



**CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH BOSCOMBE : OUTREACH**  
**30<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

**Calling all our Parishioners 2.**

First of all, how are you? How are you feeling and coping at this very uncertain and difficult time? All of you, and every one, are in our prayers that you will be safe and well. In this ongoing world situation, we are like the first Jesuits who lived scattered across the globe, at a distance. But, in spite of their separation, they remained intimately connected through the technology of their day — letters, carefully crafted and shared — so that each continued to feel united with all the others. They read and re-read those letters, and they prayed for one another daily. Still one community, still one mission, still one life. So we, embracing this moment in the same spirit of those first Jesuits, are using the technology of our day, to show gentleness and compassion, caring for and inspiring one another as we face the challenges. Separated, to be sure, but still united. Still a Parish community.

Given the tough new restrictions put in place by our government, we are now unable to go to church so we want to bring the Church to you. Obviously, it is no substitute for the Real Thing, but in a time like this, it's a grace nonetheless.

You can watch **MASS ONLINE**: Please check <https://mass-online.org/>

The Sisters are also live streaming **Adoration and Family Prayer** everyday :  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXSht03CJERYpTF7NSHcwKw>

STAY AND PRAY 

Now that we have more spare time, as a Parish family, let us pray for all our sick including: Sally Lees, Frank Brooks, Carmel Rippington, Michael Crich, Joyce Smith and Angela Hagley.

Also for all those whose Anniversaries occur at this time: Pauline Van Hugel, Philip Roe, Fr Fintan Creavan SJ and Brother James Spence SJ

OUR PARISH IS GROWING.  

We welcome 5 new members of our Parish who have joined us recently: Frs Michael Bossy SJ, Jack Mahoney SJ and Joe Munitiz SJ., and Lily and Mia who were baptised last week.

**SOUND BITES**

**Last Week we celebrated the Anniversary of the death of Saint Oscar Romero (March 24<sup>th</sup>) and the Feast of the Annunciation (March 25<sup>th</sup>)**

“Wherever there is someone who has been baptised, that is where the church is”. (Romero)  
That is us, people!!

“For Mary the Annunciation demanded a huge leap of faith. Mary didn’t stop to think about the sheer unlikelihood of what was being announced. Mary’s focus was on God”.

### **Something to think and pray about this week in lockdown**

**Our liturgy this Sunday** brings us nearer to the climax of Passiontide, but the readings are full of hope and life. In our First Reading, the people of Israel are exiled in Babylon. The prophet tells them that God will put a new spirit in them and raise them from their graves. The Psalm is a prayer of trust in God, who is full of mercy and compassion. He will redeem Israel. In the Second Reading, St Paul tells us that because we have received the Spirit of Christ, then ‘he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies.’ The Gospel unites all these themes of mercy and trust, of death and life, of redemption and resurrection, in the miracle of the raising of Lazarus from the dead. This great sign of Jesus being ‘the resurrection and the life’ leads us into the coming weeks. As we contemplate these readings this week, may we draw closer to our Lord and accompany him as he sets his face towards Jerusalem.



#### **A CORONA VIRUS PRAYER**

Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness.” At your command, the sick were made well.

Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow. Heal those who are sick with the virus. Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace. Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace. Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace. Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth. Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace.

Jesus Christ, heal us.

#### ***BILL GATES’ MEDITATION:***

*I’m a strong believer that there is a spiritual purpose behind everything that happens... As I meditate upon this, I want to share with you what I feel the Corona/COVID-19 virus is really doing to us:*

1) It is reminding us that we are all equal, regardless of our culture, religion, occupation, financial situation or how famous we are. This disease treats us all equally, perhaps we should too. If you don’t believe me, just ask Tom Hanks.

2) It is reminding us that we are all connected and something that affects one person has an effect on another. It is reminding us that the false borders that we have put up have little

value as this virus does not need a passport. It is reminding us, by oppressing us for a short time, of those in this world whose whole life is spent in oppression.

3) It is reminding us of how precious our health is and how we neglect it by eating unhealthy food. If we don't look after our health, we will, of course, get sick.

4) It is reminding us of the shortness of life and of what is most important for us to do, which is to help each other, especially those who are old or sick. Our purpose is not to buy toilet rolls.

5) It is reminding us of how materialistic our society has become and how, when in times of difficulty, we remember that it's the essentials that we need (food, water, medicine) as opposed to the luxuries that we sometimes unnecessarily give value to.

6) It is reminding us of how important our family and home life is. It is forcing us back into our houses so we can rebuild them into our home and to strengthen our family unit..

7) It is reminding us that our true work is not our job, that is what we do, not what we were created to do. Our true work is to look after each other, to protect each other and to be of benefit to one another.

8) It is reminding us to keep our egos in check. It is reminding us that no matter how great we think we are or how great others think we are, a virus can bring our world to a standstill.

9) It is reminding us that the power of freewill is in our hands. We can choose to cooperate and help each other, to share, to give, to help and to support each other or we can choose to be selfish, to hoard, to look after only our self. Indeed, it is difficulties that bring out our true colors.

10) It is reminding us that we can be patient, or we can panic. We can either understand that this type of situation has happened many times before in history and will pass, or we can panic and see it as the end of the world.

11) It is reminding us that this can either be an end or a new beginning. This can be a time of reflection and understanding, where we learn from our mistakes, or it can be the start of a cycle which will continue until we finally learn the lesson we are meant to.

12) It is reminding us that after every difficulty, there is always ease. Life is cyclical, and this is just a phase in this great cycle. We do not need to panic; this too shall pass. 😂

**SEE YOU NEXT WEEK**