



# CORPUS CHRISTI WITH ST. JOSEPH PARISH



**PARISH PRIEST** Fr. Rinda Emmanuel Bamuh

**CORPUS CHRISTI OFFICE** 21 Gladys Ave. Portsmouth PO2 9AZ

Tel. 023 9266 0927 (Emergency calls: TXT 07424 018519)

**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

**The Epiphany of the Lord – 5<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

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

## Readings of the Day

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Isaiah 60:1-6

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 72(71):1-2. 7-8. 10-11. 12-13

(Response): **All the nations on earth shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia!

**We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship the Lord.**

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel:** Matthew 2:1-12

**The Revelation Of Christ  
To The World**

**We join all the people  
of the world in  
worshipping the infant  
King of the Jews.**

## WEEKLY MASSES AND INTENTIONS

Sat 4 <sup>th</sup> :	6 pm (SJ):	For the intentions of the people of the parish
Sun 5 <sup>th</sup> :	9 am (SJ):	RIP of Violet Heaward FM
	11 am (CC):	Thanksgiving to God for his goodness to Ifeoma Okonkwo family and praying for a successful 2025
Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> :	9:30 am (CC):	RIP of Mary Muir
Tue 7 <sup>th</sup> :		
Weds 8 <sup>th</sup> :	7 pm (CC):	RIP of Anthony & Adelaide Debattista FM
Thurs 9 <sup>th</sup> :	9:30 am (SJ):	RIP of Sylvia Foster FM
	4:30 pm (CC):	For the successful wedding of Rafael de Jesus & Eslly
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup> :	9:30 am (CC):	

**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: WE SAW HIS STAR AND HAVE COME TO DO HIM HOMAGE

The Christmas season normally ends with the Baptism of the Lord which shall take place next Sunday. But before we crown the Christmas season, the Church has given to us the privilege of celebrating the Epiphany of the Lord. Epiphany has to do with the manifestation of Jesus Christ as light to the darkness of this world. That is why Isaiah says in the first reading: "Arise, shine out Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples. Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. Nations will come to the light and kings to your dawning darkness" (Is 60:1-3).

But how could men have realized this light and how could they have known he is the one? The gospel answers these questions vividly: they saw his star and have come to pay him homage. Jesus had been born in Bethlehem and an angel appeared to shepherds to announce his birth. These are pagans who are considered by the Jews as one of those who cannot enter heaven by the Jews but God sends his Angel to announce the birth of the Light to them. The Light came to bring men out of darkness. The shepherds saw the star which guided them to the Light and when they saw the Light that has come to illumine the darkness of this world, they went down on their knees and worshipped him offering gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

The journey of the shepherds guided by a star to go and worship the king is the journey of everyone here on earth, whether pagans or Christians or members of other religions. Christ came for all and not only for Christians. Therefore, we all need to leave the darkness of earthly life and allow ourselves to be directed by a star to go and worship Christ now and for ever. The unfortunate thing is that many of us have different stars we follow: music stars, football stars, film stars,

etc. But we need a more powerful and meaningful star in order to go and worship Christ. This more important star constitutes two things: the Bible and the Church. We need these two if we must journey to worship the Light, Jesus Christ. As we journey, sometimes the star might be dim or disappear on the way as it did with the shepherds and we find ourselves in the wrong place: Herod's palace. Never remain there. This happens when we find the sins of some members of the church especially the elders or your own sins and we think the star no longer shines, or that the Church is no longer a star to guide us. The star will always shine to guide us to pay homage but we do sometimes cut off ourselves from the star and take the wrong road. The star is not an individual or group(s) of individuals but the Church that shows Christ to the world despite the sinfulness of individual members.

As we celebrate the Epiphany, let us make a firm resolution to follow the star, Scriptures and the Church, to go and pay homage to the Light, Jesus Christ. This should be reflected in an authentic Christian life.



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# FINANCE & MORE

## COLLECTIONS/INCOME 29/12/2024

**ST. JOSEPH:** Loose plate £89.70, Envelopes £33, Christmass Offering £25, Mass Stipend £10 and CRIB £5

**CORPUS CHRISTI:** Loose plate £83.80, Envelopes £20, Christmas Offering £25, Candles £9.75 and Mass Stipend £30, Donation(Heating) £20 and CRIB £31.70

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

**Donations to Bamenda in the orange/yellow buckets for November & December was £144.56. Thank you to all contributors. Don't forget to put your loose change in the buckets.**

## **100 CLUB DECEMBER WINNERS:**

**1<sup>st</sup> prize: Eileen Pentney**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Priz: Maureen Blair**

**3<sup>rd</sup> prize: Adelfa Lowe**

## **100 CLUB REGISTRATION 2025**

Members who want to step down should indicate this now. New members are welcome as there are few numbers available.

## **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**

## **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**

- 1. BAPTISMAL PREPARATION SESSION** A date for preparation in the New Year will be announced soon.
- 2. FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAM 2024/25:** Next session will be on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> of January 2025 at 9:15 am.
- 3. CONFIRMATION:** First session on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> Jan. 2025 at the cathedral at 6pm.
- 4. RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS:** Had their introductory session on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

## **MISSIO**

Marion Brooks would like to thank all St. Joseph's Red Box holders who, this year, raised £374.45. Please keep up the good work throughout 2025.

**CRIB OFFERINGS:** For this year donations to the crib will be for The Knights of the Holy Sepulchre. Very little has come in so far, so please give to this worthy cause by putting your contributions into the basket in the crib area.

# CONTINUATION OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CELEBRATION MASS FOR THE RE-OPENING OF ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH

On 11 January 2025, we will be having a celebration for the re-opening of the church. This will take the form of a procession from St. Joseph's (meet at the church at 10.45 am) at 11 am to the Library at Baffins Pond, a walk around the pond, then back down Tangier Road to the church. Once there (and given time to change vestments), there will be Benediction followed, at 12 noon, by Mass.

If you do not wish to or cannot walk in the procession, please do come and wait in the church. Various dignitaries have been invited, including the Bishop (who is unable to attend), but also the Lord Mayor, Cllr Jason Fazackerley, who is able to attend and various others.

After the Mass, there will be a light lunch in the hall, various homemade soups, crusty bread and cakes, along with refreshments. Do try to come and celebrate with us. Donations of cakes would be much appreciated. Please bring these to the hall either on Friday evening (when we are having a rehearsal) or Saturday morning, from 10 am.

## DISABLED RAMP AT ST. JOSEPH'S

Please be very careful walking up the ramp to the church front door. The potholes have been temporarily filled and we are awaiting quotes to repair it.

## BAFFINS FRIENDSHIP CLUB

We are going to start a friendship Club in the hall, running on the second Saturday of each month, so the first one will be Saturday, 8 February, from 10 to 11 am. This will take the form of meeting up with old friends and making new friendships. Please come along and give it a go. Donations of cakes would be appreciated.

## 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.

UNIVERSALIS: The new Lectionary is now available and we start using it immediately. We are not buying books, but you can purchase your own or subscribe to UNIVERSALIS APP, which will cost £9.99 for a lifetime. You can then follow the mass and readings online for every day of the week including weekends.

## THANKS

Fr. Emmanuel would like to thank everyone who gave towards his Christmas offering. God bless!

THANK YOU to everyone who helped clean and prepare both churches for the Christmas celebrations.

## MISSING LADDERS

Has anyone seen our extending ladders? They went missing during the building work. The builders are adamant that they have not seen them.

## OUR NEW PARISH PAGE:

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