

CORPUS CHRISTI WITH ST. JOSEPH PARISH



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FACEBOOK: Corpus Christi and St. Joseph Parish in Portsmouth
Also: St. Joseph's Church, Baffins

YOU TUBE: Corpus Christi with St. Joseph Parish

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

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Parish Safeguarding Ministers

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

6th Ordinary Sunday – 16th February 2025

COME AND INVITE YOUR FAMILIES, NEIGHBOURS & FRIENDS

Readings of the Day

1st Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-8

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 1:1-4. 6

(Response): **Blessed the man who has placed his trust in the Lord.**

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!

Rejoice and leap for joy, says the Lord,
for behold, your reward is great in heaven.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 6:17, 20-26

Our Trust In The Lord
Nothing in this world
can rob us of our peace
of mind and interior joy,
because our trust is not
in man, but in the
crucified and risen
Christ.

WEEKLY MASSES AND INTENTIONS

Sat 15th: 6 pm (SJ): For the intentions of the people of the parish
Sun 16th: 9 am (SJ): RIP of Derek Hopkins
11 am (CC): Birthday & anniversary celebrations of African
Community members
Mon 17th: 9:30 am (CC): RIP of Trevor Trethowan FM
Tue 18th:
Weds 19th: 7 pm (CC): For private intention of Lorna DaCosta
Thurs 20th: 9:30 am (SJ): RIP of John & Margaret Bagnall FM
Fri 21st: 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: A BLESSING ON THE MAN WHO PUT HIS TRUST IN THE LORD

The whole concept of blessings and curses is something that cuts across human history right from the time of our first parents Adam and Eve. When God created them and all the things of the earth, He blessed them. But because of their free choice, they turned their back from God through sin and brought upon themselves and us multiple curses: concupiscence, fear, shame, guilt, knowledge of good and evil, etc (Gen 3:9-24). Therefore, though we are blessed children of God, we can still receive curses depending on our lifestyles. That is why the readings of today want us to realize that anyone who puts his trust in the Lord will receive blessings.

The above admonition comes to us from the first reading of today. The great prophet Jeremiah presents us with the blessings of God that come to those who trust in God, as well as the curses that come to those who turn their backs from God and would rather trust in men. For us to see the blessings that come to us from God, we must find out what trust in God entails and what we must do to trust in God.

Trust or faith in God can loosely be defined as a blind leap in the dark. It is allowing God to be the master of our lives whether we do understand or not, the things happening to us. Trust has the power to uplift us from difficulties, doubts, worries, fears, etc., and allow God to act on our behalf or take control of our lives. Trust has to do with unconditional surrender to God, knowing full well that God cannot abandon or disappoint us because His ways are perfect. The kind of trust described here can be seen in the relationship between a mother and her child. The child trusts in the mother always knowing that the mother cannot do what is evil to him or her. We need to develop this kind of trust each day in our lives.

That is why the gospel of today gives us simple ways to develop that trust in God. This is presented in Luke's version of the beatitudes which is Jesus' first sermon in Luke's gospel. Preaching to the people, Jesus assures the people of the following:

1. The kingdom of God belongs to those who are poor. Matthew qualifies this poverty to be a poverty of the spirit (Mt 5:3). But to those who are rich now and refuse to trust in God, you have already had your consolation here on earth.
2. Those who shall be satisfied are those who are hungry now (hunger for the word of God). But trouble for those who have their fill now especially at the expense of the sweat of others.

3. Those who shall laugh are those who cry now (crying for the sins of mankind). But alas for those who laugh now and refuse to trust in God, you shall mourn tomorrow.

4. Those whose reward is in heaven are those who suffer now, those who are hated, abused, denounced, etc. on account of Jesus. Alas for you when the world rather speaks well of you especially because you are a man or woman of this world by your deeds.

Looking at the above, they sound paradoxical. They seem not to be pleasing to the ears or not to measure up to human reasoning. But indeed, that is the wisdom of God. That is where trust is expected of us. That even though humanly speaking we can't understand the concepts prescribed by Jesus, we trust in them and follow them daily. In this sense, the following blessings prescribed by the prophet Jeremiah shall be ours:

1. We shall be like a tree planted besides the flowing river, a tree whose roots thrusts into the stream. Such a tree shall fear no heat and its leaves always fresh. This blessing is exemplified by the responsorial psalm of this morning (Ps 1) which I exhort all of us to reflect on this day.
2. Anyone who trusts in God shall have no worries, because such a person has placed all his cares and concerns in the hands of God. God shall take care of them and direct them rightly.
3. Anyone who trusts in God shall be fruitful both in words and deeds and he or she shall be a blessing to others.

Unfortunately, some of us prefer to miss out these blessings because rather than trust in God, we turn to trust in men. In this sense, the prophet warns us that curse will be on all those who trust in men (Jer 17:5). The curse comes because we turn away from God like Adam and Eve did. In this sense, such a person shall be abandoned in the wastelands and live in the wilderness. He or she cannot see goodness because they have no eyes for goodness. What a pity!

Dear friends in Christ, let us always open our hearts to God and trust in Him, forgetting about the things of this world: riches, good name, pleasures, etc. Let us give Him the opportunity to direct our lives the way He wants, so that we can inherit his blessings rather than His curses. May we also be a source of blessings to others in our own lives.

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FINANCE & MORE

COLLECTIONS/INCOME 09/02/2025

ST. JOSEPH: Loose plate £89, Envelopes £23.25 and Coffee £15

CORPUS CHRISTI: Loose plate £160.77, Envelopes £20, Coffee £5.75, Candles £12.19 and Cathedral £5

STANDING ORDERS JANUARY 2025 £1,359

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>

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 REGISTRATION 2025

Members who want to step down should indicate this now. New members are welcome as there are two numbers available now, 9 & 73.

JANUARY 2025 WINNERS

1st Prize: CHRISTIAN MASCIA
2nd Prize: PAULE LUCETTE RABAUD
3^{rs} Prize: HUBERT SINGH

PRIESTS' RETREAT: This will be in Walsingham on Monday 10th to Friday 14th of March 2025. There will be **NO MASS on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday** that week.

THANK YOU to Ian Goble who has repaired one of the speakers to the PA system at St. Joseph's and also tweaked it so that it is louder.

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.

The Church will be open from 11 am - 1:30 pm Monday to Friday. (Most days there will also be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Adoration in the morning).

The Church will also be open for Holy Hour from 7pm - 8pm Monday to Friday, during which there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and friars will be praying Vespers (in Latin) and the Rosary. Then the Holy Hour concludes with Benediction.

(If a friar is not going to be in the Church while it is open, we will lock the Sacristy door while the Church remains open).

LATIN MASS COMMUNITY: 7am daily and 11:15 am on Sundays at St Joseph.

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:** This will be on Saturday 15th of February 2025 at 11 am in Corpus Christi Church.
- FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAM 2024/25:** Next session will be today Sunday 2nd of March 2025 at 9:15 am.
- CONFIRMATION:** Next session on Friday 7th of March 2025 at the Cathedral at 6pm.
- RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS:** The next session will be on Thursday 27th of February in Corpus Christi Presbytery at 6 pm.

OUR NEW PARISH PAGE:

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

CONTINUATION OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

JUBILEE PLANNING MEETING OUTCOME

On Monday 3rd Feb. 2025 at SJ church at 7pm, we had a meeting to plan the parish activities during this jubilee year, Pilgrims of Hope. At the end of the meeting, the following was decided:

1. The Jubilee prayer and the prayer of hope will be printed and laminated and used for prayers in our churches throughout the jubilee year.
2. First Friday adoration to be done in our parish churches after masses from 10am to 6pm. Parishioners encouraged to sign up for adoration time slots.
3. 9th March 2025 (First Sunday of Lent) will be the launching of the Jubilee year in our parish.
4. Parish Jubilee celebration at the cathedral shall surely be on Ascension Thursday (29th May 2025). Necessary arrangements towards this shall be made and concrete programme communicated later by parish
5. Jubilee retreat: Shall take place on 5th April 2025. Place and time to be announced later and parishioners would be encouraged to sign up.
6. Jubilee pilgrimage shall take place in October and either Walsingham or Ladywell will be our pilgrimage site.
7. Jubilee faith in action plan. We are all encouraged to put into practice our corporal works of mercy; to feed the hungry, visit the sick, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, etc.
8. Closing of the jubilee year in Advent 2025

PALM BRANCHES: We are asking our parishioners to bring the palm branches from last year to the church or presbytery to be used to prepare ashes for Ash Wednesday. Thank you.

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PORTSMOUTH DIRECTORY 2025

This is for sale at the back of Corpus Christi Church for £5 each. This gives very useful information about the Diocese and what is going on and where Priests are etc.

FUNERAL: Derek Hopkins was a stalwart member of the St. Joseph's Church community for over 60 years. He died last week and his funeral will be on Monday, 10th March with Mass at 10.30 am and then at Portchester Crematorium at 12.15 am. We pray for his wife Pat and their family at this difficult time.

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

Sonia Hopwood, 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.

FLAME 25 - UNSTOPPABLE THE CATHOLIC YOUTH CONFERENCE:

This will be on Saturday 15th of March 2025 at the OVO Arena Wembley. We have just 6 tickets left on the coach. The coach will be leaving from St John's Cathedral Portsmouth. If you are in Year 9 and above who would like to attend Flame and take advantage of these tickets, please contact me as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. The coach ticket is £23, and the Flame conference ticket is £35, a total of £58. Minors do need to be accompanied by an adult but that need not be a barrier to booking to join us.

FYI - Flame is a one-of-a-kind event run by CYMFed (the Catholic Youth Ministry Federation) bringing together 10,000 young people aged 14-25 from across England and Wales (and sometimes even further afield!) It is one of the biggest events in the Catholic calendar for young people and is the biggest event for Catholic youth in England and Wales.

Flame includes modern inspirational faith filled music, motivational speakers, and adoration. Guests announced as of January 2025 can be seen here [FLAME - CYMFed](#)
Flame is an incredible experience of what it means to be Catholic, a day to come away with other young people and God and have a load of fun along the way.

CLEANERS WANTED AT ST JOSEPH

Now that we are back in the church, we need people to help with the cleaning. Our thanks must go to Teresa, who is now our only cleaner and who has done a wonderful job cleaning the carpet on her hands and knees, which has saved us having to pay for industrial cleaners. But she cannot do it all herself. There must be someone who would be prepared to help, every other week? Please either speak to Teresa White or Angela Waldren

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