



CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH BOSCOMBE
OUTREACH 35 NOVEMBER 15th
THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK



“If we wish to make any progress in the service of God, we must begin every day of our life with new eagerness”. St. Charles Borromeo.

Fr Adrian writes: Today’s Readings (Thirty Third Sunday of the Year) remind us that all of us are gifted and have special talents. If used well, these gifts are able to enrich our lives and the lives of others. We have a duty to use our gifts and talents for God’s greater glory.

The First Reading (Prov. 31: 10-13, 19-20, 30-31). The writer of Proverbs looks for an image to finish his book and sum up what practical wisdom looks like ; he offers a picture of the “perfect wife”. In the Second Reading (1 Thess. 5: 1-6) St Paul urges the disciples to be always ready, lest they be caught unawares when the Lord comes.

In the Gospel (Mtt. 25: 14-30) the parable of the talents tells us how best to await the Lord’s return. The parable is about giftedness, the gifts we all have and how we should develop them. It is by loving that we discover our talents and by using them that they grow. We may feel rightly or wrongly that other people are more talented than we are, but the parable reminds us that all of us have been gifted by God and should develop our gifts, sometimes it may take a lot of hard work, discipline and patience to bear much fruit, but God has gifted us all. Life is God’s gift to us. What we do with our life is our gift to God. All of us are asked to grow and develop our gifts and talents.

Keep safe and look after each other. Thank you to all who serve our Parish in so many different ways. I am very grateful to you all. God bless and payers, Adrian Howell SJ

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH: Rose Smith, Ann Conway
 David Froud, Barry Henwood, Lourdes Saunders, Carmel Rippington, Angela Hagley, Barbara Atkin- Spivey, Mary Atfield, Margaret McNeil and Simon Hamerton 🙏

FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Elsie May Harvey and Fr Alfred Buttigieg, SJ. RIP 🙏

LADIES WEEK

This week we celebrate 5 important women: St Margaret of Scotland, St Gertrude the Great, Sr Elizabeth of Hungary, St Rose Philippine Duchesne and the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary: a queen who was a refugee, a mystic, a princess who died when she was only 24, a nun and “a little girl”.

1. **St. Margaret of Scotland**, sometimes called "The Pearl of Scotland", spent a great deal of time on the move. So refugees, immigrants and asylum seekers can easily identify with her. A member of an ancient English royal family, Margaret was born in exile in Hungary in 1045. She returned to England but fled the Norman Conquest, only to be blown off course by a storm, landing in Scotland, where she married King Malcolm III and bore him 8 children, including 3 kings of Scotland and a queen of England.

St. Margaret was renowned for her Christian influence on her husband of the Church in Scotland. Under her leadership Church councils the working-class, abstinence from servile work on Sundays. She cared churches, monasteries and pilgrimage hostels and set up the Queen’s the Shrine of St. Andrew.



and for her devout piety. She set about the reform promoted Easter communion and, to the joy of especially for the poor and orphans. She founded Ferry over the Forth so that pilgrims could reach

2. **GERTRUDE, the only female Saint to be called “the Great”** was born in Germany in 1256. Pope Benedict XIV gave her the title to acknowledge the depth of her writings and theological insight. She was incredibly smart, earning an education unlike any woman of her time. She admitted in her autobiography that often times, she allowed Christ to take a backseat as she harnessed her skills in philosophy, literature, singing and painting. She refocused her priorities after a mystical encounter with Christ and began to focus on studying Scripture and theological works. She had many mystical experiences. One was a series of visions of St. John on the night of the Last Supper. Laying her head on the Christ’s breast, she felt his most Sacred Heart beating and asked John why he didn’t record the experience in the Gospel. He answered, saying that it had to be reserved for later ages when the world, having grown cold, would need to rekindle its love for Christ’s Sacred Heart. Gertrude wrote extensively about the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Her writings helped spread the devotion throughout the Western world.

3. **St Elizabeth of Hungary** was married at the age of 14, and widowed at 20. After her husband's death she sent her children away and regained her dowry, using the money to build a hospital where she herself served the sick. After her death at the age of 24, she became a symbol of Christian charity.

She fell in love with the spirituality of St. Francis and was a member of the Third known miracles occurred when she was still alive, ‘the miracle of trips delivering bread to the poor in secret, her husband, met her she was stealing treasures from the castle. He asked her to reveal the contents under her cloak, and as she did so, a bouquet of white and red roses was revealed. St. Elizabeth is often depicted with a basket of bread to show her devotion for the poor and hungry.



Order of St Francis. One of her greatest roses”. It is said that during one of her many and questioned her to erase suspicions that

4. Wednesday is the Feast of **St. Rose Philippine Duchesne**. When a misfortune, disappointment or setback comes our way, she is the saint for us; her plans were not God’s plans – God’s were much better. Born in France in 1769, Rose was educated by the sisters of the Visitation; at the age of 19 she joined the community, but witnessed the Visitation’s dispersion in 1792 during the French Revolution.

Rose came to see that in closing one door in her life God subsequently opened a big window. She saw that the end of her Visitation community did not mean the end of her having a purpose in life; in fact, it was a new beginning, as she was invited by Sophie Barat to Join the new Society of the Sacred Heart (RSHJ) which paved the way for a long and fruitful ministry in places and with people she could never have imagined.



In 1818 she set out for America where she set up missions, Indian schools and orphanages. Perhaps the most touching part of her story was what the Potawatomi people, called her: Quahkahkanumad, which means "She Who Prays Always." At 72, after a long and successful life in "the missions," Rose had found herself unable to learn the native and so, instead devoted herself to prayer. We can always do something for God: young or old, rich or poor. St. Rose Philippine Duchesne, pray for us! .

5. The Presentation of the Virgin Mary, celebrates Sts. Joachim and Anne bringing their child, the Blessed Virgin Mary, to the Temple in Jerusalem for a blessing. Yes, Jesus's grandparents. They were childless until, according to tradition, after fervent prayers, an angel appeared to Anne assuring her that she would give birth a child who would be praised throughout the world. At that, Anne replied to the angel that she would raise the child as a gift to God, dedicating the child to serving Him in holiness. So when the child Mary was 3 years old they took her to the Temple to consecrate her to God. That child as we know was Mother of Jesus. She became a greater temple than any made by marvelous way and sanctified her for her unique role in God's saving



destined to become the "living temple of God", the human hands. God came to dwell in her in a work.

Statement of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, greeting Jo Biden: "We thank God for the blessings of liberty. The American people have spoken in this election. Now is the time for our leaders to come together in a spirit of national unity and to commit themselves to dialogue and compromise for the common good. As Catholics and Americans, our priorities and mission are clear. We are here to follow Jesus Christ, to bear witness to His love in our lives, and to build His Kingdom on earth. **I believe that at this moment in American history, Catholics have a special duty to be peacemakers, to promote fraternity and mutual trust, and to pray for a renewed spirit of true patriotism in our country.**

KEEP CHUCKLING

No Nativity this year because the 3 Wise Men face a travel ban. The shepherds have been furloughed. The Inn keeper has shut under tier 3 regulations and had a slump in bookings. Santa won't be working as he would break the rule of 6 with Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Donner and Blitzen. As for Rudolph, with that red nose, he should be isolating and taking a test. 🤔🤔



AS WE PREPARE FOR A CHRISTMAS LIKE NO OTHER, JRS UK IS PLEASED TO LAUNCH JRS REFUGEE GIFTS – VIRTUAL GIFTS TO DELIGHT YOUR LOVED ONES AND SUPPORT DESTITUTE REFUGEES IN UK
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