



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

4th Sunday of Lent – 30th March 2025

COME AND INVITE YOUR FAMILIES, NEIGHBOURS & FRIENDS

Readings of the Day

1st Reading: Joshua 5:9-12

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 33:2-7

(Response): Taste and see that the LORD is good.

2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Gospel Acclamation: Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.

I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you".

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.

Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

The Lord Who Welcomes Sinners
We celebrate this Mass in the joy of forgiveness, and gratefully eat the manna, the food that our Father gives us for our journey to the kingdom where his banquet is prepared for us.

WEEKLY MASSES AND INTENTIONS

Sat 29th: 6 pm (SJ): RIP of Hugh & Margaret Griffin FM

Sun 30th: 9 am (SJ): For the deceased members of Heywood & MacCachen families

11 am (CC): RIP of Peter & Vera Anderson FM

Mon 31st: 9:30 am (CC): For the wellbeing of Jenny Pearce

Tue 1st: For the intentions of the people of the Parish

Weds 2nd: 7 pm (CC): RIP of Frances Duff

Thurs 3rd: 9:30 am (SJ):

Fri 4th: 9:30 am (CC): For the First Holy Communion candidates & their families

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: ANYONE WHO IS CHRIST IS A NEW CREATION

Every fourth Sunday of Lent is celebrated as "Laetare Sunday." This is because of the first word of the entrance antiphon of today's liturgy. Laetare means Rejoice, and so the entrance antiphon reads: "Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast" (Is 66:10-11). This joy is always resonated every third Sunday of Advent also when we celebrate Gaudete Sunday. As we celebrate this day, I would like us to reflect on the fact that anyone who is Christ is a new creation.

The above theme is beautifully crafted in the second reading of today when St. Paul in his second letter to the church at Corinthian wrote: "For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new is here. It is all God's work" (2 Cor 5:17). For us to be a new creation in Christ and live that out worthily, demands an understanding of the old creation.

The old creation here refers to man in his fallen state and the resulting concupiscence. This presents the old creation to us, firstly, as a life of sinfulness which each and every one of us must work on daily. We find this in the fall of our first parents and in our own sins. It is reflected in the sins of the younger son in today's gospel passage, the parable of the prodigal son. The prodigal son got tired of waiting for his father to die so he can have his own share of the inheritance. Courageous enough, he approached his father to ask for his own share of inheritance that he would receive from his father, at the moment of his death. His father being too generous, understanding and kindhearted, gave him everything he had to give him. The son sold everything and few days after left for a strange land, for a life of sin: drunkenness, orgies, sexual pleasure, useless living etc., all in the name of enjoying life. We too may not be different from him. When we leave God and concentrate on ourselves, we are not different from the prodigal son. We become members of a strange land; a land estranged from God.

Secondly, the old creation might mean doing the right things for the wrong reasons. This is expressed in the life of the elder son. Even though he did not ask for his own inheritance but remained with his father, he was not happy when his brother came back and his father decided to use the fattened calf for a party. He was angry that his father had never done a thing like that for him and when this useless brother of his returns, his father has offered him the best. Even though he was good to his father and doing the right things, he had a wrong reason for doing

things: he might be working because he knew everything after his brother left belonged to him alone. Now that the brother is back and his father is too generous, he may still share all, with this "useless" brother of his at the end. He represents some of us and can insinuate that if some of us are kept at the gates of heaven to judge those to enter heaven, might be no one will be found there because forgiveness will not be a part of us. But we all need to strive to leave these forms of the old self to a new creation.

The life in Christ which is a new creation is a life of grace, a life of liberation from slavery and sinfulness. It is, as the second readings says, the work of God. This work was realized in the passion, death, and resurrection of Christ. We find in the first reading that God freed his people from slavery in Egypt and settled them in the promised land. This is true freedom. The life of new creation in Christ is also expressed in the life of the Father in the gospel. It is a life of unconditional forgiveness and mercy, a forgiveness and mercy that do not go back to the past. It's a life that doesn't keep hurts or hateful feelings but rejoices when the old creation wants to transform to the new. It is about us embracing others despite their weaknesses and limitations. It's about giving others many more opportunities after they hurt us badly. It's about realizing that God is in charge. It's about a true and meaningful relationship with God. It's about communion with God in prayers, Confession, mass and at the reception of the Blessed Eucharist. What a beautiful life!

Dear friends in Christ, our Lenten journey is always a journey of purification from the old self to a new self; from the life of the old Adam to the life of the new Adam, Jesus Christ. In this journey, we need to identify on the way the things that take us away from our new selves in Christ and learn to offer these to him to heal and mend them. If we take this journey sincerely, then life for us will become better and happier. This will give us the opportunity then to bring true happiness in our lives and the lives of others too.

Let us rejoice today that our liberation is near at hand, as we put off our old life of sin for a new life of grace in Christ.

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FINANCE & MORE

COLLECTIONS/INCOME 23/03/2025

ST. JOSEPH: Loose plate £125.38, Envelopes £21.50, CAFOD £41.70, Clergy Assistance Fund £10 and Flowers £60

CORPUS CHRISTI: Loose plate £212.32, Envelopes £40, Coffee £6.20, Candles £13.30, CAFOD £53.86, Clergy Assistance Fund £15, and Mass Stipend £40

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

Donations to Bamenda in the orange/yellow buckets for January & February was £82.14. Thank you to all contributors. Don't forget to put your loose change in the buckets.

100 CLUB

New member is welcome as there's still one number (73) available. Please see Hubert or Jenny if you want to join.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES: Thank you to those who signed up and those who increased their donations for our parish. You can sign up for Gift Aid at any time, so please see Teresa/Angela for St Joseph and Jenny/Joy at Corpus Christi.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB CORRECTION!! This will take place every 2nd Saturday in the month at 10 am until 11.30 am. The next one will be Saturday, 12 April (and not 5 April as previously stated), in the hall at St. Joseph's. We had an increased number at our last get-together. Why not tell your friends and neighbours and come along for a drink, piece of cake and a chat. Last month we had a quiz which was very good.

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.

JUBILEE YEAR: Jubilee prayer and the prayer of hope bookmark will be said after every mass throughout the jubilee year.

SECOND COLLECTION: CLERGY ASSISTANCE FUND: SUNDAY 30 MARCH 2025: Here's the link for the Clergy Assistance Fund Second Collection 2025:

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/clergy-assistance-fund-second-collection-2025>.

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 Upper Hall at 11 am.
- FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAM 2024/25:** Next session will be today Sunday 30th of March 2025 at 9:15 am.
- CONFIRMATION:** Next session on Friday 4th of April 2025 at the Cathedral at 6pm.
- RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS:** The next session will be on Thursday 3rd of April 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. Two have already taken place. These events offer a chance to connect with other catechists, share experiences, and find inspiration to hand on the faith in our parishes. The last event will begin at 7:30 PM and last for one hour:

Thursday 3rd April (Confirmation and RCIA)

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

CLOCK TURN 1 HOUR FORWARD TODAY 30TH OF MARCH 2025.

CONTINUATION OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOLY WEEK 2025 PROGRAM FOR CORPUS CHRISTI WITH ST. JOSEPH

1. **Monday 7th April 2025**
 - **6 pm:** Penitential service at St. Joseph
2. **Wednesday 9th April 2025**
 - **6 pm:** Penitential service at Corpus Christi followed by the normal evening mass
3. **PALM SUNDAY: 13th of April 2025**
 - 9 am: Mass at St. Joseph
 - 11 am: Mass at Corpus Christi
4. **TUESDAY OF THE HOLY WEEK: 15th April 2025**
 - **11 am: Chrism Mass** at the Cathedral presided by the Bishop
5. **HOLY THURSDAY: 17th April 2025**
 - **6 pm:** Holy mass at St Joseph
 - **8 pm:** Holy mass at Corpus Christi

There will be washing of feet in both churches and adoration will take place after mass till midnight at Corpus Christi.
7. **GOOD FRIDAY: 18th April 2025**
 - **3 pm:** St Joseph
 - **3 pm:** Corpus Christi

2:30 pm Stations of the Cross before Good Friday ceremonies
8. **HOLY SATURDAY: 19th April 2025**
 - **1 pm:** Polish blessing of food at Corpus Christi **(Polish people are invited to get involved)**
 - **6 pm :** Easter Vigil Mass at St Joseph
 - **8:30 pm:** Easter Vigil Mass at Corpus Christi
9. **EASTER SUNDAY: 20th April 2025**
 - **9 am:** Mass at St. Joseph
 - **11 am:** Mass at Corpus Christi

TIMETABLE FOR NEXT WEEK'S ASSEMBLIES OF CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL:

MONDAY - Palm Sunday - EY to lead - 10:45am
Washing of the feet - 5/6 9 (SB to lead)

TUESDAY - Washing of the Feet - KS1 to lead - 9:30
KS1 Pilgrims of Hope Walk - leaving at 11am

WEDNESDAY - KS1 stations of the cross (am)
KS2 Pilgrims of hope Lent Walk -leaving at 10:45

THURSDAY - Stations of the cross - 5/6 9:00
Stations of the cross - 3/4 1- 2:30
The Last Supper Assembly - 2:34 - year 5/6

FRIDAY - Good Friday and veneration of the cross - 3/4 - 10:45

CONTACTLESS PAYMENT IN THE PARISH: As part of the future parish, we are being encouraged to sign up for the Dona contactless payment scheme, which will be operational in all the churches of our new parish. The arrangements for this have already been made and by next month, God willing, the contactless payment scheme will be operational in the parish. We will be able to use this scheme to pay for votive candles, offerings, mass intentions, stole fees, donations, etc.

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

Colin Green, Sonia Hopwood, John Micallef, Michael Owen, Sheila Heaward, Teresa & 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.

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

MOTHERING SUNDAY: A woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Happy Mother's Day to all our beloved Mothers.

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