



CORPUS CHRISTI WITH ST. JOSEPH PARISH

CHARITY NO: 1199568



PARISH PRIEST Fr. Rinda Emmanuel Bamuh

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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

1st Sunday of Lent – 22nd February 2026

COME AND INVITE YOUR FAMILIES, NEIGHBOURS & FRIENDS

Readings of the Day

1st Reading: Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 50:3-6. 12-14. 17

(Response): **Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.**

2nd Reading: Romans 5:12-19

Gospel Acclamation: Glory and praise to you, O Christ.

One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

Glory and praise to you, O Christ.

Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

Christ, The Second Adam

Today we celebrate

Christ, the Second

Adam, who overcame

temptation and sin, and

by his obedience won

back the world to God

WEEKLY MASSES AND INTENTIONS

Sat 21st: 6 pm(SJ): RIP of Mary Tattersal

Sun 22nd: 9 am (SJ): RIP of Fr Francis Isherwood FM

11 am (CC):

6 pm (CC): Rosary, Vespers and Benediction

Mon 23rd: 9:30 am (CC): For the intentions of the people of the Parish

Tues 24th:

Weds 25th: 7pm (CC):

Thurs 26th: 9:30 am (SJ):

Fri 27th: 9:30 am(CC):



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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ccsj@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Sunday Reflection

THEME: OVERCOMING TEMPTATIONS: THE MISSION OF CHRISTIANS

There are all kinds of expressions we use with the word devil in it – “the devil is in the detail”, “caught between the devil and the deep blue sea”, “devil’s advocate”, “the devil to pay”, “give the devil his due”, “the devil made me do it”, and so on. Sometimes, the origin of these sayings is tied to religion. Take, for example, the expression “devil’s advocate”. This comes from the process the Church uses to canonise a saint. A person was appointed to support the canonisation, and he was called the Promoter of the Cause. He was also known as God’s advocate. The Church also appoints a canon lawyer to argue against the person’s canonisation, who holds the title Promoter of the Faith. This person became popularly known as (you guessed it) the devil’s advocate. With expressions like these as a sampler, society has always had a fascination with the devil. Saying that, these days we often hear that the devil did not and does not exist, and whatever mayhem he causes can be attributed to psychological or mental illnesses. We can interpret the Biblical passages where devils or demons are mentioned in a figurative way, but if we believe in Jesus Christ, we know that he recognises Satan as the Evil One, the Father of Lies. Jesus taught us the Lord’s Prayer, which incorporates the urgent need for us to ask our Heavenly Father to “deliver us from evil”, which can be equally translated as “deliver us from the evil one.” In today’s readings, the lurking presence of Satan is evident, especially in the Gospel.

I mentioned the expression “the devil made me do it”. This phrase is probably derived from the story of Eve in the Garden, who blamed the serpent after she was found to have eaten the forbidden fruit. We, as humanity, cannot simply blame someone else as Adam and Eve did; in the end, we are responsible for our actions. Adam and Eve were responsible for their actions and paid the price. In the first reading from Genesis, it seems the serpent has won out over goodness, as Adam and Eve have lost their special relationship with God. However, God, in his mercy and goodness, left an opening. The opening was in the name of Jesus Christ.

Paul, in the second reading, sees a positive outcome from the Fall: it was the sin of our First Parents that brought about the coming of Jesus to restore our relationship with God. Jesus became the New Adam, who re-fashioned human nature back into conformity with God’s beautiful plan. Jesus, being God, did not mean he was immune from temptation. The three temptations by the devil show us not only Jesus’ humanity but also how manipulative the Evil One can be. Temptations will come under the guise of some kind of goodness, where it looks like benefits will come from it. In the three tests of Jesus, he is being led to do something which would seem to enhance his mission as Lord and Saviour. However, in reality, the temptations, if successful, would demonstrate that he did not need the Father and would become subservient to Satan.

Although the three temptations we heard pertained to Christ over 2000 years ago, each has real meaning for how easily our lives can be thrown off track by turning away from God. The first temptation for Jesus to turn stones into bread would have shown a lack of trust in the Father’s care in Christ’s mission on earth. The devil did not ask him to pray to his Father to provide food, but for Jesus to show off his own miraculous power for his own benefit. This could apply to us, where in our selfishness, we are tempted to hoard the gifts God has provided just for ourselves. We should share with others, just like Jesus did later when he produced real bread on two occasions, not for himself but to feed those who were hungry.

The second temptation, where the devil calls for Jesus to throw himself from the parapet, would make Jesus show his superiority over his Father by demanding that he go into action to save him. God does not intervene supernaturally in such situations, especially as we know that God takes care of those who take care of themselves. We can sometimes be demanding of God when we pray, trying to force him into action. We then become disappointed and even complain when our prayers go unanswered, especially when we think we are devout and have been praying faithfully. God always hears our prayers, but for reasons we don’t know, they are answered in a different way or at a different time than we expect.

The third temptation Jesus endured, to have the kingdoms of the world submit to him in exchange for his worship of Satan, is a bargain that our Lord would not fall for. However, many of us try to make a bargain: we think we can adhere to God’s teachings while at the same time going to great lengths to obtain material wealth, success, and prestige.

Jesus passed all those tests, but the temptation still looms. May we ask him for the graces to overcome temptations that come our way daily, as this is part of our mission as Christians.

ROSARY, VESPERS AND BENEDICTION: The season of Lent has begun. During this time, we will be having rosary, vespers and Benediction beginning at 6pm every Sunday. All are invited.

FILM NIGHT: There will be another film night fundraiser between the Friar’s Community and St Joseph’s Parishioners on 27th of March at 7 pm in St Joseph Hall. The film will be The Passion of the Christ by Mel Gibson. All are welcome.

ST JOSEPH’S FEAST DAY: There will be a meeting at St Joseph Hall on Saturday 28th of February 2026 to discuss the celebration of St Joseph’s Feast Day. Everyone is invited.

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FINANCE & MORE

COLLECTIONS/INCOME 15/02/2026

ST. JOSEPH: Loose plate £48.08, Envelopes £43.25, Candles £66.38, Donations for Cards £17.61 and Donations for heating £15

Contactless Collection: General £35

CORPUS CHRISTI: Loose plate £134.82, Envelopes £35, 100 Club £60, Candles £11.10 and Cake Sale £70.60

Contactless Collection: General £55 & Soup Sunday Kitchen £14

Online Donation: General £30, CC New Heating £3 & Votive Candles £5

STANDING ORDERS JANUARY 2026 £2,494

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.

100 CLUB: We will have our draw today Sunday 22nd of February at St Joseph Hall after the 9 am mass. For those doing the monthly direct debit, if at any point you don't want to join anymore please let Angela W. or Jenny know so that we can offer your numbers to other parishioners.

SJ CHURCH PASTORAL MEETING: This will be at St Joseph Hall at 12 noon on 14th of March and every Saturday after that in a month. Everyone is invited.

CARDS AT ST JOSEPH: You will have noticed the table at the back of the church with cards on it. We've been having a clear up in the church and these were found in various boxes. Please help yourself to however many you would like. If you wish, you can place a donation in the basket on the table.

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 1ST of March 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 16th May 2026
Sat 19th Sept 2026
Sat 31st Oct 2026

NB: All Sessions start at 11.00am until 12.30.

HOPE INTO ACTION PORTSMOUTH: For those who signed up to volunteer, there will be a training day on 14th of March Saturday from 10 am till 3pm. The venue will be announced soon. Please contact Caroline at 07494874395 if you would like to attend.

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:



Over 60 Singers Gathered in Portsmouth for Major Gregorian Chant Course

Portsmouth resonated with the timeless sound of sacred music as more than 60 participants gathered for the opening session of the Portsmouth Gregorian Chant Course, hosted at St John's Cathedral. It brought together both beginners and seasoned singers. The three-part workshop series is offering 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 workshop culminates 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. The last workshop will be on 14 March 2026.

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

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.

CORPUS CHRISTI SOUP KITCHEN SUNDAY:

Please support our fundraising today at Corpus Christi Hall after the 11 am mass. Proceeds will go to our church new heating system. Thank you immensely.

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.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER **"Embrace your life together in Love"**

Invitation to Couples to get away together and join us for a weekend to discover ways to grow deeper in love for a happier marriage and a happier life! The weekend draws on Marriage Encounters' 50 years of wisdom and experience, based on scriptural truths, and might just be the gear change you *didn't* know you needed or thought possible.

Couples welcome whether married or in long term relationships, with faith or no faith.

ME Weekend 27th Feb - 1st Mar - Swindon - Holiday Inn Express West

To find out more or book: Visit our website: wwme.org.uk

rites of election: This will be on Saturday 21st of February at the Cathedral. We have three candidates from our parish: Laura, Jenny and Gemma. Father will have a meeting with the candidates today after the mass in view of the baptism on Easter Vigil.

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