



CORPUS CHRISTI WITH ST. JOSEPH PARISH



CHARITY NO: 1199568

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PARISH SECRETARY/BOOKKEEPER:	Jenny Elliott
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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/
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ST JOSEPH HALL BOOKINGS:	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

24TH ORDINARY SUNDAY - 13TH SEPTEMBER 2026
COME AND INVITE YOUR FAMILIES, NEIGHBOURS & FRIENDS

Readings of the Day

1st Reading: Sirach 27:30-28:7

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 102:1-4, 9-12

(Response): **The LORD is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.**

2nd Reading: Romans 14:7-9

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia.

A new commandment I give to you, says the Lord,
That you love one another, just as I have loved you.

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

Our Forgiving Lord

We cannot celebrate today the
Lord of compassion and love, the
Lord who died for us and who
lives to intercede for us, unless
each of us has forgiven his
brother from his heart.

WEEKLY MASSES AND INTENTIONS

Sat 12 th :	6 pm (SJ):	Death anniversary of Martyn White
Sun 13 th :	9 am (SJ):	Birthday remembrance of Derek Hopkins
	11 am (CC):	Birthday intentions & good health of Monica Almeida
Mon 14 th :	9:30 am (CC):	RIP of Mark Jovlin
Tue 15 th :		
Weds 16 th :	7 pm (CC):	For the intentions of Fr Rinda
Thurs 17 th :	9:30 am (SJ):	For the intentions of the people of the parish
Fri 18 th :	9:30am (CC):	Birthday intentions of Sue McCrohon



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

HOW OFTEN MUST I FORGIVE MY BROTHER IF HE WRONGS ME?

At various times in life, each of us has had the opportunity to wrestle with the problem of being unable to forgive. People come into our lives and later, wilfully or unwilfully, treat us in ways we cannot comprehend. They treat us so badly that we find it difficult to forgive. In this light, I remember a friend sharing an experience in which a colleague treated him very badly and made everyone around him think he was a very bad person, which was not the case. He vowed that even on his deathbed he would probably be unable to forgive that colleague. This shows that the problem of unforgiveness is a human issue we need to address. The apostles themselves had to grapple with this problem. That is why Peter approached Jesus in today's gospel text to ask: "Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?" (Mt 18:21).

This question may seem irrelevant when we consider that he is asking in terms of numbers. But for the Jews, numbers meant a great deal. Seven for the Jews signified perfection. Beyond seven, nothing was perfect again, so to have forgiven a brother seven times meant you had done the most perfect thing, and after that you did not need to forgive again. Jesus used the question to let Peter and us know that forgiveness is limitless. We cannot limit forgiveness to a few times. Jesus himself noted that whenever someone wrongs us in a day and comes to seek forgiveness, we must be ready to forgive. As strange and impossible as it may sound, it is liberating. When we forgive, we enjoy peace, health of soul and mind, and begin to love again.

The first reading today sounds a warning to anyone who refuses to forgive, noting that resentment and anger, characteristics of those who refuse to forgive, are foul things found only in sinners (Sirach 27:30). It calls on us to forgive our neighbour for the hurt they have done, so that when we pray, our sins will be forgiven (Sirach 28:2). Otherwise, if we nurse anger against someone, how do we expect to receive forgiveness ourselves?

Sirach 28:3). It cautions us that once we set our eyes and hearts on the last things – death, judgment, heaven and hell – and stop hating and live by the commandments of God, life will be well for us (Sirach 28:6-7). How I wish we could all close our eyes, have

the courage to forgive all those we carry inside us, and gain the liberating power that comes with forgiveness. My heart bleeds when I see clergy unable to forgive; families, friends and communities that once were beautiful torn apart by a lack of forgiveness. We need to break the yoke of unforgiveness that weighs us down and ask for the grace to always forgive. We can do this if we follow the example of God Himself, as expressed in today's responsorial psalm: "The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy" (Ps 102:8).

I would like to share some thoughts from a postcard I received on social media some time ago, which I included in my reflection for the Thursday of the 19th week in O.T. Year II 2020. These thoughts highlight the benefits of forgiveness. They appear to have come from the Cistercian Monks of the Holy Spirit. The seven beautiful thoughts on forgiveness are as follows:

1. Forgiveness is never about the other person. Forgiveness is for you. It's your peace and your blessing.
2. Forgiveness helps to heal deep injury done to us.
3. Forgiveness makes you feel better. It warms the soul. It just feels right. It's part of our Christian DNA to forgive.
4. Forgiveness helps us to forget the past, live in the present, and face the future.
5. Forgiveness helps us to experience joy and have a better walk with God.
6. Forgiveness brings you back to good health and helps you to grow.
7. Forgiveness frees you from destructive and harmful emotions and opens your heart to love.

Dear friends in Christ, the greatest liberation in life is to forgive unconditionally. We poison ourselves when we refuse to forgive. In this case, life becomes like consuming poison while expecting someone else to die on our behalf. We need to forgive always and unconditionally. May we ask sincerely today and always for the graces to forgive not seven times, but seventy-seven times plus one.

FINANCE & MORE

COLLECTIONS/INCOME 06/09/2026

ST. JOSEPH:	Loose plate £132.49 & Envelopes £33.20
Contactless Collection:	General £10, Mass Intentions £20 & Votive Candles £10
CORPUS CHRISTI:	Loose plate £250.35, Envelopes £31.50, Coffee £2.60, Mass Stipend £10 Catholic Educ. Service £10 & Candles £13.40
Contactless Collection:	General £77 & Mass Intentions £5 & CC New Carpet £10
Online Donation:	General £46 & Mass Intentions £15

STANDING ORDERS FOR AUGUST 2026 £1,981

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 July and August amounted to £207.55. 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.

PRAYER REQUESTS

We have noticed that some of our parishioners are going through challenges, sickness, trials, etc and need our prayers. Please do take time to pray for one another. Maybe add their name to our Parish Prayer Request books, available in both churches. If you have any issue and you need prayers, do contact the office.

SECOND COLLECTION

Our second collection today Sunday 13th of September 2026 is for Catholic Education Service. The collection basket will be at the back of the church at the end of the mass, or you can click the link below to donate.

[Catholic Education Service Second Collection 2026 - Give as you Live Donate](#)

DAILY MASSES

ST. JOSEPH'S: Adoration at 8.30 am followed by Mass at 9.30 am in English on Thursdays. On Saturdays, 5 pm adoration, followed by Mass at 6 pm and 9 am on Sundays.

Adoration: 11 am – 1.30 pm Monday to ~Friday (Most days with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Adoration)

Holy Hour: 7 pm – 8 pm 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

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION DATES FOR 2026: There will be a baptismal preparation session on **Sat 19th Sept 2026** at St. Joseph hall running from 11.00am until 12.30.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION: At the back of both churches are expressions of interest forms for families who regularly attend the parish and wish their child/ren (aged 7+ years) to be considered for enrolment in the 2026/27 preparation program. Please hand in your forms to Father or place them in the provided box at Corpus Christi Church no later than 20 Sept 26. This is a significant family commitment with 4 Saturdays and 21 Sunday sessions to attend with your child, along with helping your child to complete homework. Further information will be available at a meeting with the families of potential candidates and registration will happen at afterwards.

SACRAMENTALISATION OF MARRIAGES: We are making an appeal to all those who are living in irregular marriage situations and cannot receive the sacraments to please do contact the parish priest to have a conversation on how you can be helped to sacramentalise the marriage. Do not be afraid of cost as we shall do everything within our power to fix things for you.

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CONTINUATION OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCHSUITE: Are you new to the Parish of Corpus Christi with St. Joseph? If so, we would ask you to complete a registration form using a new system called ChurchSuite to manage our parishioner database and our communications like the newsletter. There is a paper form if you want to do it manually (see Jenny (CC) or Angela W (SJ)).

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:



ST JOSEPH CHURCH CHILDREN'S LITURGY: This will be starting again at St. Joseph's but helpers are STILL needed. Some of the young mums might like to consider helping. Instruction can be given and the more who volunteer, the fewer the time that you take your turn. Please consider this and speak to Angela Goble who will be pleased to advise.

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION: Edith Stein Catholic Academy Trust is seeking committed volunteers to join its Board of Trustees. This is an opportunity to support and strengthen Catholic education across our schools as the Trust continues to grow. Bishop Philip has asked all Catholic schools under the trusteeship of the Diocese to become part of one of the two established Catholic Academy Trusts.

Trustees play a vital role in setting the Trust's vision and ensuring high standards of education, safeguarding, financial stewardship, and Catholic mission. The role is voluntary, with induction, training, and reasonable expenses provided. We welcome applications from practising Catholics and others who support the Catholic ethos. Experience in education, finance, HR, legal services, IT, safeguarding, estates, or community engagement would be particularly valuable, although previous trustee experience is not essential. For more information and details on how to apply, visit www.escat.org.uk or email g.rennicks@escat.co.uk

FRIENDSHIP CLUB: We will meet again this Saturday, 12 September at 10.30 am in St. Joseph's hall. All welcome. Come along for a cuppa and a chat. New members always welcome

CELEBRATING WEDDING ANNIVERSARY: Congratulations to Carol and Colin Russell who are celebrating 60 years of marriage this year.

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

Andy H, George, Karen, Sonia, John, Michael O, David G, Laurie R, Nicky W, Janet L, Helen W, Dawn, Eileen, 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, James, Leo, Keith, Jenny P, Goodwin, Nancy M 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 TO LADYWELL

FINAL BALANCE IS NOW DUE. All those signed up already having paid the £10 deposit, now need to pay the balance of £40 as soon as possible to either Jenny (CC) or Angela W (SJ) or through BACS. Account Name: CDP Corpus Christi & St. Joseph, Sort Code: 30-93-04, Account No: 00884996. Please use the reference **LADYWELL**. There are still a few spaces available, so if you intend to come please let Jenny (CC) or Angela W (SJ) know ASAP.

DIOCESAN CATECHIST DAY – PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE

This will be on Saturday 10 October at 9:30am–1:30pm in St Bede's, Basingstoke. Whether you are a parish catechist, sacramental preparation leader, RCIA team member, children's liturgy volunteer, youth catechist, or involved in any ministry of faith formation, you are warmly invited to the **Portsmouth Diocese Catechists' Formation Day**. We will be joined by Fr Emmanuel Mansford of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal and Dr Káren North from St Mary's University Twickenham as we come together from across the Diocese for a morning of prayer, inspiration, and practical formation as we reflect on our shared mission to **form missionary disciples**. The day will start with Mass before we move into our sessions, there will also be a time for prayer and reflection as well as hearing from each other before we finish the day with a shared lunch (provided as part of the day).

To register your interest please go to <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/RFGROzEzDh> or email Meghan on ffm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

SHEILA HEAWORD: This week we received the very sad news of the passing of Sheila. Sheila had been ill for many years and is now at peace with Our Lord. She and her family have been stalwart members of St. Joseph's Church over many decades. We wish them all and her husband Andy and daughter Sarah our condolences at this sad time.

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