

# THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN WESTON-SUPER-MARE

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

THIS WEEK  
**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

SUNDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> December 2021

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

## Entrance Antiphon

Drop down the dew from above, you heavens,  
and let the clouds rain down the Just one; let  
the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

## Collect

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your  
grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the  
incarnation of Christ your Son, was made  
known by the message of and Angel, may by  
his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory  
of his Resurrection.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading** Micah 5:1-4

**Psalm** God of hosts, bring us back;  
let your face shine on us and  
we shall be saved.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** Hebrews 10:5-10

**Gospel Verse** I am the handmaid of the  
Lord: let what you have said  
be done to me.

**Gospel** Luke 1:39-45



[cliftondiocese.com](http://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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**Canon Tom Gunning**

## JOY AND SALVATION

In the Visitation of Mary to her cousin Elizabeth we  
have the meeting of John the Baptist with Jesus. Still  
in the womb John is overjoyed that Jesus, present in  
the womb of Mary, has come into the world. Elizabeth  
has been filled with the Holy Spirit. She recognises  
the presence of God (My Lord) in her midst. Elizabeth  
recognises Mary as the Mother of the Lord and as a  
believer. Mary believed what was promised to her by  
the Angel Gabriel. She has become the Mother of  
God. She brings Jesus into the world.

So, we are joyful as we approach the celebration of  
our salvation. God is truly with us, and he has come to  
save us. In our Gospel passage Jesus is in the shadow  
of Mary's womb. In the rest of the Gospel Mary is in  
the shadow of Jesus as she adds the title "disciple" to  
that of Mother and believer. A disciple is a learner  
and a follower.

So, we welcome the Lord again into our lives this  
Christmas and make a promise that we will deepen  
our faith in him as we follow in his steps doing his will.

PARISH PRIEST: **CANON TOM GUNNING**

Corpus Christi Presbytery, 14 Ellenborough Park South, BS23 1XW // 01934 621929 // [tom.gunning@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:tom.gunning@cliftondiocese.com)

### CORPUS CHRISTI (CC)

Ellenborough Park South, BS23 1XW  
[wsm.corpuschristi@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:wsm.corpuschristi@cliftondiocese.com)  
01934 621929  
Assistant Priest: Fr. Michael Fanéy  
Administrator: Tracey Nelson  
Opening hours: 9.15am-1.15pm. Tues-Fri

### OUR LADY OF LOURDES (LOL)

Baytree Road, Milton, BS22 8HQ  
[wsm.ourladyoflourdes@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:wsm.ourladyoflourdes@cliftondiocese.com)  
01934 627137/07577773452  
Administrator: Maricris Magbanua  
Opening hours: Tues 9-2pm Thurs & Fri 2-4pm

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

Camp Road, BS23 2EN  
[wsm.stjoseph@cliftondiocese.com](mailto: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** - Fr. Louis Beasley Suffolk, the Parish Priest of Wincanton who is now in a coma. Please pray for all our parishioners who are unable to come to church this Christmas because of health conditions.

**THE DIVINE MERCY CANDLE** is being kept alight at Our Lady of Lourdes. This week we pray for the Donor's Intentions.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Leah Bressington and Robert Keehan who were married in CC on Sat 18<sup>th</sup> Dec.

### **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.

**BECOMING A CATHOLIC** - Are you interested in finding out more about the Catholic faith or becoming a Catholic? Do you know anyone who may be interested in becoming a Catholic? If so please talk to Canon Tom.

**THE SEASON OF CHRISTMAS-** The great prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled. "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given"(Is 9:6). We often hear it said that the greatest joy in life is the birth of a child. It is something extraordinary and it changes everything. It brings an excitement that makes us think nothing of weariness, discomfort and sleepless nights, for it fills us with a great incomparable happiness. This is what Christmas is: the birth of Jesus is the "newness" that enables us to be reborn each year and find, in him, the strength needed to face every trial. Why? Because his birth is for us-for me, for you, for all of us, for everyone."For us a child is born" Isaiah prophesied. "For us is born this day a Saviour" we repeated in the Psalm. Jesus "gave himself for us (Tit 2:14), Saint Paul tells us, and in the Gospel the angel proclaims: "For to you is born this day a Saviour" (Lk 2:11) For me, for you".

*By Pope Francis*

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2022** - applications for Corpus Christi are now closed, please apply to OLOL by emailing the office for an application form [wsmourladyoflourdes@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:wsmourladyoflourdes@cliftondiocese.com) and it should be returned by the end of Dec.

### **PRACTICAL GUIDANCE FOR THE CHURCH**

- **HAND SANITISER** is available to those attending the Church.
- **FACE COVERINGS** must be worn by those attending public acts of worship unless there is a genuine exemption/those leading worship/ a role that requires masks to be removed for a period of time.
- **GOOD VENTILATION** and air throughout the building; in this case, because of climatic conditions, **please wrap up well!**
- There is now very strong evidence to support that the main mode of this variant's viral transmission is through aerosols, and that the risk from surface and touch transmission is very small indeed. As such, the strict regimes of **church cleaning are no longer** necessary. General church cleaning is sufficient
- Those engaged in a form of pastoral ministry (e.g ministry to the housebound, sick and vulnerable) should **take regular lateral flow tests** to ensure they are safe to do so.

**CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS AT CC** - Deacon Mike and Kitty Roberts ask for help in decorating the church on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:30am

**PRE-CHRISTMAS CLEANING AT CC** will be after 9:30 am Mass on Mon 20<sup>th</sup> Dec. If you're able to spare an hour or less it will be greatly appreciated.

**CHRISTMAS OFFERING FOR THE CLERGY-** as is customary the Collection at the Christmas Masses goes to the clergy of the parish-envelopes are now available in our narthex.

### **EXTRA CONFESSION TIMES**

<b>Tues 21<sup>st</sup> Dec</b>	<b>10am at OLOL</b>
<b>Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec</b>	<b>6pm at CC</b>
<b>Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec</b>	<b>12noon at CC</b> <b>7:30pm at OLOL</b>
<b>Fri 24<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	<b>3pm at CC</b>

**FAMILY/CHILDREN MASS AT CC & OLOL-** We would like to encourage parents to bring their children to the Christmas Vigil Mass on the 24<sup>th</sup> Dec 5:30pm (If it is safe to do so). Children are welcome to dress as characters from Nativity, if they wish.

**THANK YOU** - Canon Tom and Fr. Michael thanks everyone who has given them cards and gifts for Christmas. A BIG THANK YOU to all who helped prepare the various churches for Christmas.

**SYNOD: LISTENING WITH THE HEART**- Pope Francis invites everyone to participate in the 2023 Synod Process. All are asked to respond. In prayer we are asked to listen to each other's hopes, dreams and concerns for the Church in the future. Are you a good listener? Are you willing to lead a group? If so please let **Sonia Briffitt or Canon Tom** know. Groups will gather in January and a parish response will be sent to Bishop Declan by the end of February.

**CAFOD** is combining efforts with the DEC to launch the **Afghanistan Crisis Appeal**. In Afghanistan, 8 million people are on the brink of famine because of drought, collapsing economy, food shortages, conflict, and COVID. CAFOD is supporting sister Caritas agencies to reach communities most in need with food, clean water, and fuel. During Advent, when we open ourselves to the needs of others, let's do all that we can to save lives. You can donate on the CAFOD website: [cafod.org.uk/AfghanistanAppeal](https://cafod.org.uk/AfghanistanAppeal) and please pray for the people of Afghanistan.

**A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE GREEN TEAM**. Around the world, households discard 74kg of food a person, according to data from the UN, and [food waste and loss causes about 10% of the emissions](#) driving the climate emergency. If food waste was a country, it would have the third highest emissions after only the US and China. Just during the Christmas period 2 million turkeys, 5 million Christmas puddings, and 74 million mince pie get disposed of while still edible, causing almost 270,000 tons of food waste in total. "It only lasts a couple of days so we don't need to shop as if we are under siege for a month," advises Rob Percival, the [Soil Association's](#) head of food policy. As Christians we can all play our part in showing respect to Our Creator, to Others and to Our Common Home by remembering a few simple tips: Planning in advance, taking into account portion sizes and the number of people. Buying Loose, e.g. vegetables etc to reduce the amount of packaging. Avoiding Deals, buying only what we can reasonably use, unless we can share with others. Planning Our Storage, e.g. freezing and being creative with using up leftovers. Wishing Peace and Goodwill to all this Christmas, The Green Team.

**UNIVERSE CATHOLIC WEEKLY** online edition. The subscription is £20 for 3 months. Phone Michelle Jones on 0743 661 7650 or go to the website: [universecatholicweekly.co.uk](https://universecatholicweekly.co.uk)

**BBC1 MIDNIGHT MASS** comes this year from St Chad's Cathedral in Birmingham and begins at 11:45 pm on Fri 24<sup>th</sup>.

**CHRISTMAS MASSES** - For those who are unable to come to mass or any services during Christmas, please note that you can join us either by Zoom at Corpus Christi or Live Stream via YouTube - "Catholic Weston" at OLOL.

**CRIB OFFERINGS** - this will go to the Clifton Children Society that offers adoption services that includes recruiting, assessing and preparing adoptive families for some of the most vulnerable children in the UK, supporting children and family throughout the adoption process and beyond. Please give generously

**CAFOD ARE HIRING** -. Could you inspire Catholics to participate in the Church's mission, working to overcome poverty and injustice? Do you want to work for CAFOD and encourage support and partnership within the Church? We are looking for a Community Participation Coordinator to work in the Diocese of Clifton. Follow the link for more details and please pass on to any friends or relatives who might be interested. Closing date 9 January 2022. <https://isw.changeworknow.co.uk/cafod/vms/e/career/positions/cJAl47Y0nebARldQy7yJzt>

**OLOL - PARISH TREASURER** - After 14 years, Peter Mason is standing down as Parish Treasurer in January, following the completion of the end of year Annual Return. If you feel that you are able to take over this responsible position in the Parish, please speak with either Canon Tom or Peter, who will let you know what is involved. This will normally only involve 2/3 hours per week. We use a Diocesan on-line account package (OPAS) and the Diocesan Finance Office will be asked to give training on its use. We would like to thank Peter for all his hard work and contribution to the parish over the last 14 years.

**MARY'S MEALS** -Join our Big Family Christmas and help feed even more hungry children. Do you know it costs just £15.90 to feed a child with Mary's Meals for an entire school year? and right now, thanks to [Double The Love](#), donations are being matched by a generous group of supporters – with up to £1.6 million available. This means you can transform the lives of two children by sending our popular [£15.90 gift card](#) or setting a place at our [Big Family Christmas](#) table.

**THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB** at CC Hall has closed until Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

# WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK...

CC -CORPUS CHRISTI OLOL - OUR LADY OF LOURDES ST. J'S - ST. JOSEPH'S

	PARISH MASSES & INTENTIONS			OTHER GROUPS & EVENTS		
<b>SUNDAY</b> FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	6.00pmSat	CC	<b>Vigil Mass</b> Jean & Philip Vowels 25 <sup>th</sup> Wed Anniv.	9.00am	CC	<b>Mass in Polish</b>
	9.15am	OLOL	<b>Mass</b> Bernard & Mary Winifred Bray RIP	3:00pm	CC	<b>Syro-Malabar Mass</b>
	11.00am	CC	<b>Mass</b> People of the Parish	6.00pm	St. J's	<b>Mass</b> Intentions of parishioners unable to attend Mass due to health concerns
<b>MONDAY</b> Weekday of Advent	9.30am	CC	<b>Mass</b> Sinead Kimber's Int	10:15am	OLOL	Coffee/Tea after 9:15am Mass
<b>TUESDAY</b> St. Peter Canisius, Priest	9.30am	OLOL	<b>Mass</b> Dennis & Muriel Birch RIP	12:00nn	CC	Coffee/Tea after 11am Mass
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> Weekday of Advent	10.00am	CC	<b>Mass</b> Bernard Corrigan RIP	7.00pm	St. J's	<b>Mass in Polish</b>
<b>THURSDAY</b> St. John of Kanty, Priest	7.00pm	OLOL	<b>Mass</b> Kathleen Constance & James Moroney intentions	10.00am	St. J's	<b>Mass in Polish</b>
<b>FRIDAY</b> VIGIL MASS	5.30PM	CC	<b>VIGIL MASS OF CHRISTMAS</b>	11:00AM	CC	<b>Syro-Malabar Mass</b>
	10:30PM	CC	<b>CAROLS AND READINGS</b>	8:00PM	CC	<b>Polish Mass</b>
	11:00PM	CC	<b>NIGHT MASS OF CHRISTMAS</b>			
	5:30PM	OLOL	<b>VIGIL MASS (FOR CHILDREN)</b> John Slattery RIP			
	8:15PM	OLOL	<b>CAROLS</b>			
8:30PM	OLOL	<b>NIGHT MASS OF CHRISTMAS</b> People of the Parish				
<b>SATURDAY</b> SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD	9:30AM	OLOL	<b>CHRISTMAS DAY MASS</b> Kathleen Queenan RIP <b>NO MID DAY MASS</b>	9:00am	CC	<b>Polish Mass</b>
	11:00AM	CC	<b>CHRISTMAS DAY MASS</b> AND DAWN READINGS			
<b>NEXT SUNDAY</b> Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph	6.00pm Sat	CC	<b>NO EVENING MASS</b>	9.00am	CC	<b>Mass in Polish</b>
	9.15am	OLOL	<b>Mass</b> Joyce Deakin RIP	6.00pm	St. J's	<b>Mass</b> Deceased Members of the Peck family
	11.00am	CC	<b>Mass</b> People of the Parish	10:15am	OLOL	<b>NO COFFEE MORNING</b>
				12:00nn	CC	Coffee/Tea after 11:00am Mass Parish Hall

## 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 St J's  
Thursday 7.30pm OLOL**

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

There will be a Second Collection this weekend at St. Joseph Parish for the parish of Christ the King in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.

## Collection for 5<sup>th</sup> December 2021

CC - £360.70 Poor Mission - £ 281.41  
OLOL £161.28 Poor Mission - £ 114.00  
ST J'S To follow



**THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN  
WESTON-SUPER-MARE  
www.catholicweston.org**

*We wish all our parishioners and visitors  
all the graces and blessings of Christmas.*