



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

**Marian Franciscans at St. Joseph**

(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

**23<sup>rd</sup> Ordinary Sunday – 7<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

**COME AND INVITE YOUR FAMILIES, NEIGHBOURS & FRIENDS**

## Readings of the Day

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Wisdom 9:13-18

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 89:3-6. 12-14. 17

(Response): **O Lord, you have been our refuge,  
from generation to generation.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Philemon 9-10, 12-17

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia.

**Let your face shine forth on your servant,  
and teach me your decrees.**

**Alleluia.**

**Gospel:** Luke 14:25-33

**Christ Who Gave Up Everything For  
Our Sake**

We celebrate the self-sacrificing  
love of Christ, the unfathomable  
wisdom of God, who was prepared  
to give up everything out of love for  
man. In the same spirit St Paul was  
prepared to send back to Philemon  
the dear friend of his captivity,  
Onesimus, a part of his own self.

## WEEKLY MASSES AND INTENTIONS

**Sat 6<sup>th</sup>:** 6 pm (SJ): RIP of Rozalia, Vladyslaw, Jozef & Jan

**Sun 7<sup>th</sup>:** 9 am (SJ): For the intentions of the people of our parish

11 am (CC): RIP of Peggy & Martin Mangan FM

**Mon 8<sup>th</sup>:** 9:30 am (CC):

**Tue 9<sup>th</sup>:** RIP of Jim Pidgley FM

**Weds 10<sup>th</sup>:** 7 pm (CC): RIP of Albert & Catherine Mason FM

**Thurs 11<sup>th</sup>:** 9:30 am (SJ):

**Fri 12<sup>th</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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# Sunday Reflection

## THEME: COUNTING AND PAYING THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP

Planning is an essential element of everything we need to do in life. Here we check out whether we are able to do what we want to do, whether we have the means to go about it and whether we will need support. We also check how we want to go about it and the obstacles that stand on our way and which we must overcome to reach where we want to go or what we want to achieve. Planning is a common phenomenon for individuals, families, business organizations, politicians, etc. So too in the Christian life, planning is important. That is why the readings of today want us to be able to plan and count the cost of discipleship and be ready to pay before we become Christians or disciples of Christ.

In order to count the cost and pay the prize of discipleship, Jesus uses two parables to drive home his point. First, anyone who wants to build a tower must first calculate the cost and see if he can go on with the job to the end. If not, he or she should abandon it. Second, if you want to go to war with another person or nation, you must first consider whether you are capable of doing so. If not, then, make peace before it is too late.

The above implies that being a disciple of Jesus is something that needs great consideration. It means we must take time to consider what the Christian life is all about and be able to see whether we can commit ourselves and live up to it. Without that we will be making choices we cannot live up to.

Counting the cost of discipleship comes out eloquently in the gospel of today. We are told that great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and taught them. He begins by observing that: "If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple" (Lk 14:25-25). The above quotation implies that two things are needed if we must become disciples of Jesus:

1. Nothing should stand on our way in making that choice. Our parents, brothers and sisters and even our own will and desires should not be a hindrance to choosing God above all else. Not just that but no ideology, or philosophy, or the things of this world should stand on our way in the choice we have made in following Christ. Also, no material thing should impede us as Jesus demands at the end of the gospel that no one can be his disciple unless he or she gives up his or her possessions. In this sense, Jesus is calling on all his disciples to be detached from the things of this world (Lk 14:33).

2. Being a disciple of Christ entails embracing the way of the cross. If we don't want the cross to be part of our lives here on earth, then we should not become Christians. So any Christianity without the cross is foolish. St. Paul tells us something about the cross. He says: "But we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to

Gentiles, but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God" (1 Cor 1:23-24). The cross therefore is neither foolishness nor a stumbling block but the power of God for those who trust in him.

Two things I have found disheartening here in England is that: first, the choice of Christianity (especially being a Catholic Christian) is sometimes made without due consideration on how we need to live as Christians. Many people choose the Catholic faith because they want their children to go to Catholic schools that offer the best education and not because they want them to grow in the Christian faith. Secondly, Christianity has become a matter of "ticking the boxes". Once the prescriptions offered have been fulfilled then people are made to become baptised pagans. In a sense what I have observed is that people do everything it takes to have their children baptised, received First Holy Communion and Confirmation and it ends at that level. They will attend the classes and whether they know what is taught or not, they are qualified for the sacraments. They will tick their names after masses on Sunday and that is enough proof of their qualification for becoming Christians or receiving the Sacraments. In such situations, we are only fooling ourselves and wasting time. That is why we have confirmed Christians who don't even know anything about the faith. What a shame!

The above challenge is incumbent on all of us to stand up and help our children and ourselves to pick up the Christian faith consciously and live up to standards. It is a challenge because there is no need to become a Christian and be fighting for spaces in hell with those who have out rightly rejected God in their lives. Let us therefore consider our choice of Christianity, or Catholicism: was it imposed on me or a free choice? What does it take for me to re-live the Catholic faith? Is it worthwhile doing this and how can I live up to it. It will be difficult trying to live our faith as it is. But let us ask for the necessary graces to do so daily; counting the cost and carrying our crosses and following Christ.

### 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 children. 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.

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# FINANCE & MORE

## COLLECTIONS/INCOME 31/08/2025

**ST. JOSEPH:** Loose plate £98.70, Envelopes £30, Pilgrimage £60, Mass Stipend £15 and Hall Rent £375

**Contactless Collection:** General £15

**CORPUS CHRISTI:** Loose plate £161.37, Envelopes £30, Candles £5.40, Mass Stipend £20, Cake Sale £31.40, Catholic Educ. Sunday £10 and Pilgrimage £20

**Contactless Collection:** General £31

**Online Donation:** General £ 37 and New Heating System £26

## **STANDING ORDERS JULY £ 3,181.19**

**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-corporus-Christi--st-joseph-catholic-parish>

Donations to Bamenda in the orange/yellow buckets for July & August was £221.19. 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.

## **100 CLUB AUGUST WINNERS**

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	Joy Cagape
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	Natasha Burnett
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	Adelfa Lowe

## **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.

## **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**

- PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE FOR THE NEXT BAPTISMAL PREPARATION SESSION:** This is now Saturday 25 October 2025 in St Joseph main Hall at 11 am.
- 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](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk) Tel: 0788 7296983

**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.

**BAMENDA BISHOP AND DELEGATIONS:** They will be here in Portsmouth from the 5<sup>th</sup> of September 2025. The Bishop will be here until the 10<sup>th</sup> of September while the rest of the delegations will stay until the 19<sup>th</sup> of September 2025. They will all be staying at Corpus Christi Presbytery. We appeal for food, drinks etc. to keep them going. Let us all welcome them.

# CONTINUATION OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CHAPLET OF THE DIVINE MERCY:** Saint Faustina, formerly Helena Kowalska was born in a village near Lodz, Poland in 1905. She was a member of the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy. She died at the age of 33 years. She was Canonized by Saint John Paul II. Starting October, every Wednesday and Friday at 3 pm we will be praying the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy at Corpus Christi Church. We are inviting the parents and carers of children at Corpus Christi School to join us. This will be finished in time to collect children. All Parishioners are also invited to join in.

## **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 ANGELA OR MARION**

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



ITENERARY TO FOLLOW

**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.

**ST EDMUND'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL OPEN MORNING:** St Edmund's Catholic School is holding an Open Morning for Year 6 pupils and parents on Saturday 4th October 2025 between 9am and 1pm. We hope you will come to get an insight into life at St Edmund's. Booking will be required. Session 1 - 9:00am - 11:00am, Session 2 - 11:00am - 13:00pm. Further details will become available on the school website.

**FRIENDSHIP CLUB:** The Parish friendship club will meet again on Saturday, 13 September between 10 am and 11.30 am. All welcome. Bring your friends. Tea, coffee and home-made cakes.

**WE PRAY FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITIES INCLUDING:** Barbara Rice-Dunlea, Karen Gardner, Sonia Hopwood, Catherine Fuggle, 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, Margaret New, Sean New and Tallieu family.

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.

## **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION (FHC) PROGRAM 2025**

Our FHC program this year will take a different approach. Only children of regular and practicing parishioners will be enrolled for the program this year and we shall need a maximum of 30 children for Corpus Christi and the rest will go over to St. Joseph. Forms will be collected from both churches, and the registration will all be done and submitted on the same day during a meeting with prospective candidates and parents on **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at 6pm at the Corpus Christi church.** The parents will 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.

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