



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/>
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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 Ordinary Sunday – 18th January 2026
COME AND INVITE YOUR FAMILIES, NEIGHBOURS & FRIENDS

Readings of the Day

1st Reading: Isaiah 49:3, 5-6
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 39:2. 4. 7-10
(Response): **Behold, I have come, Lord to do your will.**
2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-3
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia.
The Word became flesh and dwelt among us; to all who did receive him, he gave the authority to become children of God
Gospel: John 1:29-34

The Lamb Of God
We celebrate the Servant of God who came to do the Father's will in perfect obedience. Yet he was more than a servant. John the Baptist calls him the Lamb, the chosen one of God.

WEEKLY MASSES AND INTENTIONS

Sat 17th: 6 pm(CC): For the intentions of the people of the parish
Sun 18th: 9 am (SJ): RIP of Sylvia Foster FM
11 am (CC): RIP of James & Mary Doyle
Mon 19th: 9:30 am (CC): **NO MASS**
Tues 20th: RIP of Anthony & Adelaide DeBattista FM
Weds 21st: 7pm (CC): Thanksgiving mass of Diego DaCosta
Thurs 22nd: 9:30 am (SJ): RIP of Violet Heaword FM
Fri 23rd: 9 am(CC): Adoration and Rosary
11 am(CC): Funeral mass for Margaret New



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: THERE IS THE LAMB THAT TAKES AWAY THE SINS OF THE WORLD

There is a difference in the way the sin offering was offered in the O.T. and in the N.T. In the O.T., the celebration of the sacrament of reconciliation for the Jews was done with the use of a lamb. The priest will lay his hands on the lamb and confess the people's sins. Then the lamb would be taken to the gate of the town and driven out of the town to the desert, where it would eventually die with the sins of the people. Not just this, but sin sacrifices were made too, where lambs were slaughtered and offered to God for the sins of the people. But these forms of reconciliation with God were incomplete and inadequate. The complete sacrifice to take away the sins of the world was in Christ. John the Baptist points out Jesus in today's gospel, saying: "Look, there is the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world" (Jn 1:29). I would like us to reflect on the significance of these words for us as Christians.

Referring to Jesus as the Lamb of God was absolutely correct in the language of the Jews, where the word lamb could also mean servant. Therefore, Jesus is the servant of God spoken of by Isaiah (Is 53:1-12), who was to sacrifice himself for his brothers and sisters. He is also the true lamb that replaces the paschal lamb (Mk 14:12). Therefore, for us to have been washed clean of our sins, Jesus had to shed his blood for us to make us one with God again; thereby abolishing any other human, animal or plant sacrifices needed to take away our sins. No other sacrifice is needed to wash us clean, except two things: the Mass, where we come to re-enact in a bloodless manner what took place at Calvary on Good Friday, and the sacrament of Reconciliation.

We all need to be lambs/servants to one another, which can cover the sins of others. Who is the Lamb among us who is willing to do this in the present situation of my country, Cameroon? This country needs lambs or servants who can sacrifice their money, time, energy, talents, etc, for the sins of the oppressed and marginalised, especially with the present Anglophone crisis. The sins of this nation are many: institutionalised bribery and corruption, marginalisation of the anglophones, lies, occultism, waste of resources, unaccountability, distortion of law to suit individuals, disproportionate use of force, stealing, etc. Who is the Lamb or servant who would free us from this mess? Can these sins be atoned for by taking money from the

government, as governors, SDOs, DOs, parliamentarians, some chiefs, and elites have done, without doing what they were supposed to do? What a shame! Is it not a continuation of the whole system of divide and rule? Why does our government hate meaningful, open and frank dialogue? Must they be pushed to the wall before things can happen?

Dear friends in Christ, we need honest men and women, new lambs and servants who can rise to take away the sins/shame of our people, of the polluted western culture and practices that don't befit us as children of God. Not by bloodshed but by their outright condemnation of the ills and wrongs that go contrary to natural order and the commandments of God.

May we have another Amos-like figure to help stand and defend the rights of the poor, oppressed and marginalised, so that the sins of nations in disarray and disharmony may be led back to God by true lambs.



CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS AT ST. JOSEPH'S:

Thanks to those who helped take down the decorations last Saturday. You may be wondering why the crib is still in place. It is a Franciscan tradition to not take the crib down until 2 February (Feast of Candlemas). So we were delighted to agree to leave the crib in situ until then. You will notice that the Kings have now visited it!!

FINANCE & MORE

COLLECTIONS/INCOME 11/01/2026

ST. JOSEPH: Loose plate £59.86, Envelopes £33.70, Heating £22.75, Flowers £25.60, CRIB £17.80 and Hall Rent £300

Contactless Collection: General £5 and Votive Candles £10

CORPUS CHRISTI: Loose plate £87.32, Envelopes £35, Christmas Tabletop Fundraising £320, Candles £10.10, Mass Stipend £15 and CRIB £28

Contactless Collection: General £27

Online Donation: General £45 & Votive Candles £5

STANDING ORDERS DECEMBER £2178

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 November and December amounted to £118.39. 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 RENEWAL: All annual subscriptions for 100 Club will conclude at the end of this month. Those who pay annually need to renew their subscriptions. Our winners will receive:

	<u>MONTHLY DRAW</u>	<u>CHRISTMAS DRAW</u>
1 st Prize	£150	£300
2 nd Prize	£75	£200
3 rd Prize	£50	£100

Thank you for your support.

WORD OF THANKS: Alex and George would again like to thank everyone for supporting their Advent sale. Final total from the sale was £312.50. A last donation rounded the figure to £320.

PLEASE NOTE: Fr. Emmanuel will be back from his Christmas break on Wednesday 21st of January 2026.

DIOCESE OF PORTSMOUTH DIRECTORY 2026

These are now available and can be purchased from Angela Waldren (SJ) or Jenny Elliott (CC) for £5 each. They are a great source of information

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 want to become a Catholic, you can join this program. So far, we have 5 persons currently doing the program. Others are also welcome to enrol in this programme.
- FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAM 2025/26:** Next session will be on Sunday 18th January 2026 at 9:15 am in Corpus Christi Hall.
- 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 17th Jan 2026

Sat 16th May 2026

Sat 19th Sept 2026

Sat 31st Oct 2026

NB: All Sessions start at 11.00am until 12.30.

ST JOSEPH CHURCH: We will be singing the psalm and the alleluia every Sunday.

CONTINUATION OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Over 60 Singers to Gather in Portsmouth for Major Gregorian Chant Course Beginning 10 January 2026

Portsmouth is set to resonate with the timeless sound of sacred music as more than 60 participants gather this Saturday, 10 January 2026, for the opening session of the Portsmouth Gregorian Chant Course, hosted at St John's Cathedral.

Bringing together both beginners and seasoned singers, this three-part workshop series offers a rare opportunity for participants to deepen their understanding of Gregorian chant, explore ancient repertoire, and develop interpretative skills under expert guidance.

A Public Sung Mass Featuring a 60-Voice Choir
The first workshop will culminate in a sung Mass at 15:00, during which course participants will form a choir of more than sixty voices to perform the chants they have studied. [The Mass, held at St John's Cathedral, Bishop Crispian Way, Portsmouth PO1 3HG, is open to the public.](#)

The Portsmouth Gregorian Chant Course consists of three workshops, held on the second Saturday of each month: 10 January, 14 February, and 14 March 2026.

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

GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations): To comply with data protection regulations, we are no longer allowed to identify people in the newsletter, on rotas etc, unless we have their written permission.
Please take a consent form from the back of either church 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.

FRIENDSHIP GROUP IN 2026: The group meets every second Saturday of the month at 10.30 am – 12 noon in the church hall at St. Joseph's. Not only is there time to meet up with others, make new friends and have a coffee/tea and a piece of cake, there are activities, like quizzes, etc.

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.

SAFEGUARDING: Is there anyone in St. Joseph's who could take on the role of Safeguarding. If you can, please speak to Fr. Emmanuel or Angela Waldren. You don't need experience as training can be given.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY: This will be on the 18th to 25th January 2026. The resources can be found via <https://ctbi.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/WPCU-2026-English-Pamphlet.pdf>

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS AT CORPUS CHRISTI CHURCH: Thanks to all our parishioners who helped to take down all our Christmas decorations last Sunday. May God bless you all.

MARGARET NEW: Margaret's funeral will be on the 23rd of January 2026. Funeral mass will be at Corpus Christi at 11 am followed by committal at 12:15 in Porchester Crematorium, South Chapel.

HOPE IN ACTION PORTSMOUTH: Hope into Action empowers churches to end homelessness. We provide houses with support for people who've experienced homelessness, in partnership with local churches. Our churches empower the lives of our tenants, and are also blessed by the relationships they form. We train and equip volunteers to engage with and mentor those living in the house, whilst providing the necessary professional support. In this way, the church can provide a positive community to someone who needs it the most. Find out more on our website: [Hope into Action Portsmouth](#) | [Hope into Action UK](#)

We are hoping to recruit a group of volunteers from Corpus Christi with St Joseph, and will be coming to talk to the congregation on 18th of January 2026 after the mass.

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