



CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH BOSCOMBE



OUTREACH 25

SEPTEMBER 6th, 2020



The Columban Fathers are promoting “Season of Creation” with podcasts on creation and the threats it faces. “Jubilee for the Earth – A Podcast on The Beauty of Biodiversity and our Sacred Story.” It is a six-episode series, of about 15 minutes each.

Fr Adrian Writes: Today’s Readings remind us that sometimes we have to challenge each other which is not always easy.

In the First reading (Ezech 33:7-9), the appointed leaders are reminded that they bear the responsibility to point out to wrong doers’ the errors of their way. The Second Reading (Rms. 13:8-10) reminds us that if we loved our neighbours we would not harm them in any way. In the Gospel (Mtt. 18: 15-20), we hear about the duty of a Christian to correct an erring brother or sister. But there is a proper way of doing it.

Today’s Psalm’s response “O that today you would listen to his voice. Harden not your hearts”, warns us that we should be open hearted and understanding of each other’s failures. We recognise on occasion that we go wrong and other people go wrong. Jesus came among us not just to purify our hearts but to soften them, to open them, to sow the seed of God’s Word in them, to turn them from barren to fertile ground. “O that today you would listen to his voice. Harden not your hearts”. God is calling us from the error of our ways into a closer relationship with God and with one another. If we listen to God, things change; we are softened by healing love and our hearts become a source of love and forgiveness. Prayers and Blessings. Keep safe. Adrian Howell, SJ.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH: Barry Henwood, Lourdes Saunders, Sally Lees, Carmel Rippington, Joyce Smith, Angela Hagley, Mary Atfield, Pat Hayden and Barbara Atkin- Spivey. 🙏

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY: Peter Davidson. RIP 🙏

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Carol Ann Stokes; C. De Ferilas; Albert Love and Jennifer Park. RIP. 🙏

THIS WEEK WE HAVE THREE SIGNIFICANT FEAST DAYS : THE BIRTHDAY OF MARY, ST. PETER CLAVER SJ., AND BLESSED FRANCISCO GARATE, SJ.

THE HISTORICAL MARY; We do not read about Mary’s birth in the Bible, church tradition and extra-biblical writings like *The Protevangelium of James*, fill in the gaps in Mary’s story. The narrative says that Joachim and Anne were an elderly couple, virtuous but childless, who gave two-thirds of their resources to the temple and to the poor. They longed for a child and pledged to give



their offspring to the Lord if their prayers were answered. God did answer their prayer and Mary was born, probably in Nazareth. While Joachim and Anne kept their promise, presenting their daughter Mary, in the temple at the age of three.

Fast forward, and in St. Luke's Gospel we find Mary as a young teenager living in Nazareth, a tiny Galilean town. Mary would have spoken Aramaic, with a Galilean accent, but she would also have heard Hebrew when the Torah was proclaimed in the synagogue. Mary most likely spent many hours a day on domestic chores like carrying water from a nearby well, gathering wood for the fire, cooking meals and washing utensils and clothes. Her daily life was hard.

The historical Mary experienced poverty and oppression and her faith was deeply rooted in that context. In fact, Galilee was the focus for first-century resistance to the occupying power. She was not among the world's powerful. She recognized her own smallness. She was simply God's "maidservant." But Mary believes that nothing is impossible for God. She believed that God can turn the world upside down; that the last are first and the first last; the humble are exalted, the exalted humbled; those who save their life lose it, those who lose their life save it; those who mourn will rejoice, those who laugh will cry; the mighty are cast down from their thrones, the lowly lifted up. So she sang her Magnificat, passionately and confident that God rescues life from death, joy from sorrow, light from darkness.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MARY!!

MEET ST. PETER CLAVER: He was born in Spain in 1580. He joined the Jesuits and was posted to Cartagena, Colombia, the hub of Spain's slave trade. Peter ministered for nearly forty years to the newly arrived African slaves. When a slave ship arrived in Cartagena, he would take his own small boat out to meet the ships, and he would bring the people food, medicine, brandy and tobacco. He prioritized caring for their physical needs first, saying "we must speak to them with our hands, before we try to speak to them with our lips." Claver called himself a "slave to the slaves" and cared for the many



sick and dying people on board the notoriously inhumane slave ships, wrapping them in his cloak or wiping their sweat with his handkerchief. Claver assured the enslaved people that they had human dignity and that God loved them. He would offer them the sacraments and catechism, and it is estimated that he baptized 300,000 people during his 40 years of ministry. He would visit and continue to care for the people he met aboard the boats, making an annual visit to the plantations nearby, where he would stay in the slave quarters against the wishes of the plantation owners. Claver survived several disease epidemics in the area but finally fell sick in 1650 and died four years later. **ST. PETER CLAVER, PRAY FOR US**

BLESSED FRANCISCO GARATE was a Jesuit brother, affectionately called “**Brother Courtesy**”. Born in 1857, he joined the Society in 1874 in France. He was appointed infirmarian in a Jesuit Boarding School and later sent to Bilbao, where for 41 years, Brother Francisco was doorkeeper and sacristan at the Jesuit university in Duesto. There he became renowned for the evangelizing power of his humble, joyful service to all he encountered. His was a simple job: porter or doorkeeper. As the first



person most people would see on entering the university building he became also effectively receptionist, public relations officer, student counsellor and benefactor of the poor. He was noted by all for his innate goodness, humility, and prayerfulness. When asked how he managed to stay so calm in the midst of such a busy job he replied : “I do what I can and I leave the rest to God. He is a good Master”. He was a man of God who did ordinary things extraordinarily well. **BLESSED FRANCISCO GARETE, PRAY FOR US.**

SO LONG, FAREWELL, AUF WIEDERSEHEN, GOODBYE: Sr Margaret will be leaving Boscombe on September 7th for her new assignment in London.

“I will miss you all terribly and thank each and everyone of you for your love and support over the past two years. It has been a joy, a privilege and an honour to be a member of the Corpus Christi Parish. When I came back to Boscombe it was like coming home, reconnecting and getting to know you all. Now, I take you all with me in my heart; you are really very special. I commend you all to St Raphaela – I have it on the best authority that she is very fond of Corpus Christi. Please pray for me. But ... It’s only a couple of hours up the M3 so I am sure we will keep in touch. Hugs and prayers. Margaret Scott aci”



WE ARE ALSO WELCOMING THREE NEW SISTERS WHO WILL BE JOINING SRS. JO and MARIA : SRS EILEEN, MARTA and ALEXANDRA.

ANOTHER CHUCKLE

A TIP FOR DEEPENING AND SHARING OUR FAITH



Stay Home. Try Alpha Online

2 New Groups commencing very soon:

Tuesday Morning Group
10:00 – 11:30
Commencing 15th September 2020.

Wednesday Evening Group
20:00 – 21.30
Commencing 16th September 2020.

To enrol or for more information, please e-mail:

alphaavonstour@gmail.com

Next week Sister Margaret is leaving Boscombe and moving to London as Superior of the Convent in St John's Wood.

We express our thanks and appreciation for all the support, care and assistance Sister Margaret has contributed to our parish during her time.

We will miss her but aware she will still support and pray for all of us from a distance.

Although Sister Margaret is moving the Sisters will continue to be of great presence to all of us.

We wish Sister Margaret health and happiness in her new post and thank her for all she has achieved during her second time in Boscombe.

God Bless.

Fr Adrian, the Jesuit Community and Corpus Christi Parishioners