



CORPUS CHRISTI WITH ST. JOSEPH PARISH

CHARITY NO: 1199568



PARISH PRIEST Fr. Rinda Emmanuel Bamuh

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PARISH SECRETARY/BOOKKEEPER: Jenny Elliott

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

Latin Mass Community at St. Joseph

(Tel) 023 9283 1245 (Email) stjosephsmarianhouse@gmail.com

St Joseph Hall Booking: 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

Solemnity of Corpus Christi – 7th June 2026

COME AND INVITE YOUR FAMILIES, NEIGHBOURS & FRIENDS

Readings of the Day

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14-16

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 12-15. 19-20

(Response): **O Jerusalem, glorify the LORD!**

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:16-17

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the living bread that came down from heaven, says the Lord.

If anyone eats of this bread, he will live for ever.

Alleluia.

Gospel: John 6:51-58

The Food And Drink Of
Eternal Life

God kept his people alive in
the desert by giving them
food and drink from heaven.
The food and drink he gives
us in this sacrament is the
body and blood of his Son,
given for the life of the
world.

WEEKLY MASSES AND INTENTIONS

Sat 6th: 6 pm(SJ): For the intentions of the people of parish

Sun 7th: 9 am (SJ): For Fr Emmanuel's intention

11 am (CC): For the First Holy Communion candidates and their parents

Mon 8th: 9:30 am (CC): For Sheila F.'s intention

Tue 9th: RIP of Anna Jatta

Weds 10th: 7 pm (CC): For Clare and her family

Thurs 11th: 9:30 am (SJ):

Fri 12th: 9:30am (CC): For Sheila F.'s intention



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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Sunday Reflection

THEME: I AM THE LIVING BREAD WHICH HAS COME DOWN FROM HEAVEN. ANYONE WHO EATS THIS BREAD WILL LIVE FOREVER

Today is the solemnity of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, commonly called Corpus Christi. The Church has given us the opportunity to celebrate this great feast in honour of the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. The feast is celebrated on the Thursday after Holy Trinity Sunday, but when that Thursday is not a holy day of obligation, it is carried forward to the Sunday after Holy Trinity Sunday. The solemnity is the work of Juliana of Liège, Belgium. She was born in 1191 and orphaned at five. She was then placed with the Augustinian nuns, where she developed a special veneration for the Blessed Sacrament and longed for a feast outside Lent to celebrate the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. This was inspired by a vision in 1208, in which she saw the Church as a full moon with a dark spot signifying the absence of such a feast. For the next 20 years, she experienced the vision but kept it secret until she eventually told her confessor, who informed the bishop and a feast was instituted accordingly. It became a universal feast after the papal bull of Pope Urban IV, *Transiturus de hoc Mundo*, on September 8th, 1264. The celebration of this day is also marked by the procession of the Blessed Sacrament, carried in a monstrance, to show the world who Jesus is to us. But I realised that processions of this nature are not a common phenomenon in the English Church at present. In Cameroon, because it is the rainy season and heavy rains can disturb a procession, the Bishops of the Ecclesiastical Province of Bamenda transferred the procession to the solemnity of Christ the King, the last Sunday of the liturgical year. On this solemnity, I would like us to meditate on the opening words of Jesus in today's gospel, "I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world" (Jn 6:51).

This statement of Jesus comes shortly after he had fed the 5,000 with 5 barley loaves and 2 fish (Jn 6:1-15). We are told that after eating to their satisfaction, the people returned the next day to look for Jesus, hoping to have something to eat again. When they saw Jesus, who was on the other side of the lake, they approached him and asked, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" (Jn 6:25). Knowing their hearts, Jesus immediately cut to the chase. He told them they were not looking for him because of the signs he had performed but because of food. This sparked the discussion on the Bread of Life, which John deals with in the sixth chapter of his gospel. Since they were looking for Jesus because they wanted a guarantee of daily sustenance, Jesus advised them not to look for bread that cannot last but for bread that endures (Jn 6:27). The bread that endures is Jesus himself, as he has guaranteed us that he is the bread that has come down from heaven and that anyone who eats his body and drinks his blood will have life everlasting.

I often feel embarrassed when I realise that some Christians today are no different from those who sought after Jesus for bodily or physical benefits. Come to think of it, we may have seen people whose faith depends on the blessings they receive from God, and when things are not going well, they become complaining psalmists. That should not be the case. God fed the people in the desert with manna from heaven, as seen in the first reading, and will always take care of our material needs if we trust in him. But that is not the reason to be a follower of Christ. Today we find many who have become priests, religious, Christians, or church leaders, pastors, prophets, etc., because they are looking for daily bread. This obviously should not be the case.

Today is an opportunity for us all to sit and reflect on our relationship with God. Jesus is the bread that has come down from heaven, and he is categorical that anyone who does not eat his flesh and drink his blood will not have eternal life (Jn 6:53). Do we think these words are true? It is a reminder for us to go to him and draw life from the fountain of life, which is his body and blood. It is a call for those who live in situations that prevent them from receiving Jesus Christ to try to see how they can make things right with Christ. It is also a clarion call for everyone who receives Jesus to assess themselves: Am I worthy to receive Christ? Do I receive him worthily? I am afraid to say this, but I have come to see people going to Holy Communion living in situations that do not warrant their receiving Christ (unless they regularise their relationship in holy matrimony). We need to think hard, because rather than receiving life, we may be receiving our own condemnation. As we celebrate this day, let us pray for our church here at Corpus Christi and ask Christ himself to give us the graces we need to seek his body and blood and to receive it worthily.



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FINANCE & MORE

COLLECTIONS/INCOME 31/05/2026

ST. JOSEPH: Loose plate £90.58, Envelopes £33, Catholic Communication Network £5 and Hall Rent £60

Contactless Collection: General £10

CORPUS CHRISTI: Loose plate £145.89, Envelopes £7, Candles £10.81, Coffee £5.50, Mass Stipend £50, Donation for new carpet £500, Clergy Training Fund £10, Catholic Comm Network £5 and Ladywell deposit £60

Contactless Collection: General £25 & Mass Intention £10

QR Donations: General £45, CC New Carpet £20 & Mass Intention £20

STANDING ORDERS FOR APRIL 2026 - £2,168

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 March and April amounted to £103.41, down on the previous two months which was £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.

DONATION FOR CORPUS CHRISTI CHURCH NEW CARPET:

We want to thank one family in our parish for donating £500 for our new carpet as well as those who donated through our contactless machine/QR code/online. May God bless you all immensely.

MISSIO: Would all red box holders please bring them to either church to be emptied as soon as possible, Thank you

ST. JOSEPH'S FRIENDSHIP CLUB

This takes place every 2nd Saturday in the hall at St. Joseph's. Everyone welcome, young and old. 10.30 – 12 pm. It's a time to have a chat and enjoy refreshments, often including cake!!

After that will be the St. Joseph's Forum, a place you can find out more about what's going on in the church, air your grievances if you have any and ways you can help.

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: The final session is on Sunday 21 June. The first Holy Communion will take place today Sunday 7th and next Sunday 14th of June 2026.

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 19th Sept 2026 and Sat 31st Oct 2026**

NB: All Sessions start at 11.00am until 12.30.

There will be a baptism on the 6th of June. Let us all pray for the family.

CLEANERS: We desperately need people to help clean the church at St. Joseph's. We are down to one again most weeks at the moment. Please see Teresa White (6 pm) or Angela Waldren (9 am).

CONTINUATION OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCHSUITE: ChurchSuite is now up and running in our parish. It manages 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:



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

Eileen, George, 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 deposits of £10 per person need to be paid. You can pay by cash to Angela W (SJ) or Jenny (CC), or through BACS, **Account Name: CDP Portsmouth Corpus Christi & St Joseph, Sort Code: 30-93-04, Account Number 00884996 and reference: LADYWELL.** If you have signed up at either church, please pay your deposit as soon as you can.

We are going to Ladywell in Godalming. A substantial lunch will be provided and free tea and coffee throughout. The cost for the day will be £50 which includes coach travel there and back. There are still places available, so please sign the form and pay your deposit.

DISSOLUTION OF THE MARIAN FRANCISCANS: It was announced on 27 May 2026 by the Bishop that the Family of Mary Immaculate and St Francis, commonly known as the Marian Franciscans, will be dissolved with effect from 31 May 2026. The community was erected as a Public Association of the Faithful in the Diocese of Portsmouth on 31 May 2018, exactly eight years ago. The Bishop of Portsmouth issued a decree of dissolution according to canon 320 §2 CIC 1983. By dissolution, the Marian Franciscans ceased to exist as a canonical community from 31 May 2026. Their apostolates and activities as a community have therefore come to an end, except in Portsmouth Diocese where individual Friar Priests will continue ministry in 3 existing locations (including St. Joseph) with appropriate diocesan permission.

Transitional arrangements are being made for the friars currently in Portsmouth and Dundee by the Bishops. During this period, practical support continues to be provided, including through the Friends of the Marian Franciscans charity trust. At St. Joseph, the Marian Franciscans will continue with their normal activities with the use of the church and the hall until when other arrangements have been made in the future by the Bishop about their future. Just the priests are left in the community as the other friars have vacated the premises. I invite you all to pray for the Marian Franciscans and the future of their apostolate wherever the Lord may be leading them.

OUTDOOR MASS and CULTURAL EVENT
A DISPLAY OF DIFFERENT CULTURES
FAITH • COMMUNITY • UNITY • CELEBRATION

28TH OF JUNE
11AM
CORPUS CHRISTI SCHOOL PLAYGROUND

Donations on the day will go towards the replacement of carpets for **Corpus Christi Church.**

The poster features a central cross at the top, surrounded by a sunburst. Below the title, there are images of people in various cultural costumes, including a woman in a colorful sari, a man in a traditional hat, and a woman in a kimono. At the bottom, there is a silhouette of a group of people holding hands, and a world map.

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