

# THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN WESTON-SUPER-MARE

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

THIS WEEK  
**33rd week in Ordinary Time**

SUNDAY **15<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

*33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time*

### Entrance Antiphon

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

### Collect

Grant us, we pray, O Lord our God, the constant gladness of being devoted to you, for it is full and lasting happiness to serve with constancy the author of all that is good.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading** Proverbs 31:10-13. 19-20. 30-31.

**Psalm** O blessed are those who fear the Lord.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

**Gospel Verse** Even if you have to die, says the Lord, keep faithful, and I will give you the crown of life.

**Gospel** Matthew 25: 14-30



### Misunderstanding of Parable

#### **Canon Tom Gunning**

Fr Denis McBride the Redemptorist biblical scholar changed his mind completely about the Parable of the Talents. In 1991 he thought it was a parable about using our gifts. In his 1999 book "The Parables of Jesus" he describes the servants who receive the 5 and 2 talents as profiteers. In the parable he argues that the talents were very large sums of money. They had nothing to do with the English word "talent". The third servant is called wicked and lazy only because he doesn't make a profit for his master. Fr Mc Bride argues that this third servant or slave does not want to exploit others and so he has buried the money. The words of the master seem very unfair as he gives the talent to the servant who had been given 5: "For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken from him." These are not the values of Jesus but of people of power who use money to make more money. Jesus warned about the dangers of money and the abuse of authority (Mt 19 :23-28). Fr McBride argues that Jesus will suffer a fate like the third servant and be thrown into the ultimate outer darkness of death.



**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)**

Ellenborough Park South, BS23 1XW  
wsm.corpuschristi@cliftondiocese.com  
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** Mavis Kirkwood who died on the 5th November. She was the mother of Deacon Stephen Munday. Please keep Deacon Stephen's family in your prayers. 'May Mavis see the light of Heaven. Amen.' Please also keep Richard Walton in your prayers.

**THE DIVINE MERCY CANDLE** is being kept alight at Our Lady of Lourdes. This week we pray for Peter Mascarenhas.

### **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.

**SEMINARY DIARIES:** (A note from Joseph Meigh, who spent last year on placement here): So here we are again, that now-familiar lockdown feeling. I'm just sorry I can't join in the 'Zoom' Masses this time! I do hope and pray that you are all safe and well. As the seminary is a 'bubble', we've all been locked in together... so time will tell how the bonds of charity and fraternity will hold up over the coming weeks! You may have heard a couple of weeks ago the sad news that our seminary—St John's, Womersley—will be closing at the end of this year, at least as a formation community. During the first lockdown, on Good Shepherd Sunday, I sent out a couple of videos so that you could get a taste of daily life here, and hopefully you picked up on the prayerfulness of the place, the beauty of its surroundings, and the warmth of the community. I'm very fond of St John's, and saddened by this news. But more saddened by the cause, which is that there were no new entrants this year from any of our 'feeder' dioceses (Clifton, Southwark, Arundel & Brighton, or Portsmouth), and it didn't look promising for anyone to come next year either. So please continue to beg the Lord to give people throughout our Church the grace to discern His call, and the courage to respond to it. The remainder of the community will be transferred to Allen Hall, in Chelsea, to complete our formation. In the meantime, we're trying to make this final year here as special as possible, though sadly COVID makes it very difficult for visitors to come and say goodbye. So please continue to pray for us, and especially for vocations. God bless! J.

**DAY OF PRAYER** - There will be a Day of Prayer on Saturday 21st November for the ending of the pandemic.

**REQUIEM MASS:** The Requiem Mass for Marie Furlong will be on Monday 23rd November at 1.30pm at Our Lady of Lourdes.

**HEALTH AND SAFETY REPRESENTATIVE** - The Parish Finance Committee have a vacancy for a new Health and Safety Representative. Please contact Canon Tom. The Parish thanks Alan Malone for all his work in this role.

**RIGHT TO LIFE UK** - Are currently promoting a **Stand up and Smile Campaign** to protect babies with cleft-lip and club foot. Please include intentions with the following prayer: *"We pray for all unborn children diagnosed with disabilities, we pray for protection for them and their mothers from the pressures of society to have an abortion, and that they would instead experience overwhelming support by all who surround them. Lord hear us"*

**JOURNEY IN FAITH (RCIA):** At present we are not meeting as a group and may not be able to meet for the foreseeable 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. We will then see how best to go through the programme with you.

**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**.

**FOODBANK - OLOL PARISH:** If anyone has a few pennies (or pounds!) to spare, please put them in an envelope marked "foodbank" and put it through the Presbytery door. Barbara Smith and Penny Devereux will then buy food and take it to the food bank. The need this year will be greater than ever. During the first lockdown, Penny took a minimum of 150 kgs of food to the bank and last week Barbara and Penny (plus a financial contribution from a parishioner) took 53 kgs which included 50 Advent calendars for the children. But we need your help please. Thank you.

**CELEBRATE BRISTOL** “Are you in need of spiritual renewal and inspiration during these challenging times? If so, then please join us at the **Bristol online Celebrate back to basics sessions** which are running fortnightly through October and November – leading us perfectly into Advent. There is no pressure to attend all of the sessions – just join when you can.

Here is an outline of the sessions which will run from 7:30pm to 8:30pm:

**Monday 16th November: Formation**

The Call to Ever Deeper Discipleship

**Monday 30th November: Mission**

Taking Risks and Stepping out in Faith to Pursue God's Mission

Register now at:  
<https://www.celebrateconference.org/back-to-basics-2020>

**MASS OVER PHONE: If you do not have access to the internet you can also join the Mass by phone and then you can listen in as a telephone call:**

**Dial 0203 481 5240**

Then when instructed by the voice over the phone enter the meeting number :

**922 2054 7539** followed by the # key (found next to 0 button)

Then when they ask for your User ID just press the # key

Finally when asked enter the Passcode **123** followed by the # key

You will then automatically join the Mass when it starts

(Calls should be charged at the standard call rate - which could be included in your phone plan)

**CHRISTMAS MASSES:** Due to the COVID-19 regulations you will need to pre-book for Mass at Christmas this year. Please note only book one Mass per person/family. Booking procedures to follow.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2021** - I am sure that everyone is aware of the massive disruption COVID-19 has had on the First Holy Communion programme for 2020. Despite all the efforts of the Church and the Catechist team, we cannot seem to cross the line and complete the programme to enable the children to receive their First Holy Communion. This delay is having an obvious knock on effect for the enrolment and commencement of the 2021 programme, which cannot proceed until we have completed the 2020 programme. At this stage, and in the absence of any real knowledge as to where COVID-19 will take us, all we can do is issue the application forms for 2021, to enable us to gauge the level of interest, and numbers, so we can make informed decisions regarding the structure of the 2021 programme. We may, for instance, have to:

- Cap the number of candidates per Parish to adhere to social distancing rules.
- Based on numbers we may have to run multiple preparation sessions in tandem.
- Consider multiple Masses on the day(s)
- Consider a programme that could be directed to a percentage of home teaching.
- Consider community preparation programmes.

The current programme, God's Greatest Gift, is now obsolete and will not be available next year. The type of programme adopted in 2021 will be dependent on numbers and which of the above options are best suited. There will undoubtedly be a delay in the commencement of the 2021 programme but we would encourage an early return of the applications to the Presbytery/School to maximise planning and resource. There are no guarantees that, even with forward planning, there will be no disruption to any programme timetable we put into place. However, your cooperation in an early return of the applications will assist the Catechist team in selecting the best option to deliver as fluid a programme as COVID-19 will allow. With thanks and prayers. The Catechist Team.

**URGENT:** Volunteers needed to help with stewarding in the church for private prayer. If you could spare a couple of hours between 10.30am-12.30pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, whilst we are in lockdown, please let Tracey know on the parish office email: [wsm.corpuschristi@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:wsm.corpuschristi@cliftondiocese.com). Thank you.

# WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK...

CC – Corpus Christi

LOL – Our Lady of Lourdes

St J's – St Joseph's

	PARISH MASSES & INTENTIONS		OTHER GROUPS & EVENTS		
<b>SUNDAY</b> <i>33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>Mass on Zoom</b> People of the Parish	<b>1pm - 4pm</b>	ST. J's	<b>Private Prayer</b>
<b>MONDAY</b> <i>Memorial of Saint Edmund of Abingdon, Bishop</i>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Mass on Zoom</b> Mary O'Grady R.I.P	<b>10.30am - 12.30pm</b>	CC	<b>Private Prayer</b>
<b>TUESDAY</b> <i>Memorial of Saint Hugh of Lincoln</i>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Mass on Zoom</b> 6 <sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary of the Ordination of Deacon Tony Inganni R.I.P	<b>9.30am - 11.30am</b>	LOL	<b>Private Prayer</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> <i>Memorial of the Dedication of the Basilicas of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles</i>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Mass on Zoom</b> Tommy Neely R.I.P	<b>10.30am - 12.30pm</b>	CC	<b>Private Prayer</b>
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Mass on Zoom</b> Private Intentions	<b>9.30am - 11.30am</b>	LOL	<b>Private Prayer</b>
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Mass on Zoom</b> James and Tunny Families R.I.P	<b>10.30am - 11.30pm</b>	ST. J's	<b>Private Prayer with Exposition</b>
			<b>10.30am - 12.30pm</b>	CC	<b>Private Prayer</b>
			<b>12.00noon - 4.00pm</b>	ST. J's	<b>Private Prayer</b>
<b>SATURDAY</b> <i>Memorial of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Mass on Zoom</b> Harold Day R.I.P	<b>9.30am - 11.30am</b>	LOL	<b>Private Prayer</b>
<b>NEXT SUNDAY</b> <i>Christ the King</i>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Mass on Zoom</b> People of the Parish	<b>1.00pm - 4.00pm</b>	ST. J's	<b>Private Prayer</b>

## CONFESSIONS

Canon Tom is always happy to hear confessions. Please phone him to book a time. The RCIA room in the basement of the Presbytery allows social distancing between the penitent and the priest.

## CHURCH CLOSURES

Following on from the government's recent announcement regarding lockdown regulations, all churches will be closed for public Mass from Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November until Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December.

## OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS - 1<sup>st</sup> NOVEMBER

**CC** - £445.50

**LOL** - £237.05

**ST. J's** - £74.91

**Priest's Retirement Fund** - £837.35

**Priest's Retirement Fund** - £316.10

**Priest's Retirement Fund** - £42.40

## POLISH MASSES

Polish Masses will be live-streamed on YouTube at Parafia Taunton as follows: **Sundays** – 9am, 12.00noon and 4pm. **Monday** – 10am **Tuesday** – 7pm **Wednesday** – 7pm **Thursday** – 10am **Friday** – 7pm **Saturday** – 9am, 4.30pm

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