



CORPUS CHRISTI WITH ST. JOSEPH PARISH



PARISH PRIEST Fr. Rinda Emmanuel Bamuh

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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 ALL SAINTS – 2nd November 2025 COME AND INVITE YOUR FAMILIES, NEIGHBOURS & FRIENDS

Readings of the Day

1st Reading: Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 23:1-6

(Response): **Such are the people who seek your face, O Lord.**

2nd Reading: 1 John 3:1-3

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia.

**Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, says the Lord,
and I will give you rest.**

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

Today we offer the Lamb
and celebrate the victory
of our God in the
company of all the
redeemed in the
heavenly kingdom.

WEEKLY MASSES AND INTENTIONS

Sat 1st: 6 pm (SJ): RIP of Michael Peter Hounsell

Sun 2nd: 9 am (SJ): For the intentions of the people of the parish

11 am (CC): In thanksgiving for answered prayers, family & friends

Mon 3rd: 9:30 am (CC): For the Holy Souls

12 noon(SJ): For the Holy Souls

7 pm(CC): For the Pope's intentions

Weds 5th: 7 pm (CC): RIP of Pace and Ellul families

Thurs 6th: 9:30 am (SJ):

Fri 7th: 9:30 am(CC):

12 noon(CC): Wedding of Cajehan Eguah & Michelle Olere

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: HEAVEN IS HOME FOR THE POOR IN SPIRIT

The Solemnity of All Saints is celebrated in the Roman calendar on 1st November of every year, which was yesterday, 1st November 2025. But to allow for greater participation of the faithful, given the nature of the solemnity, the feast was carried forward to the 31st Sunday in O.T. Year C, that is today. As we celebrate this day, I want us to reflect on the fact that heaven is our home, but, most especially, a home for the poor in spirit, as Jesus described in today's gospel.

A home is supposed to be a place of rest, nurturing, comfort, love, care, etc. This is what heaven is. Heaven is not just a future reality but something which we begin to enjoy now. We all need to enjoy heaven here on earth and work hard to embrace its reality. Our heavenly home is given a context and a description in today's first reading when St. John says, "After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, 'Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels were standing round the throne and round the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, saying, 'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.' Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?' I said to him, 'Sir, you know.' And he said to me, 'These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.'" (Rev 7:9-14). From this reading, it is evident that we must all wash our clothes clean to be able to enter heaven.

The above is what the church does in canonisation: the official proclamation that so-and-so lived a good and holy life, died, and is in heaven. We celebrate these throughout the liturgical year through solemnities, feasts, memorials, commemorations, and optional memorials. For those the church has not officially declared saints — our family members, friends, neighbours, etc. — who have gone before us, the solemnity of All Saints is given to us to remember and celebrate their lives.

As we celebrate this day, we need to ask for their intercession as we journey to our heavenly home. We also need to ask for the grace to live a good and holy life by imitating aspects of their lives. In a sense, we need to ask for the graces to live as children of God. St. John in today's second reading reminds us of this when he says, "Beloved: See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure" (1 Jn 3:1-3). So God's love has

been poured out on us by calling us His children here on earth, but we must complete this journey through our way of life. We are children of heaven, and we should not give up this privilege because of any earthly pleasure. That is why the gospel presents to us the beatitudes as the means or guide for all of us to follow if we want to get to our homeland, heaven. Matthew presents the beatitudes to us thus:

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.' (Mt 5:3-12a)

Briefly speaking, I will recommend we all become poor in spirit, for the kingdom of heaven is ours. This phrase has been interpreted in several rich and complementary ways across theological and scholarly traditions. To be poor in spirit is not material poverty; otherwise, all poor people would be destined for heaven. Rather, to be poor in spirit means complete dependence on God. The poor in spirit are those who recognise their spiritual neediness and dependence on God. It's about a spiritual humility that puts us at a level where we recognise and acknowledge that we are not self-sufficient but need divine grace. It's about entrusting all in God's hands and allowing Him to lead us while depending on Him for everything. This path is the surest path to heaven.

May we pray for the grace to be poor in spirit so that heaven may be our eternal homeland. Let us ask all the saints in heaven to intercede for us to follow them as they followed Christ, so that we may journey to our heavenly homeland, heaven, to live with them forever and ever.

FRIENDSHIP GROUP NOV & DEC: Due to a number of other commitments, the November group has had to be cancelled. However, December's get together will still happen 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 hoping to arrange a children's nativity as part of our Carol Service on Christmas eve from 5.15 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.

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FINANCE & MORE

COLLECTIONS/INCOME 26/10/2025

ST. JOSEPH: Loose plate £57.12, Envelopes £43.20, World Mission £22, Mass Stipend £20, Bamenda £5 and Home Mission £2

Contactless Collection: General £50 & CC New Heating £40

CORPUS CHRISTI: Loose plate £128.33, Envelopes £20, Candles £8.45, Coffee £25, Mass Stipend £20, Catholic Education Service £1, Home Mission £1 and World Mission £11

Contactless Collection: General £10 & CC New Heating £20

Online Donation: General £20, Mass Intention £5 & New Heating (CC) £20

STANDING ORDERS SEPTEMBER £1,832

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 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.

100 CLUB OCTOBER WINNERS

1st Prize – Derek Clinton

2nd Prize – Derek Meyer

3rd Prize – Shelagh Card

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

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 will be baptised on the 8th of November 2025 at 3 pm in Corpus Christi Church. We have 2 others who are also enrolled in this programme.

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.

MARRIAGE BANNS

Third Call: Jason Weston & Christelle Weston

We should pray for them and if anyone knows why they can't be joined into holy matrimony, please let me know.

CONTINUATION OF ANNOUNCEMENTS



COME AND JOIN US FOR A FAMILY FUN AFTERNOON,
BINGO AS YOU HAVE NEVER PLAYED IT BEFORE

15TH NOVEMBER 2025
ST JOSEPH'S PARISH HALL
3.15PM TO 5.15PM
£5.00 INC. BINGO TICKETS
(PAYMENT ON ARRIVAL)

RAFFLE AND REFRESHMENTS

OR BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS AND NIBBLES

There's a sign-up sheet at the back of the church for those who are interested.

WINTERSHALL THE NATIVITY JOURNEY: Experience the story. Discover the true meaning of Christmas with an unforgettable event for all the family. It's a Nativity like no other, placing you in the middle of an immersive theatre experience. Stand with the shepherds, walk with Mary, Joseph and the donkey, journey with Roman soldiers and enter the stable to watch the miracle unfold. Our visit will be **Saturday, 20 December 2025** for the 2pm performance. It will be in Wintershall, Bramley, Surrey GU5 0LR if you want to make your own arrangements.

ADULTS	£34.00
CHILD (3yrs to 18yrs)	£17.00
FAMILY of 4 (2 adults & 2 children)	£96.00

Cost includes coach travel

Please register your interest on the list at back of either church by 31st October.

JOINT MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE DEAD: Envelopes are available at the back of the church for families to write all the names of family members, friends, etc who have died. We are called to include donations towards the celebration of these intentions. These masses will be celebrated on All Souls Day Monday 3rd November 2025 at 9:30 am, 12 noon and 7 pm. The 12-noon mass will be at St. Joseph Church

BAMENDA SUNDAY: The second collection today, Sunday 2nd of November is for Bamenda Sunday. This retiring collection is meant to support projects in Bamenda. I am a priest from Bamenda and need your support in this light to help the future projects back home. Thanks in advance.

ST. JOSEPH'S HALL: St. Joseph's Hall is available to hire by contacting The Hall Manager via the Parish Office. There are regular events such as Girls' and Boys' Brigade and Yoga (Mondays) 9.30 to 10.30 am, various keep fit/wellness classes and of course the Craft Market which takes place monthly, etc. See notice boards outside the hall for more details. The hall is also available to hire for children's parties at the weekend.

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.

CATHERINE FUGGLE: Her funeral mass will be on Tuesday 11th of November 2025 at 1 pm in Corpus Christi Church and burial at Kingston Cemetery at 2 pm.

NORMA WALDREN AND RONALDINA HEYWOOD: Norma, (Ralph's mum) died in hospital last week at the ripe old age of 103 following a short illness. Her funeral will be on Friday 14th of November 2025 at 1 pm at Portchester Crematorium. Ronnie died suddenly couple of weeks ago. Her funeral mass will be on Thursday 13th of November 2025 at 11:30 am in St Joseph Church. Please remember them and their families in your prayers.

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.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS' MEETING

A reminder to all Eucharistic Ministers at St. Joseph's and Corpus Christi that there is a meeting on Saturday, 8 November at 9 am at the Cathedral. It is mandatory that everyone attends (CC & SJ).

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