

CORPUS CHRISTI

WITH

ST. JOSEPH PARISH



PARISH PRIEST Fr. Rinda Emmanuel Bamuh

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OFFICE HOURS: 9 AM - 4 PM (Mon, Wed, Thurs & Fri)

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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/>

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Parish Safeguarding Ministers

Corpus Christi: Shelagh Card: St. Joseph's:

PLEASE NOTE: Any of the above can be contacted via the Parish Office

Solemnity of Christ the King 23rd November 2025

COME AND INVITE YOUR FAMILIES, NEIGHBOURS & FRIENDS

Readings of the Day

1st Reading: 2 Samuel 5:1-3

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 121:1-2. 4-5

(Response): **Let us go rejoicing to the house of the LORD.**

2nd Reading: Colossians 1:12-20

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!

Gospel: Luke 23:35-43

Christ The King

We celebrate Christ our anointed King who overcame suffering and death and so brought us out of darkness into his kingdom of light.

WEEKLY MASSES AND INTENTIONS

Sat 22nd: 6 pm(CC): RIP of Andreana Mary Joan Pace FM
Sun 23rd: 9 am (SJ): For the intentions of the people of the parish
11 am (CC): Birthday thanksgiving of Clitex Pereira
Mon 24th: 9:30 am (CC):
Tues 25th:
Weds 26th: 7 pm (CC): RIP of Emmanuel Lambal
Thurs 27th: 9:30 am (SJ): For deceased members of Lentieul, Delpierre and Anury family
2 pm – 5 pm: Parish Support meeting at the Cathedral
Fri 28th: 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: CHRIST, OUR KING AND KING OF THE UNIVERSE

Today is the thirty-fourth Sunday of Year C. It is also the last Sunday of the liturgical year, Year C. On this last Sunday of the year, the Church allows us to celebrate the solemnity of Christ, King of the Universe. It is a day when we stand to showcase to the world that Christ is the King of the Universe. We need to make this a reality in our daily lives.

The above Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, was instituted by Pope Pius XI in 1925, with his encyclical *Quas primas* ("In the first"). This was firstly to celebrate the sixteenth centenary of the Council of Nicaea, at which the doctrine of the consubstantiality of Christ with the Father was defined. We recall that Arius denied the divinity of Jesus Christ, but the council stated that Jesus was both God and man. Its eschatological character was confirmed by its move, in the calendar reforms of the Second Vatican Council, to the final Sunday of the liturgical year. Secondly, in response to growing Secularism and Atheism at the time, which is not different from ours today, the Pope had to state categorically that Jesus is the King of the Universe. During the early twentieth century, in Mexico, Russia, and some parts of Europe, militantly secularistic regimes threatened not just the Catholic Church and its faithful but civilisation itself. Pope Pius XI's encyclical gave Catholics hope and—while governments around them crumbled—the assurance that Christ the King shall reign forever. He recognised that attempting to "thrust Jesus Christ and his holy law" out of public life would result in continuing discord among people and nations; this is evident in our world today. This solemnity reminds us that while governments come and go, Christ reigns as King forever.

The Pope asserted that the most effective defence against the destructive forces of the age is the recognition of Christ's kingship. He underscored that Christ's kingship is rooted in the Church's teaching on the Incarnation. Jesus is fully God and fully man. He is both the divine Lord and the man who suffered and died on the Cross. One person of the Trinity unites himself to human nature and reigns over all creation as the Incarnate Son of God. "From this it follows not only that Christ is to be adored by angels and men, but that to him as man angels and men are subject and must recognise his empire; by reason of the hypostatic union Christ has power over all creatures" (*Quas primas*, 13).

As God's children, we belong to God's eternal kingdom through Baptism. Once we receive baptism, it means we leave the kingdom of darkness for the kingdom of light. But are we really light or darkness? By baptism, we are anointed with holy oil to be made a priest, prophet and king. The feast

of Christ the King is thus a good moment to reflect on our kingship, on what "king" means, and on how to be one. Understanding the feast helps us better understand our own call.

One possible point of entry is in Genesis, where Adam sits and God brings him all the animals to name. To give names to one's subjects is the act of a king. The responsibility of a king is then to care for his subjects, which is why we are obliged to act as custodians of creation: something no other creature is. How far that responsibility extends can be seen in the King of the Universe, who is simultaneously the ruler of all and the servant of all. He rules in triumph, and he rules from the Cross.

Perhaps a way into a meditation on all this would be to ask, "Over whom am I, personally, king?" and hence "Whom am I called to serve?" Jesus' kingdom is not an earthly kingdom but a heavenly one. It is a kingdom not of this world and a kingdom built not with the might of an earthly kingdom but in the humiliation of a shameful death on the cross. The earthly kingdom is one built on power, fame, splendour, etc, for the sake of worldly glory. It's a kingdom that passes away. But Jesus' kingdom lasts forever.

We need to strive every day to be part of this kingdom by following Christ's teachings. Without this, we cannot be part of this kingdom. It is the kingdom we ought to promote and propagate every day. Unfortunately, rather than work dutifully for the heavenly kingdom, some of us spend our time, money, resources, and effort working for an ephemeral earthly kingdom. This should not be the case. Christ, our king, should reign in our lives. May this be our prayer today and always for the grace to build a deeper relationship with Christ, our King, and for the grace to be heirs in that kingdom.



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FINANCE & MORE

COLLECTIONS/INCOME 16/11/2025

ST. JOSEPH: Loose plate £86.50, Envelopes £34.25, Bingo £179.20, Mass Intentions £20, Wintershall £69 and Hall Rent £120

Contactless Collection: General £40 & Mass Intention £10

CORPUS CHRISTI: Loose plate £115.72, Envelopes £40 Candles £10.05 and Bamenda £5

Contactless Collection: General £20 & Candles £5

Online Donation: General £16, Mass Intentions £15 & CC New Heating £20

STANDING ORDERS OCTOBER £1576

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 September & £189.00. 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.

CHRISTMAS SALE

Some of our young parishioners from Corpus Christi have organised a Christmas sale for the four Sundays of Advent for church funds.

They would appreciate donations of religious cards, unbroken toys, stocking filler gifts, and Christmas decorations. Thank you.

(gifts for sale can be given to Terry, Geraldine or Liz who sit at the back of the church on a Sunday.)

RECEIVING COMMUNION

May we politely remind you that when you come to receive the precious body of Christ, you should respond with "Amen", not thank you, or nothing at all! If you do not wish to receive, but would like a blessing, please cross your arms across your chest so that the Minister knows.

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 PROGRAMME FOR 2024/2025

- RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS:** Two of our members were baptised couple of weeks ago and one was baptised and confirmed last week at Corpus Christi Church. We have 2 others who are also enrolled in this programme.
- FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAM 2025/26:** Third session today Sunday 23rd of November at 9:15 am in Corpus Christi Hall.

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.

CONTINUATION OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS VOUCHERS:

Once again this year, we will be collecting Christmas shopping vouchers for our less fortunate families from Corpus Christi and St. Paul's Schools. No more than £5 please. We appreciate that this is a difficult time for all, but if you can spare £5 when you do your weekly shopping, these families will be eternally grateful.

BINGO: We are delighted to say that a fun afternoon was had. And £179.20 was raised for church funds.

WINTERSHALL THE NATIVITY JOURNEY

20 December 2025

2.00pm

Payments are now due, to secure your place either pay online to:-

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Corpus Christi & St Joseph, sort code is 30-93-04 and account number 00884996

Or put payment in an envelope with your full name and give to Father Emmanuel

ADULTS £34.00

CHILD (3yrs to 18yrs) £17.00

FAMILY of 4 (2 adults & 2 children) £96.00

Transportation taken care of by the parish..

More details to follow.

RED MISSIO BOXES: Please leave them at the sacristy of both churches ready for collection or give it to Marion for St Joseph and to Terry for Corpus Christi. Thank you for your support.

FRIENDSHIP GROUP IN DECEMBER: December's get together will take place on Saturday 13th at 10.30 am. I hope to make this a fun Christmas themed session and am hoping that as many as you can come along as possible.

CHILDREN'S NATIVITY AT ST. JOSEPH'S: We are arranging a children's nativity as part of our Carol Service on Christmas eve from 5.00 pm. If you have children who would like to take part by dressing up to create a nativity scene between carols (no speaking required), please see Gail Edwards or Julie Beadsworth at 9 am Mass at St. Joseph's by Sunday, 12 October. All costumes will be provided.

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

Karen Gardner, Sonia Hopwood, John Micallef, Michael Owen, Sheila Heaward, 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, Leo Howes 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. 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.
3. Closing of the jubilee year will be on the First Sunday of Advent 2025 in our parish.

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 queuing at the machine. Just point your phone's camera at the QR code and then follow the instructions on your phone.

CHRISTMAS DECORATION IN OUR CHURCHES: This will be done on Saturday 13th of December 2025 in both churches.

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