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
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Solemnity of Christ the King (Year A, Cycle 2) 22nd November 2026

Reflection from Fr Elijah: May Christ Reign in Our Lives

The Solemnity of Christ the King marks the end of the liturgical year and celebrates Jesus' universal lordship. Instituted by Pope Pius XI in 1925 amid growing secularism, the celebration was given its present title and moved to the final Sunday of the liturgical year by Pope Paul VI in 1969. It invites us to ask: what kind of King is Christ, and what does it mean to let him reign in our lives?

In Ezekiel, God reveals himself as a loving shepherd. He promises to rescue the scattered, seek the lost, bring back those who stray, bind up the wounded, and strengthen the weak. Jesus fulfils this promise as the Good Shepherd, caring for his people and giving his life for them. His mission brings good news to the afflicted, freedom to captives, sight to the blind, and relief to the oppressed.

Paul presents Christ as the victorious ruler who will defeat every power opposed to God. Death is the last enemy to be destroyed. Unlike earthly rulers who may rely on force and fear, Christ reigns through love, offering life in abundance.

In Matthew's Gospel, Christ is also the just judge. He measures our lives by how we treat others, especially those who are hungry, thirsty, strangers, poorly clothed, sick, or imprisoned. His kingdom is founded on justice and peace. To serve this King is to recognise and care for him in people who need our help.

Today's celebration calls us to give Christ the central place in our hearts. When we welcome his reign, we follow the Good Shepherd's example: seeking the lost, comforting the suffering, strengthening the weak, and acting justly. If Christ reigns in each heart, his peace can take root in our communities and world.

Let us open our lives to Jesus. As our King and Shepherd, he guides us with goodness and mercy. May we serve him faithfully and dwell in his care all the days of our lives.

I wish a very Happy Feast Day to every one of you, and to Christ the King and St. Colman Parish.

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 22nd November *Christ the King*	9.15am 11am 5.30pm 6pm	OLA CKSC SB CKSC	Mass Mass Mass Mass (in Polish)	For Julia, Peter & Isobel Baldwin RIP In thanksgiving for Joan St Omer on her birthday For the people
~~Tue 24th November~~	~~9.30am~~	~~OLA~~	**NO MASS**	
Wed 25th November	9:30am	SB	Mass	For Julia, Peter & Isobel Baldwin RIP and Gerald Martin RIP
Thur 26th November	9.30am 11am	CKSC CKSC	Mass Funeral	Ann Marie Whitlock Funeral Service for Teresa Connolly
Fri 27th November	9.30am	OLA	Mass	Special Intention
Sat 28th November	9.30am	CKSC	Mass	In thanksgiving for Frank Reading on his birthday
Sun 29th November *1st Sunday of Advent*	9.15am 11am 5.30pm 6pm	OLA CKSC SB CKSC	Mass Mass Mass Mass (in Polish)	For the people For the repose of the souls of Elsie, Doris & relatives of the Mifsud and Camilleri families

This Sunday's readings can be found at https://universalis.com/europe.england/20261122/mass.htm

Within our Parish

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 on 07443588351 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.

December Coffee Morning & Fundraising Event: Our usual First Sunday of the month Coffee and Tea at Christ the King and St Colman's will take place for one time only on the second Sunday of December. Join us on Sunday 13th December in the church hall, following the 11.00 am Mass, for a festive get-together with tea, coffee and a mince pie. We will also be holding a raffle and bottle stall, so there will be plenty of opportunity to support our fundraising raising funds for the continuing maintenance of or church. Donations of bottles and raffle prizes would be very gratefully received. Please leave them in the box at the back of church or bring them along on the day.

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!

OLA Christmas Giving Tree: Our Giving Tree Gifts will go to Food Banks supporting families in need in our Local Communities. We are gifting Christmas Treats: biscuits, chocolate, tins of fruit, tinned ham, 'long-life' jellies and trifles, snacks - any Christmas Treats & foods you can think of. Please place your gifts under the tree by Sunday 13th December. Stuck for an idea? Just take a tag (or 2 or 3 🙂) from the tree. Please bring your gifts and help bring some 'Christmas Cheer' to families less fortunate than us. Thank you for your generosity. Happy Christmas, God Bless

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 Hedge End and West End for September 2026:

Loose offertory	£848.60
Standing Orders & Direct debits	£1,623.00
Hedge End Repairs Fund	£112.50
Donation for candle stand	£450.00

Cricket Car Parking	£690.00
Closer to Christ	£79.17
Table Tennis	£204.20
Donation Day	£2,251.00

Gift Aid Reclaimed	£2,878.75
Funeral Charges	£50.00
Candles	£40.90
Home Missions	£82.10

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