



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

**Marian Franciscans at St. Joseph**

(Tel) 023 9283 1245 (Email) [stjosephs Marianhouse@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephs Marianhouse@gmail.com)

**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

## Second Sunday of Easter – 12<sup>th</sup> April 2026

COME AND INVITE YOUR FAMILIES, NEIGHBOURS & FRIENDS

### Readings of the Day

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Acts 2:42-47

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 117:2-4. 13-15. 22-24

(Response): **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** 1 Peter 1:3-9

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia.

**You believed, Thomas, because you have seen me, says the Lord.**

**Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.**

**Alleluia.**

**Gospel:** John 20:19-31

**Our Easter Joy**

Today as we hail Christ as our Lord and God we are filled with the joy of the disciples in seeing the risen Lord. In this season of renewal we are like those early Christian who were 'filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described.'

### WEEKLY MASSES AND INTENTIONS

Sat 11<sup>th</sup>: 6 pm(SJ): For the intentions of the people of the parish

Sun 12<sup>h</sup>: 9 am (SJ):

11 am (CC): RIP of Jacob Koovackal

Mon 13<sup>th</sup>: 9:30 am (CC): For the intentions of Jesus Youth UK Movement (25<sup>th</sup> year anniversary)

Tue 14<sup>th</sup>:

Weds 15<sup>th</sup>: 7 pm (CC):

Thurs 16<sup>th</sup>: 9:30 am (SJ):

Fri 17<sup>th</sup>: 9:30am (CC): RIP of Delpho Robin

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

# Sunday Reflection

## THEME: THE POWER TO FORGIVE SINS

Today is the second Sunday of Easter, also known as Divine Mercy Sunday. Many began a novena on Good Friday in preparation for this significant celebration of God's Mercy. This feast was established by St. John Paul II under the instruction of Jesus Himself to St. Faustina Kowalska, to whom the Divine Mercy devotion is linked. Jesus requested that the second Sunday of Easter be dedicated to celebrating God's Mercy. As we observe God's mercy today, I encourage us to reflect on the power to forgive sins.

God is the only one with the power to forgive sins. No one else has ever possessed this power. The second person of the Blessed Trinity, Jesus Christ, came to earth to reconcile humans back to God after the fall of our first parents, Adam and Eve, who separated us from God. Jesus was able to attain forgiveness through his passion, death, and glorious resurrection. After his post-resurrection appearances, he took the time to clarify to his apostles and disciples the mysteries foretold by the prophets. On the evening of his resurrection, after initially appearing to Mary of Magdala, he appeared to his apostles who were behind closed doors. His first words to them were "Peace be with you". We are told that his disciples were filled with joy to see him, and he then continued to instruct his apostles: "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you" (Jn 20:21). To empower them for this mission, he breathed on them and said: "Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained" (Jn 20:22-23).

Dear friends in Christ, as I mentioned earlier, only God has the power to forgive sins, but He chooses to share this power with humans. That is why Jesus bestows this power upon His apostles, who were the leaders of the Church. As a result, on earth, only the apostles primarily held the authority to forgive sins. This power is passed down to all the successors of the apostles, the Bishops. The forgiveness of sins is an essential and inherent part of the Bishops' ministry. To reach as many people as possible, the Bishops—who have the primary authority to forgive sins on earth—share this power with priests after their ordination to the priesthood. The priest only holds this authority subordinate to his bishop, and only after being granted the faculties to do so. Since priests are delegated by their Bishops to forgive sins, they cannot, in turn, delegate these powers further.

My emphasis on the power to forgive sins, which is administered by the bishops and priests, comes at a time when many criticise the Catholic Church's hierarchy for taking on functions that are divine. That is why many ask the question: why do you go to confessions to a priest? or must you go to confession to a priest? Why can't you tell Jesus directly your sins, especially since Jesus has said no one can come to the Father except through him (Jn 14:6)? Sometimes too, I have heard people ask, to whom do priests confess their own sins? Each pope, cardinal, bishop, or priest needs a priest to confess his sins. I try to participate in this sacrament every fortnight. I once heard a strange argument against confessing to a priest, which was that priests use the sacrament to manipulate their followers and steer them in the way they want. Can this be true?

The mercy of God has been extended to mankind through the power to forgive sins. No one necessarily deserves this privilege, but God grants it to us out of pure love. Therefore, we should take advantage of this sacrament of confession as often as possible. Even during times of crisis within and outside the church, priests remain available to hear confessions. Confessions can be performed anywhere—be it in church, at home, or elsewhere—provided a priest is available. We must not become complacent in our relationship with God; if we have turned away from Him, we need to restore that bond. May we utilise the sacrament of confession frequently. In essence, whenever we find ourselves in mortal sin, we should not hesitate to seek this sacrament. If, for any reason, it is impossible to find a priest to administer it, we can make a perfect act of contrition, holding on to the hope that the opportunity will present itself in due course.

May we pray for the grace to love the sacrament of confession and to practise it as often as possible. May we also take some time today to say the Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 3pm. May God's mercy be with us always, especially at this time.



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# FINANCE & MORE

## COLLECTIONS/INCOME 05/04/2026

**ST. JOSEPH:** Easter Offering Loose plate £357.98, Easter Offering Envelopes £345.10, Holy Places £102.35, Coffee £11, Donation £5 and Hall Rent £1305

**Contactless Collection:** General £25 & Easter Offering £25

**CORPUS CHRISTI:** Easter Offering Loose plate £781.08, Easter Offering Envelopes £230, Holy Places £173.62, Cathedral £10 and Clergy Assistance Fund £10

**Contactless Collection:** General £20, Easter Offering £40, New Heating £5 & Holy Places £20

**Online Donation:** General £8, Holy Places £10, CC New Heating £30 & Easter Offering £185

## **STANDING ORDERS FOR FEBRUARY 2026 - £1,691**

**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 MARCH DRAW WINNERS

<b>1<sup>ST</sup> PRIZE</b>	<b>SHEILA</b>
<b>2<sup>ND</sup> PRIZE</b>	<b>ANNE</b>
<b>3<sup>RD</sup> PRIZE</b>	<b>JOY</b>

**VOLUNTEERS:** We need volunteers to help our baptismal preparation team. The preparation is only done 4 times a year. Please let Fr Emmanuel know if you are interested.

## 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](mailto:liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).

## 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 2025/2026

### 1. FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAM 2025/26:

There will be a retreat for all the candidates at Corpus Christi Hall on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> of April at 10 am. Parents' evening will be on Thursday 16 April at 6pm in Corpus Christi Church.

### 2. 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 16<sup>th</sup> May 2026, Sat 19<sup>th</sup> Sept 2026 and Sat 31<sup>st</sup> Oct 2026**

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

**SAFEGUARDING:** Parishioners are asked to be vigilant and keep personal items safe following a recent incident where a theft occurred. Unfortunately, not all visitors attend the Church to worship. Please look out for each other and report any suspicious activity.

Also, could parents and guardians accompany their children if they need to go to the toilet during mass please. Thank you

# 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:



**HOLIDAY:** Fr Emmanuel will be away for his holiday from 14<sup>th</sup> of April till 15<sup>th</sup> of May 2026. There will be **NO WEEKDAY MASSES** while he is away.

**THANK YOU:** We want to thank all the volunteers who helped in our Holy Week celebration. Special thanks to the cleaners, florist, readers, welcomers, those doing the tea and coffee, altar servers, those who helped in the Polish blessing of food and the choir. Thanks also for the Easter collection for the priest. May God bless you all immensely.

**YOUTH CLUB:** We want to thank Debbie and her team for a successful Easter gathering for the youth. It was a great time spent sharing, learning about faith and their personality. The Youth Club will be having more events as we aim to build the next generation of the church. Information will be announced in due course.

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

Danny, 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.**

**PARISH PILGRIMAGE:** The Parish Pilgrimage on Saturday, 24 October 2026 is now booked and deposit paid. We will be going to Ladywell in Godalming. Many of you will remember the Sisters who used to live in the Presbytery at St. Joseph's and you may have visited Ladywell at that time. A substantial lunch will be provided and free tea and coffee throughout. A form is now available in the porches of both churches, for you to indicate your interest and in due course you will need to pay a £10 deposit to secure your place. The cost for the day will be £50 which includes coach travel there and back. The day includes a talk about St. Francis, Mass and a walk around the grounds if desired.

Would whoever removed the form from the table at Corpus Christi please return it, as we know there were names on it.

**ST. JOSEPH'S FRIENDSHIP GROUP** will meet this Saturday at 10.30 am in the hall. All welcome. Afterwards there will be our monthly St. Joseph's Church forum where we will discuss any matters relating to the church – again all welcome



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