

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)

Office: 2 Dean Road, Bitterne, Southampton SO18 6AP – *Open Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 9.30am–1pm*

Phone 023 8044 9088, Email ckscolasb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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

Diocese Safeguarding Contact: safeguarding@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C, Cycle 1)

3rd August 2025

Reflection from Fr Elijah: The Importance of Spiritual Wealth

On this 18th Sunday of ordinary time, the church reminds us that true wealth is found in our relationship with God and in storing up treasures in heaven. This includes cultivating virtues like generosity, compassion, and love. It is a call to live a Christ-centered life. Today we are also reminded that we are in a transitory world. Hence, it is a call to make use of the things of this world prudently without losing our ultimate goal, heaven.

The first reading begins with a warning: “Vanity, vanity, the preacher says vanity...!” This is a call to remember God in all we do for there will be an ultimate end to all created things.

In the second reading, Paul succinctly differentiates true life, that is, a life lived in Christ, from a life lived outside Christ. He reminds us that we must be heaven bound where Christ is everything. Hence, Paul tells us to orientate our lives towards purity.

In today’s gospel, Jesus speaks to us as he did to the man from the crowd: “Watch out and be on your guard against avarice of any kind, for a man’s life is not made more secured by what he owns.”

The pursuit of wealth and the pleasures of this world have blinded many to the reality of the fleeting world. Avarice is one of the seven capital sins. It is a sin that makes one become more materially minded. Thus, let us fix our gaze on heavenly things, and not only on the temporary things. How generous are you with the gifts and talents God has given you? May our wealth become stepping-stones to reach Christ.

Mass Times and Intentions

18th week in Ordinary Time

Exposition & Rosary at 9.30am before Mass (Tue-Fri). Sacrament of Confession is available on request.
Mass Intentions can be requested through Fr Elijah or the Parish Office.

Date	Times & Location			Mass Intentions & Feasts
Sun 3 rd August	9.15am	OLA	Mass	Ian Saxby RIP on 12 th anniversary of his passing For Pascal Mgembe RIP ,on 5 th anniversary of his passing For all unpaid, unsung and usually invisible carers that our prayers may bring them recognition and support
	11am	CKSC	Mass	
	5.30pm	SB	Mass	
	6pm	CKSC	Mass (in Polish)	
Tue 5 th August	10am	OLA	Mass	For the people
Wed 6 th August	10am	SB	Mass	
Thur 7 th August	10am	CKSC	Mass	For the people
Fri 8 th August	10am	OLA	Mass	For Julia and Peter Baldwin RIP
Sat 9 th August	10am	CKSC	NO MASS	
Sun 10 th August	9.15am	OLA	Mass	Sandra Webb RIP David Dean Akbar For the people
	11am	CKSC	Mass	
	5.30pm	SB	Mass	
	6pm	CKSC	Mass (in Polish)	

This Sunday’s readings can be found at <https://universalis.com/europe.english/20250803/mass.htm>

Events

Within our Parish

First Reconciliation and Holy Communion preparation: All parents who would like their child, in Year 4 or above, to make their First Holy Communion in our parish this year are asked to register their interest NOW by sending an email to the parish office ckscolasb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk. Please could you include your name, your child's name, which school they attend and in which year group they will be in September. You will then be sent an introductory letter. Thank you.

Confirmation: Sign up for Confirmation for 2026! For those yr 9 and above who are keen to sign up for the Confirmation Preparation, please write a handwritten letter explaining why you would like join the classes by Sunday 31st August. Please post letter through the Presbytery door at 2 Dean Road, Bitterne, in an envelope with your name and contact numbers (of parents/guardians) on it, or hand it directly to Deidre Fairman at 11am mass at Christ the King and St Colman on a Sunday. Thank you

Parish Summer Picnic cancelled: due to happen on 16th August has been cancelled due to high parking costs.

An Evening of Entertainment: Saturday, 13th September at 6.30pm - 8pm. Everyone is invited to this free social event of homegrown talent across our parish and promises to be an evening of fun, laughter, song and dance. If you play an instrument, want to sing, dance, tell jokes, or have another talent, and would like to join in the fun, let us know. Please contact Jane 07761039330 for further information.

Thank you: to everyone who supported the quiz night and exercised their little grey cells! A huge "Thank You" goes to Simon who has been quiz master for the past few years creating the questions and keeping us entertained with his jokes! He is now retiring from this task for a much earned rest.

Within the Diocese and beyond

Holiday Bible Club: Join Churches Together to explore the story of Jonah and the whale at St Luke's church, Hedge End, SO30 2US. Ages 5-11 yrs, 4th-8th August, 10am-12pm, £6 per child/week. Book hewebholidaybibleclubbookings@gmail.com

CAFOD – Global Debt Crisis: We are gathering signatures for a global church petition to world leaders who can make a great difference to this situation if they chose to. 54 countries from Kenya to Sri Lanka are facing debt distress. Many are forced to spend more on payments to big banks, wealthy nations and global institutions than on health, education, or lifesaving climate measures. Often, they have already re-paid their debts once, but due to unscrupulous lenders and extortionate interest rates, they are often left paying for the original debt many times over. This cannot be right. 2025 is a jubilee year, which is when the Bible calls for debt cancellation to restore justice and human dignity. Let us stand in unity to demand action on debt crisis. Please sign the petitions at the back of the churches and help to put pressure on our government to make legislation to stop banks and lenders in this country charge unjust rates of interest. See the website for more information CAFOD.org.uk

Recurring Events

Our Lady of the Assumption – Hedge End

- Tea, coffee, biscuits & friendly chat in the hall every Sunday after Holy Mass
- Children's liturgy during Mass every 3rd Sunday of the month (not during summer holidays)

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 during term time

St Brigid – West End

- Tea, coffee & cake every 2nd Sunday of the month after Mass

- 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

- Tea, coffee, biscuits & friendly chat in the hall after Holy Mass every 1st Sunday of the month

- Choir practice in hall - 7:30pm on 2nd & 4th Friday each month. All welcome.

Continuing to Support 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 mention which fund you are donating to as a reference.

Make out cheques for Fr Elijah to Rev Fru N Elijah

Thank you for your support