

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*

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28th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A, Cycle 2)

11th October 2026

Reflection from Fr Elijah: God invites everyone to the banquet of His Kingdom

Today's readings remind us that God has prepared a feast for us – a feast of life, love, joy, and salvation. In the first reading, Isaiah speaks of the Lord preparing a rich banquet for all peoples. God desires not merely to feed us physically, but to satisfy the deepest hunger of the human heart.

In the Gospel, Jesus uses the image of a wedding feast to describe the Kingdom of Heaven. The king sends out invitations, but many refuse to come. Others are too busy with their own affairs. Yet the invitation is eventually extended to everyone. This is a powerful reminder that God's invitation is generous and universal. He calls each of us into friendship with Him. But the Gospel also challenges us: how do we respond to that invitation?

The man without a wedding garment reminds us that accepting God's invitation is not simply about saying, "Yes, I believe." Our faith must make a difference in the way we live. The wedding garment represents a heart transformed by God's grace – a life marked by love, forgiveness, compassion, humility, and faithfulness.

Sometimes we become so pre-occupied with work, possessions, worries, or our own plans that we fail to notice God's invitation. The banquet is already prepared, but are we willing to come?

St. Paul gives us the answer: whether in abundance or in need, we can trust in God who strengthens us. True Christian life is learning to depend on God rather than on oneself.

Today, therefore, let us renew our response to God's invitation. Let us not allow busyness, fear, or complacency to keep us away from the feast. May we come to the Lord with grateful hearts, clothed in faith and love, ready to share His joy with others.

Mass Times and Intentions

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 11 th October	9.15am	OLA	Mass	Michael Peacock RIP Thanksgiving for the family Izediuno For the people
	11am	CKSC	Mass	
	5.30pm	SB	Mass	
	6pm	CKSC	Mass (in Polish)	
Tue 13 th October	9.30am	OLA	Mass	For the people
Wed 14 th October	9.30am	SB	Mass	Dorris Victorine Waas RIP
Thur 15 th October	9.30am	CKSC	Mass	For good health for Alinda Pinto
Fri 16 th October	9.30am	OLA	Mass	Private intention
Sat 17 th October	9.30am	CKSC	Mass	For the people
Sun 18 th October	9.15am	OLA	Mass	For the repose of the soul of Sarah Barlex For the people For the people
	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/20261011/mass.htm>

Second Collection – 18th October – World Mission Sunday



The funeral Mass of Lou O'Shea will be at 11am on 23rd October at Christ the King & St Colman. Please join us as we thank the Lord for Lou's life, and for her witness. Please continue to pray for the repose of her soul and her family at this difficult time.

Within our Parish

Cricket Car Parking: We need your help please! This year we raised an incredible £4290 from cricket car-parking at St. Bridgid's. Next year, 'The Ashes' is coming to the Utilita Bowl cricket ground. We have a golden opportunity to bring in even more much-needed income for our Parish by offering car-parking for what will be a very popular event. In order to do this, we will need extra help with car-parking to support our very small team of volunteers. If you are able to help and would like to find out what is involved, please contact EAMONN FLYNN on 07730 490443 in the first instance. Thank you.

Within the Diocese and Beyond

Formation Day for Readers: 17th October 2026: It is not too late to sign up for the Formation Day for Readers being organised by the Diocesan Liturgy Team on 17th October 2026 at the Pastoral Centre in Winchester. If you would like further details, please email the parish office for the PDF of the itinerary. Anyone wishing to attend is kindly asked to email liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org

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)

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

St Brigid – West End

- Cake & coffee after Mass on 2nd Sunday of the month; folk Mass on 4th Sunday

- 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
- 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.

The next Parish Pastoral Council meeting is on 14 Jan, 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

Registering with the parish: Registering your details with the parish strengthens our community as it allows us to easily communicate with one another via the Churchsuite App. If you have not yet registered, please do so by completing a form:

Adult form:

<https://catholicdioceseofportsmouth.churchsuite.com/-/forms/ngdyici2>



Child Form:

<https://catholicdioceseofportsmouth.churchsuite.com/-/forms/whtuwhp5>

