



CORPUS CHRISTI WITH ST. JOSEPH PARISH

CHARITY NO: 1199568



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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(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

2nd Sunday of Lent – 1st March 2026

COME AND INVITE YOUR FAMILIES, NEIGHBOURS & FRIENDS

Readings of the Day

1st Reading: Genesis 12:1-4

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 32:4-5. 18-20. 22

(Response): **May your merciful love be upon us,
as we hope in you, O LORD.**

2nd Reading: 2 Timothy 1:8-10

Gospel Acclamation: Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father.

From a bright cloud, the Father's voice was heard:

"This is my beloved Son, listen to him".

Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father.

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

Our Transfigured Lord

Our natural inclination is to stay where we are, to make a tent and settle comfortably. But God is continually urging us on to a land he will show us. We follow our transfigured Lord in faith, putting our trust in him and bearing his hardships for the sake of the good news he has brought us.

WEEKLY MASSES AND INTENTIONS

Sat 28th: 6 pm(SJ): 90th Birthday thanksgiving of Freda Culloty

Sun 1st: 9 am (SJ): RIP of Madge Hicks FM

11 am (CC): For the souls in purgatory

6 pm (CC): Rosary, Vespers and Benediction

Mon 2nd: 9:30 am (CC): RIP of Richard Anderson

Weds 4th: 7pm (CC): For private intention

Thurs 5th: 9:30 am (SJ): For the intentions of the people of the parish

Fri 6th: 9:30 am(CC): For the intentions of Jesus Youth UK Movement 25th year anniversary

10 am – 6 pm (CC): **FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION.** It will end 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.



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ccsj@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Sunday Reflection

THEME: FOUR QUALITIES NEEDED TO ENJOY GOD'S BEATIFIC VISION

One thing about me is that I admire anything beautiful. I will stare at it and admire it, contemplating the beauty and just imagining how that reality came to be. I cannot count the number of times I have been caught up in wonder and contemplation of beauty, be it of things, places, structures, or persons. But I am aware that no matter how beautiful and attractive these may be, there is a beauty that surpasses all and beats everyone's imagination. It is the contemplation of the beauty of who God is.

In today's gospel passage, Jesus decides to show a bit of his beauty to three of his apostles: Peter, James, and John. He took them up a high mountain where they could be alone. In their presence, he was transfigured. We are told that his clothes became as white as light, and that Moses and Elijah came and spoke with him. The beauty of this experience was so amazing until Peter declared that they should build three tents: one for Jesus, one for Moses and one for Elijah. In short, he did not want to miss contemplating the beauty of who Christ is, which he had just seen. He wanted this to go on for eternity.

The contemplation of the face of God or seeing God as He really is, is the hope of mankind. This is our eternal journey, even if we deviate from it because of our own weaknesses. But today gives us the opportunity to see how we can work towards contemplating the beauty of Jesus forever in heaven. Four things stand out in today's readings to help us in this regard:

1. Detachment. In the call of Abraham in today's first reading, God had to detach him from his family so that he could be free to follow him. We too must be detached from persons and things alike if we want to truly follow Christ. We must detach ourselves, especially during this Lent, from persons and things that we think we cannot do without. For example: social media, money, women, drinks, the pleasures of this world, phones, TV, etc.

2. Hardships. The way to the Lord is not an easy one. We must encounter hardships on the way to Christ, as St. Paul tells us in the second reading. Abraham did; Jesus himself suffered a lot; the apostles and saints did; they went through many hardships to bring Christ to others. We too cannot escape this route of suffering if we must walk the path to heaven. Suffering, therefore, is intricately linked with our mission to bring Christ to others. To shun suffering is to shun Christ.

3. Rely on God's power. If God has called us to Himself and is asking us to detach and bear hardships for His sake, then we cannot do this on our own. We therefore need to rely on his power. God alone can strengthen us on this path to heaven. He did so through Christ, the apostles and the saints. In our time, He cannot then abandon us alone. We only need to trust in Him and allow Him to take control of our lives.

4. Learn to be alone with God. We must learn to be alone with Christ if we want to contemplate him. This is because there are many things that stand in our way to distract us from really seeing who Christ is: the noise within that comes from anxiety/worries, fears, failures, successes, fame, etc., and the distractions that come from the ephemeral things of this world: houses, money, women, etc. So, for us to contemplate Christ, we must therefore learn to be alone with Him in prayer. It is creating a space for dialogue with God through silence. That is what he did in the gospel. He took Peter, James and John up the mountain to a quiet place where they could be alone. It was in that silence that they saw who God is. We, too, must create that silence within and avoid the destructive noise of modernism and secularism.

May we pray today for the graces to strive each day to contemplate the beauty of God by building on the essential qualities necessary to do this daily. May our contemplation of Christ be shown by the kind of life we live.

HOPE INTO ACTION VOLUNTEER TRAINING: This will be on Saturday 14th of March from 10 am till 3 pm at Corpus Christi Hall. Lunch will be provided.

CAFOD: Our second collection for this Sunday 1st of March 2026 is for CAFOD. Give this lent to help our neighbours grow enough food to eat. A better world needs all of us.

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 Friday, 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.

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FINANCE & MORE

COLLECTIONS/INCOME 22/02/2026

ST. JOSEPH: Loose plate £63.74, Envelopes £30, Soup Kitchen Sunday £10, Hall Rent £1440, Coffee £15 and CRIB (from the Friars) £140

Contactless Collection: General £17 & Votive Candles £5

CORPUS CHRISTI: Loose plate £109.19, Envelopes £40, Candles £6.88, 100 Club £120, Mass Stipend £70 and Soup Kitchen Sunday £289

Contactless Collection: General £35, Votive Candles £5, New Heating £3 & Soup Sunday Kitchen £22

Online Donation: General £66, New Heating £20 and Soup Sunday Kitchen £94

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 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 FEBRUARY WINNERS

1st Prize	ADELFA
2nd Prize	DANNY
3rd Prize	JACINTA

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH FORUM: A regular meeting has been requested by some Parishioners, to discuss all aspects of church life. The first meeting will be at St Joseph Hall at 12 noon on Saturday 14th of March (chaired by Fr Emmanuel) and every 2nd Saturday in the month after that. Everyone is invited.

ST JOSEPH'S FEAST DAY: Plans are in hand to celebrate our Patron, St. Joseph (whose feast day is 19 March) on Sunday, 22 March at 9 am Mass. There will be a special homily and afterwards, refreshments (and cake) in the hall. All welcome.

ST DAVID'S DAY: Today is the feast of St David, the patron saint of Wales, marking the anniversary of his death. His feast day is a national celebration of Welsh identity and heritage. We are remembering his legacy of spreading Christianity, education and kindness through his life as a monk. Happy Feast Day!

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 today 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 and Sat 31st Oct 2026**

NB: All Sessions start at 11.00am until 12.30.

SAINT CARLOS ACUTIS: The relics of Saint Carlos Acutis will be at Corpus Christi School on the 12th of March 2026 between 2 pm till 3:30 pm. There will be benediction. They will also be at St. Joseph's Church on Friday, 20 March. We will advise time in due course. We are inviting all our parishioners to come.

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:



WE PRAY FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITIES INCLUDING: Danny, Karen, Sonia, John, Michael, Sheila, David, Lawrie, Nicky, Janet, Helen White, 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.

WORD OF THANKS: We want to thank everyone who came to support our Soup Sunday Kitchen. We especially want to express our gratitude to those who helped, as well as those who contributed food, drinks and prizes for our raffle. We raised £485. We have 5 unclaimed prizes for the raffle. The numbers are 212, 215, 233, 234 & 250. Please see Jenny.

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.

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.

STAY AWAKE 2026 – our 8th all-age, all-day Catholic Christian Conference with music and worship on 2nd May at the Thomas Hardy School in Dorchester, DT1 2ET from 10 am to 6 pm. The theme this year is: 'Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.' (Ps 51:10). **Your place can be booked from www.stayawakejc.com now!** We invite all parishioners – whatever age - to a fun faith-filled day with appropriate children's streams (so that adults can engage) and **David Wells** is our main keynote speaker! We have a choice of workshops too and more! Refreshments supplied including home-made cakes and **free pizza after Mass. Free for children and £12.50 for the rest of us!** See you there! More details from stayawakejc.com.

MARRIAGE BANN: First Call: Chima Pascal Nwobodo wants to marry Ujunwa Juliet Ebene this June 2026 in Nigeria. We should pray for them and if anyone knows why they can't be joined into holy matrimony, please let me know.

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