

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN WESTON-SUPER-MARE

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

THIS WEEK
Easter Week 5

SUNDAY 2ND May 2021
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Entrance Antiphon

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown deliverance, alleluia.

Collect

Almighty every-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.

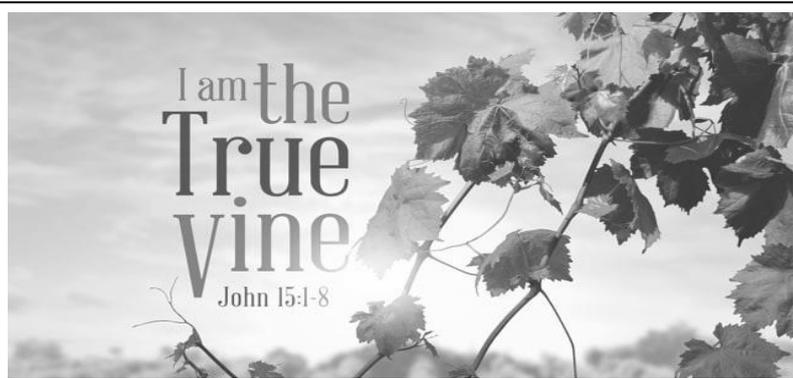
1st Reading Acts 9:26-31

Psalm You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly.

2nd Reading 1 John 3:18-24

Gospel Verse Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. Whoever remains in me bears fruit in plenty.

Gospel John 15:1-8



Jesus paints a picture

Canon Tom Gunning

In today's Gospel we have the allegory of the Vine. Allegories are stories in which everything has a meaning. Parables by contrast are stories with one point or purpose. Jesus describes himself in St John's Gospel as the Vine. We are the branches and we draw life from the vine. So we move on from last week's image of the Good Shepherd and the sheep which had an emphasis on familiarity and listening to the voice of Jesus. In our allegory today Jesus explains how we are part of him. We are urged to remain in him as he remains in us.

Some biblical scholars have compared the allegory of the Vine to St Paul's image of the Church as the Body of Christ. We are important parts of the body of Christ (1 Cor 12). In the Letter to the Ephesians we find a further refinement of this thought where the Church is described as the Bride and Jesus is the Bridegroom.

If we turn to the letter to the Romans we find St Paul repeating again and again that we are "in Christ". This would appear to be closer to Jesus' image of the Vine. Our purpose is to produce fruit. This image is explained in the following verses as meaning that we should love one another. There is the warning that if we don't produce fruit we will be cut away by the vinedresser, the Father.

So let us join ourselves completely to Jesus and become like him by imitating him in his love for all people.



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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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CORPUS CHRISTI (CC)

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wsm.corpuschristi@cliftondiocese.com
01934 621929

Assistant Priest: Fr. Michael Fanéy
Administrator: Tracey Nelson
Opening hours: 9.15am-12.15pm. 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 - Christopher Browne who is poorly at the moment. Also for Daniel Hardinge who died recently 'May he see the light of heaven. Amen'

THE DIVINE MERCY CANDLE is being kept alight at Our Lady of Lourdes. This week we pray for the wellbeing of Olivia Ellis aged 9.

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.

3RD MAY - ST. PHILIP AND ST JAMES - Philip, an apostle, was an early follower of Jesus and persuaded Nathaniel (probably Bartholomew) to follow Jesus too. When the Greeks wanted to meet Jesus, they approached Philip first. James, son of Alphaeus, is sometimes identified with the James whose mother stood by Jesus on the Cross. Also, he is often called the first bishop of Jerusalem and identified with the author of the Epistle of St James; otherwise nothing is known with certainty about him.

4TH MAY - THE ENGLISH MARTYRS - The 40 canonised martyrs (previous feast was on the 25th October) have joined the 85 beautified martyrs for today's Feast, with other martyrs from the 16th and 17th centuries. These are known as 'The English Martyrs'. It was on the 4th May 1535 that three Carthusian monks were put to death at Tyburn, the first of many martyrs. Of these martyrs, 42 have been canonised and a further 242 declared blessed. However, the number of those who died on the scaffold, perished in prison or suffered harsh persecution for their faith in the course of a century and a half cannot now be reckoned. They came from every walk of life; there are among them rich and poor, married and single, women and men. They are remembered for the example they gave of constancy in their faith and courage in the face of persecution.

BAPTISMS - Baptisms may resume from the 17th May with a maximum of 30 people in attendance.

CAFOD LENT WALKING - Together Katie Davies and Mike Usher-Clark, walked a total of 1.4 million steps and raised £3290. The money (without gift aid) is enough to provide water to 4 communities that do not have water and therefore have to themselves "walk for water" which is why CAFOD created the challenge. So, a huge thank you from Katie and Mike to their fellow parishioners, friends and families for their support.

CAFOD - Thank you for your generous donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day during Lent. We featured Marian and her son Svondo in Zimbabwe in Lent 2018. The community vegetable garden that your donations helped provide is growing well and during the pandemic the family has survived on the vegetables. Your support has also helped to provide soap and handwashing stations in the garden and in family homes. This is just one of many long-term development projects that CAFOD has funded with the money from that Fast Day. Thank you for your steadfast support.

RCIA JOURNEY IN FAITH - Please continue to keep Nathan Greaves in your prayers as he approaches the time for his Reception into the Church and Confirmation. He is hoping to be ready for Pentecost. If you know someone who is interested in the Catholic faith or are interested yourself please contact Canon Tom or the Parish Administrator for more information.

MARY'S MEALS - Pray in May - Since our humble beginnings, Mary's Meals, named after Mary the Mother of Jesus, has been built on a foundation of prayer and the many little acts of love from those who support us. This May, the month traditionally dedicated to Our Lady, we invite you to join us in prayer to celebrate the wonderful work of Mary's Meals and give thanks that we are now reaching more than 1.8 million children with a nutritious meal in 19 countries every school day. We also pray for God's continued blessing on our beautiful mission, that through His providence it will always flourish, enabling us to reach more hungry children. You could offer your prayerful support in a number of ways such as: including a bidding prayer for Mary's Meals at Mass, praying the Rosary for our work or hosting a Holy Hour. You will find inspirational resources for our Pray In May campaign, including our prayer card, on [our website](#) or do [get in touch](#) if you would like to arrange a talk for your church about our work. Thank you for remembering Mary's Meals in your prayers. God bless you all.

FOODBANK - Barbara is still collecting money to buy the items needed for the Foodbank and is grateful for all the wonderful donations received. You may, if you wish, buy your own items and place them in the boxes available in both Corpus Christi and Our Lady of Lourdes Parishes. We are mainly looking for tinned meat and fish, tinned vegetables, rice, pasta and sauces. **We do not need baked beans and tins of soup** as there is an abundance. **Also please do not give any bread.** Thank you.

RETRouvaille - Covid 19—a very challenging time for many marriages. - So much uncertainty around, health, income, employment, vulnerable family members, children, housing. Different ways of seeing things, coping with change, managing fears can be a source of conflict and stress. It can be difficult to talk, to listen to support and comfort when there is so much uncertainty. Being together all the time, brings different challenges. You wonder would we be better apart? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriageand you don't need to leave home, it comes to you! For confidential information about Retrouvaille, or to register for the next programme, a Virtual weekend commencing on **1st-4th July 2021** Call or text +44788 729 6983 or +44 797 338 0443. Email: retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com – or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

DIVINE MERCY CANDLE - If you would like to light a candle for the whole week for a special intention, please ring or text Maricris on 07577773452 to book an available date. The candles cost £5.00- you can either hand your payment to the presbytery or through the Parish's account.

BOOK FOR SALE - "The History of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, Milton, Weston-Super-Mare" is back on sale for £5. If you are interested in purchasing one, please see one of the stewards at the back of OLOL or put your money in an envelope and drop it into the Parish Office. Although the book is largely about OLOL, it brings up to date the histories of St Joseph's and Corpus Christi. There are over 150 photographs old and new. The books are available in the narthex of the three churches.

COLLECTION FOR THE HOSPICE - Clare Slattery is doing a skydive in September in memory of her father, John Slattery who passed away 10 years ago in December. The Slattery family were a big part of OLOL. John was a Eucharistic Minister and was on the Parish Council. Clare's grandad, Sean Slattery also went to OLOL. Also Clare and her sister were Altar servers for Father Martin. Clare is doing the skydive to raise money for the hospice that John spent time at before he died. You can hand any donations into the presbytery at CC or OLOL.

EMPOWERING VULNERABLE CHILDREN (EVC) UGANDA 'We were overwhelmed by the reception we were given by the parishioners of Corpus Christi Our Lady of Lourdes and St. Joseph's on the weekend of Sat 24th and Sun 25th April. The amount raised to date is £1,520 with Gift Aid and we will let you know of any extra money that comes in. We are also grateful for the interest shown in child sponsorship. The money will go directly towards our projects in Uganda and will make a real difference to the education and lives of the children. Be assured of the children's prayers. Please visit our website on www.evcuruganda.org or follow us on Facebook and Twitter for latest updates on our work. God bless'. Rebecca on behalf of EVC Uganda.

HELLO FROM JOSEPH MEIGH - 'Very happy Easter to all in Weston! Despite still being in lockdown at the Seminary, we were so blessed to have been able to celebrate all the Paschal liturgies fully, with music and singing—and I couldn't help remembering last year's Triduum, with just Canon Tom and I, before we'd even got Zoom working in the church! Just before Easter, Bishop Declan accepted my application for the Diaconate, so please keep me and my classmates in your prayers as we prepare for ordination on the 3rd of July, the last of the 130 years' worth of ordinations to take place at St John's Seminary. Please also remember Deacon Stephen Corrigan who will be ordained priest in our Cathedral on the 10th of July. May the joy of the risen Christ be planted deeply in all our hearts, even amid the suffering which still continues. Pax!'

MOTHERS PRAYERS ON ZOOM - Mothers Prayers meetings will be starting on Thursday mornings at 8.45am There will be Mothers Prayers one week and the Rosary the following week particularly during May. **Meeting ID: 922 2054 7539 - Passcode: 123.**

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES - We have not ordered any Offertory Envelopes for 2021 / 21. We only have 7 Parishioners who were still using them and have 25 boxes left uncollected from last year.

If you used offertory envelopes can I suggest that you consider using a Standing Order or Bank transfer as an alternative. A standing order form with Bank details and instructions are available from Russel Harvey or Peter Ottley after the Saturday night and Sunday morning Masses. Alternatively you can contact Tracey in the presbytery during office hours or email wsm.corpuschristi@cliftondiocese.com

If you still want to use envelopes for Gift Aided Offertory Donations can you either use your old unused blue envelopes and change the date or a new set envelopes can be arranged for you – please contact Peter Ottley via the Parish Office. If your donations are not gift aided (you have orange envelopes) you can use a plain envelope instead.

GIFT AIDED OFFERTORY DONATIONS - If you have moved or you no longer pay income tax can you let the Parish Office know so that your Gift Aid mandate can be amended.

Finally if you do not donate via the Gift aid scheme can you please consider doing so. We can claim 25p from the Government for every £1 you contribute.

WEEKEND MASSES AT CC - Space at Mass is currently severely restricted. We now have a “full” Church for the Weekend Masses. To ensure you get a seat, can you please arrive 10 minutes before the start of Mass. Once we have reached the current capacity, you can participate in the Mass from outside the Church, looking in through the main doors – Sound will be relayed via the PA system.

FATIMA AND OUR LADY’S REQUEST - Our Lady asked that everyone should make the first Saturday devotion for five consecutive months in reparation for sins against her Immaculate Heart and for peace in the world. This request is fulfilled every month at St Joseph Church with Mass at 10am., followed by the Rosary and Confession. Those who participate are also asked to spend a further 15 minutes contemplating the other mysteries of the Rosary. If you have not fulfilled Our Lady’s request you are warmly invited to start this coming Saturday, 1st May at 10am.

YOUNG PEOPLE FUNDRAISING - Our young boys and girls at OLOL will be participating in reading and singing during Mass, as well as other activities as appropriate during the month of May. They would like to, with your help, raise some funds to help India with their alarming and dire Covid-19 situation. Their participation in the Church will commence on 9th May. There will be collection buckets, if you wish to donate. The funds raised will be given to the chosen UK charity, via the Church. Please come and support them. Thank you in anticipation.

RIGHT TO LIFE UK - *“As we enter into this month dedicated to our Blessed Mother, we bring to mind all mothers. That, like Mary, they would be able to love and cherish their children from the point of conception. We pray also that these women would find support in their spouses, family and friends as they journey through the joys and trials of parenthood. Lord hear us”*

ACT NOW AND STOP DISABILITY ABORTION UP TO BIRTH IN NORTHERN IRELAND - Earlier this year the Northern Ireland Assembly voted on the Severe Fetal Impairment Abortion (Amendment) Bill and it passed Second Stage by 48 votes to 12. The Northern Ireland Health Committee is now undertaking a consultation on the Bill and is seeking submissions from the public. It is important that as many people as possible submit to the consultation in support of the Bill to clearly show that there is widespread support for this important change. Right To Life UK has set up an easy-to-use tool on their website that makes it simple to complete your submission. You can do so by following the link below. It only takes 30 seconds!
www.righttolife.org.uk/nidisabilityconsultation

THE ASCENSION - This falls on Thursday the 13th May this year. Mass times are as follows:

CC - 10am and 7pm

OLOL - 9.30am

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK...

	PARISH MASSES & INTENTIONS			OTHER GROUPS & EVENTS		
SUNDAY <i>Fifth Sunday of Easter</i>	6.00pm Sat	CC	Vigil Mass Gwen Ogden R.I.P	9.00am	CC	Mass in Polish
	9.15am	OLOL	Mass Katherine Patricia Roberts R.I.P	3.00pm	CC	Syro-Malabar Mass
	11.00am	CC	Mass People of the Parish	6.00pm	CC	Mass Holy Souls
MONDAY <i>Feast of Saints Philip and James, Apostles</i>	9.30am	CC	Mass Peter Briffitt R.I.P			
TUESDAY <i>Feast of the English Martyrs</i>	9.30am	OLOL	Mass Phyllis and Ted Harkin R.I.P			
WEDNESDAY <i>Weekday of Easter</i>	10.00am	CC	Mass Alex and Stevie R.I.P	6.30pm	St. J's	Mass in Polish
THURSDAY <i>Weekday of Easter</i>	7.00pm	OLOL	Mass Edelberto Sese R.I.P	9.30am	St. J's	Mass in Polish
FRIDAY <i>Weekday of Easter</i>	10.00am	CC	Mass Marjorie Thomson R.I.P	6.30pm	St. J's	Mass in Polish
SATURDAY <i>Our Lady on Saturday</i>	12.00 noon	OLOL	Mass Stefan and Maureen Biernat 50 th Wedding Anniversary	9.30am	St. J's	Morning Prayer with Exposition
				10.00am	St. J's	Liturgy of the Word followed by Holy Communion (except the 1 st Saturday of the month when there will be a Mass)
NEXT SUNDAY <i>Sixth Sunday of Easter</i>	6.00pm Sat	CC	Vigil Mass People of the Parish	9.00am	CC	Mass in Polish
	9.15am	OLOL	Mass Winifred and George Lavell R.I.P	6.00pm	CC	Mass People of the Parish
	11.00am	CC	Mass 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 OLOL and 5pm CC. Sunday 5.40pm CC
Thursday 7.30pm OLOL**

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

OFFERTORY COLLECTION – 18th April 2021
CC - £675.60 OLOL £365.05

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www.catholicweston.org