

# THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN WESTON-SUPER-MARE

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

*THIS WEEK*  
**5<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter**

**SUNDAY 10<sup>th</sup> MAY 2020**

*5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter*

## **Collect**

Almighty ever-living God, constantly accomplish the Paschal Mystery within us, that those you were pleased to make new in Holy Baptism may, under your protective care, bear much fruit and come to the joys of life eternal.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading** Acts 6.1-7

**Psalm** May Your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in You.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** 1 Peter 2.4-9

**Gospel Verse** Jesus said: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me.'

**Gospel** John 14.1-12

## **Giving**

To donate to any of our parishes, please visit [corpuschristiweston.org/giving](http://corpuschristiweston.org/giving).



## **THE FATHER'S HOUSE**

**Canon Tom Gunning**

Will we all have en-suite rooms in the Father's House? Will some rooms be larger and more luxuriant than others? I would answer 'No' to both questions. "The Father's House" is another way of saying "Heaven". When Jesus said there would be many rooms, he was emphasising that there would be room for all. He did not imply that there would be higher or lower places.

Fr Raymond Brown (1928-1998) wrote in his book *The Gospel according to John*: "Jesus is on his way to be reunited with the Father in glory and make it possible for others to be united to the Father". We should interpret today's Gospel as an explanation about communion with God and not some description of a luxury hotel in heaven. "Dwelling places" are spiritual positions in Jesus.

Psalm 16 teaches us that "the way of life is revealed by God to man". Jesus is the Way because he is the revelation of God. He is the only revelation of the Father. We are called to believe in Jesus as the incarnate revelation of the Father. That is what Truth means. Those who believe in Jesus receive the gift of Life. At Easter time we rejoice that we share in Jesus' life and enter into his Trinitarian life.



**cliftondiocese.com**  
*diocesan news and events*

Corpus Christi, Our Lady of Lourdes, and St Joseph's parishes are all part of Clifton Diocese. We pray for Bishop Declan Lang, and all the priests, deacons, parishes, and people of our diocese.

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**PARISH PRIEST: CANON TOM GUNNING**

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### **CORPUS CHRISTI (CC)**

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Administrator: Tracey Nelson  
Parish Office CLOSED – Contact by email

### **OUR LADY OF LOURDES (LOL)**

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### **ST JOSEPH'S (ST J's)**

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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 10th - People of the Parish

Monday 11th - Deirdre McLoughlin R.I.P

Tuesday 12th - Sean and Maud O'Reilly R.I.P

Wednesday 13th - Alice and Thomas Kehoe R.I.P

Thursday 14th - Amar Dias R.I.P

Friday 15th - Teresa Coates R.I.P

Saturday 16th - Robert Alford R.I.P

**PLEASE PRAY** For Marcus Brown who has been diagnosed with a brain tumour. Please keep Marcus, his wife Trudy and all the family in your prayers.

**R.I.P.** Please pray for Mary Joyce, Patricia Morgan and Lenny Redman who have passed away recently. Please keep them all in your prayers. *'May they see the Light of Heaven'* Amen.

**THE DIVINE MERCY CANDLE** is being kept alight at Our Lady of Lourdes, this week for Robert Alford (RIP).

**CORPUS CHRISTI MAGAZINE** The May edition of the new Corpus Christi magazine is now available to view online: [www.corpuschristiweston.org/magazine](http://www.corpuschristiweston.org/magazine)

**DIOCESE SAFEGUARDING TRAINING FOR ALL** We would really like to encourage as many volunteers as possible to take this opportunity to engage with our EduCare e-Learning modules. All members of the Catholic community have free access to this thought-provoking material, that may just be the information that enables us to recognise a concern and make the difference to enable it to be resolved. There is an expectation by the Charity Commission that all those who perform a voluntary role which necessitates DBS clearance should have a minimum standard of Safeguarding training. To gain access to this free resource, email [safeguarding@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:safeguarding@cliftondiocese.com), and we will add you to the system, you should then be able to access the material within a couple of days.

### REFLECTION FROM CLIFTON DIOCESE

*'Do not let your hearts be troubled'*

Jesus speaks these words to reassure his disciples that, although he is going to leave them, they will not be forgotten. As the world continues to respond to the devastating Coronavirus, many people are troubled. They are anxious, unsure of where the virus will strike next. Fearful that somebody they love will contract or already has the virus and not knowing what the outcome will be. Jesus wants to reassure his bewildered disciples and us, that we will never be abandoned. God is with us and no more so than in this time of the pandemic. As people of faith we are encouraged to trust, to believe in God's loving care for us and be confident that whatever we may face, we will not be overcome. Jesus is 'the way, the truth and the life' so let us stay close to him so that when we emerge from this time, we will do so stronger in faith and stronger in love.

### CLERGY

Canon Tom Gunning - Parish Priest

See front page for contact details.

Deacon Mike Roberts 01934 627820

Deacon Stephen Munday 01934 622989

Deacon Tom Moffatt [thomas.moffatt@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:thomas.moffatt@cliftondiocese.com)

Joseph Meigh - Seminarian on placement

[joseph.meigh@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:joseph.meigh@cliftondiocese.com)

### POLISH MISSION

Fr Wiesław Garbacz

Resident at St Joseph's Presbytery

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### PANDEMIC PATRONS: ST CORONA

Yes, there's a Saint Corona... and she happens to be a patron saint of pandemics!

According to one legend of her life, she witnessed the torture and martyrdom of St Victor, and ran over to comfort and pray for him - thus condemning herself to death as well. This took place in about 170AD, and their relics have been housed since the 9<sup>th</sup> century in Anzu, Italy. The relics were tested twice in the last century, which confirmed that the remains were of a male and female, and corresponded with the likely date and location of the executions. The reason for her association with pandemics is unclear, but is a particularly strong devotion in Austria & Bavaria. Her name has nothing to do with viruses, but just shares the Latin root word, *corona*, meaning crown: the coronavirus was so named because of the shape of the pathogen; the saint, because of the crown of martyrdom which she now wears in Heaven - where doubtless she is interceding for us now.

St Corona's feast day is next week, on the 14<sup>th</sup> of May. May she, and all the saints, pray for us in our need.