



CORPUS CHRISTI WITH ST. JOSEPH PARISH

CHARITY NO: 1199568



PARISH PRIEST Fr. Rinda Emmanuel Bamuh

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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

Easter Sunday – 5th April 2026

COME AND INVITE YOUR FAMILIES, NEIGHBOURS & FRIENDS

Readings of the Day

1st Reading: Acts 10:34. 37-43

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 117:1-2. 16-17. 22-23

(Response): Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2nd Reading: Colossians 3:1-4

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia.

Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed;
let us therefore celebrate the festival in the Lord.

Alleluia.

Gospel: John 20:1-9

Alleluia!

This mass is our Alleluia;
our song of praise to the
risen Christ who is our
life and whose triumph
over death we proclaim
to all the world.

WEEKLY MASSES AND INTENTIONS

Sat 4th: 6 pm(SJ): For the intentions of the people of the parish

Sun 5th: 9 am (SJ): RIP of Violet & Jeffery Heaward FM

11 am (CC):

Mon 6th: 9:30 am (CC):

Tue 7th:

Weds 8th: 7 pm (CC):

Thurs 9th: 9:30 am (SJ):

Fri 10th: 9:30am (CC): RIP of Jude DeBattista & Mario Oakes FM



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: LOOK FOR THE THINGS THAT ARE IN HEAVEN WHERE CHRIST IS

Yesterday in our Holy Saturday reflection we looked at "He is risen" and what this means for us as contemporary Christians. By Christ's rising from the dead, he conquered death and has given us access to his kingdom, both here on earth and in heaven. Life that was lost for us through the sin of our first parents, Adam and Eve, is now won by Jesus' death and resurrection. As a resurrected people, I would like us to follow the admonition of St. Paul in the second reading of today who says "let our hearts be on the things of heaven where Christ is seated at the right hand of the Father and not on the things of this world" (Col 3:1-4).

Our Lenten journey that started on Ash Wednesday was our preparation towards Easter Sunday. We made resolutions to deny ourselves legitimate pleasure to unite ourselves more with Christ. We expressed this physically throughout Lent by acts of penance, prayers, fasting and almsgiving. As we used Lent to mortify the flesh by denying the things of this world, this was an invitation to continue gaining the graces God gives us every day and to live in his presence, always by fixing our hearts and our gaze on the things of heaven and not on the things of earth.

Though fearful and frightened to depend entirely on Christ after his resurrection, the apostles gained the strength to have their gaze on heavenly things on Pentecost Sunday. The apostles at Pentecost, through the voice of the head of the apostles, Peter, demonstrated the power of the resurrection and what Christ has done for them. As a fearful people, the power of the resurrection gave them the impetus to preach Jesus' resurrection and on this day many were brought to believe in Christ. They turned their hearts from the things of this world to embrace the things of heaven, which was their sole drive for the rest of their lives until they died while defending the faith.

We all need to ask ourselves is - How am I going to live this new life given me at Easter by Christ? Am I going to continue focusing on the things of earth or on the things of heaven? We all know that as human beings, our desires are enormous and if not checked we can end up living just earthly lives; a life that leads to death and condemnation. If we do this, then, it will be like sending Christ back to the cross. Unfortunately, for some of us, that seems to be the normal way of life. Sadly, many have abandoned Christ over the years, and even now, concentrate on daily sustenance and the pleasures and luxuries of this present world and discard the salvation which God won for us through the death and resurrection of his son, Jesus Christ. Today is a day to make a firm resolution to focus on the things of heaven and not on the things of earth. This does not invariably mean that the things of this world are not important, they are, but priority must be given to God first,

who oversees our lives and has given us the life we live free of charge. For us to use this Easter period to concentrate on the things of heaven, I suggest that we take the opportunity to:

1. Renew our baptismal call and determine to live to keep our baptismal promises.
2. Make a decision to detach from earthly things and earthly way of life by giving priority to God.
3. Long for the things of God through union with Him in prayers and services to our brothers and sisters.
4. Do penance for the times we have neglected the ways of God for the ways of this world.

Dear friends in Christ, I can assure you that when we focus on the things of God rather than the things of this world, the blessings that come to us are a hundredfold. Jesus himself assures us of this when he says that if we serve him, we will be with him wherever he is (Jn 12:26) we need to therefore use Easter as a period of true and authentic Christian living and not a time to relax from the rigorous way of life we lived during Lent. Let it be a time of focus on heavenly and not earthly things. If you want to give priority to the things of this world, then remember the warning: "Vanity of vanities," Qoheleth says. "Vanity of vanities. All is vanity! For all his toil, his toil under the sun, what does man gain by it" (Ecclesiastes 1:2-3). We can work and leave others to enjoy themselves but by focusing on the things of heaven, we both enjoy ourselves and others to enjoy the fruits.

Let the graces we have gained throughout lent and by Jesus' resurrection help us to focus on the things of heaven rather than on the things of earth. Let us also pray that nothing should be able to stand between us and the love of Christ; be it trouble, worries, persecution, hunger, clothing, threats, sickness, etc for these are the trials we must go through if we put our hearts on the things of heaven (Rom 8:35-36). May God grant us blessings throughout Easter.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE: The Parish Pilgrimage on Saturday, 24 October 2026 is now booked and deposit paid. We will be going to Ladywell in Godalming. Many of you will remember the Sisters who used to live in the Presbytery at St. Joseph's and you may have visited Ladywell at that time. A substantial lunch will be provided and free tea and coffee. A form is now available in the porches of both churches, for you to indicate your interest and in due course you will need to pay a £10 deposit to secure your place. The cost for the day will be £50 which includes coach travel there and back. The day includes a talk about St. Francis, Mass and a walk around the grounds if desired.

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FINANCE & MORE

COLLECTIONS/INCOME 29/03/2026

ST. JOSEPH: Loose plate £83.48, Envelopes £34.40 and Holy Places £2

Contactless Collection: General £30 & CC New Heating £115

CORPUS CHRISTI: Loose plate £139.87 Envelopes £15, Candles £8.20 and Coffee £12.22

Contactless Collection: General £38, Easter Offering £5, New Heating £50 & Holy Places £2

Online Donation: General £50, Holy Places £10 & Easter Offering £30

STANDING ORDERS FOR FEBRUARY 2026 - £1,691

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-corpus-Christi--st-joseph-catholic-parish>

Donations to Bamenda in the orange/yellow buckets for January and February amounted to £154.62. 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 MARCH DRAW WINNERS

1 ST PRIZE	SHEILA
2 ND PRIZE	ANNE
3 RD PRIZE	JOY

SCHOOL CAR PARK: It will be opened for the Easter services. The gate will be locked just before mass and only open at the end of mass to avoid a situation where someone may walk in while we are having the mass and steal from the cars.

FORMATION MORNING FOR EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNICATION:

Fr Anthony Fyk, Director of Liturgical Formation and the Liturgy Formation team invite you to a formation morning at St Peter's Pastoral Centre, Winchester on Saturday 9th May 2026 commencing with Mass at 9 am. There will be a welcome session from Fr Anthony, a talk focussing on the Eucharist in the sacred scriptures as well as a session on Lectio Divina: "Living a Eucharistic life – what does it mean to live out the eucharist?". All Eucharistic Ministers, experienced and new, are very welcome to attend. If you wish to attend, please register via liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

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:** Three candidates will be baptised and confirm over Easter.
- FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAM 2025/26:** There will be a retreat for all the candidates at Corpus Christi Hall on the 11th of April at 10 am.
- BAPTISMAL PREPARATION DATES FOR 2026:** There will be a baptismal preparation sessions at St Joseph Hall, Tangier Road Copnor PO3 6JL on the following dates: **Sat 16th May 2026, Sat 19th Sept 2026 and Sat 31st Oct 2026**

NB: All Sessions start at 11.00am until 12.30.

VOLUNTEERS: We need volunteers to help our baptismal preparation team. The preparation is only done 4 times a year. Please let Fr Emmanuel know if you are interested.

SAFEGUARDING: Parishioners are asked to be vigilant and keep personal items safe following a recent incident where a theft occurred. Unfortunately, not all visitors attend the Church to worship. Please look out for each other and report any suspicious activity.

Also, could parents and guardians accompany their children if they need to go to the toilet during mass please. Thank you

CONTINUATION OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

LAUNCHING CHURCHSUITE: The parish is now using a new system called ChurchSuite, to manage our parishioner database and our communications like the newsletter. To do this we need to renew all the information we hold about parishioners. To ensure you remain registered as a parishioner and to continue to receive communications from the parish, including the newsletter, please make sure you have filled out a new Registration Form. There is a separate adult and child registration form. There is a paper form if you want to do it manually (see Jenny or Angela W).

The **Adult Registration Form** is available here: [Adult Parishioner Registration Form](#) or by scanning this QR code:



The **Child Registration Form** is available here: [Child Parishioner Registration Form](#) or by scanning this QR code:



HOLY WEEK PROGRAMME 2026

Maudy Thursday: 6pm at SJ and 8pm at CC

Good Friday: 3pm both at SJ and CC

Holy Saturday: 1 pm Polish blessing of food at CC

(Polish people are invited to get involved)

6pm at SJ and 8:30pm at CC with baptisms

Easter Sunday: 9am at SJ and 11am at CC

HOLIDAY: Fr Emmanuel will be away for his holiday from 14th of April till 15th of May 2026. There will be **NO WEEKDAY MASSES** while he is away.

THANK YOU: We want to thank all the volunteers who helped in our Holy Week celebration. Special thanks to the cleaners, florist, readers, welcomers, those doing the tea and coffee, altar servers, those who helped in the Polish blessing of food and the choir. Thanks also for the Easter collection for the priest. May God bless you all immensely.

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

Danny, Karen, Sonia, John, Michael, Sheila, David, Lawrie, Nicky, Janet, Helen, Dawn, Eileen & Joe McGannan, Vanessa, Debbie, Jenny, Colin, Angie, Aileen Mary, 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.

YOUTH CLUB: We are inviting the youth of our Parish to our forthcoming Easter Holiday Meeting. Please join us for a special Easter gathering! This will be on Tuesday 7th April 2026 at Corpus Christi Church. More details will be provided soon. Parents and Guardians kindly take note and encourage your children to attend.



EASTER EGGS: We wish to thank the Portsmouth LibDem group who very kindly donated Easter Eggs to our children this year. We very much appreciate this kind gesture.

EASTER OFFERINGS: Please remember this collection goes to our Priests for everything that they do for our parishes. Envelopes will be available on Palm Sunday. We have two times in the year to support our priests in their work and ministry. One of the ways in which the Parish can support our Parish Priest in his ministry is by contributing to the Easter.

There are four ways in which you can give:

1. The collection on Easter Sunday
2. A bank transfer to the parish bank account, please put ref 'Easter offering' (note that standing orders are not counted as Easter collections)
3. Contactless payment via Dona machine at the back of church - option marked "Priest Easter Collection"
4. Use our "give as you live" page :

[Donate to Portsmouth Corpus Christi & St Joseph Catholic Parish Easter Collection - Give as you Live Donate](#)

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