



# 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

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

**YOU TUBE:** Corpus Christi with St. Joseph Parish

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(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

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter/Divine Mercy Sunday – 27<sup>th</sup> April 2025**  
**COME AND INVITE YOUR FAMILIES, NEIGHBOURS & FRIENDS**

## Readings of the Day

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Acts 5:12-16

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 117:2-4. 22-27

(Response): **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Revelation 1:9-13. 17-19

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia.

You believed, Thomas, because you have seen me, says the Lord.

Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.

Alleluia.

**Gospel:** John 20:19-31

**Our Easter Joy**

Today as we hail Christ as our Lord and God we are filled with the joy of the disciples in seeing the risen Lord. In this season of renewal we are like those early Christians who were 'filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described.'

## WEEKLY MASSES AND INTENTIONS

**Sat 26<sup>th</sup>:** 6 pm (SJ):

For the intentions of the people of the Parish

**Sun 27<sup>th</sup>:** 9 am (SJ):

For the souls in the purgatory

11 am (CC):

Birthdays/wedding anniversaries of the members of the African Community in April 2025

**Mon 28<sup>th</sup>:** 9:30 am (CC):

**Tue 29<sup>th</sup>:**

RIP of Jim Pidgley FM

**Weds 30<sup>th</sup>:** 7 pm (CC):

For the wellbeing of Heaney Family

**Thurs 1<sup>st</sup>:** 9:30 am (SJ):

RIP of Heywood & MacCachen Family

**Fri 2<sup>nd</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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[ccsj@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:ccsj@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

# Sunday Reflection

## THEME: IF YOU FORGIVE SINS THEY ARE FORGIVEN

St. John Paul II declared every second Sunday of Easter as Divine Mercy Sunday. It is a day when in a special way we celebrate the mercy of God especially as expressed through the Divine Mercy Devotion established by St. Faustina as a response to the revelations she had on the mercy of God from Christ. On this day, we remember how God himself in the person of his Son gave up himself and died on the cross to save us from our sins. Conscious of the fact that irrespective of the salvation he has worked for us we are liable to sin, Jesus gave to the Church the power to continue God's mercy through the forgiveness of sins.

Christ says in the gospel of today to the apostles during one of his post resurrection appearances: "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

The power to forgive sins and to retain them was handed by Christ himself to the Church. The priests acting in the person of Christ brings Christ's mercy and forgiveness to sinners. The sacrament of Confession should be one of the sacraments that any sincere Catholic should long to celebrate every fourth night or as soon as one falls into sin. Unfortunately, some members of the Church (especially those who despise this sacrament), see it as a way of priests having control over their lives. Their misunderstanding sometimes has been promoted by the condemnation of this sacrament by some other Churches who preach the need to confess directly to God.

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, today is a day for us all to seek God's mercy. We can do this fully through the sacrament of Confession, making restitution for the sins we have committed and showing love to others. Let nothing distract us from this great sacrament of God's love and mercy. We should not fail to follow the following admonition of Christ on forgiveness:

1. Forgiveness of others is the condition to receive forgiveness from God (Mt 6:12, 14, 15; 18:21-35);
2. Even if someone else has something against you, seek forgiveness with him or her before you are reconciled with God.
3. Forgiveness must come from the heart (Mt 18:35).
4. Forgive as many times as someone come asking for forgiveness (Lk 17:3-4).
5. No matter how grave our sins are, God is willing and able to forgive us (Is 1:18; Lk 15:11-32).

May we take time during this day pray the Divine Mercy Prayers daily asking for God's mercy on ourselves, friends

and family members. May St. Faustina intercede for us in this regard.

## WHY DO WE GO FOR CONFESSION?

There are a lot of popular (mis)conceptions that surround the sacrament of confession (or the sacrament of penance and reconciliation as the Catechism calls it). To many people, the image of confession can evoke feelings of discomfort or hesitation.

In my experience, I have found that much of the doubt and confusion surrounding confession is coloured by two common misconceptions: that my sin is just about me, so I shouldn't have to talk to a priest and that confession is a shameful or hurtful process.

Many people question the need to confess to a priest as opposed to just in private prayer, seeing confession as an arcane and outdated practice. Others, having heard stories of negative experiences in the confessional or seeing depictions of the sacrament in film and television fear that the confessional is a place of belittlement, shame, and punishment.

We Catholics don't always do a great job of counteracting these ideas either. How often do we speak of the beauty of the sacrament of confession? How often do you convey the deep intimacy that lies at the heart of this gift we have been given?

Confession, like all other sacraments, is a gift through which God has made His saving love and mercy real and present to us. In his desire to set all people free and draw them into the authentic peace that is communion with God, Christ entrusted his ministry of reconciliation to the apostles.

In this, through confessing to a priest we are not only reconciled with Christ, but with the community of the Church as well. Often we can liken our relationship with the Church to that of a membership within a club or our political affiliation. But that is not the case.

Our relationship with the Church is personal, intimate and like any honest relationship, it requires forgiveness and healing. The priest is the representative of both Christ and the Church which is Christ's body.

And it is through the sacrament of confession that Christ offers us the privilege to bear our hearts to him, seeking his help as we strive towards a life of holiness and ultimately, eternal life with him.

From <https://thejesuitpost.org/2022/07/catholic-101-why-go-to-confession/>

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# FINANCE & MORE

## COLLECTIONS/INCOME 20/04/2025

**ST. JOSEPH:** Easter Offering loose £300.77, Easter Offering Envelopes £303.55 and Holy Places £115.61

**Contactless Collection:** Easter Offering £55

**CORPUS CHRISTI:** Easter Offering Loose £581.80, Easter Offering Envelopes £480, Candles £16.12, Clergy Assistance Fund £20, Donation £10 and Holy Places £200.70

**Contactless Collection:** General £2, Easter Offering £85, Votive Candle £2 and Holy Places £55

## **STANDING ORDERS MARCH 2025 £1,397**

**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 and you can now use the contactless payment machine in both churches to donate to Bamenda.

### 100 CLUB

We will be having our draw today Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> of April 2025 at St Joseph Hall after the 9 am mass.

**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.

**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 are now operational in all the churches. The arrangements for this have already been made and the contactless payment scheme is now operational in our parish. We will be able to use this scheme to pay for votive candles, offerings, mass intentions, stole fees donations etc



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

## 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 14<sup>th</sup> of June 2025 and 11<sup>th</sup> of October 2025 in St Joseph Upper Hall at 11 am.
- FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAM 2024/25:** Next session will be on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> of April 2025 at 10 am.
- CONFIRMATION:** Next session on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> of May 2025 at the Cathedral at 6pm.
- RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS:** The next session will be on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> of May 2025 in Corpus Christi Presbytery at 6 pm.

### ONGOING MAINTENANCE WORK AT ST. JOSEPH'S

It is important to maintain our churches so that we don't ever have the disaster that shut St. Joseph's for two years. The hall is now open and the newly varnished floor looks lovely. Please be vigilant not to scrape tables and chairs across the floor as this makes deep gouges that cannot be repaired. Also, the toilets in the hall have been redecorated and freshened up and the piece of glass in the west window that was damaged while the repair work was being done, has been replaced. The next job is to repaint the white lines on the steps (nosing). Hopefully this is happening this week. Please avoid the steps and use the ramp or side entrance. Thank you.

# CONTINUATION OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

**POPE FRANCIS:** We were truly saddened to hear this week of the death of our dear holy father, Pope Francis. Please continue to remember him in your prayers. Pope Francis will be remembered for his work with the disadvantaged and for his outreach to those on the margins of the Church and society.

**WORD OF THANKS:** Thanks to all who helped in the Holy Week and Easter celebration of our parish as well as for your generosity with the Easter Offering. May the good Lord bless you and your family immensely.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Are you celebrating a 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup> or anniversary over 60 years? If so, Bishop Philip would like to invite you to a Mass of celebration. This will take place at St Bede's church in Basingstoke on **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June at 11am**. This will be followed by a buffet lunch. It is a wonderful occasion to celebrate and witness to Marriage.

Please contact **YOUR PARISH SECRETARY** or send an email to [anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) to request a form for you to complete and return.

Please note the email address is not monitored daily and you may have to wait for a reply, so please be patient.

To help celebrate the occasion please could you provide a **COPY** of your Wedding photograph, you can upload it when you return the form.

Again, if you have no access to the internet you can post a **COPY** along with completed form by post to the following address:

St Bede's Parish Office, Popley Way, Basingstoke, RG24 9DX

**Please mark envelope Significant Wedding Mass**

**CATHOLIC MOTHERS PORTSMOUTH:** Join a community of Catholic mums growing in faith together. Join us for prayer, discussion, friendship and a space to encourage and support each other. Children are welcome too!

This will be in St John the Evangelist Cathedral, Portsmouth parish hall (parking is available at the Cathedral) at 9:30-11:30am on Mondays 28th April, 19th May, 16th June and 14th July 2025

You are most welcome to email us for more information: please contact Maria or Katherine via our email address [catholicmothersportsmouth@gmail.com](mailto:catholicmothersportsmouth@gmail.com)

**CHARITY AND VOLUNTEER NETWORKING EVENT:** Join us for an afternoon of networking with people who are passionate about social justice through supporting people in their local community. Representatives from CAFOD, SVP, Stella Maris and Medaille Trust along with a number of parish-based projects will be there to chat, discuss volunteering opportunities and see how it might work in your community. Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2025, 2:30-4:30 at St John the Baptist, Andover SP10 3AD. For more information contact Caritas at [caritas@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:caritas@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

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

May Edwards, Gail Edwards, Jean Prince, 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.**

**COLIN GREEN:** Colin was a former Parishioner at St. Joseph's and many of you will remember him. Sadly, he passed away recently. His funeral will be on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> of May at the Sacred Heart of Jesus and St Peter the Apostle in Waterlooville and (after a private family burial), at Waterlooville Golf Club. Please keep him in your prayers.

## JUBILEE PLANNING MEETING OUTCOME

On Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> 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. Parish Jubilee celebration at the cathedral will surely be on Ascension Thursday (29<sup>th</sup> May 2025). Necessary arrangements towards this shall be made and concrete programme communicated later by parish
3. A Jubilee pilgrimage will take place in October and location will be advised in due course.
4. 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.
5. Closing of the jubilee year in Advent 2025.

NB: Launching of Jubilee year and Parish Retreat has already taken place.

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