

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) stjosephs Marianhouse@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

2nd Sunday of Advent – 7th December 2025

COME AND INVITE YOUR FAMILIES, NEIGHBOURS & FRIENDS

Readings of the Day

1st Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17

(Response): **In his days shall justice flourish, and great peace for ever.**

2nd Reading: Romans 15:4-9

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia.

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight;

all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

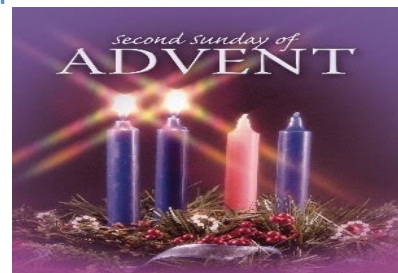
Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

Our Baptism With The Holy Spirit
And Fire

May the Lord who gave us this baptism purify us in our celebration today; for he can brook nothing that lacks integrity and truth. Then, through the Spirit of our baptism, united in heart and voice, we will be able to give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

WEEKLY MASSES AND INTENTIONS

Sat 6 th	6 pm(CC):	For the intentions of the people of the parish
Sun 7 th :	9 am (SJ):	
	11 am (CC):	
Mon 8 th :	9:30 am (CC):	
Tues 9 th :		
Weds 10 th :	7 pm (CC):	RIP of Monica Margaret Humphries
	3 pm (CC):	Divine Mercy
Thurs 11 th :	9:30 am (SJ):	RIP of Andrew Coughlan FM
Fri 12 th :	9:30 am(CC):	
	3 pm (CC):	Divine mercy



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: REPENT, FOR THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS AT HAND

Last week, we began with the first Sunday of Advent, Year A, during which we reflected on hope alongside the need to stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour we do not know. This week, following the four weeks of Advent that I explained last week, we leave hope and move over to peace. Peace, for me, is inner tranquillity or calmness we feel within us in the face of anything that comes our way. The Oxford Advanced Paperback Dictionary and Thesaurus sees it first as freedom from disturbance, noise, or anxiety, and second as freedom from war or the ending of war. Whatever meaning we attach to peace, all we are assured of is that the King of Peace, Jesus, is coming to us at Christmas, and we need to prepare for his coming. This falls within the mission of every baptised.

The mission of every baptised Christian is to know God, love Him, serve Him, and be happy with him forever in heaven. Without this, life for us is meaningless. Since we are sinners in need of God's mercy, the gospel today invites us to repent, for the kingdom of God is at hand. Without this repentance, it will be difficult for us to be part and parcel of this kingdom which God has prepared for us.

We find John the Baptist baptising in today's gospel, a baptism of repentance. As he baptises, he has just one message for the people and for us: repentance. He stressed that repentance is essential because the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Since it is closed at hand, there is no room for us to delay repentance.

On this second Sunday of Advent, it is an opportunity for each of us to go deep within ourselves in order to see those things that take us away from the kingdom of heaven. We must try to let go of these things to make peace with God and gain access to the kingdom of heaven. It will be disheartening for any Christian to miss heaven. Heaven is our home, and we should not, for any reason, live lives that cannot take us there.

Even some Pharisees and Sadducees in today's gospel, who were the doctors of the law, abandoned their old way of life (hypocrisy) in pursuit of baptism from John. It was somehow scandalising to find them humbling themselves to this extent, but they were searching for the kingdom of heaven. But John did not spare them when they came searching for God. He sternly said: "Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit,..." (Mt 3:7-8).

For repentance to be sincere, we must bear fruit; that is, our behaviour must show that we are converted. These fruits should be the fruits of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, and self-control. Not just these, but forgiveness at the centre of our lives, and all these should show themselves in the way we relate with one another. In order to help us bear these fruits, the first reading of today assures us of the need to be like that root that springs from the stock of Jesse, on whom the spirit of the Lord rests: as spirit of wisdom and insight, a spirit of counsel and power, a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord (Is 11:1-2).

As we carry on with our Advent journey, may we use today to evaluate and see those things which we need to grow out of by means of repentance so that the kingdom of heaven may be ours both now and forever. May we look for ways to make peace with God so that next week, when we celebrate Joy, we may be filled with the joy that comes from God alone.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME 2025

PENITENTIAL SERVICES

Corpus Christi: 6pm Wednesday 17th Dec. 2025

St. Joseph: 6pm Thursday 18th Dec. 2025

CHRISTMAS CAROLS AND MASSES

Wednesday 24th Dec 2025

St. Joseph: 5 pm carol service and 6pm mass

Corpus Christi: 8pm carol service and 9pm mass

Latin mid night mass at St. Joseph by the friars

Thursday 25th Dec. 2025

St. Joseph: 9am: English mass

11:15 am: Latin mass by the Friars

Corpus Christi: 11am mass

**Merry Christmas to you from
Corpus Christi with St Joseph
Parish**

IF YOU WANT TO RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER ELECTRONICALLY EMAIL US on

ccsj@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

FINANCE & MORE

COLLECTIONS/INCOME 30/11/2025

ST. JOSEPH: Loose plate £89.20, Envelopes £33 and Coffee £17

Contactless Collection: General £20

CORPUS CHRISTI: Loose plate £143.20, Envelopes £20 and Candles £5

Contactless Collection: General £5 & New Heating £10

Online Donation: General £55, Mass Intentions £5 & CC New Heating £30

STANDING ORDERS OCTOBER £1,576

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.)

PARISH ONLINE DONATION PAGE FOR CHRISTMAS COLLECTION:

This is now live on Give As You Live. Below is the link.

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/portsmouth-corporus-christi-and-st-joseph-catholic-parish-christmas-collection-2025>

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.

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:** If you are not a Catholic or have no religion and wants to become not a Catholic, you can join this program. So far, we have 5 persons currently doing the program. Others are also welcome to enrolled in this programme.
- FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAM 2025/26:** Fifth session today Sunday 7th of December at 9:15 am in Corpus Christi Hall.

WHAT HAPPENS AT ADVENT?: Advent is the time the church has given us to prepare for Christ's coming at Christmas. It consists of four Sundays and have themes that cuts across these Sundays: hope, peace, joy and love respectively. In our church, we usually have rosary, vespers and benediction on the Sundays of Advent beginning at 6pm. All are welcome to be part of it.

During this time of the year, the Gloria is not sung at mass except for solemnities and baptisms may be left out till Christmas.

We normally have penitential services in schools and the parish to accord our members the opportunity to avail themselves for the sacrament of confession.

CONTINUATION OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

WINTERSHALL NATIVITY

DECEMBER 20TH 2025

2.00pm

THIS TRIP IS NOW FULL

Please ensure all outstanding payments are received ASAP.

PAY ONLINE TO Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Corpus Christi & St Joseph,

sort code 30-93-04, account number 00884996 & reference Wintershall.

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

ITINERARY

Pick Up Times

St Joseph's Church 11.00am

Corpus Christi Church 11.15pm

We will be making a refreshment stop at Guildford Cathedral for those who wish to purchase lunch or beverages. Performance starts at 2.00pm lasting 90min.

Transport up the steep hill is provided for the less able.

Warm clothing and appropriate footwear is advisable. For mor information go to www.wintershall.org.uk

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

As you are all aware, we were hoping to create a nativity tableau at the Carol service at St. Joseph's on Christmas Eve. Unfortunately, we only had three children volunteer for this, so it is not viable. A big apology to those three children and their families. Although there will be no Nativity this year, the Carol service will still go ahead.

CHRISTMAS CARDS:

Boxes for Christmas cards for distribution to fellow Parishioners will be available in the porch at St Joseph.

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 to purchase a supermarket shopping card when you do your weekly shopping, these families will be eternally grateful. Please put the card in the basket on the steps of the altar or in the weekly collection basket.

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

Karen, Sonia, John , Michael, Sheila, David, Nicky, Janet, Helen, Dawn, Eileen & Joe, Vanessa, Debbie, Jenny, Colin, Angie, Aileen Mary, Lolo, Leonard, Tom & Joan, Ellen, John, Maureen, Philip, Margaret & Brian, Jim, Giuseppe, Kamila, Terry, Pretty, Clare, Frances & Ron, Anna, Margaret, Sean, Leo 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.

GDPR: To comply with data protection regulations, we are no longer allowed to identify people in the newsletter, on rotas etc, unless we have written permission.

Please take a consent form and sign it if you are willing for your full name (forename and surname) to put identified. This means that if you request a listing in the "prayers for the sick" in the newsletter, we will need to have permission either from the person themselves or a family member.

Baffins Pantry: Every Sunday, Janette collects the parcels left in the church for Baffins Pantry (just along Tangier Road from the church) and delivers them on Monday. She says: "Can I take this opportunity to thank everyone for their continued generosity towards the Pantry. They have asked us for Christmas goodies this month such as biscuits, chocs, puddings, etc. Let me thank you in anticipation and can I assure you the Pantry is always very grateful for our support". Janette

Parish Pilgrimage to Knock & Co. Mayo – Led by Fr. Rinda Emmanuel. 08th March 2026. £899.00 pps. Price includes flight from Heathrow or Luton, 10kg hold luggage, 5 nights in 4* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Full use of leisure facilities. All entertainment, excursions and transport included. Visit Knock Shrine, Ballintubber Abbey, Fr. Peyton Centre & Kylemore Abbey. Irish music nightly. Single supplement on Enquiry. Contact: Fr. Emmanuel to register your interest or complete the form to show your interest

CHRISTMAS DECORATION IN OUR CHURCHES: This will be done on Saturday 13th of December 2025 in both churches. At St. Joseph's this will be done from 9 am, with a break for Friendship Group for those who wish to attend and then continue after.

IF YOU WANT TO RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER ELECTRONICALLY EMAIL US on

ccsj@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk