

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN WESTON-SUPER-MARE

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

THIS WEEK

10th Week of Ordinary Time

SUNDAY 7TH JUNE 2020

Solemnity of The Most Holy Trinity

Collect

God our Father, who by sending into the world the Word of truth and the Spirit of sanctification made known to the human race your wondrous mystery, grant us, we pray, that in professing the true faith, we may acknowledge the Trinity of eternal glory and adore your Unity, powerful in majesty.

1st Reading Exodus 34:4-6.8-9

Psalm To you glory and praise for evermore.

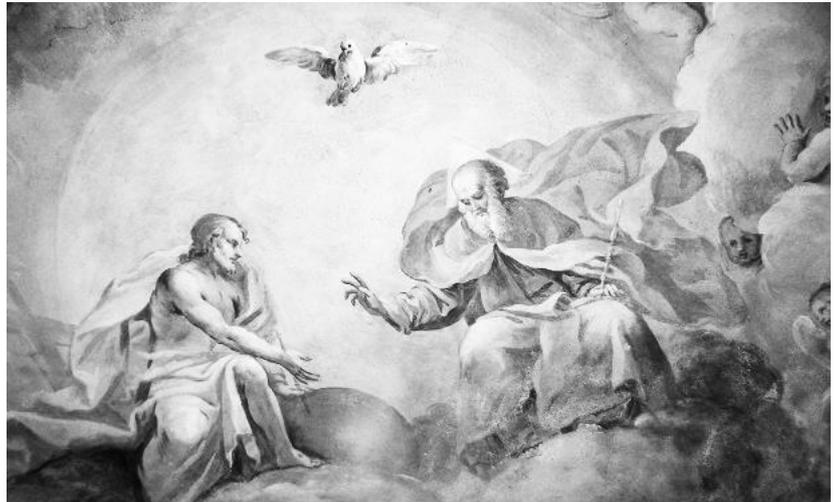
2nd Reading 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Gospel Verse Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, the God who is, and who is to come.

Gospel John 3:16-18

Giving

To donate to any of our parishes, please visit corpuschristiweston.org/giving.



ST PAUL'S GREETING

Canon Tom Gunning

If you've ever been to an ecumenical meeting, it ends with everyone wishing each other, "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. Amen". This comes from the only Trinitarian greeting we find in St Paul's letters, the end of his second letter to the Corinthians.

St Paul ends his letter to the Galatians: "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, my brothers. Amen", and the first letter to the Corinthians ends, "The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love is with you all in Christ Jesus". So why the change in the greeting in today's Mass?

Mary Ann Getty, the bible scholar, suggests that this solemn formula is particularly apt for the Corinthians. She argues that St Paul includes them in his heartfelt prayer that their divisions and misunderstandings will be healed by the grace of our Lord, the love of God (ie, the Father), and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. God is a God of love who calls us into a unity in him. He is Father, Son and Spirit, three Persons yet one God. We are called to be one in him. May we work to be in a closer union with one another.



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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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NOTICE BOARD

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS Mass is now being offered online via Zoom. For the link to join us, please subscribe to our email list via the website. Mass is at 9am each day apart from Wednesdays, which is 6.30pm.

9am Sunday 7th - People of the Parish
9am Monday 8th - George Peck R.I.P
9am Tuesday 9th - Violet and Laurence O'Rourke R.I.P
6.30pm Wednesday 10th - Gwen Ogden R.I.P
9am Thursday 11th - Percival and Freda Spencer R.I.P
9am Friday 12th - Brendan Coates R.I.P
9am Saturday 13th - Michael Goldschmidt R.I.P

PLEASE PRAY FOR - Ray Chambers who is now in Summer Lane Nursing Home, Diamond Court, Worle; Richard Khoo (Jean Vowles' father), who is in hospital in Singapore; Cliff O'Brien, who is sick. Please keep them all in your thoughts and prayers. Also for Egidijus Gvozdys, who has died recently. His Cremation Service takes place this week. 'May he see the light of Heaven'. Amen

THE DIVINE MERCY CANDLE is being kept alight at Our Lady of Lourdes, this week for the well-being of Ralph Devereux.

JOSEPH MEIGH, our seminarian, will be leaving Weston at the end of his placement, on the 16th June. We thank him for all he has done in his time here. He has been a real asset and we will be sorely missed. We keep him in our prayers as he continues his formation to become a Diocesan Priest in two years time, God willing. He intends to make a return visit to the parishes when the churches are open again, to say goodbye in person.

PANDEMIC PATRONS: **ST EDMUND**

St Edmund of East Anglia is recognised as a patron saint in times of pandemics, and for protection against infectious disease. In the Middle Ages, he was also widely venerated as Patron of England (along with St Edward the Confessor). He was crowned King of East Anglia around AD 855, and reigned for 14 years before the invasion of the 'Great Heathen Army' (of Viking Danes, subsequently defeated by Alfred the Great). Edmund refused to renounce Jesus Christ, and was therefore shot with arrows and beheaded, on the orders of Ivar the Boneless.

Little is documented of his life, so his association with pandemics is a little unclear, though the preservation of the city of Toulouse (where his relics were being kept) from Plague was attributed to his intercession. He was canonised primarily as a martyr, though hagiography records that he was an exemplary ruler, and was even able to recite the Psalter from memory. He is often depicted with a wolf, because of the story that his body, having been dumped in the forest by his executioners, was subsequently discovered by his friends thanks to an 'ethereal' wolf crying, 'Hic, hic, hic' (here, here, here). Let's ask St Edmund to intercede for our nation, for the swift end to the pandemic, and for the grace to imitate his

courage in the face of death, never relinquishing our allegiance to Christ.

REFLECTION FROM: **CLIFTON DIOCESE** **TRINITY SUNDAY**

Rublev's icon of the Holy Trinity is a vivid portrayal of what it means to be in a relationship. What is striking about the icon is this sense of unity, intimacy and mutual love. The dynamic of communion between the three flows from the icon as they gaze upon each other. No social distancing here! For weeks now our communities have been unable to gather physically. Being in isolation has been a strange and unusual experience. For some it has been a welcome time of reflection and creativity. For others it has been a time of trying to balance work with home-schooling and for others coping with not being able to see those they love. Whatever our personal circumstances there have been highs and there have been lows. Yet in the mix of all this there has also been a genuine appreciation of our 'growing in communion' with one another, albeit virtually, and of growing relationships as we reach out to those we know and, in particular, those we have never even met before. We cannot truly be in communion with Christ if we are not in communion with one another. Today's feast of the greatest 'communion' of all time – the Holy Trinity – is an opportunity for us to reflect and perhaps give thanks for each other.

MEMORIAL OF SAINT BARNABAS, APOSTLE

On the 11th June, we celebrate the Memorial of St. Barnabas. He was a Jewish Cypriot and a Levite. Barnabas (meaning 'son of consolation') was an early Christian disciple but not one of the twelve. He introduced Paul to the other apostles; together Paul and Barnabas were sent to Antioch and undertook the first missionary journey, which began in Cyprus. At the Council of Jerusalem, Barnabas supported Gentile Christians. Later Barnabas and Paul quarrelled and separated; Barnabas returned to Cyprus and evangelised it. Paul's references to him possibly indicate a wider apostolate. However, legend claims he died a martyr at Salamis in AD61.

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