

# 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*

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12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A, Cycle 2)

21<sup>st</sup> June 2026

## Reflection from Fr Elijah: Courage born from knowing we are held in God's hands

The prophet Jeremiah gives us a very human picture of faith. He is not someone who feels no fear. He hears the whispers of those around him and experiences rejection because he has remained faithful to God's word. His mission is difficult, and he feels the pain of being opposed. Yet, in the middle of his struggle, Jeremiah makes a powerful declaration: **"The Lord is at my side like a mighty warrior."** His confidence does not come from his own strength but from knowing that God has not abandoned him.

The same trust appears in the psalm. The psalmist cries out from a place of suffering, feeling forgotten and overwhelmed, but continues to call upon God. This reminds us that faith does not mean we never struggle. A person of faith can bring their fears, disappointments, and wounds honestly before God, trusting that he hears the cry of the poor and the suffering.

Saint Paul, in the second reading, places our struggles within the greater story of salvation. Through Adam, sin entered the world and brought brokenness. But through Jesus Christ, something greater has arrived: **the gift of grace.** Sin and death do not have the final word. God's mercy is more powerful than our failures.

In the Gospel, Jesus prepares his disciples for the challenges of following him. He tells them three times, **"Do not be afraid."** He does not say this because life will always be easy, but because they are held in the hands of a loving Father.

The call of today's Gospel is to move from fear to trust, and from trust to witness. Jesus asks his disciples not to hide the truth they have received but to proclaim it openly. We too are called to let our faith shape our choices, our relationships, and the way we treat others.

Today, we remember that God stands with us in every trial. Like Jeremiah, we can trust his presence. Like the psalmist, we can bring our struggles to him. Through Christ, we receive grace stronger than sin. And with Jesus, we can live without fear, knowing we are loved and never forgotten.

## 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 21 <sup>st</sup> June	9.15am	OLA	Mass	Richard Lynch RIP (6 <sup>th</sup> anniversary) Sean McEvoy RIP
	11am	CKSC	Mass	
	5.30pm	SB	Mass	
	6pm	CKSC	Mass (in Polish)	
Tue 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	10am	OLA	Mass	
Wed 24 <sup>th</sup> June	10am	SB	Mass	In thanksgiving for Ave Maria Home Educators academic year
Thur 25 <sup>th</sup> June	10am	CKSC	Mass	Alfred Charles Mills
Fri 26 <sup>th</sup> June	10am	OLA	Mass	Albert Stratton RIP
Sat 27 <sup>th</sup> June	10am	CKSC	Mass	For the people
Sun 28 <sup>th</sup> June	9.15am	OLA	Mass	For the people
	11am	CKSC	Mass	For the people
	5.30pm	SB	Mass	For the repose of the souls of Elsie, Doris and relatives of Mifsud and Camilleri families
	6pm	CKSC	Mass (in Polish)	

This Sunday's readings can be found at <https://universalis.com/europe.english/20260621/mass.htm>

**Second Collections** – 21<sup>st</sup> June – Day for Life

28<sup>th</sup> June – Peter's Pence

## Within our Parish

**New Parish Database:** Thank you to those who have already registered with the parish, however we are still very low on numbers. 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.

**HEWEB Holiday Bible Club 2026:** Churches Together in Hedge End, West End & Botley is pleased to announce its Holiday Bible Club from 3rd to 7th August, 9.30am to 12.30pm. The theme this year is "Mega Makers", based on verses from Ephesians 3 "... how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ ..". £8 per child for the week. Venue: The Underhill Centre, St. John's Church, Hedge End. Online bookings now open: [hewebholidaybibleclubbookings@gmail.com](mailto:hewebholidaybibleclubbookings@gmail.com)

**Tea, Cake & A Great Cause!** Join us for a delicious afternoon tea & help raise vital funds for Mountbatten Hospice! Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2026 3-5pm Our Lady of Assumption Church Hall, £5 per person, for further information please call 07597 775961.

**CTiB:** On Sunday 5th July we welcome friends from Churches Together in Bitterne for our Unity Mass. Please join us for bring and share cake and sweets afterwards in the church hall, many bakes welcome!

### Income from CKSC for May 2026

Loose offertory	£403.96
Contactless giving	£521.94
Standing Orders & Direct debits	£1894.50
Church maintenance	£293.66

Hall rent	£950.00
Polish Community	£400.00
Candles & flowers	£20.87
Other	£30.00

Third party income	£150.00
CAFOD	£15.83
Clergy Training Fund	£40.00
Catholic Comms Network	£84.92

### Income from OLA & SB for May 2026

Loose offertory	£752.43
Standing Orders & Direct debits	£1546.00
Hall rent	£417.90

Quiz night	£269.70
Table Tennis	£253.50

CAFOD	£146.37
Catholic Comms Network	£9.50

## 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month; folk Mass on 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday
- Rosary & Exposition at 9.30am each Wednesday, before Mass

The next Parish Pastoral Council meeting is on 3<sup>rd</sup> 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