



# 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](mailto: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](mailto:accounts@corpuschristiboscombe.org.uk)

**Property Manager/Centre Bookings :** Aidan Foy. Tel: 07775868253 **Email:** [facilities@corpuschristiboscombe.org.uk](mailto:facilities@corpuschristiboscombe.org.uk)

**PARISH WEBSITE:** [www.corpuschristiboscombe.org.uk/](http://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/](http://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: Mon 25: Nativity of the Lord Tues 26: St Stephen Wed 27 St John  
Thurs 28: The Holy Innocents Fri 29: St Thomas of Canterbury



## DOUBLE NEWSLETTER

**3rd & 4th of ADVENT Year B - 17th, 24th December 2023**



**'CHRISTMAS COMES ONCE MORE'** Last week when I was deleting documents on my computer I came across an Address I gave to the soldiers of the 2nd Battalion, the Yorkshire Regiment, two years ago. The audience was about 500 mainly young soldiers, many who have children and a lot with no religious belief or faith. This is what I said.

"At the heart of the Christmas story is something very simple, profound and human. The story of Christmas is about the birth of a baby, in Bethlehem. For some of us Jesus is at the heart of what we believe as Christians. But for those who do not share that belief there is still something to take from what happened all those years ago.

The birth of a baby is a magical moment. For those of you who have children of your own, remember back to when you held your son or daughter for the first time. The nervousness, the joy, the feeling of elation and also the struggle to put into words what you held in your heart. And for those who do not have children, think about that moment when your parents held you in their arms for the first time. Relieved that the birth had gone smoothly and caught up in a time of celebration as they welcomed a new member into the family. I think all new parents have a mixture of feelings at that moment: some anxiety about what kind of world their child will grow up in – with its challenges and difficulties. But more importantly parents have hopes for their small newborn: that he or she will grow up to be someone with their own character, strengths and who will make a difference in the lives of others.

One of the Carols sung on Christmas night is O Little Town of Bethlehem. At the end of one verse it says: "The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight." As Mary and Joseph gazed at Jesus, they too had hopes and fears, joy and anxiety. Just like any parent - and just like our parents.

This year has brought its challenges – different from last year but nevertheless demanding. Some of you will look back on this year and think it has been a good year, others will feel it was average. And let's be honest, there will be some who are glad this year is coming to an end because it hasn't been good for them. But as we come towards the end of one year and the start of a new one, ask yourself this question: what are your hopes for the year ahead, for yourself and your family? What do you hope for?

Whatever we believe or don't believe about the meaning of Christmas, one thing we can all agree upon is that it's a great time for connecting up with family and friends. Some of us are able to spend Christmas with our families – some of us are not able to and have to rely on phone calls and other means to catch up. That's life. But here's a small suggestion. If there is one person you can think of who you haven't spoken to for a while – for whatever reason – give them a call or send them a message. A small effort could actually make a real difference to that person." **Father John**

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED OVER CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR**

The Office is now closed and will reopen 3rd Jan 2024.

**A very Merry and Blessed Christmas to everyone from Sandra, Georgie and Aidan.**  
(Parish staff)



**CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS** Traditionally your Offering at Christmas time is for the personal use of the Parish Priest. Together with the Easter Offering, this forms a significant part of his annual income. Because this is given by you through the parish, it can be Gift-Aided by those who pay income tax. There are yellow envelopes available on the shelves at the back of the church for this purpose. Also please note that there is also a dedicated page on the Fundraising Platform 'Give As You Live' which enables online donations to be made. Thank you for your support and generosity. Here is the link to your dedicated Christmas Collection page:

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/bournemouth-corpus-christi-boscombe-christmas-collection-2023>

**CRIB OFFERINGS** This year, all offerings left at the Crib will go to help the people of Palestine. This is done through *The Friends of the Holy Land*. Life in the West Bank and Gaza is always hard for those who have their homes there but, as we all know, even that has been disrupted and taken away for many in recent times. Children and students have had their education stopped and it is difficult to imagine how things will ever return to normal. In small practical ways The Friends of the Holy Land help fund projects such as health care so your financial support means a huge amount. Whatever you put in the basket by the Crib will be wisely used in the Holy Land. **Father John**

**ROAD CLOSED WARNING** For legal reasons we are obliged to close the private road to the Church (From the main Christchurch Road) for **24 hours** once a year. This year it will be close **Wednesday 27th December after 10am Mass (note Wednesday Mass time change, just for this week) to 10am on Thursday 28th December**. Please ensure you do not park/leave your car where you may not be able to move it. **Thank you.**

**SIGN UP SHEETS** for Ministries over the Christmas period are now at the back of Church. Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers - please sign up today. **Thank you.**

**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 back of Church. Services can also be found on our website.

**Christmas time:**

**Sunday 24th December – Christmas Eve: Mass 10.00am; 6.00pm Blessing of the Crib with First Mass of Christmas 8.30pm Carols & Readings 9.00pm Christmas Night Mass**

**MONDAY 25th December Christmas Day Morning Mass at 10.00am (No other Masses today)**



**CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD** will take place today (17th) at 10.00am Sunday mass. Then in January it will be on 14th and 28th.



**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**

**MULTICULTURAL CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT** 29th Dec at 6.30pm for 7pm in the Annunciation Church, Charminster. Free entry (voluntary donation £5) With English/Spanish/African carols and refreshments. *See poster.*



**PANTO TIME!!!! ALL SAINTS DRAMATIC SOCIETY PRESENT - BEAUTY & THE BEAST 12th–20th JANUARY 2024** in Corpus Christi Parish Centre. Performed by All Saints Dramatic Society. Tickets from the Box Office on 07548100770 or scan the QR code Tickets £15, Concs £12 or children £8.



**VOCATIONS:** "The spirit of the Lord God is upon me because the Lord has anointed me." God is empowering you for a specific purpose! How will you respond to so great a love? "The Child who has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit, for He will save His people." Is the Holy Spirit leading you to share your gifts as a priest or religious brother or sister? Talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke.vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318 869

**INTENTIONS:** For a deeper trust and openness to the Holy Spirit in people discerning a call to serve Christ through the priesthood or in consecrated life, we pray to the Lord. That, as Joseph and Mary welcomed the gift of the Child Jesus, all mothers and fathers will prayerfully nurture their children's vocations in Christ and especially welcome His call for priests, brothers, and sisters, we pray to the Lord.

**SVP THANKS** would again like to thank the parish for its generous contribution to our September appeal which finally amounted to £1155 and is enabling us to help meet the needs of those less fortunate.



**FOOD COLLECTION ARRANGEMENTS OVER THE PERIOD 23RD DEC 23 - 2ND JAN 24** The last delivery of food to the YMCA Bournemouth Children's Centre, will be on Friday 22 Dec 23. Any food kindly donated after this date between the period 23 Dec 23 to 2 Jan 24, will be stored and delivered to the YMCA Children's Centre on Tuesday 2 Jan 24. Thank you for your continued generous support to families in our local community. **The SVP Team.**

**"It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you...yes, it is Christmas every time you smile at your brother and offer him your hand."**  
**Mother Teresa**

**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](mailto:accounts@corpuschristiboscombe.org.uk)  
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Reg. Charity No.1199568

