

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*

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Easter Sunday (Year A, Cycle 2)

5th April 2026

Reflection from Fr Elijah: The Holy Week - Meaning

Holy Week is the most sacred week in the Catholic liturgical year, commemorating the final days of Jesus Christ's earthly life, his Passion, Death, and Resurrection. It begins with **Palm Sunday**, when we commemorate Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem with welcome shouts of Hosanna. The palm branches symbolize victory and kingship, yet the reading of the Passion introduces the movement from praise to suffering. A central theme of Holy Week is **sacrifice and redemptive love**.

On **Holy Thursday**, the Church recalls the Last Supper, where Jesus instituted the Eucharist and the priesthood. We, Catholics, believe that Christ gives himself in the bread and wine, establishing the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist at the heart of the Church's worship. The washing of the disciples' feet also highlights the theme of **humility and service**, showing that Christian leadership is rooted in love and self-giving.

Good Friday focuses on the Passion and Crucifixion of Jesus. This day emphasizes the theme of **atonement**, as Christ offers his life for the salvation of humanity. His suffering and death are understood not as defeat, but as the fullest expression of God's mercy and love.

On **Holy Saturday**, the Church enters into silence and waiting. This day reflects the themes of **hope, trust, and reflection**, as we, believers, meditate on Christ in the tomb and await the promise of resurrection. The celebration reaches its climax with the **Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday**, centred on the theme of **resurrection and new life**. Jesus' victory over sin and death is the foundation of our Catholic faith and offers us hope in eternal life.

Overall, Holy Week reveals the heart of our Catholic belief: **love expressed through sacrifice, suffering transformed by hope, and death overcome by resurrection**. It invites us to deepen our faith, repentance, and gratitude.

Mass Times and Intentions

Easter Octave

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 th April	9am	OLA	Mass	Callaghan Family Intentions For John & Berenice Adams RIP
	11am	CKSC	Mass	
Tue 7 th April	10am	OLA	Mass	For the people
Wed 8 th April	10am	SB	Mass	For Monsignor Philip Carol RIP
Thur 9 th April	10am	CKSC	Mass	
Fri 10 th April	10am	OLA	Mass	For the people
Sat 11 th April	10am	CKSC	Mass	
Sun 12 th April <i>Divine Mercy</i>	9.15am	OLA	Mass	Callaghan Special Intention Michael & Josephine Shepherd RIP In thanksgiving on the occasion of the sacramental marriage of Roland & Veronica Hoskins
	11am	CKSC	Mass	
	5.30pm	SB	Mass	
	6pm	CKSC	Mass (in Polish)	

This Sunday's readings can be found at <https://universalis.com/europe.english/20260405/mass.htm>

Within our Parish

RECYCLE for CAFOD: At the back of the church in Christ the King and St Colman church there is a large box for any unwanted jewellery, electrical equipment, foreign coins, stamps etc. When it is full, it will be collected and the money raised sent to CAFOD. So if you're doing any Spring cleaning don't just throw stuff away but bring it to church to do some good for our brothers and sisters overseas. Thank you.

Quiz Night is back!! Please come along and join us in Our Lady of the Assumption Hall on Friday 24th April from 7pm (to form teams) ready for a 7.30pm start. Tickets are £5.00 per adult - children free. Price includes tea/coffee/squash and a Ploughman's Supper. Feel free to bring your own alcoholic drinks and please bring some cash for a fun raffle! Tickets on sale in all churches. Please put your name and ticket number on the sign-up sheet. Looking forward to welcoming you

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 3rd 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

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 1st Sunday of the month

– Choir practice in hall - 7:30pm on 2nd & 4th Friday each month. All welcome.

St Brigid – West End

- Cake & coffee after Mass on 2nd Sunday of the month; folk Mass on 4th Sunday
- Rosary & Exposition at 9.30am each Wednesday, before Mass

The next Parish Pastoral Council meeting is on the 23rd April, please submit any points of discussion to the office.

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