



CORPUS CHRISTI WITH ST. JOSEPH PARISH



CHARITY NO: 1199568

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PARISH SECRETARY/BOOKKEEPER:	Jenny Elliott
OFFICE HOURS:	9 AM - 4 PM (Mon, Wed, Thurs & Fri)
ST. JOSEPH'S OFFICE:	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 ST. JOSEPH:	Tel 023 9283 1245 Email stjosephsmarianhouse@gmail.com
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

29TH ORDINARY SUNDAY - 18TH OCTOBER 2026
COME AND INVITE YOUR FAMILIES, NEIGHBOURS & FRIENDS

Readings of the Day

1st Reading: Isaiah 45:1, 4-6
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 95:1-10
(Response): **Ascribe to the LORD glory and power**
2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia.
**Shine as lights in the world,
holding fast to the word of life.**
Gospel: Matthew 22:15-21

The Lord Of History
God is King. Earthly rulers, political regimes, Cyrus or Caesar, are called by God to reveal something of his power and majesty and his plan for the human race. But they only hold their power for a day. Our concern is not with them, but with God whom we worship in this celebration.

WEEKLY MASSES AND INTENTIONS

Sat 17th: 6 pm (SJ): For the intentions of the people of the parish
Sun 18th: 9 am (SJ):
11 am (CC): RIP of Dermot Cuffe
Mon 19th: 9:30 am (CC): RIP of Andrew Coughlan FM
Tue 20th:
Weds 21st: 7 pm (CC): RIP of Mike Cuffe
Thurs 22nd: 9:30 am (SJ): RIP of Robert & Beryl Brogan FM
Fri 23rd: 9:30 am (CC): RIP of Peter & Vera Anderson FM

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

GOD WRITES STRAIGHT ON CROOKED LINES

While preparing to study religion at Advanced Level in Cameroon's General Certificate of Education, I was struck by the lives of Esau and Jacob. In their story, we see that God writes straight on crooked lines. This is evident in Jacob's life, who was not the heir to his father Abraham's throne but eventually became the heir. In effect, the saying God writes straight on crooked lines means that God can turn any situation around for the better. Today, this is the lesson I want us to learn from the day's readings, especially the one from the gospel.

In today's gospel, the disgruntled Pharisees gathered and conspired about what to do with Jesus. Remember that in Matthew 21, Jesus had been using parables to describe the kingdom of God, and he had made it clear that this kingdom would be taken from the Jews and handed over to others. This angered the Jewish religious leaders, who sought common ground to do away with Jesus. That is why they gathered in today's gospel alongside the Herodians to set a trap for Jesus by asking: "Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" (Mt 22:16-17). This was a very tricky question, for a "yes" or "no" answer would have provided evidence to use against Jesus. This explains why, knowing their evil plot, Jesus decided to answer the question indirectly by saying, "Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with... Whose head is this? Whose name? Caesar's, they replied. Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God" (Mt 22:18-21). Verse 22 tells us that this reply took them by surprise, and they left him alone and went away.

Dear friends in Christ, even though these people had an evil plan in mind, a plan meant to trap and persecute Jesus, God turned this around by letting His Son give us a religious teaching that has stood the test of time: give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to him. This famous saying has been quoted by many who wish to have their way through things in an ungodly manner. However, for us as Christians, it reminds us of the balance between our Christian life and our work, social, and family life. We cannot spend all our time on work, social, and family life and forget about our spiritual life. As human beings, we are both body and soul, and we need to take care of both sides of our lives. Unfortunately, the present danger to mankind is neglect of the soul. This explains why many no longer bother about their Christian life and turn to what the world provides. This is the demise of Europe and other developed countries, but our confidence in God does not permit us to despair, because God can write straight on crooked lines.

As we pray and meditate today, I will like us to make use of the second reading of today as St. Paul writes to the church in Philippians and encourages us when he says:

"We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labour of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction" (Phil 1:2-5). Let the gospel therefore fill us with power and utter conviction from the Holy Spirit so we can be brave enough to do God's will here on earth.

FINANCE & MORE

COLLECTIONS/INCOME 11/10/2026

ST. JOSEPH: Loose plate £99.70,
Envelopes £34.30, Home Mission
£70, CAFOD £60, & Hall Rent
£1614

Contactless Collection: General £

CORPUS CHRISTI: Loose plate £175.65,
Envelopes £32, & Candles £8.10

Contactless Collection: General £

Online Donation: General £, Candles £ &
CC

STANDING ORDERS FOR SEPTEMBER 2026 £2,520

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-corpus-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.

SECOND COLLECTION: Our second collection today
Sunday 18th of October 2026 is for MISSIO-WORLD
MISSION. The collection basket will be at the back of
the church at the end of the mass.

BAMENDA SUNDAY: Every first weekend of
November we celebrate Bamenda Sunday. This is a
time when, in solidarity with our sister diocese in
Bamenda, Cameroon, we raise funds to support them
in their work of evangelisation. This has been ongoing
now for over five decades and we will very much
appreciate you coming out to support this collection
once more on Sunday 1st November 2026. Thanks in
advance for your support.

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: Thank
you to all the people who attended the recent
Baptism session last Saturday. Also the helpers. The
next session will be on Saturday, 12 December at 11
am to 12 pm at Corpus Christi Church.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION: Session 2
will start today Sunday 18th of October 2026 at 9:15
am at Corpus Christi Hall.

RECEPTION OF GUILD OF ST. STEPHEN MEDALS: Some of
our Altar Servers who have been serving for over a year
have qualified to receive their medals and this shall be
done at both churches this weekend. Let us all keep our
Altar servers in our prayers.

YOUTH PLANNING MEETING: There is a young meeting
after mass at CC in the all. All the young people of the
parish are invited to attend in view of planning for the first
ever Youth Sunday in November.

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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:



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PORTSMOUTH MISSION PLAN

SURVEY 2026: Please do access the diocesan survey following from the pastoral letter of the Bishop using the QR code below to access the questionnaire.



Or use this link: <https://eu.surveymonkey.com/r/QTBWYRP>

PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE PARISH EVANGELISATION

FORMATION DAY: This will be on Saturday 31st October at 9:30am – 1:30pm in Christ the King Parish, Reading. Join us for a morning of prayer, inspiration, teaching and fellowship as we discover how Parish Evangelisation Cells (PECS) can enrich parish life. PECS are small, welcoming groups of parishioners who meet regularly to pray, reflect on Scripture, build friendships and encourage one another to live and share their faith. They offer a simple way to help people grow closer to Jesus, support one another and reach out to others with friendship and faith. Come and discover how these groups can deepen prayer, friendship and faith, strengthen parish community and mission; and build our confidence in our faith. Everyone is welcome, whether you are curious, active in parish life, or wondering whether PECS could benefit your parish.

To register go to <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/JGgE7zeuun> or email Meghan at ffm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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.

YOUTH PLANNING MEETING: There is a young meeting after mass at CC in the all. All the young people of the parish are invited to attend in view of planning for the first ever Youth Sunday in November.

MARRIAGE BANDS: FIRST CALL: Ardra Shaji (Catholic) and Jijith Kjayan Yaya (Hindu) wants to solemnise their marriage in church. Please do pray for them and if you know of anything stopping them from marrying, please do inform the Parish Priest.

LADYWELL PARISH DAY OF REFLECTION

24TH OCTOBER 2026

ITINERARY FOR THE DAY

8:15 AM	1 ST PICK UP AT ST JOSEPH
8.30 AM	2 ND PICK UP AT CORPUS CHRISTI
10:00 AM	REFRESHMENT
10:30 AM	INTRODUCTIONS
MED	TALK – MICHAEL O'GRADY OFM
11:30 AM	DISCUSSION
12.00 PM	MASS
1.00 PM	LUNCH
	OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE THE RETREAT CENTRE AND GROUNDS
2.00 PM	REFLECTION
3.15 PM	COFFEE BREAK
3.45 PM	FINAL PRAYERS
4.00 PM	DERARTURE

NB: The coach leaves SJ at 8:15am at CC at 8:30am. Those with cars can park in front of CC church.

DEREK FRY We heard this week of the passing of Derek Fry, former organist at the Cathedral. Derek also kindly donated our organ to us many years ago. RIP

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