

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

Also: St. Joseph's Church, Baffins

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

YOU TUBE: Corpus Christi with St. Joseph Parish

(Email) ccsj@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Marian Franciscans at St. Joseph

(Tel) 023 9283 1245 (Email) stjosephsarianhouse@gmail.com

St Joseph Hall Booking: 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

1st Sunday of Lent – 9th March 2025

COME AND INVITE YOUR FAMILIES, NEIGHBOURS & FRIENDS

Readings of the Day

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 26:4-10

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 90:1-2. 10-15

(Response): **Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.**

2nd Reading: Romans 10:8-13

Gospel Acclamation: Glory and praise to you, O Christ.

One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

Glory and praise to you, O Christ.

Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

Jesus Is Lord

Today we praise God for the marvellous things he did for our fathers, for his mighty hand and outstretched arm. What he did for them he still does for us, in Jesus the Lord who conquered sin and death.

WEEKLY MASSES AND INTENTIONS

Sat 8th: 6 pm (SJ): For the intentions of the people of the Parish

Sun 9th: 9 am (SJ):

11 am (CC):

Mon 10th: 9:30 am (CC):

10:30 am (SJ): Funeral Mass of Derek Hopkins

Tue 11th:

Weds 12th: 7 pm (CC): **NO MASS** For private intention of Lorna DaCosta

Thurs 13th: 9:30 am (SJ): **NO MASS** RIP of Barbara McKay FM

Fri 14th: 9 am (CC): **NO MASS**

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.



IF YOU WANT TO RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER ELECTRONICALLY EMAIL US on

ccsj@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Sunday Reflection

THEME: THE END DOES NOT JUSTIFY THE MEANS

On 3rd May 1469 in Italy, a boy was born. He grew up to become a diplomat, politician, historian, philosopher, humanist, and writer. He was a diplomat for 14 years when the Medici family was in exile. When the family returned to power in 1502, he was dismissed and briefly jailed. This person died in 1527. He lived for 58 years but his writings changed the cause of modern political science. In fact, he is the father of modern political science. He is Niccolò Machiavelli. He is famous for "The Prince", a book written in 1513. In it, he describes how to get to power and maintain it. To do this, immoral acts such as dishonesty and killings of innocent ones are being considered to be normal and effective in politics. His political thought is said to be the brain behind politics in Africa and many other parts of the world. For Machiavelli, "the end justifies the means", that is, anything you wish to do or achieve, use any means to accomplish it; be it killing, dishonesty, cheating, etc. But his philosophy is morally wrong even though highly applicable in the world over.

On the contrary, Jesus presents to us the morally applicable principle we must consider in any choice, especially when faced with temptation. This has to do with the fact that "THE END DOES NOT JUSTIFY THE MEANS". This is indicative of the fact that no matter how good our end or goal may be, we must consider the right means to achieve that end or goal. If the means is not morally acceptable, then we must drop it. For example, to support the Church or a poor beggar in terms of finance is a good end. But we can't steal (means) from others to achieve this end. That will be morally wrong.

The teaching of Jesus is presented to us within the context of his temptation as Luke narrates in the gospel of today. The three temptations Jesus faced, had a morally good end but the means to achieve those ends were bad. He overcame them and refused to use the wrong means to achieve the end. The three temptations are placed within the context of the need for food, power and glory, and the need to prove oneself.

In the first temptation, Jesus is confronted with the need to satisfy hunger. When we are hungry, we need food. But we can't use the wrong means, like stealing, in order to have food. Realizing how hungry Jesus was, Satan came to tempt him: "If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf". Jesus refused to fall into this temptation because even though he was hungry, he had no duty to listen to the devil by turning stone into bread to prove that he is the Son of God.

Satan did not give up but brought in another strategy. He thought he would attract Jesus through earthly power, fame,

glory, or earthly accomplishments. After showing Jesus all the kingdoms of the world, he demanded of him: "I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, and it shall all be yours". Indeed, the devil is very smart. He knows that humans crave for glory and power and wanted Jesus to achieve that through false worship. Just a simple bow to the devil would have given Jesus the whole world. Jesus refused this. I am sure for many of us, we would have accepted the test. After all, I can go for confession thereafter and God will understand. Jesus is teaching us in this temptation that nothing; be it wealth, money, fame, power, glory, houses, cars, etc., should confuse and take us away from God. These things are good but get them using the right means.

Finally, Satan comes back to Jesus and wants him to prove he is son of God. He wants him to prove his personality. And so he takes him to Jerusalem to the parapet of the Temple and tells Jesus to throw himself down from there, since scripture says God will send his angels to protect him. But Jesus refused to succumb to the devil. It would have meant nothing to prove he is the Son of God. We find him in the gospel proving his Son-ship not to show off, but to help others. We too are often faced with the temptation of trying to prove ourselves. For those with low self-esteem, they can go any length to do that. But those who know who they are and what they are worth, they know that there is no need to prove themselves. Remember that everyone has his or her opinion about you. You can't live your life struggling to prove who you are. Just go on living your life in the fear of the Lord and He will do the rest for you. Those who want to prove themselves eventually get hurt because presenting yourself as the pleasing type never really helps anyone.

As we have started our Lenten journey, let us know that the end doesn't justify the means. We shouldn't use wrong means to reach a noble end. That is why we need to pray and fast, asking Jesus for the graces to overcome temptations. May these weeks of Lent be an opportunity to do this.



IF YOU WANT TO RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER ELECTRONICALLY EMAIL US on

ccsj@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

FINANCE & MORE

COLLECTIONS/INCOME 02/03/2025

ST. JOSEPH: Loose plate £103.06, Envelopes £46, 100 Club £45 and Hall Rent £500

CORPUS CHRISTI: Loose plate £168.10, Envelopes £20, Coffee £5.35 and Candles £9.10

STANDING ORDERS FEBRUARY 2025 £1,344

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 £82.14.
Thank you to all contributors. Don't forget to put your loose change in the buckets.

100 CLUB

New members are welcome as there are three numbers available now, 9, 38 & 73. Please see Hubert or Jenny if you want to join.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES AND TALK: Over the weekend of 15th/16th of March 2025 we will be giving out Gift Aid envelopes and hopefully signing up some new people and also some people increasing their contributions to the Parish. There will be a talk at both churches explaining why it is so important to give by Gift Aid.

CARITAS SOCIAL ACTION NETWORK (CSAN) is conducting a survey to understand the impact of the two-child benefit cap and the current economic climate on Catholic families in England and Wales. Please share your experience by completing the survey, which can be accessed at csan.org.uk/news/familysurvey, where you'll also find further information about the survey. The survey will close on 25th March".

FRIENDSHIP CLUB This will take place this Saturday at 10 am until 11 am. The next one will be Saturday, 5 April, in the hall at St. Joseph's

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.

Adoration: 11 am - 1:30 pm Monday to Friday (Most days with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Adoration).

Holy Hour: 7pm - 8pm Monday to Friday (with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Vespers (in Latin), Rosary and Benediction).

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 14th of June 2025 and 11th of October 2025 in St Joseph Hall at 11 am.
- FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAM 2024/25:** Next session will be today Sunday 9th of March 2025 at 9:15 am.
- CONFIRMATION:** Next session on Friday 21st of March 2025 at the Cathedral at 6pm.
- RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS:** The next session will be on Thursday 20th of March in Corpus Christi Presbytery at 6 pm.

CATECHISTS LENT DAYS OF PRAYER, FORMATION AND NETWORKING

The Vicariate for Evangelisation will be hosting three online events during Lent for Catechists across the diocese. These events offer a chance to connect with other catechists, share experiences, and find inspiration to hand on the faith in our parishes. Each event will begin at 7:30 PM and last for one hour. Catechists can choose from the three events based on their area of catechesis:

Thursday 13th March (Children's Liturgy and First Holy Communion)

Thursday 20th March (Marriage Preparation and Baptism)

Thursday 3rd April (Confirmation and RCIA)

To sign up for these events, please go to <https://forms.office.com/e/VkCdj1SWzA>.

CONTINUATION OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

PARISH FINANCES: Could you heat your house for £1 a week? Probably not, so think about the size of the churches and how much it costs to heat them so that you are warm when you attend Mass. Because St. Joseph's has not been open for two years, we have no bills for comparison, but two years ago, before we were shut down, the bill was more than £900 for three months for St. Joseph's and over £900 a month for Corpus Christi plus approx £1,400 in standing orders – the weekly collection for both churches is in the region of £300 or less. We'll leave you to do the sums, but the income is nothing like the expenditure (and that is only for the gas, let alone everything else!). We all know that gas and electricity prices have rocketed recently so we are expecting a hefty bill in March.

We are coming to the time of year when we give out Gift Aid envelopes for the next 12 months. This year, we are not only appealing for people to consider taking out a standing order instead of envelopes, but for those people who already have standing orders, to increase them. Many of you will have been in the scheme for years and never increased the amount you give. Could you give another £5 a month or more perhaps? Every little helps.

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: The Jubilee prayer and the prayer of hope will be printed and laminated and used for prayers in our churches throughout the jubilee year.

1. 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.
2. 9th March 2025 (First Sunday of Lent) will be the launching of the Jubilee year in our parish.
3. 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
4. Jubilee retreat: Will take place on Saturday 29th March 2025 at the Dominican Sisters in Sway from 10 am to 4 pm. Parishioners are encouraged to sign up.
5. Jubilee pilgrimage shall take place in October and either Walsingham or Ladywell will be our pilgrimage site.
6. 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.
7. Closing of the jubilee year in Advent 2025

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.

FUNERAL: Derek Hopkins was a stalwart member of the St. Joseph's Church community for over 60 years. He died 3 weeks ago and his funeral will be on Monday, 10th March with Mass at 10.30 am at St. Joseph's church and then at Portchester Crematorium at 12.15 am. After this, there will be a reception at Lysses Hotel, High Street, Fareham, to which all are invited to attend. We pray for his wife Pat and their family at this difficult time.

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

LAUNCHING OF JUBILEE YEAR, 1st SUNDAY OF LENT: Jubilee prayer and the prayer of hope bookmark will be given out today Sunday 9th of March and will be said after every mass throughout the jubilee year.

LENT SEASON: The season of Lent has begun. During this time we will be having rosary, vespers and Benediction beginning at 6pm every Sunday. All are invited.

LENTEN TALK: The parish and the Friars community will be organising a Lenten Talk on Tuesday 25th of March in St Joseph Hall at 7 pm. We need volunteers to help us in the organisation of the talk. There will be a meeting for all volunteers at St Joseph Hall on Saturday 8th of March at midday.

YOUR PRAYERS are asked for our Holy Father, Pope Francis, who is seriously ill in Hospital in Italy.

IF YOU WANT TO RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER ELECTRONICALLY EMAIL US on

ccsj@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk