



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) stjosephsmarianhouse@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

20th Ordinary Sunday – 17th August 2025

COME AND INVITE YOUR FAMILIES, NEIGHBOURS & FRIENDS

Readings of the Day

1st Reading: Jeremiah 38:4-6. 8-10

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 39:2-4. 18

(Response): Lord, make haste to help me!

2nd Reading: Hebrews 12:1-4

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia.

My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord, and I know them,
and they follow me.

Alleluia.

Gospel: Luke 12:49-53

Victory With Christ

Today's celebration should
raise our morale in the
fight against evil. Christ
our Leader, who came to
bring fire on the earth,
communicates to us
something of his
tremendous zeal.

WEEKLY MASSES AND INTENTIONS

Sat 16th: 6 pm (SJ): For the intentions of the people of our parish

Sun 17th: 9 am (SJ): For the wellbeing of Gail Edwards
11 am (CC):

Mon 18th: 9:30 am (CC): RIP of John DeBattista FM

Tue 19th:

Weds 20th: 7 pm (CC):

Thurs 21st: 9:30 am (SJ): RIP of Kathleen Coghlan FM **NO MASS**

Fri 22nd: 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.

IF YOU WANT TO RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER ELECTRONICALLY EMAIL US on

ccsj@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Sunday Reflection

THEME: I HAVE NOT COME TO BRING PEACE BUT FIRE AND DIVISION

During the Christmas liturgy, we are reminded by the readings that Jesus is the Prince of Peace. He himself says that all who labour should come to him, and he will give them rest. Ironically, we find him today in the gospel telling us that he is not here to bring peace but fire and division. How can this be? Can this be the true mission of Christ?

In the gospel, we hear Jesus saying: "Do you suppose that I am here to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division" (Lk 12:51). Not just these heavy words but also that he has come to bring fire to the earth, and how he wished it were already blazing (Lk 12:49). Fire to burn who? What are the real meanings of these words? Could Jesus have been talking in metaphorical sense?

Fire is a symbol of testing and judgment; it purifies, burns all that is decayed, it also gives warmth and fosters life. It is the fire of the judgment of God, destroying all that does not react to its reforming action. This shows that the fire is a purifying or cleansing agent. It is the fire of the Holy Spirit, the same fire that came upon the disciples of Jesus on Pentecost and strengthened them for ministry. It is the fire of God's love which we pray for this: "Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of thy faithful and enkindle in them the fire of your love." We all need this cleansing fire for our salvation.

To talk of bringing not peace but division to the extent of a household divided against itself; father against son, mother against daughter, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law, etc, what we realize is that once we cannot attune ourselves to live according to the gospel values, there is bound to be division. The truth is that when you stand for what is right, truthful and noble, you go against the currents of many people. The consequence is that they will hate you and want to bring you down and this is the source of the division. It is what Jeremiah suffers in the first reading of today. Jeremiah warns the people to stay clear of their evil ways of life but all he gets is division. They succeeded in getting him and throwing him in a muddy cistern with no water hoping he dies there. Thanks to Ebed-melech, he is saved from the cistern.

Dear friends in Christ, if we are truly followers of Christ, we should allow ourselves to be consumed by the purifying fire of love so that we are able to stand for the truth like Jesus and Jeremiah even if this has to cause division and bring on us the kind of baptism Jesus was to receive (death). For us to do this, then we must follow the two admonitions of the second reading of today. First, we must "throw off everything that hinders us, especially the sin that clings so easily; and keep running steadily in the race we have started" (Heb 12:1). Secondly, "Let us not we lose sight of Jesus, who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection..." (Heb 12:2).

Let us pray that the Lord will come to our aid as we said in the response to the responsorial psalm to enable us overcome fear which hinders us from standing for the truth. If division can come because we stand for the truth, let us also pray for the graces to endure.

NEW APPROACH TO GODPARENTS FOR BAPTISM

We have come to realise that some parents do not understand the difference between a godparent and a witness for baptism. This has led to situations where none Catholics have stood as godparents for their kids. As a clarification, a witness at baptism can be anyone from any denomination or one without a religion. But a godparent must be a practicing Catholic and one who is able to receive the sacraments. In this light, we would be introducing a form that parents who want their children to be baptised must send to the godparents so that their Parish priest can fill and sign to testify that they are practicing Catholics and regular in their sacramental lives.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION (FHC) PROGRAM 2025

Our FHC program this year shall take a different approach. Only kids of regular and practicing parishioners would be enrolled for the program this year and we shall need a maximum of 30 children for Corpus Christi and the rest go over to St. Joseph. Forms shall be collected from both churches, and the registration shall all be done and submitted on the same day during a meeting with prospective candidates and parents on Thursday 26th of September 2025 at 6pm at the Corpus Christi church. The parents would have a greater role to play in the primary instruction of the children especially on memorising basic prayers and the responses at mass. Once we are convinced that this has been done properly, then the children will begin with the sessions after a retreat.

IF YOU WANT TO RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER ELECTRONICALLY EMAIL US on

ccsj@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

FINANCE & MORE

COLLECTIONS/INCOME 10/08/2025

ST. JOSEPH: Loose plate £86.40, Envelopes £66.25 and Pilgrimage £140

Contactless Collection: General £10

CORPUS CHRISTI: Loose plate £86.90, Envelopes £30, Candles £8.90 and Coffee £9

Contactless Collection: General £5

Online Donation: General £45, Mass intentions £35 and New Heating System £20

STANDING ORDERS JUNE £ 1,821

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 May and June was £106.02. 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/QR code in both churches to donate to Bamenda.

DONA CONTACTLESS PAYMENT MACHINE:



CHURCH COLLECTION

Please remember you can make your donations to the church via the DONA machine in the porch or by scanning the QR code. This is an easy way of accessing the payment method, rather than queueing at the machine. Just point your phone's camera at the QR code and then follow the instructions on your phone.

DONATING TO THE PARISH. Are you new to the Parish? Or a long-standing Parishioner? Do you want to set up a standing order or direct debit? If you do, please speak to Jenny as, if you are a taxpayer, we can reclaim a further 25% back from your donation, so if you donate £100, that can mean £125 in real terms.

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:** Our next session will be on Saturday 18th of October 2025 in St Joseph Upper Hall at 11 am. Please note change of date.
- RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS:** Next 13 sessions already going on online.

MARRIAGE HELP - Retrouvaille helps couples find hope and healing for their marriage. Next date: 17th-19th Oct. www.retrouvaille.org.uk Tel: 0788 7296983

TEA AND COFFEE AT CC: The kitchen at CC school is under renewal and cannot be used for tea and coffee. But we have arranged a corner in the hall where tea and coffee can be prepared and served. Those in the hospitality team should especially take note.

HELP! HELP! HELP!

Please don't forget we need funds for the new heating system for Corpus Christi Church. You can donate via the DONA machine in both churches or the QR code.

CONTINUATION OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

CORPUS CHRISTI WITH ST. JOSEPH PARISH PILGRIMAGE 4TH OCTOBER 2025 BOURNEMOUTH ORATORY

**IT IS NOW TIME TO SECURE YOUR PLACE BY
PAYING £20.00pp**

**ONLINE TO 30-93-04 00884996
(PILGRIMAGE AS REFERENCE)**

**BY CASH PLEASE PUT INTO ENVELOPE MARKED WITH
NAME/S AND TELEPHONE NUMBER**

GIVE TO FATHER OR MARION

**ANY ENQUIRIES PLEASE CONTACT MARION ON
07940 499198**



ITENERARY TO FOLLOW

PARISH FUNDRAISING 2025

CAR WASH FUND RAISING: There will be a car wash fund raising at Corpus Christi church on Saturday 16th August 2025 running from 10am to 3pm. £10 per car only for an external wash.

24TH OF AUGUST SUNDAY – The Outdoor/Cultural Mass will be held at Corpus Christi School. After the mass, there will be food tasting and display for a donation at the hall. Money will go to Corpus Christi Church new heating system. One of the members of this committee will be talking today Sunday at the end of mass about how we shall go about it.

APPEAL FOR VOLUNTEERS

We are appealing for volunteers at Corpus Christi and St. Joseph's as catechists for children's liturgy, welcomers, choristers, tea/coffee, cleaners, etc. Please, if you can help, contact the parish priest or Joy Cagape CC or Angela Waldren SJ in the first instance.

READERS: The leader of the Readers club, Tom Blair, wants to reboot the readers rota so we can have an up-to-date list of members. Old and new readers can email or text (names and telephone number) to Tom on tpblair1946@gmail.com or on 07738 227922 if they wish to continue reading or to join. Readers must be baptised and communicants.

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

Gail Edwards, Karen Gardner, 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, Terry Walmsley, Pretty Mukuhlane, Clare Hill, Frances & Ron Little, Anna Pagano, Ann Del Rosario, 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

The ongoing parish activities during this jubilee year, Pilgrims of Hope are as follows. 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.

1. Jubilee prayer and the prayer of hope bookmark will be said after every mass throughout the jubilee year.
2. **A Parish Jubilee pilgrimage – see notice opposite.**
3. 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.
4. Closing of the jubilee year in Advent 2025.

African Catholic Community (ACC) Portsmouth:

Announcing to all Africans that the ACC Portsmouth meetings shall be held today Sunday 17th August 2025 after mass at Corpus Christi hall. All Africans are invited to attend.

Pastoral Areas training for Eucharistic ministers: This will be on Saturday 8th November at the Cathedral running from 9am to midday. It is mandatory for old and new Eucharistic ministers to attend.

HOLIDAY: Fr Emmanuel will be away for his holiday from the 27th of August till 7th of September 2025. There will be **NO WEEKDAY MASSES** while he is away.

IF YOU WANT TO RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER ELECTRONICALLY EMAIL US on

ccsj@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk