

Parish of the Immaculate Conception, Clevedon

Online Community Update #22

Sunday 17th January 2021



Tip: Text in **BLUE** and underlined are links to email addresses, other documents and videos. Use your computer mouse to move the on-screen cursor over the text. Depending on your system your computer screen should then show instructions for activating the link and getting access to the document or video.



Message from Fr Reg

The feast of Christmas is complete and we must turn from the “baby-in-the-manger” and think now of our relationship with the grown-up Christ – our saviour, teacher and brother.

Fr Reg reminds us in this brief message of the need to model our lives on the example of Jesus, the adult.

Prayers for a time of illness

O God, our refuge and our shield, even when we walk in the shadow of death you are there at our side. Be with your people in this time of danger: bring strength to the afflicted and protection to those untouched by disease.

Click [HERE](#) for more prayers appropriate for the Covid pandemic.



Favourite Prayers – suggested by you

Jill Roe sent us this prayer to share with you:

*Lord, hold my hand, I so need your loving kindness;
Lord, hold my hand, all through life, in joy or grief.*

*Lord, hold my hand, when I'm sick with fear and anxious;
Lord, hold my hand, when it's dark and storms are raging;
Lord, hold my hand and help me to live it through.*

*Lord, hold my hand when I'm lifted, joyful, loving;
Lord, hold my hand when I'm trying something new.*

*Lord, hold my hand when I fail or faint or waver;
Lord, hold my hand for I know your love is true.*

*Lord, hold my hand when I'm lonely, weary, ageing;
Lord, hold my hand when there's only me – and You.*

Amen



St Paul's Prayer

Pat Quinn asked us to print these verses taken from St Paul's Prayer in Ephesians (ch.3 verses 14-21 in the Jerusalem Bible). They are a particular favourite of Pat's, especially verse 20.

This, then, is what I pray, kneeling before the Father,
¹⁵ from whom every fatherhood, in heaven or on earth, takes its name.
¹⁶ In the abundance of his glory may he, through his Spirit, enable you to grow firm in power with regard to your inner self,
¹⁷ so that Christ may live in your hearts through faith, and then, planted in love and built on love,
¹⁸ with all God's holy people you will have the strength to grasp the breadth and the length, the height and the depth;
¹⁹ so that, knowing the love of Christ, which is beyond knowledge, you may be filled with the utter fullness of God.
²⁰ Glory be to him whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine;
²¹ glory be to him from generation to generation in the Church and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.

Singing – good for the soul!

Neil Quinn recommends [Be not afraid](#) .written by Father Bob Dufford S.J. In this version the first singer is Fr Dan Schutte S.J. who wrote (amongst others) “Here I Am Lord” and “City of God”.

A second version with lyrics can be found [HERE](#).

Chris Oplocky suggests for the New Year:

[Jerusalem \(And did those feet in ancient time\)](#)

[Listen, let your heart keep seeking](#)

[Take my life and let it be](#)

[Dear Lord and Father of mankind](#)



Click on the each underlined link to hear the hymn and see the lyrics.

Please share your favourite prayer or hymn with us at clevedoncatholicscovid.19@gmail.com

[Pope's prayer intention for January: At the service of fraternity](#)



Pope Francis prayer intention for January 2021 focuses on human fraternity, and calls for people of different religions, cultures, traditions, and beliefs to return to the essential: love of neighbour. Click [HERE](#) to watch the Pope speaking about his prayer intention for January.

“Let us pray that the Lord may give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions and not fight each other, and praying for one another, open ourselves to all.”

Sunday of the Word of God: 24th January 2020

AND
THE WORD
WAS WITH GOD,
AND
THE WORD
WAS
GOD

“Devoting a specific Sunday of the liturgical year to the word of God can enable the Church to experience anew how the risen Lord opens up for us the treasury of his word and enables us to proclaim its unfathomable riches before the world.”

Pope Francis - ‘Aperuit illis’.

This year the Sunday of the Word of God will be on 24th January. Click [HERE](#) find ideas and resources to help to you prepare to celebrate this day, which was instituted by Pope Francis in 2019.

Waiting in Joyful Hope - podcast

Jo Boyce founder of [CJM music](#) produces a monthly audio recording (podcast). This month she is in conversation with David Wells who is a well-known Catholic speaker, author and catechist.

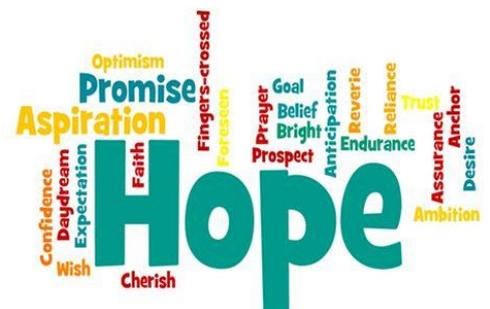
Jo writes:

*In many ways, it feels like Advent isn't over yet. We're waiting for the day when we can see and be with distant **friends and family** again. Waiting for everywhere to be **open again**. Waiting for **congregational song** to fill our churches again. Waiting for the **pandemic** to be over. Waiting to see what 2021 has in store for us all.*

Waiting... waiting... waiting!

I hope you'll find a moment to [listen to this episode](#), and that this conversation with David will encourage you as much as it encouraged me.

For all the heartbreak and uncertainty of the times we are living in, this episode reminds us that we wait in hope... joyful hope. With our eyes firmly fixed on the light that the darkness cannot overpower.



[Living Laudato Si' – Your Parish and Your Planet – online retreat](#)



This retreat takes place on 22nd-25th January 2021. It is a long weekend of talks and discussions on Zoom, as well as practical activities, on living the message of Laudato Si' in and through your parish. It is organised by the Canonesses of St Augustine at [Boarbank Hall](#) in Cumbria.

The weekend is aimed especially at people with parish responsibilities or who want to start a parish group. However any interested parishioner is most welcome to join. For more details, speakers and topics, click [HERE](#).

To join the Retreat, email Sister Margaret Atkins at margaret@boarbankhall.org.uk

[Practical Help ...](#)

... with money-worries, housing, energy-saving, training, health-and-wellbeing and jobs.



Over 40 organisations including Bristol City Council's Ways2Work team, Centre for Sustainable Energy, Department for Work and Pensions, Future Bright and the National Careers Service run a Blue Monday event each year offering help, advice and support on these topics.

Blue Monday 2021 will be on Monday 18 January and this time of the year is usually miserable with cold, rainy weather, bills due to be paid, the Christmas holiday was ages ago and people feel sad and depressed.

If you know someone who will not be able to get online and use [this webpage](#) on Blue Monday itself, please ask them to phone 017 922 2250 where the Future Bright team will take their number and ask the most appropriate advice organisation to phone them back.

For Fun

Strange times ...



Thought for Today

“We rarely think of the air we breathe, yet it is in us and around us all the time. In similar fashion, the presence of God penetrates us, is all around us, is always embracing us.”

— Thomas Keating

Finally do not forget ...

Sunday Mass is available to view on-line



If you are unable to go to Sunday Mass you can watch it via the internet at home. The parish broadcasts the Mass celebrated each weekend at 6:30 p.m. Saturday and 10:00 a.m. Sunday on [YouTube](#). A recording of each Sunday's Mass will remain on YouTube for seven days.

To find the live-stream and recordings click [HERE](#). Alternatively search in the YouTube app or web-pages for 'ofmclevelandon' NB not 'ofm clevelandon'.

This is your parish community



We welcome your ideas and contributions to help make our online community a vibrant and relevant source of support for all at this difficult time. Let us know any general news from around the parish such as births and other good news and of course deaths. Do you have any intentions you would like prayed for at Mass? Please email your suggestions to our address: clevelandoncatholicscovid.19@gmail.com.

Security

Please be aware that we will **not** use this email address to ask you for donations (these can be made securely on the [parish web-site](#)) or to seek any personal information from you. If you do receive any emails from this address that seem suspicious you may ask our parish administrator, Tom Osman, to check that they are authentic. Tom can be contacted by email on: clevelandon.immaculateconception@cliftondiocese.com.



Useful Links

[Parish web-site:](#)

[Parish Facebook pages:](#)

[Parish YouTube channel](#) – please 'subscribe' to the Parish YouTube channel and you will be sent a notification when new material is published: