



**CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH BOSCOMBE**  
**OUTREACH 26**      **SEPTEMBER 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020**



**“Only by healing the human heart can the world be healed from its social and environmental unrest”.**  
**Pope Francis**

**Fr. Adrian writes:** The Readings for the Twenty Fourth Sunday of the Year are concerned with forgiveness. We know how hard it is sometimes to forgive people. At the same time, we know how lovely it is to be forgiven. The First Reading (Ecc. 27:30 – 28: 7), reminds us , in refusing to forgive those who have sinned against us, we exclude ourselves from receiving God’s forgiveness.

The Second Reading reminds us that the life of a Christian is to respond to God’s love and forgiveness and to show love and forgiveness to others.

The Gospel, (Matt. 8::21-35) reminds us that we must extend to others the generous forgiveness that God has extended to us. We cannot go through life getting hurt. It is how we cope with those hurts that is important. Hurts can be an opportunity to grow or they can become a stumbling block. Hurts are not easy to deal with. They can sometimes cause bitterness, resentment and anger. However, if we are able to forgive, we rid ourselves of the burden of hurt and experience a freedom of mind and heart. We are able to show love and unburden ourselves. Forgiveness also works wonders for a person who is forgiven. He or she is able to walk in friendship with God and the person they offended. Forgiveness means there is progress. Hardness of heart and resentment means there is no movement. Keep safe. Prayers and good wishes to you all. And it is good to hear the voices of the children of our school again. Yours, Adrian Howell SJ.

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

**FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:** Peter Michael Dunn; John McDiarmid; Mary Brooks; Margaret McKenna and Patricia Rita Livesey RIP 🙏

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO** Fr Michael Barrow SJ. Congratulations on your 90th 🎉❤️

Monday, is the **FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS**

A person has to have faith, a lot of it, to think that the cross should be exalted; the cross, after all, is a painful, slow way of choking to death. And yet we sing “Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name”; a hymn written in 1887 by George Kitchin and first sung in Winchester Cathedral. The deepest secret of the cross lies in what brought it about.

About one third of the world’s population is Christian. Each year, more than 25 million people are baptized into the life, death and resurrection of

Jesus Christ. And each year, about 100,000 Christians are martyred, coming to share fully in the death of Christ.

We must see the cross as the eternal, the standing-outside-of-time, the ever ancient and ever new decision of God, which is to enter into the abasement of sin and its consequent suffering. Christ embraces the wood of the cross because the innocent died before him, died after him, continue to die. But what does the believer, the person of faith in Jesus, say? Through this miserable death, God forgave the unforgivable. We had to wait for His free



decision to forgive. Jesus, God's son, died for forgiveness. That is reason enough for our eternal gratitude, for God chose not one of us to die as repayment for sin, but the Father chose His Son to die. God did not sin, but He took the blame for sin. The cross stands for that free, divine choice to end our failures with His love. And what could come from that divine act of love but life, as Jesus shows: he died, but only to rise to live perfectly happy forever. Ugly as is the cross, the feast is one of great thanksgiving to God and Jesus, and a reminder of the good that comes from obedience, even in intense suffering. Christ chooses to suffer the cross. Note the present tense of the verb. Christ chooses. It will never enter the past tense until the world, its sin and suffering, is gathered to him. The cross draws all of human history—past, present and future—into those outstretched arms. The will of God—Father, Son and Spirit—is revealed there. The meaning of history is curiously carved into its wood.

### **Solidarity needed to rebuild post-pandemic community**

In his catechesis at the weekly Wednesday General Audience, on the topic "Healing the world", Pope Francis urged everyone to combine authentic solidarity with the virtue of faith in order to heal social ills in the post-pandemic world

After expressing his joy for the possibility of once again meeting with the faithful face-to-face - instead of "screen-to-screen" - the Holy Father noted how the Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted our interdependence, "for better or worse".

"Solidarity, therefore, is the key to emerging from the crisis better than before. All humanity has its common origin in God. We dwell together in our common home, "a garden-planet where God has placed us", and we have a common destination in Christ. But when we forget all this, our *interdependence* becomes *dependence* of some on others, increasing inequality and marginalization; it weakens the social fabric and the environment deteriorates."

The word “solidarity” may seem a little worn and poorly understood. “Solidarity is more than “a few sporadic acts of generosity. Rather, solidarity involves creating a mindset which thinks “in terms of community and the priority of life of all over the appropriation of goods by a few. More than that, solidarity is a matter of justice. Solidarity is the road to take towards a post-pandemic world, towards the healing of our interpersonal and social sicknesses. There is no other path.”

Finally, Pope Francis encouraged everyone to let our solidarity be guided by faith, so that we might translate the love of God for our brothers and sisters to build communities that promote healthy growth. He also invited everyone to ask ourselves: “Do I think about others?” “In the midst of crises and tempests, the Lord calls to us and invites us to reawaken and activate this solidarity capable of giving solidity, support and meaning to these hours in which everything seems to be wrecked.”

**WELCOME TO OUR NEW SISTERS  
CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH WELCOME THE HANDMAIDS  
Sr. EILEEN, Sr. MARTA and Sr. ALEXANDRA**



**CAN YOU HELP???**

**Volunteers needed to help in order that we can continue to keep our church open. Please contact Aidan call**

**07775868253**