

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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The Solemnity of St Peter & St Paul (Year A, Cycle 2)

28th June 2026

Reflection from Fr Elijah: Different gifts, one faith, one mission, one Lord

Peter and Paul are very different men – Peter the fisherman and Paul the scholar; Peter the leader of the Twelve and Paul the missionary to the Gentiles. Yet the Church celebrates them together because their lives reveal one Gospel, one mission, and one Lord. The liturgy emphasizes that God uses different gifts and personalities to establish and strengthen his people.

Three interconnected themes emerge from the readings:

1. Confessing who Jesus truly is: In the Gospel, Jesus asks, "Who do you say that I am?" Peter's answer—"You are the Christ, the Son of the living God"—becomes the foundation upon which Christ builds his Church. Today's feast challenges every one of us to make that same personal confession.

2. Perseverance amid suffering: Peter is imprisoned and miraculously delivered; Paul speaks of having "fought the good fight" and "kept the faith." Both apostles demonstrate that authentic discipleship includes hardship, opposition, and sacrifice, yet God's grace remains sufficient. Their authority comes not from power but from fidelity.

3. The unity and mission of the Church: The liturgical tradition describes Peter as the one who first confessed the faith and Paul as its great preacher to the nations. Their distinct vocations converge in one mission: gathering all peoples into the family of Christ. The Church is both rooted in apostolic truth and sent outward in evangelization.

Peter and Paul also teach us that unity does not mean uniformity. They had different personalities, different gifts, and even disagreements. Still, they served the same Gospel. The Church today needs both the steadiness of Peter and the zeal of Paul. We need roots and wings, tradition and outreach, fidelity and courage.

As we honour these apostles, let us renew our confession of faith. Let us ask for Peter's love for Christ and Paul's passion for evangelisation. May we, in our circumstances, become witnesses to the Lord, so that generations may anew know the joy of the Gospel, for "Christ builds his Church through ordinary people who faithfully confess him, persevere through trials, and dedicate their lives to witnessing to the Gospel."

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 28 th 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)	
Tue 30 th June	10am	OLA	Mass	
Wed 1 st July	10am	SB	Mass	
Thur 2 nd July	9.45am	CKSC	Mass	For the people
Fri 3 rd July	10am	OLA	Mass	
	12.30pm	St Edmund's	Funeral Mass	Funeral Mass for Fr Kevin Bidgood
Sat 4 th July	10am	CKSC	Mass	
Sun 5 th July	9.15am	OLA	Mass	Simon & Christine Grummitt
	11am	CKSC	Mass	For the people
	5.30pm	SB	Mass	For the people
	6pm	CKSC	Mass (in Polish)	

This Sunday's readings can be found at <https://universalis.com/europe.england/20260628/mass.htm>

Second Collections – 28th 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

Tea, Cake & A Great Cause! Join us for a delicious afternoon tea & help raise vital funds for Mountbatten Hospice! Saturday 4th 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!

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)

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

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