

# 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](mailto:ckscolasb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

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

Diocese Safeguarding Contact: [safeguarding@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C, Cycle 1)

24<sup>th</sup> August 2025

## Reflection from Fr Elijah: The Great Reunion at the Feast of God's Kingdom

This Sunday, the church reminds us of the reunion of all God's people at the feast of His kingdom. God will also gather people from all nations, all those willing to submit to his loving care. This Sunday's readings bear a powerful message of hope – the reunion and restoration of the people of God.

The first reading is a prophecy about the return of God's People to Jerusalem. It is an assurance that God will fulfil his promises to us: "I will give them a sign and send some of their survivors to the nations...that have never heard of me or seen my glory."

The second reading from Hebrews reminds us that obedience and discipline will help us respond and effectively return to the Lord.

In today's gospel, Jesus answers a challenging and tricky question: Sir, will there be only a few saved? He replies, "Try your best to enter by the narrow door!" So, rather than concern oneself with arguments about the number of those to be saved, it is better to work hard for one's salvation.

Thus, Christ reminds us that the invitation to His feast is open to all. However, each person must struggle to be there. Hence, Paul admonishes us to "Work out your salvation with fear and trembling" (Phil 2:12).

## Mass Times and Intentions

### 21<sup>st</sup> 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 24 <sup>th</sup> August	9.15am	OLA	Mass	For the intentions of Doug & Marion Miller on the occasion of their 25 <sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary In praise & thanksgiving by Joan St Omer For the people
	11am	CKSC	Mass	
	5.30pm	SB	Mass	
	6pm	CKSC	Mass (in Polish)	
Tue 26 <sup>th</sup> August	10am	OLA	Mass	
Wed 27 <sup>th</sup> August	10am	SB	Mass	
Thur 28 <sup>th</sup> August	10am	CKSC	Mass	For the people
Fri 29 <sup>th</sup> August	10am	OLA	Mass	
Sat 30 <sup>th</sup> August	10am	CKSC	Mass	For the people
Sun 31 <sup>st</sup> August	9.15am	OLA	Mass	Doug & Marion's Silver Wedding Anniversary For Pat O'Shea and family For the repose of the souls of Guido Camilleri, Francis, Antonia, Doris and Elsie
	11am	CKSC	Mass	
	5.30pm	SB	Mass	
	6pm	CKSC	Mass (in Polish)	

This Sunday's readings can be found at <https://universalis.com/europe.england/20250824/mass.htm>



The funeral Mass of Ann Fagan will be at 11am on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September at Christ the King & St Colman. Please join us to thank the Lord for Ann's life.

## 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](mailto: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 Office availability update:** From the beginning of September, the Parish Office will be running at a reduced capacity. The team are likely to be working remotely, so please contact them via email with any request. We hope to resume the usual office hours by advent.

**An Evening of Entertainment:** Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Jubilee of Hope Companion Booklets:** Jubilee of Hope Companion Booklets are available in all three churches. These are free, with a suggested donation of £1 to cover the cost to the Parishes.

### Within the Diocese and beyond

**CAFOD Response in Gaza:** Your donations to Gaza since the start of the conflict have been a vital lifeline. Right now, CAFOD's partner, Caritas Jerusalem, is delivering essential medical treatment to displaced people and providing medicines to treat chronic illnesses. We have helped 1,400 households with cash to buy supplies in the last month and we are currently feeding 2,000 people with new stocks of flour and rice. Despite the restrictions on aid coming into Gaza, CAFOD's local partners are working tirelessly to help people. And with your ongoing support, they will do all in their power to keep doing so. You can find out more about how you can make a difference in Gaza at [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk). Thank you for backing our work through holding collections for our Family Fast Day appeals and for continuing to pray for peace in the Middle East.

## 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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