



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

3rd Sunday of Lent – 8th March 2026

COME AND INVITE YOUR FAMILIES, NEIGHBOURS & FRIENDS

Readings of the Day

1st Reading: Exodus 17:3-7

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 94:1-2. 6-9

(Response): **O that today you would listen to his voice!**

'Harden not your hearts.'

2nd Reading: Romans 5:1-2. 5-8

Gospel Acclamation: **Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.**

Lord, you are indeed the Saviour of the world;

give me living water, so that I will not be thirsty.

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

The Living Water

Christ quenches our spiritual thirst with the living water: the love of God which is poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit. We pray for those who are prepared for this baptism.

WEEKLY MASSES AND INTENTIONS

Sat 7th: 6 pm(SJ): RIP of Ronnie Heywood

Sun 8th: 9 am (SJ): 97th birthday thanksgiving of Janet Lentieul

11 am (CC): 80th birthday thanksgiving of Tom Blair

6 pm (CC): Rosary, Vespers and Benediction

Mon 9th: 9:30 am (CC): RIP of Bernard & Alzbeta Kovacovi

Tue 10th: For the intentions of the people of the parish

Weds 11th: 7pm (CC): RIP of Emil & Zita Sedmakovi

Thurs 12th: 9:30 am (SJ): For Kate & Lauri Rutter

Fri 13th: 9:30 am(CC): RIP of Barbara McKay FM

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: DIALOGUE: THE MEDIUM TO OVERCOME DIVISION

The current gospel passage is often understood as Jesus being the living water we all come to drink from to quench our thirst. However, today I would like us to view this passage as a dialogue, an essential tool in fostering peace and overcoming division. My theme is inspired by the words of the Samaritan woman in the gospel in response to Jesus when he asks for a drink. She says, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jn 4:9). We are then told in the same verse that this occurred because the Jews and the Samaritans were usually enemies, despite sharing the same ancestry. But how did this come about?

Our discussion on the division between the Jews and the Samaritans is based on The Word in Life Study Bible, New Testament Edition (Thomas Nelson Publishers, Nashville; 1993), pp. 340-341. It explains that hostility between the Jews and Samaritans was intense and long-lasting, dating back to the time of the Patriarchs. Jacob had twelve sons who became the twelve tribes of Israel. Although Joseph was sold into slavery, God intervened, and he later preserved the lives of the Israelites in Egypt. Even though Jacob gave all his sons blessings before he died, Joseph and his sons Ephraim and Manasseh received double blessings. Their land eventually became Samaria. Later, Israel split into two kingdoms. The northern kingdom, called Israel, first made Shechem its capital—an important site in Jewish history—and later the hilltop city of Samaria. In 722 B.C., Assyria conquered Israel and took most of its people into captivity. The invaders then brought in Gentile colonists (2 Kin. 17:24) to resettle the land. These foreigners introduced their pagan idols, which the remaining Jews began to worship alongside the God of Israel (2 Kin. 17:29-41). Inter marriages also occurred (Ezra 9:1-10:44; Neh. 13:23-28).

Meanwhile, the southern kingdom of Judah fell to Babylon in 600 B.C. Its people were also taken into captivity. However, 70 years later, a remnant of 43,000 was allowed to return and rebuild Jerusalem. The inhabitants of the former northern kingdom—the Samaritans—resisted the repatriation and tried to undermine the effort to re-establish the nation. For their part, the devout, monotheistic Jews despised the mixed marriages and idol worship of their northern relatives. As a result, walls of bitterness were built on both sides, which only hardened over the next 550 years. Consequently, the Jews and the Samaritans never saw eye to eye and refused to help each other. This explains why, when Jesus requests water from the Samaritan woman, she hesitates. But by engaging in dialogue with Jesus, she ultimately recognised him as the Messiah and became the first to preach to the Samaritans, rushing to tell the townspeople to come and see someone who had revealed everything about her life.

Today, we live in a world where there are many modern parallels to the Jewish-Samaritan enmity. Look at Europe: are we not divided by ideologies that cause unnecessary tension, racism, and conflict? What about Africa? How do wars and hatred arise if not from our divisions and mistaken beliefs? Even within a country, divisions persist because one group claims to be superior to another. Indeed, wherever people are divided by racial and ethnic barriers, peace becomes impossible. It is not the person from a radically different culture on the other side of the world that is hardest to love, but the neighbour nearby, whose skin colour, language, rituals, values, ancestry, history, and customs differ from our own. Our challenge is to overcome these barriers through meaningful dialogue, offering the chance to understand the other side's perspective and find common ground for everyone's benefit. This thought calls to mind an invitation I extend to us all to watch a TED Talk from 2009 by the Nigerian author Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie on the dangers of a single story. Without knowing the other person's story or perspective, we can run into unrealistic conclusions. Dialogue matters, therefore. Even without dialogue, if each of us can learn to love genuinely, the world would be a better place for all.

May the good Lord, Jesus Christ, help us to thirst for peace and work towards it through meaningful and sincere dialogue.

CHURCH SWAP: Fr Emmanuel will be swapping church for the mass with Fr Ansel next Sunday 15th of March.

HEADTEACHER AT CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC SCHOOL: Are you committed and passionate about making a difference to children's lives? We are seeking an outstanding Headteacher with ambition, experience and enthusiasm to lead our vibrant school. If you would like further information, please look at our website [Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School – Vacancies](#) or contact the school office on 02392 661818.

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.

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 01/03/2026

ST. JOSEPH: Loose plate £121.86, Envelopes £35.90, CAFOD £83.20, Hall Rent £120 & Donations (Card Sales) £20

Contactless Collection: General £12

CORPUS CHRISTI: Loose plate £170.41, Envelopes £50, Candles £9.05, Coffee £7 Mass Stipend £40, Donation £10 and CAFOD £50

Contactless Collection: General £12, New Heating £23 & CAFOD £20

Online Donation: General £45 and New Heating £20

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.

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 immediately after the Friendship Group (chaired by Fr Emmanuel) and every 2nd Saturday in the month after that. Everyone is invited.

DIOCESAN CLERGY ASSISTANCE FUND: Our second collection for Sunday 15TH of March 2026. The Clergy Assistance Fund contributes to the work of the Department for Clergy Team. The Clergy Support Team is responsible for looking after the welfare, ongoing formation and personal support of our clergy, such as the provision of spiritual direction, counselling, appraisal, ongoing formation and practical advice. It organises retreats, ministerial formation days, courses and sabbaticals.

Below is the link and the QR code.

[Diocesan Clergy Assistance Fund 2026 - Give as you Live Donate](#)



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:** Three candidates will be baptised and confirm over Easter. Scrutiny will begin today 3rd Sunday of Lent.
- FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAM 2025/26:** Next session will be on today 8th 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.

MARRIAGE BANN: Second 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.

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.

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:

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.

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.

SAINT CARLOS ACUTIS: The relics of Saint Carlos Acutis arrive at St. Joseph's church on Tuesday, 10th March at 7 pm followed by a talk at 8 pm. They will be in the church on Wednesday 11th March from 7 am with Mass and the church will be open all day until 3.30 pm for adoration, Rosary, etc. They will be at Corpus Christi School on Thursday 12th March between 2 pm till 3:30 pm. There will be benediction. Stt Facebook – st josephs church, Baffins for more information on timings etc

The Marian Franciscans brings to St Joseph's Church, Portsmouth

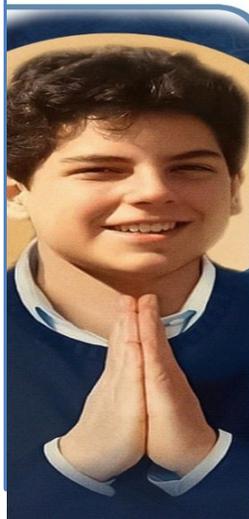


ST. CARLO ACUTIS RELICS

We invite you to this rare opportunity to venerate up close to the First Class relics (a section of the pericardium) of recently canonised St Carlo Acutis, as part of its worldwide tour, exclusively at St Joseph's!

- **TUESDAY 10TH - 7.00 PM**
Holy Hour (Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Holy Rosary & Benediction) followed by Veneration of the relics
- **8.00 PM**
Talk by Monsignor Anthony Figueiredo - "Carlo Acutis, Saint of the Young, 5 Steps to being a Saint."
- **WEDNESDAY 11TH - 7.00 AM**
Holy Mass
- **8.00 AM**
Veneration of the relic begins
- **12.30 PM**
Holy Rosary, Sext & None
- **1.15 PM**
Church closes for lunch
- **2.15 PM**
Church reopens for Veneration to continue
- **3.30 PM**
Relics depart Church

10-11 MARCH 2025



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