

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

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A, Cycle 2)

6th September 2026

Reflection from The Wednesday Word by Fr Henry Wansbrough

The Church has had to be selective as we work through the Gospel of Matthew for this year's readings. In this eighteenth chapter of Matthew on relationships within the community it is striking that the Church has chosen this passage to put before us. The first part is all about sorting out disputes and about forgiveness. Despite the presence of Christ in the Christian community there are going to be disagreements and misunderstandings in every church and every family. The vital thing is to sort them out and not to let them fester. So here we are given a safe process to do this. Just after today's passage, Jesus underlines his teaching here when he says that we have to forgive not just seven times (the perfect number) but seventy-seven times. That means again and again and again, without limit. Christ also reminds us that he is present always in his community. The same promise is given at the beginning (the name Emmanuel means 'God with us') and at the end of the gospel ('I am with you to the end of time'). Therefore the decisions of the community will be considered binding in the sight of God. It is especially striking that the same pledge (of binding and loosing) is made with the Church here as had earlier been made with Peter himself; Peter on his own exercises the authority of the Church.

How may we best put this process of reconciliation described by Jesus into practice?

The Wednesday Word TM © Copyright 2026. A registered Charity in England and Wales No.1125628 and a Limited Company No. 06608122 wednesdayword.org

Mass Times and Intentions

Exposition & Rosary at 9.30am before Mass (Tue-Sat). 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 6 th September	9.15am	OLA	Mass	In thanksgiving for Doug Miller's birthday
	11am	CKSC	Mass	
	5.30pm	SB	Mass	
	6pm	CKSC	Mass (in Polish)	
Tue 8 th September	9.30am	OLA	No Mass	
Wed 9 th September	9.30am	SB	No Mass	
Thur 10 th September	9.30am	CKSC	No Mass	
Fri 11 th September	9.30am	OLA	No Mass	
Sat 12 th September	9.30am	CKSC	No Mass	
Sun 13 th September	9.15am	OLA	Mass	For the people For the people Moiria & Rob Harfield on 50 th wedding anniversary
	11am	CKSC	Mass	
	5.30pm	SB	Mass	
	6pm	CKSC	Mass (in Polish)	

This Sunday's readings can be found at <https://universalis.com/europe.english/20260906/mass.htm>

This Sunday we welcome Fr John Adikwu who will be celebrating all Sunday Masses for us.

Within our Parish

First Reconciliation and Holy Communion preparation: All parents who would like their child, in Year 4 or above, to make their First Holy Communion in our parish this year are asked to register their interest **NOW** by sending an email to the parish office ckscolasb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk. Please could you include your name, your child's name, which school they attend and in which year group they will be in September. You will then be sent an introductory letter. Please ensure that you and your family are registered with ChurchSuite. Thank you.

New Parish Database: Thank you to those who have already registered with the parish. To ensure you remain registered as a parishioner and to continue to receive all communications from us at the parish office and Fr Elijah, please complete the below 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.

Fundraising – Parish Donation Day: This year for the first time, the whole parish will be having a Parish Donation Day. Our Parish Donation Day will be on *Sunday 13th September 2026*. The Donation Day is our main fund-raising event of the year and the funds raised by this will go towards the maintenance and upkeep of our churches in Bitterne, Hedge End, and West End. There will be an *appeal in all churches on Sunday 23rd August 2026* and envelopes for donations will be given out from these dates which should be returned on Parish Donation Day.

Thank you, The Parish Finance Committee.

CTiB: The URC church is hosting a Saxophony Concert on Saturday 26th September, 7:30 PM. Tickets £5, cake, drinks, and ice cream served in the interval. See URC facebook or their posters to book

OLA Faith Group Meeting – Wednesday, 9th September at 7:30pm in OLA Hall: We are a small group who meet informally in the hall to discuss issues (mainly) affecting the Hedge End community (not financial). Please join us if you would like to be involved or let the office know if you'd like something discussed. Some of the issues to be discussed at the next meeting include a possible Bingo evening; proposal for religious posters in the hall and possibly a Children's board; harvest festival and advent planning. We look forward to seeing you there.

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 1st Oct, 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