



CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH BOSCOMBE : OUTREACH 6,

APRIL 26th, 2020



MESSAGE FROM Fr. ADRIAN:

Hello everyone,

Today's Gospel, 3rd Sunday of Easter, is one of the loveliest stories in the Gospel. The story of Jesus accompanying the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. Jesus explained the Scriptures to them and revealed himself in the breaking of Bread. Jesus does the same for us in our Mass. He speaks to us in the Scriptures and nourishes us in Holy Communion. At the moment, we are unable to be present at Mass in our Parish Church. However the Mass is being offered each day in our Church.

Today's Gospel reminds us that Jesus accompanies us on our journey. He listens to us, he encourages us and the Bread is being broken, he offers himself to us. Christ is present to us. Let us all be assured that Jesus walks alongside us: he is our companion. In our enforced lockdown Jesus is not locked out of our lives. He loves us: he heals us, he forgives us. I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.

Let us pray for each other. We remember especially the sick and the housebound. We also remember the many parishioners who work in the health service and caring professions, whether in hospitals or retirement homes. We pray that soon we will be able to greet each other again, hear the Word of God and receive Holy Communion in our beautiful church.

Keep safe. Prayers and Blessings and I do miss you, Yours devotedly, Adrian Howell SJ



LETS PRAY ESPECIALLY FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH:

Sally Lees, Carmel Rippington, Joyce Smith, Angela Hagley, Win Merricks and Josephine Bau

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY: Muriel Botorek

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Silvina Da Silva

ALSO for all our parishioners who are living in local care and residential homes who we are unable to visit. We also pray for the staff who support and care for the residents

EASTER SPIRITUALITY FOR A STRANGE TIME

Easter spirituality implies a gradual process. Confusion, anxiety, disorientation, restlessness and even grief, are not excluded from the Easter experience. That is how it was for Jesus' followers. It was only after stumbling in the dark and mistaking Jesus for the gardener that Mary Magdalen recognized him. The apostles in the upper room fared no better. In utter disbelief at the incredulous sight, they confused Jesus for a ghost. Thomas insisted, in his doubt, that he needed to reach out and touch his friend whose death he had witnessed. And the disciples headed toward Emmaus only came to recognize their risen Lord after having walked with him the whole day. The disciples needed more time so Jesus instructed them to stay put and continued to appear to the

them: "I am sending the promise of my Father upon you; but stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

Jesus appears to us, too. And, like the disciples, so many of us are isolated, hidden away in our homes, unable to go out. So Jesus comes to us, inviting our questions, worries and even, at times, our lack of faith. He invites us to touch his wounds. He tells us, too, to stay put, because we also need more time to understand what the Resurrection means. We are given the 50 days of Easter to let our understanding of the Resurrection take root in our lives, to develop an Easter spirituality. In those 50 days, we hear the readings from the Acts of the Apostles, in which we see the transformation of the disciples from being startled and terrified to boldly proclaiming the Good News; from being scattered to coming together as a united, caring group, taking care of each other, much as we have done over these past weeks.

In our spiritual journey this Easter, the Risen Christ tells us to REJOICE and gifts us with PEACE, both of which seem rather difficult at this time of anxiety and uncertainty. But as we learn to see with Easter eyes, and our vision grows more focused, the face of the Risen Lord will surprise us in contours and details we might have otherwise missed. It is not yet Pentecost, but we are staying put, for now, waiting for the breath of the Spirit to open our horizons and renew us as a Parish community, so that we can give witness to the new life that the Lord wants to resurrect in us, at this moment in our history.

The resurrection does not mean resetting the clock. Rather, it transforms everything, including time itself. So when lockdown is over and we do finally leave our homes, return to our schools and places of work, visit family and friends, it won't be because our lives have returned to "normal". That would be to ignore everything that we have experienced, all the sacrifices made by so many, the loss of life and the great cost; to forget all the heroes, the solidarity and care, the gratitude and generosity and the reminder that we'll NEVER WALK ALONE.

It means looking beyond Covid 19 to a different, changed life, the one that God is calling us to. So let's welcome the current crisis as Pope Francis suggests as an "opportunity to prepare for our collective future", keeping in mind everything we have learned and all we have become: our new sense of mission, a new way of communicating and of being church; a new and deeper communion that has brought us closer than we have ever been before. ALLELUIA

Celebrating Easter by Reflecting on the Environment.

Pope Francis believes that the coronavirus could inspire change, spur an "ecological conversion", and help us to be more environmentally conscious. "We need to reconnect with our real surroundings and contemplate the natural world. This is the opportunity for conversion." The sharp reduction in traffic and flights is causing a dip in greenhouse gas emissions and so air quality has started to improve all over the world. Our planet is having a chance to breathe again. So:

'Nature is sending us a message'

From India to Venice, the beautiful side effects of the coronavirus pandemic are emerging. The now crystal clear canals of Venice are suddenly filled with shoals of tiny fish and dolphins spotted swimming in empty ports, prove how fast nature can reclaim the world. In the silence of our self-isolation, we can hear birds chirping away. Wild

animals have come out to play while humans are staying inside: wild boar have been seen ambling along cobbled streets, deer crossing city roads and wild goats roaming



through Llandudno.

There are blue skies over China where the air is usually choked with smog. Following the drop in air pollution, the Himalayas are now visible from the Punjab, India, where they have not been seen for 30 years. And in Brasil beaches are becoming safe nurseries for endangered turtles. Nature is coming back to life.

So this Easter let's try, in true Ignatian fashion, to find God in all things, but especially in the natural world, whether on TV- those nature programmes - on our daily walks, through our windows or in our gardens. Let's allow ourselves to be enthralled and awestruck by its beauty. And with Gerard Manley Hopkins SJ. discover the world charged with the grandeur of God, while we wait for the great feast of Pentecost.

*"And for all this, nature is never spent;
There lives the dearest freshness deep down things;
And though the last lights off the black West went
Oh, morning, at the brown brink eastward, springs—
Because the Holy Ghost over the bent
World broods with warm breast and with ah! bright wings".*

THE SISTERS ARE CONTINUING THEIR LIVE STREAMING VIA YOUTUBE

HANDMAIDS OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

From 13th of April until the 30th April Join us by *Live Stream* from our channel in *YouTube* (*Handmaids Boscombe*)

ADORATION

4:30 pm – 5:30 pm (in silence). Daily.
Guided Adoration on the 21st April 7:30pm-8:30pm*
*text available on www.aciengland.org

ROSARY

Tuesdays and Saturdays in PT,
Thursdays in ENG 6pm

FAMILY PRAYER TIME

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 6pm

SUNDAY READINGS' REFLECTION

Available on Saturday at 7pm

WANT TO CHAT?
If you need someone to speak to call us on 01202 430927

PRAYER INTENTIONS
Send your prayer intentions by email handmaidsbourne-mouth@gmail.com or call 01202 430927

www.aciengland.org
6, Parkwood Road, Boscombe
BHS 2BH

**CHECK OUT THE NEW FEATURE : DEACON GREG'S REFLECTION ON
THE SUNDAY READINGS**

**NB. DOCTORS SAY THAT CONTEMPLATING NATURE EASES THE ANXIETY
CAUSED BY LOCKDOWN!! A LOCKDOWN CHUCKLE DOES AS WELL.**

**Where is your next travel
destination?**

- Las Kitchenas
- Los Lounges
- Santa Bedroommes
- Porto Gardenas
- Los bed
- Costa Del Balconia
- St bathroom
- La Rotonda De Sofa

**Why are the
annoying
servants staying
in my home all
day now?**



