



# CORPUS CHRISTI WITH ST. JOSEPH PARISH



**PARISH PRIEST** Fr. Rinda Emmanuel Bamuh

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**PARISH SECRETARY/BOOKKEEPER:** Jenny Elliott

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

**ST. JOSEPH'S,** Tangier Road, Copnor PO3 6JL

**FACEBOOK:** Corpus Christi and St. Joseph Parish in Portsmouth

**YOU TUBE:** Corpus Christi with St. Joseph Parish

**(Website)** <https://portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/parish/corpus-christi-with-st-joseph/>

**(Email)** [ccsj@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:ccsj@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Marian Franciscans at St. Joseph**

**(Tel)** 023 9283 1245 **(Email)** [stjosephsmarianhouse@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephsmarianhouse@gmail.com)

**St Joseph Hall Booking:** [sjhallbookings@gmail.com](mailto:sjhallbookings@gmail.com) or phone the office

**Parish Safeguarding Ministers**

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

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

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent – 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2024**

**COME AND INVITE YOUR FAMILIES, NEIGHBOURS & FRIENDS**

## Readings of the Day

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Micah 5:2-5a

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16. 18-19

(Response): **Bring us back, O God; let your face shine forth,  
and we shall be saved.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Hebrews 10:5-10

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia!

**Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me  
according to your word. Alleluia!**

**Gospel:** Luke 1:39-45

**Mary's Child: The Prince Of Peace**  
From the least of the clans of  
Judah, from Mary his lowly  
handmaid, God prepared a body  
for his Christ, who comes to fill  
the world with his spirit of peace.

## WEEKLY MASSES AND INTENTIONS

Sat 21<sup>st</sup>: 6 pm (SJ): Birthday intention of Wakuna Julia

Sun 22<sup>nd</sup>: 9 am (SJ): RIP of Fr Francis Isherwood FM

11 am (CC): RIP of John F. Keita

Mon 23<sup>rd</sup>: 9:30 am (CC): Birthday intention of Tanya Cryer

Tue 24<sup>th</sup> 6 pm (SJ): Janette & Allan Nevett 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary

9 pm (CC): Thanksgiving for the marriage of Martin Kirimi & Maria Njeru-Kirimi

Weds 25<sup>th</sup>: 9 am (SJ): For the intentions of the people of the parish

11 am (CC): Thanksgiving to God for Maria Njeru-Kirimi and family

Thurs 26<sup>th</sup>: 9:30 am (SJ): Thanksgiving of Njeru & Kirimi family for 2024

11 am (CC): For the intentions of the altar servers

Fri 27<sup>th</sup>: 9:30 am (CC): RIP of Mathew Carvalho

**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.**

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# Sunday Reflection

## THEME: BLESSED IS THE FRUIT OF YOUR WOMB

We have been reflecting this Advent on various ways we can prepare ourselves to receive the coming Messiah at Christmas. We have come to the last week of this preparation as we light the last purple candle signifying love. That love of self and of Christ called us to a further preparation last week when we celebrated the sacrament of confession, during our two penitential services at St. Joseph and Corpus Christ. This gave us the opportunity for the best preparation in welcoming Christ at Christmas. Today, I would like us to reflect on Elizabeth's words to Mary at the visitation: Blessed is the fruit of your womb.

The gospel scene of today is a continuation of the annunciation story of Mary's conception of Jesus. After the Angel Gabriel told her she was to conceive and bear a son, he also informed her that her cousin Elizabeth was in her sixth month of pregnancy. Mary could not keep her joy hidden. She left immediately to visit her cousin. At the house of Zechariah, many mysterious things happened because of Christ. As God himself, he came to renew us and to bring us what was absent. We are told that as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greetings, the child in her womb leapt for joy. The direct effect of this on Elizabeth was that she was filled with the Holy Spirit and then prophesied "Of all women you are the most Blessed and blessed is the fruit of your womb" (Lk 1:42).

The blessed fruit of Mary's womb is Jesus. He is coming for you and me. Just as his presence in Mary's womb filled Elizabeth with the Holy Spirit, so too he wants to fill us with the gift of the Holy Spirit this Christmas. To be filled with the Holy

Spirit entails complete surrender to God and allowing the Holy Spirit to lead us in the way he wants to. It means also purifying ourselves so that the Holy Spirit can dwell in us. This purification comes in the Sacrament of confession. We need to ask ourselves whether we have made use of this sacrament as we prepare for Christmas.

Also, just as the first reading narrates, he is coming to save us and he himself will be peace (Micah 5:4). We each truly need him to bring peace into our lives and our world. Many of us might be troubled for one reason or another and this might have taken away our peace. We need to turn to Jesus today to ask him to help us with the gift of peace. This can only be done if we surrender everything into his hands and allow him to act in our lives.

May the Blessed fruit of Mary's womb, Jesus, come to us in a special way this Christmas. May he bring us peace and the gift of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL!!!!**



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# FINANCE & MORE

## COLLECTIONS/INCOME 15/12/2024

**ST. JOSEPH:** Loose plate £114.70, Envelopes £33.40, Mass Stipend £10 and Hall Rent £520

**CORPUS CHRISTI:** Loose plate £141.05, Envelopes £50, Candles £13.40, Donation £75, Christmas Offering £10, Stella Maris £10 and Mass Stipend £100

## **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-copus-christi--st-joseph-catholic-parish>

**100 CLUB DECEMBER DRAW:** This will be today Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> of December at St Joseph Hall after the 9 am mass. First prize is £350, 2<sup>nd</sup> prize £250 and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize £200.

## REOPENING OF ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH

We are now all looking forward to the celebration procession, benediction and Mass on Saturday, 11 January 2025. Leaflets with timings will be available shortly. Please keep the date in your diaries and make this a special occasion.

## OUR NEW PARISH PAGE:

<https://portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/parish/copus-christi-with-st-joseph/>

**CRIB OFFERINGS:** This year's donations to the crib will be for The Knights of the Holy Sepulchre



## 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** A date for preparation in the New Year will be announced soon.
- FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAM 2024/25: CHRISTMAS BREAK**
- CONFIRMATION:** Registration is already closed.
- RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS:** The registration has ended and those who registered would be contacted privately in view of their catechesis. .

## CHRISTMAS SHOPPING VOUCHERS

We are delighted to say that 24 £5 shopping vouchers were received. These have been given to the Head Teachers of Corpus Christi School and St. Paul's School in Paulsgrove to be distributed to the more needy families. Thank you to all who donated.

# CONTINUATION OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CHRISTMAS COLLECTION:** The Christmas Collection is an opportunity for Parishioners to acknowledge the dedication, service and witness our parish priests offer across our Diocese. Christmas offering envelopes are now available at the back of the church.

## **CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME 2024 FOR CCSJ**

### **1. CHRISTMAS CAROLS AND MASSES**

**Tuesday 24th Dec 2024**

**St. Joseph:** 5:15pm carol service and 6pm mass  
**Corpus Christi:** 8pm carol service and 9pm mass  
**Latin mid night mass at St. Joseph by the friars**

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2024**

**St. Joseph:** 9am: English mass  
11am: Latin mass by the friars  
**Corpus Christi:** 11am mass

### **2. POST CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES**

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> Dec 2024:** Altar servers' mass for St. Stephen

**St Joseph:** 9:30 am mass

**Corpus Christi:** 11 am mass

### **3. END OF YEAR THANKSGIVING AND NEW YEAR'S MASSES**

**Tuesday 31st Dec 2024** End of year thanksgiving masses

**St. Joseph:** 6pm mass

**Corpus Christi:** 8pm mass

**Friars at SJ:** NEW YEAR'S EVE Prayer Vigil in St. Joseph's from 11pm with adoration and Benediction at Midnight.

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025:** Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

**St. Joseph:** 9am: English mass

11am: Latin mass by the friars

**Corpus Christi:** 11am mass

### **4. REOPENING OF ST. JOSEPH CHURCH**

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2025:** mass for reopening celebration of St. Joseph church at noon

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

John Micallef, Michael Owen, Sheila Heaword, 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.**

## **MARRIAGE BANNNS**

**SECOND CALL:** Megha Devasy & Venkata Sai Nagarjuna Kola. They intend to marry in Kerela on the 20<sup>th</sup> of January 2025.

If you have any information that this marriages should not happen, please talk to Fr Emmanuel. Let's all pray for them.

## **ROSARY, VESPERS AND BENEDICTION DURING THE**

**SUNDAYS OF ADVENT:** The season of Advent began on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> 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 AT ST JOSEPH**

**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**

**EDITH STEIN PARTNERSHIP CHRISTMAS CARD VIDEO:** On Monday 25th November, we welcomed children from six schools in the Edith Stein Partnership (St Peter's, St Thomas More's, St Paul's, Corpus Christi, St Mary's (Gosport), and St John's Cathedral Primary schools) to record a special Christmas card video. Below is the link. We thank you for your support this term and wish you a restful, joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0LqXSrcTwWw>

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