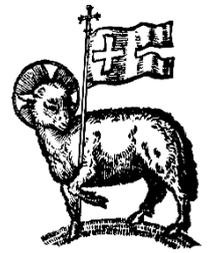




THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN WESTON-SUPER-MARE

Corpus Christi • Our Lady of Lourdes • St Joseph's



THIS WEEK
2nd Week of Easter

SUNDAY 19th APRIL 2020

2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)

Collect

God of everlasting mercy, who in the very recurrence of the paschal feast kindle the faith of the people you have made your own, increase, we pray, the grace you have bestowed, that all may grasp and rightly understand in what font they have been washed, by whose Spirit they have been reborn, by whose Blood they have been redeemed.

1st Reading Acts 2:42-47

Psalms Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, for His love has no end.

2nd Reading 1 Peter 1.3-9

Gospel Verse Jesus said: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

Gospel John 20:19-31

Collection

To donate to any of our parishes, or the Good Friday collection for the Holy Places, please visit corpuschristiweston.org/giving.



FAITH Canon Tom Gunning

At the end of this Sunday's Resurrection appearances of Jesus, the Evangelist tells us why he has written his Gospel. It was so that we might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this we might have life through his name. Earlier in the Gospel passage (John 20:31), Thomas would not accept the testimony of the other disciples that they had seen the Lord. He refused to believe. Today, we believe because of the testimony of the disciples who were witnesses to the Resurrection of Jesus. This oral testimony was later part of the Gospels. Jesus tells us today, that we are happy or blessed if we believe in him, even though we have not seen him. We find St. Peter saying something similar in our second reading this Sunday: "You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe". Believing in Jesus brings happiness, joy and life. How do we show our belief in Jesus? We find one answer in the first letter of John: We are to keep God's Commandments, "that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to (1 John 3:23)". The concern and love for each other marked out the early Christians as described in our first reading from the Acts of the Apostles. May we continue to live out our faith in the Risen Lord by our acts of love and kindness to one another.

PARISH PRIEST: **CANON TOM GUNNING**

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Administrator: Deacon Tom Moffatt

NOTICE BOARD

MASS INTENTIONS for Canon Tom's (private)

Masses at 9am each day this week:

Sunday 19th - Brennan Blake R.I.P

Monday 20th - Intentions of Barbara Keller and Krzysztof Iwanicki

Tuesday 21st - Flaviano Busico 7th anniversary R.I.P

Wednesday 22nd - People of the Parish

Thursday 23rd - Annie Queenan R.I.P

Friday 24th - Bridget Minahan R.I.P

Saturday 25th - Fidelma Hanlon R.I.P

THE DIVINE MERCY CANDLE is being kept alight at Our Lady of Lourdes, this week for Mr and Mrs Collingwood R.I.P.

OF YOUR CHARITY please pray for the souls of Jane Norris, David German, and Jacqueline Newberry, who died last week (not from the coronavirus). Jane had been in St Joseph's, Bristol for the last five years, but she used to sit on the chair by the Sacristy door at OLOL. Fr Martin is hoping to take the service at Weston Crematorium. David was 59, the son of Richard and Sheila German, was a frequent altar server, and had Downs Syndrome.

OLOL STANDING ORDERS Please could Standing Order Gift Aid Donors from Our Lady of Lourdes get in contact with Peter Mason, because the Bank details need to be changed.
treasurer.wsm.ourladyoflourdes@cliftondiocese.com

HELPING THE **VULNERABLE**

LOCAL VOLUNTEERS St Paul's Church in Walliscote Road has been designated as a hub for voluntary services in the Southward area of Weston, and are looking for volunteers (ideally with a current DBS) who would be prepared to do shopping, collect medication, or conduct telephone pastoral care. Referrals come from the North Somerset Council, or Weston Town Council, as part of the ROC (Redeeming Our Communities) initiative. Please let Fr Tom or Joseph know if you would be willing, and we can pass your details on to them. Many thanks!

HOMELESS UPDATE Good news - the shelter has been allowed to open for the purposes of cooking meals for the homeless, which are then delivered to them in their temporary accommodation by the YMCA. This means they can accept donations of food again - particularly fresh food like meat and vegetables; or sauces, rice, and pasta; or alternatives for when there aren't enough donations to make a meal, such as pot noodles or snack bars (most of the clients have a kettle, but not necessarily a microwave). NB when I went in recently, ALDI had donated a veritable mountain of potatoes, carrots, and parsnips

- so no need for them for a while! Donations can be left at the Presbytery.

DOMESTIC ABUSE is on the increase during this lockdown period, with many people trapped inside the house with an abusive partner or family member. Please pray for anyone suffering in this way. If you are in an abusive situation, there is help. *For women:* WomensAid domestic violence helpline - 0808 2000 247. *For Men:* Advice for Male Victims of Domestic Abuse - 0808 8801 0327. *For under 25s:* The Mix - 0808 808 4994. *For children:* Childline - 0800 1111. *For the Catholic Safeguarding Service:* CSAS - 0207 901 1920 or csas.uk.net.

CHRISTIANS IN THE HOLY LAND Bishop Declan has reminded us of our brothers and sisters there. He says: 'On top of the devastating impact upon the local economy [of the lack of pilgrims at this time of year], the confirmation of Covid-19 cases in Gaza, where the healthcare system has effectively collapsed, and people are trapped in the most overcrowded conditions on earth, points to an impending humanitarian catastrophe'. He urges us to support them by our prayers and, where possible, our donations. See: corpuschristiweston.org/giving

A MESSAGE FROM **CLIFTON DIOCESE**

Thomas doubts the good news of the resurrection, but upon seeing Jesus physically, believes. But what about us and all those who either struggle to believe or refuse to believe that Jesus rose from the dead? In the Western World, where society is highly sceptical and often aggressively atheistic it requires a great deal of confidence and assurance to stay faithful to the teaching of the Gospel. It can be particularly difficult to remain faithful in the face of adversity and struggle. Where is the hope in the face of COVID-19, the hope that the death and resurrection of Jesus is meant to give us? The disciples were 'united, heart and soul' and they held 'everything in common'. In other words, they knew the need to stand together, to support one another. Now more than ever, we need to stand together, to support those who need our support, to reach out to those who are vulnerable, to those who are afraid and to those who grieve. Faith is not an individual activity, it is something which comes from living, supporting and loving one another and that includes those who have no faith.



**CLIFTON
DIOCESE**

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