

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)

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6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C, Cycle 1)

16th February 2025

“In the Lord is our Trust and Hope”

Jeremiah 17:5-8 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20 Luke 6:17, 20-26

Today, the sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time, the church invites us to place our trust in God and in his only son, Jesus Christ. Through his resurrection, Christ conquered death and strengthened our faith and hope of eternal life.

So, today’s first reading from the book of Jeremiah succinctly reminds us of the consequences of trusting solely on our abilities, on our human strength, and on fellow human beings: “Cursed is the one who trusts in human beings, who seeks his strength in flesh, whose heart turns away from the Lord.” Through this, we are reminded that all these will fail us because our success and survival do not depend solely on them. So, today’s first reading calls us to a deeper reflection. We may want to ask ourselves, in whom, and in what have I put my trust? Placing our trust in God is the best approach to life. Certainly, we must make efforts and do what we must do as humans. However, we must not forget that it is God who sustains, confirms, and blesses our ways and efforts.

To place one’s trust in God is a great source of blessing and interior joy. Hence, the psalmist reminds us that: “Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion that can never be shaken” (Ps. 125:1)

In the second reading, Paul equally makes the same point. Our hope must not be totally placed on this world or on our efforts alone, but on Christ who through his resurrection has strengthened our

hope of eternity. Hence, Paul tells us: “If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are the most pitiable people of all.” In other words, life does not end here. There is something beyond this world, and only our hope in the resurrected Christ will take us there. Simply put, our journey with Christ does not end here, it transcends this world.

While our first reading began with a very strong warning against not trusting in God, today’s gospel begins with a blessing for those who are ready to do God’s will. The beatitude is a great song that calls us to a life of virtue, reflection, and total surrender to God’s will. It is Christ’s song that calls us to trust firmly in God while looking forward to eternity. These blessings are for those who are totally and willingly ready to place everything in God’s hands. The beatitudes also remind us that all we do and work for here will gain us eternal life. That is if we do them well and for the sake of God.

Finally, the good news for us today is simple, nothing in this world can rob us of our peace of mind and interior joy, because our trust is not in this world, nor in man. Rather, our trust is in the crucified and risen, Christ, the saviour and hope of the world. The psalmist summarized this good news for us: “Happy the man who has placed his trust in the Lord”.

Fr. Elijah

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (16th Feb 2025)

- 9.15am **Our Lady of the Assumption** (Hedge End)
John & Kathleen Pearson RIP
- 11.00am **Christ the King & St Colman** (Bitterne)
Molly Tyrell RIP
- 5.30pm **St. Brigid** (West End)
For Redene D'Souza and family
- 6.00pm **Christ the King & St Colman** (Bitterne)
Polish Mass

Mass Times for 18th – 23th February

OLA – Our Lady of the Assumption (Hedge End)

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

SB – St Brigid (West End)

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|----------------------|---------|-------------|---|
| Tue 18 th | 10.00am | OLA | <i>Thomas & Anastasia Pearson (RIP)</i> |
| Wed 19 th | 10.00am | SB | <i>For Rosemary Martin</i> |
| Thu 20 th | 10.00am | CKSC | <i>For the people</i> |
| Fri 21 st | 10.00am | OLA | <i>Claire Frances Theresa Waas (RIP)</i> |
| Sat 22 nd | 10.00am | CKSC | NO MASS TODAY |
| Sun 23 rd | 9.15am | OLA | |
| | 11.00am | CKSC | <i>For Sr Maisie on her birthday and for the sisters at Redcoat</i> |
| | 5.30pm | SB | <i>For Fr Claro and Family</i> |
| | 6.00pm | CKSC | <i>Polish Mass</i> |

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

Sacrament of Confession is available on request

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

The second collection this Sunday is for Racial Justice

NOTICE: Closure of Bitterne Road East

Please be aware that from Monday 17th Feb, Bitterne Road East will be closed for seven weeks from Maybray King Way to Somerset Avenue. Therefore access to Christ the King & St Colman's will only be via Commercial Street or Dean Road.

Bishop's visit to CKSC to rededicate the Altar

On Sunday 2nd March, Bishop Philip will be visiting Christ the King & St Colman's to rededicate the altar after all the construction work has taken place.

In order for us to prepare for this day, Father Elijah would like to invite anyone who is willing and able to come along to the church on 1st March from 11am to help re-order the seating and get the church set up for Mass.

50th Anniversary

Our Lady of the Assumption Church

Events to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the church of Our Lady of the Assumption in Hedge End, which was opened on 25th April 1975, will include:

25th April **Anniversary Mass** at 7pm
followed by refreshments in hall

17th May **Barn Dance**
at West End Parish Centre at 7pm

16th August **Parish Summer Picnic**
at Manor Farm

25th July 50th Anniversary **Summer Quiz**

OPEN CHURCH

Our Lady of the Assumption Church in Hedge End is open for private prayer on Thursdays from 10am until midday. To join the rota, please contact Pauline or Jane.

Faith on Fire

Our next session will be on Wednesday 26th February at 7.30pm in Christ the King and St Colman church. All those of secondary school age are welcome.

Come and chat about your faith and how it impacts your daily lives. Nothing is vetoed, your feelings and thoughts are yours. You are not expected to be holy, just be yourselves.

Come and give it a go!!

Deirdre at fairmans@ntlworld.com

Baptism of Eve Betty Nickerson

We welcome Eve Betty Nickerson who will be baptised at St Brigids Church at 11:30 am on Saturday 15th February.

Please keep Eve and her family in your prayers.

Flowers collection for Bishop's visit

Ahead of the Bishop's visit to Christ the King & St Colman, we will be having a collection on the 23rd February for flowers and decorations etc.

If you have a good eye for decorating, please do come along to help!

CKSCOLASB Calendar of Events

OLA – Our Lady of the Assumption (Hedge End)

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

SB – St Brigid (West End)

FEBRUARY

Fri 14th 7.30pm Choir Practise in church hall (CKSC)

Sun 16th **Children's Liturgy** during Mass (OLA)

Tue 18th 9.30am-12pm **Table Tennis** (OLA Hall)

7.30-9pm **Growing in Faith** (OLA)

Wed 19th 7.00-8:30pm **Carers Group** (OLA Hall)

Thu 20th 10.30am-12pm **Prayer Group** (CKSC)

10am-12pm **Open Church** (OLA)

Sun 23rd **Tea, Coffee, Biscuits** after Holy Mass (CKSC)

Tue 25th 9.30am-12pm **Table Tennis** (OLA Hall)

7.30-9pm **Growing in Faith** (OLA)

Thu 20th 10.30am-12pm **Prayer Group** (CKSC)

10am-12pm **Open Church** (OLA)

Fri 28th 7.30pm Choir Practise in church hall (CKSC)

MARCH

Sun 2nd **Tea, Coffee, Biscuits** after Holy Mass (CKSC)

Tue 4th 9.30am-12pm **Table Tennis** (OLA Hall)

7.30-9pm **Growing in Faith** (OLA)

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 3rd Sunday of the Month
- **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
- **Tea, Coffee, Biscuits & friendly chat** in the hall every 1st Sunday of the month
- **Choir practice in hall** - 7:30pm on 2nd & 4th Friday each month. All welcome.

St Brigids (West End)

- **Tea, coffee & cake** every 2nd 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.

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.

CKSC Readers

We are looking for more Readers to join our rota for Sunday Mass at CKSC. If you would be interested in reading, please see Elizabeth Diagboya-Izediuno after mass or email your contact details to the office and they will forward to Elizabeth.

Helpers/Volunteers Party

Everyone who is helping in church as a volunteer is invited to join in at the **Helpers Party** on **Thursday 20th February at 7pm in Hedge End in the Church Hall**. This includes all of you who help out in any way. For example from being an altar server, cleaner, reader, welcomer, gardener, running a group/committee, sacristan, musician etc. etc.

Please bring along family and friends, the more the merrier.

If you can please bring a dish or plate of finger food to share. A list to write down your ideas or contributions for food is at the back of the church. Please come and join in for a get-together before Lent.

Keep in touch with Portsmouth Diocese

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

If you have news to share with the Diocese, contact:

communications@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

OLA Lenten Study 2025 The Acts of the Apostles

The Acts of the Apostles is the story of how a few Christians empowered by the Holy Spirit were chosen to bring Christ and the Good News to the ends of the earth.

“Acts: The Spread of the Kingdom” is a bible study revealing how the seeds of the Church took root through the work of the Holy Spirit. It follows the joys and struggles of the early Christians in living the life of Christ and challenges us to take up the baton and spread the Good News of Christ in our communities.

Marion Miller is facilitating this twenty-week course (divided into 4 manageable five-week blocks) starting at **19:30 on Thursday, 13th March 2025**. We will meet every Thursday evening to view an engaging video presentation followed by a time of prayer and group discussion. Hedge End venue to be confirmed.

Purchase of a Study Set is recommended at a cost of £37.99 (to avoid p&p costs order through Marion by 3/3/25).

For more information see posters at the back of the three churches or email Marion Miller on m.c.miller@hotmail.co.uk.

CAFOD Meeting – 15th February

CAFOD meeting on Saturday 15th February from 10:30am to 1:30pm at St Margaret Mary Church Hall Middle Road Park Gate SO31 7GH. Please join us to find out how your donations to CAFOD are making a difference to communities in Kenya.

Everyone is welcome and please book your place so that we have an idea of numbers as a simple lunch will be provided by emailing Jo on jo@cafod.org.uk.

Sunday's Readings:

Daily Readings

<https://universalis.com/europe.England/20250216/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>

The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation

of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever.

Amen



LENT RETREAT

*Our Hope:
"Anchor of the soul"*

7th - 9th March 2025

@ Verbum Dei Retreat Centre
Isle of Wight

For more info and to register, please contact:
verbumdei.iow@gmail.com

