

# 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)

27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C, Cycle 1)

5<sup>th</sup> October 2025

## Reflection from Fr Elijah: Living and Walking by the Faith that never Fails Us

On this 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday of ordinary time, our readings invite us to reflect on one of the most important Christian and theological virtues – Faith, the foundation of our Christian life. Faith gives us a new vision and perspective of life. Without faith, we remain helpless and slaves to despair and hopelessness. Faith liberates and aids us experience God's presence in our lives.

Habakkuk says in today's first reading, "The just shall live by his faithfulness." Sometimes, we find ourselves helpless, and everything goes dark, and hope fails. The good news is that God will not fail us if we remain faithful during such moments.

In the second reading, Paul strikes the same note by admonishing us: "Fan into flame the gift that God gave you. Keep as your pattern the sound teaching you have heard from us, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus." Here, the encourages us to preserve the faith (the sound doctrine) we have received from God through the Holy Spirit and His apostles.

In today's gospel, the Apostles say: "Lord increase our faith." Their humility and acceptance of their lack equally remind us of the importance of faith in our Christian life and journey.

Our Lord Jesus Christ is always ready to increase our faith. However, we must humbly ask for it. Second, we must make the necessary efforts through our actions. Finally, we need faith to persevere in good works. We need it to remain steadfast during difficult moments in life. We need more faith to trust in God's will and judgment. So, we must humble ourselves each day to say: "Lord, increase our faith."

## Mass Times and Intentions

27 <sup>th</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 5 <sup>th</sup> October	9.15am	OLA	Mass	Thanksgiving for God’s grace to our family, Clara and James
	11am	CKSC	Mass	
	5.30pm	SB	Mass	
	6pm	CKSC	Mass (in Polish)	
Tue 7 <sup>th</sup> October	10am	OLA	Mass	For William Scott (RIP)
Wed 8 <sup>th</sup> October	10am	SB	Mass	For the Souls in Purgatory
Thur 9 <sup>th</sup> October	10am	CKSC	Mass	For the People
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup> October	10am	OLA	Mass	
Sat 11 <sup>th</sup> October	10am	CKSC	Mass	For the People
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup> October	9.15am	OLA	Mass	For the quick recovery of Anthony Jeffery Vidot
	11am	CKSC	Mass	
	5.30pm	SB	Mass	
	6pm	CKSC	Mass (in Polish)	
This Sunday’s readings can be found at <a href="https://universalis.com/europe.english/20251005/mass.htm">https://universalis.com/europe.english/20251005/mass.htm</a>				
Second Collection – 5 <sup>th</sup> October – CaFOD Family Fast Day (3 <sup>rd</sup> October)				

**All Saints & All Souls Feasts:** All Saints day will be celebrated on Sunday the 2nd November this year. All Soul's will be celebrated on Monday the 3rd November and Father will be saying Mass in all 3 churches: 10am OLA, 12pm St Brigids, 7pm CKSC. He will take his day off on Tuesday that week.

## Update from the Parish Pastoral Council

- In June it was announced by the diocese that there was a possible change in the plan for the larger Pastoral Area our Parish would be joining, instead of linking with St Patrick we would join with the much larger Southampton City Pastoral Area. The PPC requested that our parishioners had a voice in the decision that would be made. In the coming weeks a questionnaire will be given to every parishioner to gather feedback and we would be grateful if you would participate in sharing your thoughts which are of vital importance.
- 19th December - Christmas penitential service to be held at OLA further details will be in the newsletter
- Christmas Mass times have been arranged:
  - 24th Dec CKSC 6pm Carols, 6:30pm Family Mass
  - 24th Dec OLA 10pm Carols, 10:30pm Midnight Mass
  - 25th Dec St Brigid's 9am Carols, 9:30am Early morning Mass
  - 25th Dec CKSC 11am Mass
- The next Parish Pastoral Council meeting is on the 15th January, please submit any points of discussion to the office by the 9th January.

## Within our Parish

**Parish Safeguarding Minister:** Are you a good listener and a friendly face? We need a safeguarding representative from each church who is happy to be a point of contact to those in our church who need a little help. If you are interested in more information, please contact the parish office, or speak with Fr Elijah directly.

**Harvest Festival:** during 9.15am Mass on 12th October we will celebrate Harvest Festival. This year our gifts will again support the local food bank. So many families continue to face the impact of higher food costs. Many give to the Food Bank collection at the back of the church on a regular basis; please at this Harvest Festival Time, can we all make an extra special effort to boost the Food Bank! Tinned and dried goods please: eg: meat, fruit, veg, custard, rice, jars of sauces, UHT Milk, tea, coffee, toiletries, squash, biscuits etc. Thank you.

*"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat ....." Matthew 25: 35-40*

## Within the Diocese and beyond

**CTIB Churches Together in Bitterne:** We are looking for a new representative from our parish to take over from Jackie Lang on the committee for CTiB starting January 2026. If you would be interested and would like any further information please speak to Jackie after church on a Sunday, or contact the Parish Office. Please also feel free to come along to our next committee meeting on Wednesday 15th October at Holy Saviour Church at 7.30pm.

## 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)

- 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

### *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

- 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.

### *St Brigid – West End*

- Tea, coffee & cake every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month after Mass

## 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