

CORPUS CHRISTI WITH ST. JOSEPH PARISH



PARISH PRIEST Fr. Rinda Emmanuel Bamuh

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OFFICE HOURS: 9 AM - 4 PM (Mon, Wed, Thurs & Fri)

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FACEBOOK: Corpus Christi and St. Joseph Parish in Portsmouth

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Parish Safeguarding Ministers

Corpus Christi: Shelagh Card: **St. Joseph's:**

PLEASE NOTE: Any of the above can be contacted via the Parish Office

2nd Sunday of Advent – 8th December 2024

COME AND INVITE YOUR FAMILIES, NEIGHBOURS & FRIENDS

Readings of the Day

1st Reading: Baruch 5:1-9

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 125

(Response): **What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad.**

2nd Reading: Letter of St Paul to the Philippians 1:3-6. 8-11

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!

**Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight,
and all mankind shall see the salvation of God.**

Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

The Joy of Salvation

We celebrate the marvels God has worked for us in sending us his mercy and forgiveness, and calling us to share his glory. We await with joyful hope that 'Day of the Lord' when his work in us will be complete.

WEEKLY MASSES AND INTENTIONS

Sat 7th: 6 pm (SJ): For the intentions of the people of the parish

Sun 8th: 9 am (SJ):

11 am (CC): RIP of Gordon New

Mon 9th: 9:30 am (CC): In thanksgiving to God

11.00 am (SJ) Funeral mass of Genevieve (Jenny) Giffin (RIP)

Tue 10th:

Weds 11th: 7 pm (CC): RIP of Andrew Coughlan FM

Thurs 12th: 9:30 am (SJ):

Fri 13th: 9:30 am (CC): For the souls in purgatory

Mass intentions can be offered by filling the mass intention envelopes at the back of the church and put in the offertory basket or can be handed to the priest or secretary.

*Faith
Hope
Love*

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Sunday Reflection

THEME: A VOICE CRIES IN THE WILDERNESS

Last week we started our preparations for Christ's coming at Christmas. In our reflection, we focused on two things: the need to watch ourselves or stay awake and the need to pray. Today, we are going to look at John the Baptist; a voice that cries out in the wilderness.

In today's gospel, we hear the task given to John, Son of Zacchariah, in the desert. He is commissioned to go out and preached a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins in the following words: "A voice cries in the wilderness: prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, every valley will be filled in, and every mountain and hill be laid low, winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth. (Lk 3:4-6; Is 40:3-5). A summary of his message was a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. It calls us to prepare a way for the Lord by doing away with all forms of obstacles. That is why valleys have to be filled; mountains and hills be laid low and winding roads be straightened. John's message was a very straight forward message and the people who listened to him observed these in their lives.

I would like to apply John's message in relation to three things from the second reading of today: the need to improve our knowledge of God, deepen our perceptions of things and spread the good news as well.

When we were baptised, we became kings, priests and prophets. Our prophetic mission enjoined on us the responsibility to bring the Good News of God to everyone.

We need to sincerely ask ourselves whether we carry out this task. St. Paul was very happy with the Christians at Philippi because they took upon themselves the task of spreading the Good News. What about us? One thing I know is that we can't bring to readers what we don't know/have. That is why I suggest that we need to spend time to improve our knowledge of God and the Church and deepen our perceptions of things. This means we must read scriptures, the doctrine and documents of the Church and other Christian literature to prepare ourselves in this regard. By doing this we improve our knowledge only. But if we read and reflect on them in the quiet of our hearts and ask the Holy Spirit to help us, we shall then deepen our perceptions of things. This will then be the base for our Christian daily living.

For us to really prepare for Christmas, we must join John the Baptist to be the voice that cries out in the desert. We can do this by learning and deepening our knowledge of the faith. May John the Baptist help us in this task.



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FINANCE & MORE

COLLECTIONS/INCOME 01/12/2024

ST. JOSEPH: Loose plate £120.87 and Envelopes £33, Coffee £65.00

CORPUS CHRISTI: Loose plate £134.89, Envelopes £25, Candles £16.71, Tea/coffee £4.55 and Mass Stipend £20

STANDING ORDERS NOVEMBER 2024 £1307

FINANCIAL APPEAL: We need your financial help to run our parish all the time and now more than ever before. You can help towards the repairs by either using our account name, **Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Corpus Christi & St Joseph**, sort code is **30-93-04** and account number **00884996** or the online giving page for the parish at:

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/charity/portsmouth-corporus-christi--st-joseph-catholic-parish>

100 CLUB WINNERS FOR NOVEMBER DRAW

1 ST Prize	Freda Culloty
2 nd Prize	John Griffin
3 rd Prize	Fiona Ogwuche

REOPENING OF ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH

I hope you all agree it was lovely being back inside our beautiful church. On Friday last week, we had the carpet repaired and then the boilers serviced. On Wednesday this week, Uniguard serviced the fire extinguishers.

You may have noticed that there is a problem with our beautiful font. Unfortunately, something happened when the scaffolding was being taken down and it was damaged. On Wednesday we met with the man who is going to repair it.



DAILY MASSES

ST. JOSEPH: Adoration at 8:30 am followed by Mass at 9:30 am in English on Thursdays. On Saturdays 5 pm adoration followed by 6 pm mass and 9 am mass on Sundays.

LATIN COMMUNITY: 7am daily in Latin and 11 am on Sundays at St Colman's Church in Cosham with the Friars (until further notice).

CORPUS CHRISTI: Adoration at 8.30 am followed by Mass at 9:30 am on Mondays and Fridays and adoration at 6 pm on Wednesdays followed by Mass at 7 pm to allow workers to have a chance to attend weekday masses. On Sundays at 11 am.

CHURCH TIMES FOR PRIVATE PRAYERS DAILY:

Corpus Christi: 9 am – 11 am on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays

CONFESSIONS

ST. JOSEPH: 8:30 am on Thursdays and Sundays and 5 pm on Saturdays

CORPUS CHRISTI: 6 pm on Wednesdays and 8:30 am on Mondays and Fridays.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES FOR 2024/2025

- BAPTISMAL PREPARATION SESSION** Baptismal preparations in view of Christmas were to take place on Saturday 14th December 2024. As a result of the fact that we did not have baptism registration forms returned on time, the session has been cancelled. A date for preparation in the New Year will be announced soon.
- FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAM 2024/25:** Fifth session will take place today 8th of December Sunday at 9:15 am in Corpus Christi Hall.
- CONFIRMATION:** Registration is already closed. The catechists had another meeting on Friday 6th Dec. 2024. The parents evening with the candidates will be on 13th December 2024 at the Cathedral at 18:00pm.
- RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS:** The registration has ended and those who registered would be contacted privately in view of their catechesis. .

FRIENDSHIP CLUB: Now that we no longer need to set the hall up for weekend Masses, it has been suggested that we should continue to meet on a Saturday, once a month for a "Friendship Club" and open it up to the local Baffins community. We are going to start this on the first Saturday of each month, at 10 am – 11.30 am. If you are interested, please speak to Angela W, Janette, Angela G, Gail or Marion. Donations of cakes would be appreciated.

CONTINUATION OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL: All are invited to join us for our Christmas Celebrations.

Tuesday 10th December YrR Nativity at 9 am
Thursday 12th December Yr1-2 Nativity @ 2pm
Tuesday 17th December Grandparents & Parish Community Tea Party @ 2pm – School Hall
Friday 20th December Yr3-6 Carol Service @ 2:15 pm

The Nativities and Carol Service will be in the Church so we are able to accommodate the wider family community.

ROSARY, VESPERS AND BENEDICTION DURING THE SUNDAYS OF ADVENT: The season of Advent began on Sunday 1st of December 2024. During Advent, we will be having rosary, vespers and Benediction beginning at 6 pm every Sunday at Corpus Christi Church. All are invited.

CLEANERS WANTED

Now that we are back in the church, we need people to help with the cleaning. We now have one lady and she cannot do it all. Is there anyone who would be prepared to help, every other week? Please either speak to Teresa White or Angela Waldren

SYLVIA FOSTER When Sylvia died, she left in her will a bequest to the RNLI (Lifeboats). We have recently heard that Sylvia's name will now be added to a "legacy lifeboat" in late 2025. The name to be featured will be SYLVIA DOREEN FOSTER. She would be so delighted to know this. Please continue to pray for her.

AFRICAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF PORTSMOUTH: Today Sunday 8th of December 2024 at 11am, the African Catholic Community of Portsmouth is inviting you at their Christmas Thanksgiving Mass at Corpus Christi Church. All are welcome.

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITIES INCLUDING:

John Micallef, Michael Owen, Sheila Heaward, David Grant, Nicky Waldren, Janet Lentieul, Helen White, Dawn Hurst, Eileen & Joe McGannon, Vanessa Sharman, Debbie Gray, Jenny Pearce, Colin Card, Angie Sharma, Aileen Mary Sullivan, Lolo Kelly, Leonard Donegan, Tom & Joan Maguire, Ellen MacKay, John Clarke, Maureen Floyd, Philip Lush, Margaret & Brian Boland, Jim Cuffe, Giuseppe Mascia, Kamila Rogoz, Pam Farr, Terry Walmsley, Pretty Mukuhlane, Clare Hill, Frances & Ron Little, Anna Pagano, Margaret New and Sean New.

Please send names of sick & housebound parishioners so that we can add them to this list.

IF YOU HAVE ASKED FOR PRAYERS AND NOW WISH THESE PEOPLE TO BE REMOVED FROM THE LIST, PLEASE EMAIL THE PARISH OFFICE.

GENEVIEVE (JENNY) GIFFIN: Her funeral will be on Monday, 9 December at 11 am at St. Joseph's Church.

MARRIAGE BANNS SECOND CALL: Let us pray for Rafael de Jesus Machuca Garcia and Esly Jamileth Nunez Moncada who are getting married on the 9th of January 2025 at Corpus Christi Church. If you have any information that this marriage should not happen, please talk to Fr Emmanuel.

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING VOUCHERS

From this weekend, 2/3 December, we will again be collecting Supermarket shopping vouchers to give to Corpus Christi and St. Paul's schools to distribute to their less well off families. Please buy £5 vouchers and place in the basket on the altar steps up until weekend of 14/15 December when they will be divided equally between each school.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY: They have set up a clothes bank for adults at the Cathedral for people in need of support with clothing. It's not just people in desperate need, but also for people on a low income who might struggle to have clothes for an interview or special occasion. If you know anyone in need of help, please tell them to contact Emma Devine at 07851701806 or email her at PresidentB170212@svp.org.uk

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