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 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9.30am–1pm*
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33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A, Cycle 2) 15th November 2026

Reflection from Fr Elijah: Fidelity to God's Gifts

As the Church's year draws to a close, today's readings ask us to think about how we use the gifts God has entrusted to us. In the parable of the talents, a wealthy man leaves his servants with different amounts of money before travelling abroad. Two invest their talents and made a profit, while the third, afraid of losing the money, buries it in the ground.

The master's response is challenging. He does not praise the servant for keeping the talent safe. The gift was given to be used. The parable invites us to consider what God has bestowed on us: our abilities, opportunities, relationships, time, faith and resources. We may not all have the same gifts, but each of us is called to utilize what we have.

Fear can make us bury our gifts. We might tell ourselves that our contribution is too small, that someone else could do it better, or that trying is too risky. But following Jesus means being willing to act with trust. A kind word, a visit to someone who is lonely, a generous choice, or a commitment to justice may seem modest. Yet when offered faithfully, these acts can help God's love take root in the world.

The first reading, from Proverbs, praises a capable woman who works with care, generosity and wisdom. She does not keep her gifts for herself: she reaches out to the poor and serves her household. Her example shows that faithfulness is lived in everyday responsibilities as well as in extraordinary moments.

Paul's letter reminds us to stay alert and live as people of the light. We do not know the day or hour when Christ will come, but we can choose each day to live with hope, courage and love. Being ready does not mean waiting anxiously. It means making our lives fruitful now.

At the end of the parable, the faithful servants are welcomed into their master's joy. May we hear that invitation as encouragement to take the gifts we have received and put them to work in service of others. Let us not let fear keep them hidden. With trust in God, may we live generously, faithfully and joyfully until Christ comes.

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 15th November	9.15am 11am 5.30pm 6pm	OLA CKSC SB CKSC	Mass Mass Mass Mass (in Polish)	For the people For the people For the people
Tue 17th November	9.30am	OLA	Mass	
Wed 18th November	9:30am	SB	Mass	Deceased friends of Eammon; Mary-Ann Allen RIP
Thur 19th November	9.30am	CKSC	Mass	Special Intention
Fri 20th November	9.30am	OLA	Mass	For the repose of the souls of Sarah Barlex and George Smale
Sat 21st November	9.30am	CKSC	Mass	Special Intention
Sun 22nd November *Christ the King*	9.15am 11am 5.30pm 6pm	OLA CKSC SB CKSC	Mass Mass Mass Mass (in Polish)	For the people In thanksgiving for Joan St Omer on her birthday For Julia, Peter & Isobel Baldwin RIP
This Sunday's readings can be found at https://universalis.com/europe.england/20261115/mass.htm				
Second Collection –15th November – Priests retirement fund				

Within our Parish

Car Park Closed
The car park at Christ the King & St Colman will be closed to vehicles and people on Wednesday 18th November from 10am – Noon for a drone survey.

OLA Children's Liturgy: in November will take place on Sunday 22nd November when we will celebrate the Feast of Christ the King and not on 3rd Sunday of the month (15th Nov) as usual. We look forward to welcoming as many of our children as possible. Thank you and God Bless.

Advent Prayer and bible study: Thursday evenings during Advent 7:30pm - 9:00pm: The bishop has asked us to join a small group as one of 6 Holy Habits. Why not join a small, friendly group for a weekly session in OLA Church Hall? Starting on Thursday 26th Nov, together we will reflect on the Gospel reading for each Sunday of Advent and explore its meaning in the light of the Catechism. Whether you are new to studying Scripture or have journeyed in faith for years, this is an opportunity to deepen your understanding, share insights, and grow spiritually this advent. All are welcome. Contact Marion Miller for more information.

A Christmas Breakfast: Sunday 29th November immediately after 9.15am Mass at OLA. Enjoy hot bacon or sausage in a roll, cakes, mince pies & stollen with hot drinks. There will be with several traditional games for children and the young at heart and a raffle too. Make sure to bring cash on the day, all financial donations for drinks & food, games (20p a go) and raffle going to church funds. You are warmly invited to join us as we celebrate the beginning of Advent.

Kids' Advent Activity Afternoon: Churches Together in Hedge End, West End & Botley present "Light Seekers - a Holiday Club Christmas adventure". Saturday 12th December 2-5pm at Anchor Community Church, Quob Lane, West End. Open to children aged 4-12 years. £5 per child. Email hewebholidaybibleclubbookings@gmail.com

CKSC Giving Tree - Stella Maris Christmas Chocolate Appeal: Can you help us give chocolates to Seafarers arriving in our ports this Christmas? Stella Maris meets and supports seafarers around the world. We want to show them that they are not forgotten this Christmas. Can you help us by donating chocolate gifts? If so, please put your gifts under our Advent giving tree at Christ the King & St Colman's church from Sun 29th Nov to Sun 13th Dec. THANK YOU!

Carol Service: We invite everyone across our three churches to a Christmas Carol Service to be held on Saturday December 19th at 7pm at Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church. We hope to see lots of families to help create a beautiful festive atmosphere that we can all enjoy. Tea, coffee and mince pies to follow in the hall afterwards. Singers for the choir will be most welcome too!

SCRATCH Christmas Toy Appeal: This year SCRATCH are asking for new toy donations through their Amazon Wishlist or financial giving as well as toiletries for teenagers. However, if anyone prefers to buy a new toy or toiletries, then please leave the item in OLA at a weekday or Sunday Mass and I will deliver it to SCRATCH during the first week of December. Thank you.

Financial Giving Amazon Wishlist

Income from CKSC for September 2026

Loose offertory	£391.54
Contactless giving	£504.11
Standing Orders & Direct debits	£2000.50
Church maintenance	£867.24
Hall rent	£1185.00

Polish Community	£400.00
Candles	£46.27
Repository	£3.50
Closer to Christ	£50.00

Gift Aid Reclaimed	£5647.14
Donation Day	£2856.20
CAFOD	£22.24
Home Missions	£54.08

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