



CORPUS CHRISTI, BOSCOMBE NEWSLETTER

OUR PARISH
MOTTO
"ONLY JESUS"

PARISH PRIEST: Monsignor John Nelson

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Parish Office: 18 St James's Square, Boscombe BH5 2BX Tel: 01202 425286

Parish Administrator: Sandra Cook. **Parish Office Email:** office@corpuschristiboscombe.org.uk

Normal Parish Office hours: 9.30am - 12.30pm Monday, Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays

Finance Administrator: Georgie Lockyer. **Email:** accounts@corpuschristiboscombe.org.uk

Property Manager/Centre Bookings : Aidan Foy. Tel: 07775868253 **Email:** facilities@corpuschristiboscombe.org.uk

PARISH WEBSITE: www.corpuschristiboscombe.org.uk/ **WiFi Network:** CC_Public **Password:** church20



SUNDAY MASSES:

Saturday Vigil 6.00pm & Sunday 10.00am & 5.00pm

This parish livestreams Masses (6.00pm & 10.00am, on YouTube or via our website) & other events. Please see notices in the church for further details.



DAILY MASS: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri, Sat 10.00am & Wed 9.00am

HOLY DAY MASSES: 10.00am & 7.00pm

CONFESSIONS: Saturdays 10.30am -11.30am & 5.30pm - 5.50pm

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Our Parish is part of the
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth
[Bishop Philip Egan]

www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/e-news/

Member of Churches Together in Boscombe:
<http://www.ctib.community/>

Royal Bournemouth Hospital/Christchurch Hospital For Chaplaincy call 03000194221
(Catholic Mass - 1st Wed of month at 6pm)

Poole Hospital For Chaplaincy call: 0300 019 2167 (Catholic Mass Thurs 6.30pm)

LITURGICAL CALENDAR all masses feria except: Wed 13: St Lucy Thurs 14: St John of the Cross



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT Year B - 10th December 2023

THE HOLY LANDS The Catholic Church has a structure which ensures every human being has access to pastoral care and the sacraments. What do I mean? Our parishes have boundaries – not to carve up territory but to make sure everyone knows to whom they can go if needing baptism, a wedding, preparation for the Sacraments, a visit to someone sick or housebound. No one is left out. Every parish belongs to a diocese with a Bishop who oversees that pastoral provision to ensure everyone belongs. Here we are part of the Diocese of Portsmouth with Bishop Philip as our shepherd.

Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa is the Patriarch (a particular sort of Bishop) based in Jerusalem and with responsibility for the Holy Lands. Note that 'Holy Lands' is plural as he cares for the people of Israel and Palestine, Cyprus and Jordan. It is a huge task and one which brings him in contact with some of the most difficult issues of our time, including the suffering of people in Gaza. A Bishop is not just appointed to look after "his flock" or members of his church. He is there for all. The Cardinal has stated that this Advent in the Holy Lands is a penitential time: recognising the human toll war takes on the vulnerable and innocent, he said it is necessary to reduce any sense of festivity at a time of year when it normally takes hold. In places like Bethlehem there will be no visitors this year and this has a devastating on an already fragile local economy as hotels stand empty and shops have no customers.

In our parishes at Christmas we normally put out a basket for 'Crib Offerings' and people contribute. This year what you give will go to *The Friends of the Holy Land*, an organisation based in this country which strives to give practical help to families who are struggling to access healthcare or education in the West Bank and Gaza. This is only a suggestion, but if each of us sacrificed one small thing during Advent, held on to the money we save and donate it with the Crib Offerings we could send even more practical help to those in huge need. Often, as we witness global events, we feel frustration and helplessness that there is little we can do to make a difference. This is one way we could genuinely help. I leave it with you, as a suggestion of how we can show solidarity

Father John

PENITENTIAL SERVICE Next Friday, 15 December at 7pm, a number of priests will be available for individual confessions within this Penitential Service. If you haven't been to this Sacrament for some time, think about coming. If you come regularly to Confession, try and join us that evening. It will be an opportunity, together, to celebrate the reconciliation and peace God wants us to have with him and with each other. That in turn will put us in a better position to welcome Jesus when Christmas comes once more. **All welcome.**



PARISH CHRISTMAS CARDS. Please take home a copy of our Parish Christmas card that gives dates and times of services over Christmas and New Year. Available from Church porch.



CHRISTMAS CARD EXCHANGE BOX To try and keep the church a "tidy zone" please, if you want to leave Christmas cards for fellow parishioners, use the Christmas Card Exchange Box. *The box will not be managed by the Parish Office* and any cards not collected by 1st week in January will be recycled. **Merry Christmas**

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED OVER CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR
The Office will be closed from Friday 15th Dec to 3rd Jan 2024.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD will take place today (10th) and 17th December at 10.00am Sunday mass. As a general guideline this Liturgy is for children between 4 and 7 years of age. Parents please remember to sign in.



ACI FAMILY GROUPS. LINKS OF LOVE FUND RAISING EVENT. We will be holding a cake/gift sale after the masses on Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th December in the church porch. All proceeds will go towards the cost of sending one of our ACI members to the IV International Assembly in Rome during February 2024. In addition, we will be running a raffle for the next 2 weeks with the prize being a beautiful knitted crib scene. Raffle tickets can be purchased after mass at the back of the church.

The raffle will be drawn on 17th December.

A UKRAINIAN FAMILY of two parents and three children are desperate to leave Ukraine **for this area** where they have relatives; there will be full support and guidance if you are able to offer accommodation - please call Judith Williams on 01202 460162 or Mob 07840 490525, if you can help or know of someone who can.

ICN is currently appealing for clothes for male asylum seekers which can be taken directly to the Dignity Shop in Bournemouth or given to **Kevin Flynn (01202 429034)** who will pass them on.

'REFUGEE NATIVITY.' 15th & 16h Dec 6.30pm at **Rosebery Park Baptist Church**, 812-814 Christchurch Road. Performed by Vita Nova, which is a secular organization, but the production still tells the Christmas story, set in the present time and gets refugees involved. Suitable for 10years and above. Suggested donation £5. Tickets on the door or from Eventbrite: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/refugee-nativity-saturday-16th-december-tickets-727412078107?aff=ebdssbdestsearch&keep_tld=1 See poster.

CAFOD ADVENT PRAYER

Christ, come into our world of darkness
Light up our lives with your coming.
Fulfil all our longings with the joy of your birth
Strengthen our resolve to work for change in our world
And to share the hope of your birth that each Advent brings.

Amen.

Sr Bridgetta Rooney/CAFOD



'MY DAY BY DAY' ADVENT booklet 2023. There are still some available at the back of Church for only £1.00 Please put money in the pamphlet slot.

CAFOD ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CRISIS APPEAL

To donate to go to: cafod.org.uk/ipc or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need.

Thank you for your prayers.

VOCATIONS: "A voice is calling." Is Christ calling you to let Him manifest His love in you as a priest or consecrated religious? Talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke. vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318 869

INTENTION: That those chosen by Christ to "prepare the way of the Lord" as priests or religious brothers or sisters will answer His call, we pray to the Lord.

FOOD BANK COLLECTIONS are Friday mornings 10.30-11.30am and at Saturday evening and Sunday Masses. Gifts may be dropped off in the church porch. **TINNED FOODS** always appreciated. **Thank you for your continued generosity.**

THANK YOU "The staff and families at YMCA Bournemouth Children's Centres send Christmas blessings and grateful thanks for the wonderful support of Corpus Christi parishioners and local schools this year. We understand with rising costs how hard it can be for households to give to others, but our Food Bank has never been empty, and at times we have been able to share excess with other agencies in the area.

This year we have given 275 food bags to local families, with an additional 222 bags going to support the community via YMCA housing, other local foodbanks, Health visiting team, and YMCA Pre-School families. Food is distributed to families in hardship across all local YMCA Children's Centres. We always aim to add a box of cereal, milk and fruit juice to the bags to give children a good start to the day. Some families are in poorly equipped accommodation, so meals that can be easily heated by hob or microwave are especially welcome. We have been able to offer baby milk and food to families with young children using the NHS clinics at the centres. The YMCA housing across four projects has 114 beds for people who would otherwise be homeless. Costs for catering have increased this year so we have been supporting the hostel with staples such as tea, porridge oats, rice, pasta and baked beans when we have more than enough for our families.

Our storage space is limited, so in times of plenty we also share excess food and toiletries with Southbourne and Boscombe food banks, as well as items we can't add to our general family food bags, such as pet food, or products containing nuts or alcohol. Thank you all very much for your generosity. Your donations are always so much appreciated, and make a real difference to those in need in our community.

Have a wonderful Christmas From all at YMCA Bournemouth Children's Centres"

TO SET UP A STANDING ORDER (Can be Gift Aided) Go to your bank: You will need the parish business bank details, which are: **CDP BOURNEMOUTH CORPUS CHRISTI** Sort code 30-93-04. Parish Account number: **01786041** Or donate online at our website: <http://www.corpuschristiboscombe.org.uk/> or on our Facebook page or to donate via Give As You Live, **click on the QR CODE**

GIFT AID If you are a UK taxpayer please consider Gift Aiding your donation. The parish can reclaim 25p for every £1 donated, at no extra cost to you. To join the Gift Aid scheme, or if you want an annual box of offertory envelopes, please send contact details to: accounts@corpuschristiboscombe.org.uk
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Reg. Charity No.1199568

