



# 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  
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**St Joseph Hall Booking:** [sjhallbookings@gmail.com](mailto: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

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Christmas – 4<sup>th</sup> January 2026**  
**COME AND INVITE YOUR FAMILIES, NEIGHBOURS & FRIENDS**

## Readings of the Day

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Sirach 24:1-2, 8-12  
**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 147:12-15, 19-20  
(Response): **The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-18  
**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia.  
Glory to you, O Christ, proclaimed among the nations.  
Glory to you, O Christ, believed in throughout the world.  
**Gospel:** John 1:1-18

Christ, The Wisdom of God  
We celebrate Christ, the  
incarnate wisdom of God  
who has come to dwell in  
our midst.

## WEEKLY MASSES AND INTENTIONS

Sat 3<sup>rd</sup>: 6 pm(CC): For the intentions of the people of the parish  
Sun 4<sup>th</sup>: 9 am (SJ): RIP of Dolores Sliman  
11 am (CC): Blessings on all those born in January  
Mon 5<sup>th</sup>: 9:30 am (CC): RIP of Jean Margaret Price  
Tues 6<sup>th</sup>: 9:30am (CC): Mass of the solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord  
Weds 7<sup>th</sup>: 2pm (CC): Epiphany mass with CC school  
7pm (CC):  
Thurs 8<sup>th</sup>: 9:30 am (SJ):  
Fri 9<sup>th</sup>: 10:30 am(CC): Funeral mass of Antony Robin Page  
11am – 6pm: First Friday Adoration. Ends with benediction and mass

**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](mailto:ccsj@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

# Sunday Reflection

## THEME: CHRIST, THE WISDOM OF GOD

Today, we celebrate the Second Sunday after Christmas, and on Tuesday, the 6th, we shall celebrate the Epiphany, or the manifestation of the Lord as the light to enlighten the pagans. Then on Sunday, we round off with Christmas celebrations with the Baptism of the Lord, which at the same time marks the First Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A. As we have barely a week left in our Christmas festivities, I would like us to reflect on Christ as the wisdom of God.

In the first reading, Ben Sirach tells us that "Wisdom speaks her own praises, in the midst of her people she glories in herself. She opens her mouth in the assembly of the Most High, she glories in herself in the presence of the Mighty One". It is this wisdom that is the source of all things, the beginning of creation and the source of human intelligence. In Jesus, we find the wisdom of God, and it is beautifully expressed by John in today's gospel, thus: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it" (John 1:1ff).

Ordinarily, being wise has to do with the quality of being wise, being able to perceive things and direct them in the right way. It's about leading others and oneself in the ways of the Lord. Furthermore, being wise means more than just being smart or knowledgeable. Wisdom is about understanding life, making sound judgments, and knowing what truly matters. It's like having a deep sense of what's important and using that to navigate life's twists and turns. True wisdom, then, is seeing the bigger picture, knowing what's worth focusing on, understanding others' struggles, being compassionate, and recognising that there's always more to learn in life. St. James looks at this wisdom as something pure, peace-loving, and

full of mercy when he says, "But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere" (James 3:17). This is the ultimate mission of Christ. As the wisdom of God, he came to reconcile humanity back to the Father. He wants us to emulate him in all things.

On account of the above, the gospel relates to us the Word, which was with God and which took human form and dwells among us. He is a man sent by God, and the apostles saw his glory, the glory that was with the Father before the world began. They shared in this glory and showed him to us as the Wisdom of God. All that is left for us is to follow him in the ways he has mapped out. If we do this, we shall be wise like him. This is because God has blessed us with spiritual gifts through Jesus Christ, to keep us spotless and holy. Holiness should be all we seek daily for the good of ourselves and the world.

If we need to be wise, we must grow closer to Jesus Christ, who teaches us how to be wise. This will mean asking Christ to reveal the true nature of things to us and the purpose of our lives as God intends for us. When this happens, then the words of St. Paul in today's second reading will make sense when he says, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved" (Eph 1:3-6).

As blessed children of God, let us pray for the graces to be truly wise and to follow the wisdom of God, Christ, daily.

# FINANCE & MORE

## COLLECTIONS/INCOME 28/12/2025

**ST. JOSEPH:** Loose plate £81.10 & Envelopes £33.35

**Contactless Collection:** General £5 and Christmas Offering £85

**CORPUS CHRISTI:** Loose plate £153.43, Envelopes £65, Christmas Offering £60

**Contactless Collection:**

**Online Donation:** General £60, Votive Candles £5, Christmas Offering £102 & CC New Heating £50

### CHRISTMAS EVE/DAY COLLECTIONS

**ST JOSEPH:** Christmas Offering £671.45, Hall Rent £798, Coffee £13 and CRIB £46

**CORPUS CHRISTI:** Christmas Offering £806.81, Candles £16.69, Coffee £14.15 and CRIB £21.05

### STANDING ORDERS NOVEMBER £2455

**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 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.

**CHRISTMAS OFFERING:** The Parish Priest wishes to render immense thanks to all those who generously donated towards the Christmas Collection which was an opportunity for Parishioners to acknowledge the dedication, service and witness he offers in our parish. May God abundantly bless you all and replenish the source.

### **100 CLUB:**

**FIRST PRIZE: GAIL EDWARDS**  
**SECOND PRIZE: PATRICK BURKE**  
**THIRD PRIZE: FELICIA OGWUCHE**

**PLEASE NOTE:** Fr. Emmanuel will be away for his Christmas break from Monday, 12 to Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> December 2026

## 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 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:** Next session will be on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup> Jan 2026**

**Sat 16<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

**Sat 19<sup>th</sup> Sept 2026**

**Sat 31<sup>st</sup> Oct 2026**

**NB:** All Sessions start at 11.00am until 12.30.

# CONTINUATION OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

## NEW YEAR PROGRAMME 2026

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**

**St. Joseph:** 9am: English mass

11:15 am: Latin mass by the Friars

**Corpus Christi:** 11am English mass

**A very happy new year to all  
from Corpus Christi with St Joseph Parish**

## THE MOVE TOWARDS ONE PARISH:

Following some months of discussion by the planning group to this end, on which each of the current parishes is represented, the latest update is that a website will be created and cards distributed giving information about service times and activities throughout all the Catholic churches on Portsea island.

It was also suggested that the name for the proposed One Parish should be open to suggestions from all. "Christ the Light of the World" is one suggestion put forward. Please feel free to write down or email alternative suggestions to Father Emmanuel.

## 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 at 10.30 am – 12 noon in the church hall at St. Joseph's. Not only is there time to meet up with others, 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.**

**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.** 08<sup>th</sup> 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

**PARKING AT CC SCHOOL:** The Work at the Corpus Christi School car park is now finished and we can conveniently park there on Sundays as usual. inconvenience it may cause you.

## FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION AT CORPUS CHRISTI CHURCH:

This will be this Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026 from 11 am till 6 pm. It will end with Benediction and mass. The volunteer's sheet is at the table at the back of the church.

**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

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