

CHRIST THE KING & ST. COLMAN (Bitterne) OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION (Hedge End) ST. BRIGID (West End)

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

Registered Charity number 1199568

Parish Priest: Fr. Elijah Fru Nde (emergency use phone number 0777 466 7010)

Office: 2 Dean Road, Bitterne, Southampton SO18 6AP – *Open Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 9.30am–1pm*

Phone 023 8044 9088, Email ckscolasb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Website: <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/parishes/>

Safeguarding Contact: Anthea Hollingworth: safeguarding.soukc@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

6th Sunday of Easter (Year A, Cycle 2)

10th May 2026

Reflection from Fr Elijah: If you love me, keep my commandments

The readings for this Sixth Sunday of Easter invite us to reflect on one powerful truth: God is close to His people, guiding them through the Holy Spirit and calling them to live the Gospel with courage and love.

In the First Reading from Acts of the Apostles, we see the Gospel spreading beyond Jerusalem into Samaria. Despite persecution and uncertainty, the disciples continue preaching Christ with courage. The people listen, hearts are changed, and lives are healed. Then Peter and John lay hands on the believers, and they receive the Holy Spirit. This reminds us that the Church is not sustained merely by human effort, but by the living power of God working through His people.

The Psalm responds beautifully: “Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.” The Christian life is not meant to be lived in fear or discouragement. Even in suffering, we are called to trust that God is at work, leading His people toward salvation.

In the Second Reading from First Epistle of Peter, Saint Peter speaks to Christians facing hardship. He encourages them to remain faithful, gentle, and hopeful, even when misunderstood or persecuted. Christ Himself suffered for righteousness, yet through His suffering came new life. Peter reminds us that Christian witness is often strongest not in comfort, but in perseverance.

Then, in today’s Gospel, Jesus gives His disciples both a command and a promise: “If you love me, keep my commandments.” Love for Christ is not only expressed in words or prayers, but in the way we live – through forgiveness, compassion, honesty, and fidelity to God’s will.

But Jesus does not leave us alone to struggle. He promises the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who remains with us forever. “I will not leave you orphans,” He says. These words are deeply comforting. In moments of confusion, grief, weakness, or fear, Christ remains present through His Spirit.

Together, these readings remind us that the Christian life is missionary, courageous, and Spirit-filled. We are called not only to believe in Christ, but to live in such a way that others can encounter Him through us.

May the Holy Spirit renew our hearts today, strengthen our faith, and help us become living witnesses of the risen Christ in the world.

Mass Times and Intentions

Exposition & Rosary at 9.30am before Mass (Tue-Fri). Sacrament of Confession is available on request.

Mass Intentions can be requested through Fr Elijah or the Parish Office.

Date	Times & Location			Mass Intentions & Feasts
Sun 10 th May	9.15am 11am 5.30pm 6pm	OLA CKSC SB CKSC	Mass Mass Mass Mass (in Polish)	John William James George Parks RIP Christine Cookson RIP For the intentions of Steven Carter and family
Tue 12 th May	10am	OLA	Mass	For the people
Wed 13 th May <i>Vigil for Ascension</i>	7pm	SB	Mass	For Clare Davies & family
Thur 14 th May <i>Ascension of the Lord</i>	10am	CKSC	Mass	For Anne Fagan
Fri 15 th May	10am	OLA	Mass	
Sat 16 th May	10am	CKSC	Mass	For Brother S
Sun 17 th May	9.15am 11am 5.30pm 6pm	OLA CKSC SB CKSC	Mass Mass Mass Mass (in Polish)	For the people For Brother S For the repose of the souls of Elsie, Doris and relatives of Mifsud and Camilleri families

This Sunday’s readings can be found at <https://universalis.com/europe.english/20260510/mass.htm>

Second Collection – 17th May – Catholic Communications Network

Within our Parish

New Parish Database: The parish is now using a system called ChurchSuite to manage our parishioner database and our communications. 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 all communications from the parish including the newsletter, please make sure you have filled out the new Registration Forms.

Adult form:

<https://catholicdioceseofportsmouth.churchsuite.com/-/forms/ngdyici2>



Child Form:

<https://catholicdioceseofportsmouth.churchsuite.com/-/forms/whtuwhp5>



If you have any questions, please contact Josie Keogh in person or via the parish office.

Pentecost Celebration at OLA: Please join us to celebrate this special feast day at OLA on 24th May after the 9.15am Mass. Refreshments will be available in the hall, tea, coffee, cake and biscuits. Please feel free to bring a selection of snacks.

Pentecost Celebration at CKSC: To celebrate Pentecost on Sunday 24th May, we will be having a shared lunch outside after 11am Mass. Everyone welcome. Please bring some food to share. If the weather is not in our favour, it shall be moved to the hall. Please note that the church car park at CKSC will be closed on Sunday 24th May due to this event.

CTiB Quiz Night: Christian Aid Charity quiz night on Saturday 16th May at 7pm. With Ploughman's supper at Bitterne United Reformed Church. Entry is free, donations welcome in support of Christian Aid. Reserve your space by emailing: ianbitterne@gmail.com

Within the Diocese and Beyond

Engaged and Married Couples Retreat: Run by the Verbum Dei Community on the Isle of Wight - 13th - 15th June. It wants to explore how Catholic families are called to be "...like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season." (Ps 1:3) Our couples' retreats want to give space for the couple to nurture their relationship in the love of God, to grow in their communication and explore their renewed purpose and mission. For more info, please, contact: verbumdei.iow@gmail.com or www.uk.verbumdei.org.

Recurring Events

Our Lady of the Assumption – Hedge End

- Tea, coffee, biscuits & friendly chat in the hall every Sunday after Holy Mass
- Children's liturgy during Mass every 3rd Sunday of the month (not during summer holidays)

- Carers Group on third Wednesday of every month from 7.00pm to 8.30pm
- Growing in Faith every Tuesday evening 7:30-9pm
- Table tennis every Tuesday from 9.30am to 12pm
- Open Church every Thursday from 10am-12pm

Christ the King & St Colman – Bitterne

- Prayer group every Thursday 10.30am-12 noon
- Children's liturgy for 4 to 7-year-olds every Sunday during term time

- Tea, coffee, biscuits & friendly chat in the hall after Holy Mass every 1st Sunday of the month
- Choir practice in hall - 7:30pm on 2nd & 4th Friday each month. All welcome.

St Brigid – West End

- Cake & coffee after Mass on 2nd Sunday of the month; folk Mass on 4th Sunday
- Rosary & Exposition at 9.30am each Wednesday, before Mass

The next Parish Pastoral Council meeting is on 3rd July, please submit any points of discussion to the office.

Continuing to Support the Church

Please consider setting up a **standing order**.

For Christ the King & St Colman:

Account Name: CDP Christ the King & St Colman
Sort code: 30-93-04
Account Number: 00887553

For Our Lady of the Assumption and St Brigid:

Account Name: CDP Hedge End Our Lady
Sort code: 30-93-04
Account Number: 00879747



Please mention which fund you are donating to as a reference.
Make out cheques for Fr Elijah to Rev Fru N Elijah
Thank you for your support