10am- 4pm in our Church**, to be led by the Dominican Sisters. The Day's donation is £10 per head with light refreshments provided. If anyone is interested in obtaining more information, please get in touch with the parish administrator at: [svpoffice@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:svpoffice@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) All are welcome!

**Diocesan Liturgy News Update:** “We are pleased to announce that we will be organising two training days in 2024 - one for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and one for Readers. These will be held at **St Bede's Church and Hall in Basingstoke** as follows: the **Day for EMHC – Saturday 4 May**; and the **Day for Readers – Saturday 19 October**. Both days will run **from 9:30am to 2:30pm** and will include some light refreshments. Please enrol now if you would like to by emailing: [liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk). We will send further reminders with precise details nearer each date. If, you need any guidance or assistance with liturgy in your parish, please do reach out to us, and we would be happy to support you. Kind regards, Fr Anthony Fyk, Director of Liturgy, by contacting Mary Anne Normand, Administrator to the Vicariate for Vocation: [manormand@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:manormand@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)”.

A **Bournemouth University Student Membership Card** has been found right outside on the doorsteps of our church. Please would the rightful owner of this card contact the Parish Office, **with proof**, should you wish to pick up your card.

**The next Session of The Repair Cafe at Immaculate Conception Church Hall** will take place on **Saturday 17 February from 10:30am till 1pm**. We will try to repair most items: bikes, jewellery, sewing, electrical, computers etc., for a donation.

**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.

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Presbytery: St Boniface House, 413 Shirley Road,  
Southampton SO15 3JD Tel: 023 8077 0277

Parish website: [www.st-boniface.org.uk](http://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: Margareta Livingstone  
[office@st-boniface.org.uk](mailto:office@st-boniface.org.uk) Tel: 023 8077 3640

Safeguarding Officer: Angela Braga  
[safeguarding@st-boniface.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@st-boniface.org.uk)

Parish Pastoral Council: [ppe@st-boniface.org.uk](mailto:ppe@st-boniface.org.uk)