

Priest-in-Charge: **Rev. Fr Matthew King**
 Parish Secretary: **Clarinda Mansfield**
 Deacon: **Rev Dcn John Cumpsty**
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ST MARY'S & ST COLUMBA'S
 The Catholic Church in Gosport

07 June 2026 - CORPUS CHRISTI

06	Sat	06:00pm	<i>Vigil</i>	Anjenette Mabanta RIP	<p>CONFESSION TIMES Wed 6:15pm-6:45pm <i>(if Mass is celebrated)</i> Sat - 12:00nn—1:00pm</p> <p>EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION Fri 10:00am—12:00nn <i>Rosary for the Unborn at 10am</i></p> <p>OUTREACH Thu from 1:00pm</p>
07	Sun	08:00am 11:15am	CORPUS CHRISTI <i>(The Body and Blood of Christ)</i>	Parish Volunteers INT Paul Slater RIP	
08	Mon	No Service			
09	Tue	12:00nn	St Columba of Iona	Gerard Duffy RIP	
10	Wed	07:00pm		Mary Bernadette Collins RIP	
11	Thu	08:00am	St Barnabas	William Joseph Duffy RIP	
12	Fri	12:00nn	The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	Martin Duffy INT	
13	Sat	06:00pm	<i>Vigil</i>	William Cliffe RIP	
14	Sun	08:00am 11:15am	Eleventh Sunday of Ordinary Time	People of the Parish Zied Solomon RIP	

REFLECTION

A reflection on *Corpus Christi* by Pope Benedict XVI.

What does *Corpus Christi* mean to me? It does not only bring the liturgy to mind; for me, it is a day on which heaven and earth work together. In my mind's eye it is the time when spring is turning into summer; the sun is high in the sky, and crops are ripening in field and meadow. The Church's feasts make present the mystery of Christ, but Jesus Christ was immersed in the faith of the people of Israel and so, arising from this background in Israel's life, the Christian feasts are also involved with the rhythm of the year, the rhythm of seedtime and harvest. How could it be otherwise in a liturgy which has at its center the sign of bread, fruit of earth and heaven? Here this fruit of the earth, bread, is privileged to be the bearer of him in whom heaven and earth, God and man have become one. The way the Church's feasts fit in with the seasons of the year is therefore not an accident. Consequently we must go on to discover the inner rhythm of the Church's year and see the place *Corpus Christi* has within it. First of all, clearly, it grows out of the mystery of Easter and Pentecost: it presupposes the Resurrection and the sending of the Spirit. But it is also in close proximity to the Feast of the Trinity, which reveals the inner logic in the connection between Easter and Pentecost. It is only because God himself is the eternal dialogue of love that he can speak and be spoken to. Only because he himself is relationship can we relate to him; only because he is love can he love and be loved in return. Only because he is threefold can he be the grain of wheat which dies and the bread of eternal life. Ultimately, then, *Corpus Christi* is an expression of faith in God, in love, in the fact that God is love. All that is said and done on *Corpus Christi* is in fact a single variation on the theme of love, what it is and what it does. In one of his *Corpus Christi* hymns Thomas Aquinas puts it beautifully: *nec sumptus consumitur* - love does not consume: it gives and, in giving, receives. And in giving it is not used up but renews itself. Since *Corpus Christi* is a confession of faith in love, it is totally appropriate that the day should focus on the mystery of transubstantiation. Love is transubstantiation, transformation. *Corpus Christi* tells us: Yes, there is such a thing as love, and therefore there is transformation, therefore there is hope. And hope gives us the strength to live and face the world. Perhaps it was good to have experienced doubts about the meaning of celebrating *Corpus Christi*, for it has led us to the rediscovery of a feast which, today, we need more than ever.



Diocesan Prayer: Community of St Columba, Bridgemary | Knights of St Columba

TO MAKE DONATIONS:

For BACS Transfer: Account Name: **CDP Gosport** Account No.: **00878538** Sort Code: **30-93-04** . Make all cheques payable to **CDP Gosport** or you may scan the QR code. *Please Gift Aid your donations if possible.*



PARKING ON THURSDAYS

Due to the trial Thursday Mass time, parishioners attending the 8:00am Mass are requested not to use the parish parking, and instead use the nearby Minnit public car park where possible (1-hr free parking). Church parking is for people hiring the hall on Thursdays who provide added income for the parish. Thank you.

ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to Dcn John Cumpsty on the anniversary of his ordination to the diaconate on the 11th of June. We thank the Lord for his ministry and service to our parish. May the Lord continue to bless him abundantly.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CATECHISM SESSION

To parents of our FHC candidates, please take note of the following catechism dates for your diary.

- 13 June - Sacrament of Reconciliation after the catechism class
- 27 June - Catechism Session
- 04 July - Rehearsals at 10am
- 05 July - First Holy Communion at 11:15am
- 11 July - Celebration Fun Day

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

The next Children's Liturgy session will be on the **14th of June** during the 11:15am Mass. This activity is for all children aged 4 and up to First Holy Communion age.

BETHANY BEREAVEMENT GROUP—GOSPORT

We offer support for those experiencing the loss of a loved one. We help in providing comfort, support and friendship in a welcoming, safe space. The next meet up will be on the **9th of June Tuesday from 1:00 - 3:00pm in St Mary's Hall Upper Room**. For more information, please contact Annette Hutchins at bethany.gosport@gmail.com



FR KEVIN BIDGOOD - RIP

With sadness, we would like to inform everyone that Fr Kevin Bidgood passed away recently. Fr Kevin supplied in Gosport last year when Fr Matthew was away on his course. Please pray for the repose of the soul of Fr Kevin. ✠

OTHER SECOND COLLECTIONS IN JUNE

- 21 June - Day for Life
- 28 June - Peter's Pence

MARIAN PROCESSION - A SUCCESSFUL CELEBRATION

We would like to give thanks to everyone involved in the planning and preparations in making the recent Marian procession such a joyful witness of Catholic faith in our parish, especially to Elsie and the altar servers. We also thank the parents and the children who participated, and also the people who prepared food in the hall for the celebration. The Marian procession is a beautiful act of evangelisation, allowing us to publicly honour Our Lady and share the love of Jesus with others, and also help make our faith visible and alive in Gosport. Thank you to everyone!

VOTIVE CANDLE DONATION UPDATE

Effective this week, the suggested donation for votive candles has increased to 50p. This modest increase is necessary to help the ongoing needs of our parish. Thank you for your understanding.

SUMMER TABLE TOP SALE IN SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

4th July 2026, from 10am - 1pm. Set up from 8.30am. Donations of cakes, biscuits, jams, and preserves are very welcome. If anyone wants to lend a hand in setting up and/or manning a stall and packing away, please contact Annette at 07930833971.

There is tea and coffee in St Mary's Hall every Sunday after the 11:15am Mass. Please join us for a friendly cuppa and chat. All donations we receive in the hall during tea and coffee becomes part of the building fund.

Thank you to our parish volunteers!!

**THE MONTH OF JUNE IS DEDICATED TO
THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS.**



SECOND COLLECTION - JUNE 14

There will be a second collection at all Masses on Sunday, the 14th of June in support of Dcn Jack Ryan, who will be ordained to the priesthood this July at Portsmouth Cathedral. Dcn Jack is a local parishioner of the pastoral area (he grew up in Park Gate/Fareham). The collection will be presented to him as a gift from our parish as he begins his priestly ministry. Thank you for your generosity and please keep him in your prayers.

VOCATIONS

Next Seeker Saturday; 13th June 11am-3pm at Sacred Heart Church, Fareham. PO16 ONQ. Pope Leo XIV recently called for the creation of communities where young people can feel accepted, listened to, and encouraged in their vocational discernment. Our regular gathering for Seekers is for exactly that purpose. If you are discerning if the Lord is calling you to the priesthood, diaconate or religious life, then spending time with like-minded people can be really beneficial to any vocational journey. To find out more about this regular event or to enquiry about attending (as booking is required for the hospitality we offer) please email us: vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

21st - 28th August 2026. See promotional poster on noticeboard for further details. Come in procession and respond to Our Lady's son to love God and love our neighbour's as ourselves. Contact: frances@catholicassociation.co.uk

SIGNIFICANT WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES MASS

Are you celebrating a 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th or anniversary over 60 years? If so, Bishop Philip would like to invite you to a Mass of celebration. This will take place at St Bede's church in Basingstoke on Saturday 20th June at 11am. This will be followed by a buffet lunch. It is a wonderful occasion to celebrate and witness to Marriage. Please contact the parish office if you would like to attend and they will send you a form for you to complete and return to Kirsten McGuire (kmcguire@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) in Bishop's Office. Thank you.

LEAVING A GIFT IN YOUR WILL

Many parishioners choose to leave a gift to their parish in their will. These gifts are greatly appreciated and make a real difference to parish life. To support parishioners in planning ahead, we have created a range of helpful resources to assist with getting personal affairs in order. These include:

- An Asset Inventory Record
- A Will Planner
- Instructions for a Catholic Funeral
- Guidelines for Funerals and the care of the terminally ill

These materials are designed to provide practical support and peace of mind when making important plans for the future. These resources are available on the diocesan website at <https://portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/legacy>

BE ACTIVE HAMPSHIRE AT ST MARY'S PARISH HALL

Chair Pilates. Did you know that a Chair Pilates class is being held at St Mary's Hall every Tuesday from 1-2pm? Chair Pilates is a guided movement using a chair for support, helping to build strength, improve flexibility, better balance and posture. The class is suitable for beginners and provides a welcoming space to start moving more. If interested, leave a text message to Rachel at 07363026954 / fgfitness13@gmail.com