

# THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN WESTON-SUPER-MARE

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

*THIS WEEK*  
24th week in Ordinary Time

SUNDAY 13<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020  
*Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

### Entrance Antiphon

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

### Collect

Look upon us, O God, Creator and ruler of all things, and, that we may feel the working of your mercy, grant that we may serve you with all our heart.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading** Ecclesiasticus 27:30-28:7

**Psalm** The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** Romans 14:7-9

**Gospel Verse** Speak, Lord, your servant is listening: you have the message of eternal life.

**Gospel** Matthew 18:21-35



## We must be forgiving

### Canon Tom Gunning

When we pray the "Our Father" we say "forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us". St Augustine summarizes today's parable as "Forgiven, we forgive". We should see Jesus' words to Peter as the teaching for today: "...how often must I forgive my brother? Not seven times but seventy seven times". So we should be constantly forgiving one another. The parable doesn't mirror this teaching. The king only forgives once. So we are not to allegorize the parable giving every part of it a meaning. The king is not God. We are not tortured by God if we refuse to forgive like the wicked slave in the parable. God's forgiveness is boundless. As Christians we should be imitating the forgiveness of Jesus who said from the Cross "Father, forgive them". We learn from today's parable that the unforgivable sin in the Christian community is to be unforgiving. Forgiveness from the heart is not an option for disciples of Jesus but a requirement.



**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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### CORPUS CHRISTI (CC)

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01934 621929

Administrator: Tracey Nelson  
Opening hours: 9-12noon. Tues-Fri

### OUR LADY OF LOURDES (LOL)

Baytree Road, Milton, BS22 8HQ  
wsm.ourladyoflourdes@cliftondiocese.com  
01934 627137

Administrator: Maricris Magbanua  
Opening hours: 9-1pm. Tues and Fri

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

Camp Road, BS23 2EN  
wsm.stjoseph@cliftondiocese.com  
01934 629865

Administrator: Deacon Tom Moffatt  
Polish Priest – Fr. Wieslaw Garbacz  
01934 627329 or 07714 675188

## NOTICE BOARD

**PLEASE PRAY FOR** Hilary Derrick who passed away this week and for Maura Williams and Peggy Harper who died on the 2nd and 1st September respectively. Maura was 93 and Peggy was 95. 'May they see the Light of Heaven' Amen. Please also pray for those who are sick, especially Luke Bain and Bridie Wells.

**THE DIVINE MERCY CANDLE** is being kept alight at Our Lady of Lourdes. This week is for prayers and well being of Julia, Claire and Kenneth Mackay

**REFLECTION FROM CLIFTON DIOCESE** Bud Welch, an American whose daughter was killed in the Oklahoma bombing describes how he was eaten up with hate and a desire for revenge. When he realised that this hate inside was killing him, he started to think about his daughter and what she would have wanted. Being able to move forward when we have suffered comes when we are released from our pain. We need healing, we need to be able to forgive and we need to be forgiven. It is difficult because it can feel like a betrayal of the past. How can we let go and forgive? Forgiving another does not come easily to us. Harder still is the struggle we have seeking forgiveness for wrongs that we have committed. Yet the capacity to forgive and be forgiven is necessary if cycles of violence are to be broken. We do not have to do this alone. The love which God has for us also brings forgiveness and the chance to renew our relationships and begin again. It is a chance for us to have a different future one that is not dictated by what has happened in the past. For Bud Welch it was his faith and his desire for healing that led him to forgive the killer. His act of forgiving, he says, 'freed him' more than it freed the killer. He found peace and freedom and the chance to once again think of his daughter with joy.

**14TH SEPTEMBER - FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS** - The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, celebrated every year on the 14th September, recalls three historical events: the finding of the True Cross by St Helena, the mother of the emperor Constantine; the dedication of churches built by Constantine on the site of the Holy Sepulchre and Mount Calvary; and the restoration of the True Cross to Jerusalem by the emperor Heraclius II. But in a deeper sense, the feast also celebrates the Holy Cross as the instrument of torture, designed to degrade the worst of criminals, which became the life-giving tree that reversed Adam's disobedience when he ate from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil in the Garden of Eden.

**15th SEPTEMBER - MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS** This feast dates back to the 12th century. It was especially promoted by the Cistercians and the Servites, so much so that in the 14th and 15th centuries it was widely celebrated throughout the Catholic Church. In 1482 the feast was added to the Missal under the title of "Our Lady of Compassion." Pope Benedict XIII added it to the Roman Calendar in 1727 on the Friday before Palm Sunday. In 1913, Pope Pius X fixed the date on September 15. The title "Our Lady of Sorrows" focuses on Mary's intense suffering during the passion and death of Christ. "The Seven Dolors," the title by which it was celebrated in the 17th century, referred to the seven swords that pierced the Heart of Mary. The feast is like an octave for the birthday of Our Lady on September 8th.

**JOURNEY IN FAITH (RCIA):** At present we are not meeting as a group but hopefully we will be able to reform in the not too distant future. However if you, or anyone you know, is interested in finding out more about our Catholic faith please contact Canon Tom or our parish Administrator Tracey and we will see what can be arranged.

### **PRAYER - ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

**STARTING SCHOOL?** - If you have a child born between **1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017**, then **now** is the time to apply for a place at a primary school for admission from **September 2021** onwards. You must complete an application form that is available from the schools admission team of **North Somerset Council**. If your child has been baptised and you are applying for a Catholic School, you **must** also provide a copy of the baptism certificate to the school. Please ensure you apply by the closing date of the **15th January 2021**.

**HOME VISITS** can now take place by priests, deacons and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion. Please see Canon Tom for further Guidance.

**COULD YOU BE A SCHOOL GOVERNOR?** - The Diocese is seeking to recruit people to serve on school governing bodies. If you believe in Catholic education, have enthusiasm and commitment, then you can make a valuable contribution to the governing body of a Catholic school. It also provides the opportunity to use your life/work skills and experience for the benefit of the children in our schools. If you think you could serve as a Foundation Governor then please contact Bill at [bill.mcentee@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:bill.mcentee@cliftondiocese.com) or 07710094976 for more information. He would be delighted to hear from you.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2021:** It was hoped to have application forms for the First Holy Communion preparations for 2021 in September at the start of the new school term. Due to the ongoing COVID restrictions regarding the 2020 programme, the release date for 2021 applications is still unknown. 2021 applications may also have to be capped in numbers to meet social distancing rules if restrictions remain in place. Please keep checking the Parish website for updates.

**CAFOD - UNITE AGAINST CORONAVIRUS** As we cope with coronavirus in the UK, we think of our brothers and sisters in developing countries who are facing this pandemic with fragile health systems, some of which have almost no intensive care beds or ventilators. Food prices have already risen with borders closing, the poorest are losing their jobs and income with wholesale shutdowns. Furthermore, inadequate healthcare, lack of access to washing facilities and limited ability to social distance will result in loss of life on an intolerable scale. The likely impact will be devastating. We are one global family. In order to continue protecting and improving the lives of those in poor communities, your prayers, gifts and voices are needed now more than ever. Please visit [cafod.org.uk/coronavirus](http://cafod.org.uk/coronavirus) to find out ways you can give, act and pray in response to this crisis.

**CAFOD MONEY BOXES:** If you still have these (probably full now) please leave them with the collection plates at the back of the church. Remember that CAFOD desperately needs your donations to support the work it is doing to combat coronavirus in underdeveloped countries with poor sanitation and medical services. It also benefits us because even if we (supported by our wonderful NHS) are successful we will suffer from re-infection from poor countries who are less fortunate. You can give online via the CAFOD website.

**CAFOD HARVEST FAST DAY:** Well it may be a harvest like no other but we should still give thanks for the benefits we have. Harvest Fast Day this year is **Friday 9th October**. Please on this one day eat a little less and give what you save to benefit others. We take so many things for granted, just clean water to wash our hands, food to keep us healthy, a pharmacy to provide simple things like paracetamol. Please give so that others may have those too!

**CORPUS CHRISTI PRAYER GROUP** invites you to pray a **Decade of the Rosary**, each day, for 100 days or as many days as possible. Commencing on the **Feast of our Lady of Sorrows: Tuesday 15th September to 23rd December 2020**. Let us unite in prayers asking God that this pandemic will soon end. Let us place into God's Holy Hands, the sick who have the virus and those suffering from its effects, for the economic, social, health and wellbeing for all living in the UK. Thanking God for our NHS workers and Care Home Staff. Also that they will be protected as they dedicate their lives to looking after the sick and needy. Thank you.

**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER : new online experience for marriage enrichment!** Marriage Encounter are excited to announce a new online experience for marriage enrichment. For the past 50 years Worldwide Marriage Encounter has been offering marriage enrichment retreats all around the world. Focused on couples who want to enrich their relationship and gain a deeper understanding of the Sacrament of Marriage, it offers a unique experience to explore your relationship at a deeper, more intimate level, regardless of how long you have been together. During the Coronavirus pandemic our residential retreats have had to be cancelled so we are reaching out to couples who want to deepen their relationship by offering a newly energised video conference retreat. **The next Marriage Encounter Online Experience is 26 & 27 September 2020, why not find out more at [www.wwme.org.uk](http://www.wwme.org.uk) or contact us on 0845 260 2016.**

**CHURCH CLEANING** - Thank you to the ladies who cleaned the church last Saturday morning. We are looking at giving the church a thorough clean on the first Saturday of each month between 10am - 11am. Any volunteers would be appreciated. The next date will be on the 3rd October.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION**  
CC - £344.20  
OLOL - £167.70  
ST J's - £63.00

# WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK...

CC – Corpus Christi

LOLO – Our Lady of Lourdes

St J's – St Joseph's

	PARISH MASSES & INTENTIONS			OTHER GROUPS & EVENTS		
<b>SUNDAY</b> <i>24<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary time</i>	<b>6pm Sat</b>	CC	<b>Vigil Mass</b> Deceased members of the Joyce family.	<b>9am</b>	CC	<b>Mass in Polish</b>
	<b>9.15am</b>	LOLO	<b>Mass</b> Thanksgiving Mass to the Sacred Heart and Virgin Mary for helping through an operation	<b>6pm</b>	CC	<b>Mass</b> Deceased Parishioners
	<b>11am</b>	CC	<b>Mass</b> People of the Parish			
<b>MONDAY</b> <i>Exaltation of the Holy Cross</i>	<b>9.30am</b>	CC	<b>Mass</b> Bernadette Clement R.I.P			
<b>TUESDAY</b> <i>Our Lady of Sorrows</i>	<b>9.30am</b>	LOLO	<b>Mass</b> Galli, Tayler and Thompson Families R.I.P			
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> <i>Saints Cornelius, and Cyprian</i>	<b>10.00am</b>	CC	<b>Mass</b> Marguerite Duverger R.I.P	<b>7pm</b>	St J's	<b>Mass in Polish</b>
<b>THURSDAY</b> <i>Saint Edith of Wilton</i>	<b>7pm</b>	LOLO	<b>Mass</b> Olga Jupe R.I.P	<b>10am</b>	St J's	<b>Mass in Polish</b>
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	CC	<b>Mass</b> Norman Phillips R.I.P			
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>12noon</b>	LOLO	<b>Mass</b> John Day R.I.P	<b>9.30am</b> <b>10.00am</b>	St J's St J's	<b>Morning Prayer with Exposition Liturgy of the Word followed by Holy Communion</b> (except for the 1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month when there will be a Mass
<b>NEXT SUNDAY</b> <i>25<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time</i>	<b>6pm Sat</b>	CC	<b>Vigil Mass</b> Bob Layden R.I.P	<b>9am</b>	CC	<b>Mass in Polish</b>
	<b>9.15am</b>	LOLO	<b>Mass</b> Maureen Lowe R.I.P	<b>6pm</b>	CC	<b>Mass</b> Donor's Intention
	<b>11am</b>	CC	<b>Mass</b> People of the Parish			

## CONFESSIONS

Canon Tom is always happy to hear confessions on request or by appointment, but regular slots in the week are:

**Saturday 12.30pm** OLOLO, and **5pm** CC. **Sunday 5.40pm** CC  
**Thursday 7.30pm** OLOLO

The glass door in the Confessional that separates Canon Tom from the penitent will remain in place as a means to stop infection transmission. After Confession, please cleanse with household detergent the kneeler, seat and anything you may have touched.

## THIS WEEKEND

There will be a second collection for the **Holy Places of Palestine**

**Please note that the obligation to attend Mass is still suspended.**