

**CHRIST THE KING & ST. COLMAN (Bitterne) OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION (Hedge End) ST. BRIGID (West End)**

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

Registered Charity number 1199568

Parish Priest: Fr. Elijah Fru Nde (emergency use phone number 0777 466 7010)

Parish Safeguarding Coordinator: Michael Ingram ([safeguarding.soukc@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding.soukc@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk))

Office: 2 Dean Road, Bitterne, Southampton SO18 6AP – Open Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 9.30am–1pm

Phone **023 8044 9088**, Email [ckscolasb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:ckscolasb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Website: <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/parishes/>

25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

22<sup>nd</sup> September. 2024

## *Sowers of Peace*

*Wis. 2: 12.17-20;*

*Ps. 53; James 3: 16-4, 3;*

*Mk. 9: 30-37*

The church extends an invitation to us on this twenty-fifth Sunday, to pay attention to Christ and emulate him by leading a calm and orderly life.

The first reading for today refers to Christ, the Son of God, who was crucified by his enemies. Jesus was a holy man who chastised and denounced the conceited Pharisees and scribes of his day. They were offended, so they persecuted and crucified Christ. This passage is also fulfilled in the lives of all those who are persecuted unfairly in the modern world for having moral convictions. Like Christ, we occasionally face persecution for our justice from both our friends and foes. But we must not waver, for God will undoubtedly justify us, just as he justified Christ.

Our second reading reminds us of the importance of focusing sincerely on the things that unite us rather than on the ones that divide us. While many homes, families, and communities experience regular strife and chaos, everyone naturally wants to live in harmony. Even though disagreements will inevitably arise in life, we must resist letting them split us apart. Sadly, egotistical goals are usually at the center of these conflicts. James warns us against letting egotistical goals ruin our bonds with one another, our families, and our communities.

In today's gospel, Jesus predicts his impending suffering, death, and resurrection. Regretfully, rather of considering what Christ was saying, his disciples secretly argued about who was the greatest. Naturally, the earthly government they believed Christ had come to build was the target of their argument. Like the group of

people James addressed, the followers of Jesus were dealing with a conflict of interest.

This tendency to prioritize one's own goals over those of others is something we frequently observe in families, churches, and society at large. There, we witness animosity, rumours, hostility, violence, indifference, and threats to people's lives and property, among other vices. Peaceful cohabitation and the common good are compromised by all of these. Peace, wealth, and progress are impossible wherever they exist.

Therefore, by using a child as an example for us today, Jesus only teaches us that we must become like children to be great. Of course, this does not mean being childish. Instead, it means being child-like. It means that we must live our lives in humble service to God and one another.

Finally, to be great is to be focused on something other than oneself. It means we can accommodate, welcome, and work in harmony with others, just as children always do. It also means the readiness to accept the truth and to reflect positively on it.

*Fr. Elijah*

### **Sunday's Readings:**

#### **Daily Readings**

<https://universalis.com/europe.english/20240922/mass.htm>

#### **Reflections**

<http://www.mycatholic.com/>

#### **Diocesan eNews**

<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/communications/news/enews/>

#### **UK Catholic Newspapers**

<https://www.churchpaper.co.uk>

## 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year – 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2024

- 9.15am **Our Lady of the Assumption** (Hedge End)  
*Sarah Saxby for her birthday*
- 11.00am **Christ the King & St Colman** (Bitterne)  
*For David Deane Akbar (RIP)*
- 5.30pm **St. Brigid** (West End)  
*For the people*
- 6.00pm **Christ the King & St Colman** (Bitterne)  
*Polish Mass*

## Weekday Mass Times (24<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> September)

**OLA** – Our Lady of the Assumption (Hedge End)

**CKSC** – Christ the King & St. Colman (Bitterne)

**SB** – St Brigid (West End)

Tue 24<sup>th</sup> 10.00am **OLA**

Wed 25<sup>th</sup> 10.00am **SB**

Thur 26<sup>th</sup> 10.00am **CKSC** *For the people*

Fri 27<sup>th</sup> 10.00am **OLA**

Sat 28<sup>th</sup> 10.00am **CKSC**

Sun 29<sup>th</sup> 9.15am **OLA** *For the people*

11.00am **CKSC** *For the people*

5.30pm **SB**

6.00pm **CKSC** *Polish Mass*

**Exposition & Rosary at 9.30am before Mass (Tues – Fri)**

**Sacrament of Confession is available on request**

**Please consider offering Mass Intentions for families and friends (contact Fr. Elijah or Parish Office)**

## Our Lady of the Assumption

### Harvest Festival - Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2024

At our 9.15am Mass on 6<sup>th</sup> October, we will celebrate Harvest Festival. This year our gifts will again support The Food Bank.

So many families continue to face the impact of higher food costs. Many give to the Food Bank collection at the back of the church on a regular basis; it would be fantastic if, at this time Harvest Festival Time, we all make an extra effort to boost the Food Bank Stock Levels.

In particular they need: Tinned Meat, Tinned vegetables, UHT Milk, Size 5 & 6 Nappies.... Or any tinned, or packet foods with a good 'sell by' date.

Perhaps we could buy an 'extra item' or 2 when shopping over the coming weeks to help those less fortunate than us? Thank you.

*"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat ....."* Matthew 25: 35-40

**OPEN CHURCH:** Our Lady of the Assumption Church in Hedge End re-opens for private prayer from Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> Sept from 10am until midday. To join the rota, please contact Pauline or Jane.

## First Reconciliation & First Holy Communion Preparation 2024/25

**REGISTRATION CLOSES ON  
SUNDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER 2024**

**IMPORTANT:** The closing date for acceptance of Registration Forms of children, who should be in Year 4 or above, who wish to prepare to celebrate the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion for the 1st time is SUNDAY 29th SEPTEMBER 2024.

Registration Forms are at the back of our 3 churches and can be handed to Helen at Our Lady of the Assumption, Sonia at Christ the King & St Colman or sent directly to the Parish Office.

### PARENTS' INTRODUCTORY MEETING

- Start: 7.30pm
- On: Monday 14th October
- At: Christ the King & St Colman Church

If a copy of your child's Baptism Certificate has not been handed in with the Registration Form, please bring along a copy, or the original for copying, to the meeting on 14th October.

Preparation Sessions will take place, during school term time, on Monday evenings from 6.15pm to 7.30pm. The venue will alternate each week between Christ the King & St Colman, Bitterne and Our Lady of the Assumption, Hedge End.

1st Holy Communion Masses will be celebrated on the Sunday of the Feast of Corpus Christi which is 22nd June 2025.

Please do not hesitate to speak to one of us if you have any queries. God Bless.

## Our Lady of the Assumption

### 1st Friday Soup - Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Please join us for a lunch of delicious home-made soup with crusty bread at about 12.00noon on "Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October in Our Lady of the Assumption Church Hall.

There is no actual charge and all donations go to CAFOD.... Please join us and make a special effort for CAFOD on this Harvest Festival Weekend.

We look forward to welcoming you.

### Your Prayers please!

Please pray for Fr Kevin Delaney, a retired priest in our Diocese, or died this last week. He was appointed as parish priest between 1974 & 1980 at St Colman's Southampton, and had recently celebrated his Diamond Jubilee. Let us thank God for his loving service to the people whom he was called to serve. May the Lord grant him eternal rest in the love that he so generously served through his ministry."

## CKSCOLASB Calendar of Events

**OLA** – Our Lady of the Assumption (Hedge End)

**CKSC** – Christ the King & St. Colman (Bitterne)

**SB** – St Brigid (West End))

- Thu 19<sup>th</sup> 10.30am-12pm **Prayer Group** (CKSC)  
**NO Open Church this week** (OLA)
- Fri 20<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm **Choir Practise** in church hall (CKSC)
- Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> **Tea, Coffee, Biscuits** after Holy Mass (SB)  
12.30-2pm **Youth Meeting** (CKSC)
- Tue 24<sup>th</sup> 9.30am-12pm **Table Tennis** (OLA Hall)  
7.30-9pm **Growing in Faith** (OLA) Sun
- Wed 25<sup>th</sup> 7.00-8.30pm **Carer's Group** (OLA Hall)  
8pm-9pm **Faith on Fire** (CKSC)
- Thu 26<sup>th</sup> 10.30am-12pm **Prayer Group** (CKSC)  
10am-12 noon **Open Church** (OLA)
- Fri 27<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm **Choir Practise** in church hall (CKSC)
- Sun 29<sup>th</sup> **Tea, Coffee, Biscuits** after Holy Mass (SB)
- Tue 1<sup>st</sup> 9.30am-12pm **Table Tennis** (OLA Hall)  
7.30-9pm **Growing in Faith** (OLA) Sun
- Thu 2<sup>nd</sup> 10.30am-12pm **Prayer Group** (CKSC)  
10am-12 noon **Open Church** (OLA) Tue 24<sup>th</sup>

### Recurring Events

#### Our Lady of The Assumption (Hedge End)

- **Tea Coffee, Biscuits, Friendly Chat** (and often cake) in the hall every Sunday after Holy Mass
- **Children's Liturgy** during Mass every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Month (except in July/August)
- **Carers Group** on third Wednesday of every Month from 7.00pm to 8.30pm
- **Growing in Faith** every Tuesday evening 7:30-9pm
- **Table Tennis** every Tuesday from 9.30am to 12pm
- **Open Church** every Thursday from 10am-12pm

#### Christ the King & St. Colman (Bitterne)

- **Prayer Group** every Thursday 10.30am-12 noon
- **Children's Liturgy** for 4 to 7-year-olds every Sunday
- **Faith on Fire** 8-9pm last Wednesday of every month except **March to August, December**
- **Youth Meetings** 12:30 -14:00 on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of every month
- **Tea, Coffee, Biscuits & friendly chat** in the hall every 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month
- **Choir practice in hall** - 7:30pm on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Friday each month. All welcome.

#### St Brigids (West End)

- **Tea, coffee & cake** every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month after Mass

If you would like a future event to be included in the Calendar of Events, kindly advise the Parish office.

**Faith on Fire** will start again on 18th September in Christ the King and St Colman church 7.30pm to 9pm. All Young people from secondary age upwards are welcome. For more information contact Deirdre 07828810009

## CAFOD's Family Fast Day

**Friday 4 October.**

We hope that you will be able to support a collection for CAFOD in your parish to support our sisters and brothers around the world.



CAFOD's helps build a better future by teaching skills in CAFOD-funded training centres. Give to CAFOD today and you'll fund training, tools, equipment and safe spaces so people can learn new skills and fulfil their God-given potential.

Use the envelope in church or give online at <http://cafod.org.uk/envelope>.

### Continuing Support of the Church

Please consider setting up a **standing order**.

For Christ the King & St Colman:

**Account Name:** CDP Christ the King & St Colman

**Sort code:** 30-93-04

**Account Number:** 00887553

For Our Lady of the Assumption and St Brigid:

**Account Name:** CDP Hedge End Our Lady

**Sort code:** 30-93-04

**Account Number:** 00879747

Please use your surname as a reference.

Make out cheques for Fr Elijah to Rev Fru N Elijah

Thank you for your support.

### Our Lady of the Assumption 2025 - Our Big Year!

On Ascension Day, Pope Francis 'launched' the Jubilee Year 2025 with the theme "Pilgrims of Hope".

Also, in April 2025, Our Lady of the Assumption will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of our Church building (previously the church was in what is now our hall).

We need your ideas as to how, we can celebrate these 2 significant milestones. Please consider and pray on "What are our aspirations and hopes for the future of our church?" If you are interested and/or have ideas but couldn't make the meeting, please speak with Marion or Helen.

### Keep in touch with Portsmouth Diocese

@PortsmouthRC Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

@PortsmouthRC

<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/>

If you have news to share, contact:

[communications@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:communications@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

## Mothers' Retreat Day in Ashurst

Venue: St Joseph's House of Prayer,  
Lyndhurst Road,  
Ashurst,  
SO40 7DU

When: 9:30am to 4:30 pm on 28<sup>th</sup> Sept 2024

### Programme for the day:

9:30 Adoration, Confessions  
10:30 Mass  
11:15 Tea Break  
12:00 Talk 'Families Become What You Are'  
13:00 Bring and Share Lunch  
14:15 Talk 'Motherhood & Eternity'  
3:30 Rosary

Please bring: Contribution towards shared lunch plus £20 to cover costs.

Contact: [catholicmotherssoton@gmail.com](mailto:catholicmotherssoton@gmail.com)

## CKSC Monthly Income

### July 2024

Loose Offertory - £476.04  
Contactless Giving - Parish - £190.79  
Standing Orders & Direct Debits - £1967.50  
Donation from Polish Community - £500  
Hall Rent - £800  
Day for Life (cash & contactless giving) - £37.25  
Peter's Pence (cash & contactless giving) - £58.37  
Stella Maris (cash & contactless giving) - £116.44  
Donation to Parish - £155

### August 2024

Loose Offertory - £616.88  
Contactless Giving - Parish - £209.46  
Standing Orders & Direct Debits - £1912.50  
Donation from Polish Community (for July - Sept) - £1300  
Hall Rent - £960.40  
CAFOD (cash & contactless giving) - £25  
Stella Maris (cash & contactless giving) - £15  
Income Tax Reclaimed (Apr - Jun 2024) - £1000

## Fr. Elijah's birthday thanks

The celebration of Fr. Elijah's birthday was a great parish event. Many people from all three churches turned up to celebrate at Mass and at the party afterwards. Grateful thanks to everyone who helped organise the party and also to those who contributed food and drink.



## Prayers for life - stop assisted suicide

The Prime Minister is paving the way for a parliamentary vote before Christmas to legalise assisted suicide. The Government and assisted suicide lobbyists are putting intense pressure on MPs to support a Private Members' Bill to rush legislation into law. A Private Members' Bill was the same mechanism used to legalise abortion in 1967. This is contrary to Catholic teaching and, as we have seen in other countries like the Netherlands and Canada, it particularly puts vulnerable people at risk.

**Please pray this bill will not succeed. You can also contact your MP at**

<https://righttolife.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=2b57a06f3f56132a570ea2282&id=645828112e&e=2e3726ec9f>



## Ask your MP to stop assisted suicide being rushed into law

**It only takes 30 seconds to contact your MP using this easy-to-use tool. Ask your MP to stop assisted suicide being rushed into law.**

[righttolife.us12.list-manage.com](https://righttolife.us12.list-manage.com)

## Safeguarding E-Learning

The Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) has developed the Learning Management System (LMS) as an online learning platform specifically for the Catholic Church in England and Wales.

Training is now aligned with the nature of the role the volunteer is undertaking and 3 modules are available:

Level 1 – Casual volunteers (roles with no DBS eligibility).

Level 2 – Volunteers who hold a role with DBS eligibility but do not require a check of the barred list.

Level 3 – Volunteers who hold a role with DBS eligibility, including a check of the barred list.

Level 3 is mandatory for anyone who holds a role within the parish working with either

- children
- adults at risk or those who might otherwise be vulnerable.

**Training must be refreshed every 2 years.**

If your training is not up to date, please register for either face-to-face or on-line training at:

<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/safeguarding/training/>

Attendees will receive certificates on completion of their training to support continuing ministry.