



CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH BOSCOMBE
OUTREACH 29 OCTOBER 4th, 2020



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: “O God , let me have too deep a sense of humour ever to be proud. Let me know my absurdity before I act absurdly. Let me realize that when I am humble, I am most human, most truthful and most worthy of your serious consideration”. DANIEL. A. LORD SJ.

Fr. Adrian writes: Twenty Seventh Sunday of the Year.

The Old Testament tells us that God cared for his people as a good gardener cares for his vineyard, and yet they failed to produce the desired fruit. We are the People of God, the vineyard planted and cared for by Jesus Christ. We are asked to produce the fruits of justice, holiness and peace.

Today’s Readings: First Reading (Is. 5:-7). Israel is compared to a well-cared for vineyard that fails to produce fruit.

In the Second Reading, (Phil 4:6-9), St. Paul advises the converts of Philippi how they should live in order to enjoy the peace of God’s presence.

In the Gospel, (Mtt. 21: 33-43), the parable of the wicked vine-dressers tells us of God’s goodness to his people and of their failure to respond in kind. The readings are, I suggest, reflecting on God’s disappointment because the people have squandered the blessings God wants us to enjoy. God wants us to make use of the gifts and talents that God had afforded us. He wants us to grow in God’s love. God does not write us off. Nor should we write ourselves off or other people either. The Christian community is the vineyard that Christ has planted and tended with such care, that he gave his life for it. He wants us to produce the fruit of justice, love and peace.

Let us pray for each other. Keep safe. Adrian Howell, SJ.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH: David Froud, Barry Henwood, Lourdes Saunders, Sally Lees, Carmel Rippington, Joyce Smith, Angela Hagley, Pat Hayden, Barbara Atkin- Spivey, Calvin Thompson, Mary Atfield, Margaret McNeil and Simon Hamerton 🙏

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY: Anna Browning, Elaine Gory and Tolmino Frulli. RIP 🙏

AND FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Ana Hewellyn and Brother James Hodgkinson SJ. RIP 🙏

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

On October 4th we celebrate the feast day of the Pope’s namesake: St. Francis of Assisi. Born in 1181 of a French mother and a wealthy Italian father, after a very wild, untamed youth, Francis gave up everything to serve Jesus Christ and live a simple life. Everybody knows that St Francis is the patron of ecology and animals; that he talked to the birds and tamed a wolf. But not everyone knows that he met a leper who changed his life, a leper who was “Jesus in disguise”; Jesus who, from the cross, asked Francis to repair the Church.

Francis tried to do that by breaking with his past, and dedicating his life to serving God and Lady Poverty, with a small group of followers who became known as Franciscans. Francis, with his characteristic incredible energy, together his friends took the Gospel literally. They astounded and inspired the Church by actually following all that Jesus said and did, joyfully, and without limit. They travelled around preaching the good news. One of Francis' most famous sayings was: "Preach the Gospel always. Use words when necessary."



Francis was also the precursor of interfaith dialogue. In 1219 he travelled to Egypt to meet the Muslim Sultan, during the fifth Crusade, in an attempt to negotiate peace between Muslims and Christians. After an initial attempt by both Francis and the Sultan convert the other, both quickly realised that the other already knew and loved God. Francis stayed with the Sultan al-Kamil and his Sufi teacher for twenty days, discussing prayer and the mystical life. Francis wanted to be poor in order to be like Christ. But his poverty had a sister: humility, which meant total dependence on God the Creator of all. For Francis, creation was a manifestation of the beauty of God, and all of creation was God's family, our brothers and sisters. He died in 1226, greeting "Sister Death", who had come to take him home.

BORING PRAYER IS NOT REALLY BORING!!!

Sometimes we feel frustrated by prayer in which "nothing happens." We want to finish a time of prayer feeling that we have accomplished something, learned something, moved forward, or used our time well. Frequently we are hoping for answers, for sounds, signs, images, words or feelings that will help us make sense of this or that. We also turn to prayer for assurance or affirmation. We want to feel God's presence in order to know we are on the right path. But we don't feel anything!! God's silence and prayer in which "nothing happens" can indeed feel painful and confusing. But there is, however, great peace that can come from giving up on looking for results or going to prayer with expectations of productivity and realising that it is all about relationship. It is "wasting time" with a God who loves us deeply and holds us tenderly, whether we feel it or not. All we have to do is to "Be still and know that I am God".

Also, it is important to know that prayer is God's action not ours. In prayer we do not find God, however hard we try. No, God finds us and gives us what we need, sometimes silently. So quietly that we do not even realise it. But other people notice because God is changing us, making us more patient, more loving... So let God slowly, silently but surely take hold of us and love us.

Restoring Hope | A series of Online Events: 24 – 30 October 2020



ECCR is proud to present ‘**Restoring Hope**’, a series of online events, run during **Good Money Week** (24th – 30th October) exploring the connections between faith and finance.

The Covid-19 crisis has created a deficit of hope as people worry about their health, jobs and finance. This series of events will help us explore the relevance of the Christian faith to our financial decisions and the wider economy, and in the process help us rediscover hope in these challenging times.

Join us throughout the week as we explore what the Bible says about money, how we can connect our faith and our finances, both as individuals and within our church communities, and how we can use the entirety of our resources to restore hope as stewards of God’s creation. Visit our [events page](#) and sign up now.

KEEP CHUCKLING



PLEASE HELP

CAFOD | Catholic Agency for Overseas Development
 CAFOD HARVEST FAMILY FAST DAY. PLEASEWATCH THE CAFOD VIDEO LINK

<https://vimeo.com/453718072/66db9d386d>