

# CORPUS CHRISTI, BOSCOMBE NEWSLETTER

PARISH PRIEST: Monsignor John Nelson

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<u>Deacon:</u> Gregory Cook Email: gcook@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk 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

WiFi Network: CC\_Public Password: church20 PARISH WEBSITE: www.corpuschristiboscombe.org.uk/



#### 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

Monday and Thursday after 10am Mass until 11am.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR: Wed 14: Ash Wednesday - Mass with ashes at 10am and 7pm

Our Parish is part of the Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth [Bishop Philip Egan] www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/e-news/

OUR PARISH MOTTO

"ONLY JESUS"

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

**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)

## Sixth Sunday of Year B - 11th February 2024

### THE FUTURE OF OUR PARISH - WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

A few weeks ago I said that we would arrange a couple of meetings to look at the way ahead for Corpus Christi Parish. This is in light of the Bishop's Vision for the Diocese – as we are a parish within Portsmouth Diocese this affects us. We now have the dates for these meetings: Thursday 7 March and Tuesday 12 March, both starting at 7pm, in the Parish Centre. The idea is that people would only attend one of the two and by offering a choice of two dates I hope that more parishioners will be able to take part. My presentation at each meeting will be the same.

We need to look at our priorities and how we can focus our energy and resources in the areas we believe are important, guided by the Bishop's Vision for the future of our diocese. A number of you have told me how much this parish has changed in recent years, and was affected by the pandemic and all the challenges that brought. The number of people attending Corpus Christi at the three weekend Masses is certainly lower than it was in the past and, together, we need to address the consequences of those changes. A great blessing in this parish is the variety and diversity when it comes to nationalities and backgrounds and I hope that as many people as possible come to the meetings because everyone has a contribution to make. Whether you have been a long-time member of the parish or whether you have arrived more recently; if you come from another country or were born here and went to Corpus Christi Primary School or St Peter's, every voice has equal value and needs to be heard.

As in every parish these days, we have limited income and resources to use in our work and this too must be addressed because we cannot continue to sustain everything we have done in the past. That's a fact of life. But the planned meetings are not all about finance – that is just one aspect of the conversation which needs to take place. Neither do I expect us to get all the answers in just a couple of meetings about how we face the future. This is the beginning of a new phase of the journey Corpus Christi Parish has been on for well over a century.

Finally, just a word of encouragement to everyone who can come along to one of our two Masses on Ash Wednesday. There is no better way to get the Season of Lent underway than with Mass and receiving ashes as a mark of our commitment to try and change. As it is school half-term, if you can bring your children that would be even better! Mass is at 10am and 7pm on Wednesday. Father John

MARY'S MEALS. Last Sunday at the 10am Mass children from Corpus Christi School shared with the congregation the work of this charity, Mary's Meals. Through their Social Action Committee, the school raises funds to help provide meals for children in other countries. Learning on an empty stomach is so much harder. Thank you to parishioners who supported the collection held at the end of Mass. You gave £330 which is a tremendous amount and will provide meals to 17 children for a whole year!

NO 10AM MASS this TUESDAY 13th Feb as the funeral Mass of Kitty Bounden will be at 12 noon. The family would REPETY welcome any parishioners who wish to join them to pray for Kitty.

ASH WEDNESDAY is 14th February there will be Mass at 10am (not 9am) and in the evening at 7.00pm.



ELECTION COOP STATIONS OF THE CROSS - CAN YOU HELP? During Lent, on Fridays, we would like lay 📓 volunteers to help with leading the Stations of the Cross at 7.00pm, so please hand in your name and dates STATIONS of the CROSS you can do (1st to 29th March.) to the Parish Office. *Thank you to those who have already offered.* 

On Fridays in Lent there will be Mass at 7.30pm after Stations of the Cross.

UNERAL MASS FOR JOHN JAMES (SEAMUS) McQUAID RIP will be at 12 noon on Thursday 15th February.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024 There will be practices for Reconciliation services at the sessions on Saturday 24th February.

There will be two Reconciliation Services: Thursday 29th February at 6pm and Wednesday 6th March at 6pm. Children will be allocated to a particular service by Deacon Greg.

If you have a problem attending, please email Deacon Greg at fhc.boscombe@gmail.com



<u>CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD</u> will take place today (11th) and 25th February at 10am Sunday Mass. As a general guideline this Liturgy is for children between 4 and 7 years of age. Parents please remember to sign in

SVP Tea Gathering will be in the Memorial Room on Thursday 29th February from 2.00pm to 3.30pm. All welcome 🍕



<u>THE DIGNITY CENTRE</u> The Dignity Centre, 108 Christchurch Rd Bournemouth - A place of welcome and support for the local asylum seeking and refugee population. Continued thanks to all who have donated so generously with clothing. The Centre is very grateful to everyone for the care and support shown by the parish. There is now an urgent need for toiletries, soap, deodorant, shampoo, shower gel, toothpaste etc. if you can supply an item or two, a box marked Dignity Centre, will be in the porch this weekend 10/11 February. For more info call Kate 07852 335127

<u>MARCH FOR MEN 2024</u> - "On Saturday 9th March, I am taking part in a 5km walk to raise money for the men's health services at our local hospitals. If you would like to sponsor me, the link to my fundraising page is <a href="https://uhdcharity.enthuse.com/pf/liam-foy">https://uhdcharity.enthuse.com/pf/liam-foy</a> If you are unable to donate online then please put the money in an envelope with your name & I will enter it for you. Thank you. — Liam Foy"

<u>JESUIT MISSIONS LENTEN CAMPAIGN MISSION TO HOPE</u>. Praying with Partners – Virtual Prayer Board You are invited to pray with Jesuit Missions – share your prayers with partners on their virtual prayer board which will be available on their website from Ash Wednesday (14 February). Their partners will also be sharing their prayers for the work of Jesuit Missions. Be part of our international community. On YouTube at: @jesuitmissions7323

<u>CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY Friday 23rd February</u> This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day appeal will help hardworking people like James the fisherman in Liberia with resources, tools and training to feed their families for good. Give today using the envelope or online at cafod.org.uk and please join us in praying with James that our sisters and brothers around the world have what they need to feed their families.

<u>CAFOD'S BIG LENT WALK 2024</u> Why not challenge yourself and take on The Big Lent Walk! Walk 5k a day when and where you choose over the 40 days of Lent, alone or with friends. Raise money to help people as they overcome poverty. Sign up at https://walk.cafod.org.uk/sign-up.

**LENTEN MESSAGE FROM POPE FRANCIS** "When our God reveals Himself, His message is always one of freedom," Pope Francis says in the opening of his Message to the faithful for Lent 2024.

(Full message can be read at: https://www.cbcew.org.uk/pope-francis-through-the-desert-god-leads-us-to-freedom/)
Recalling the Exodus of the Hebrew people from Egypt, the Holy Father explains that our journey through the desert can be a season of grace – not an abstract journey, but a concrete path that involves seeing the world as it is and hearing the cries of our oppressed brothers and sisters.

The Pope insisted on the need to counter a "globalisation of indifference." "Our Lenten journey will be concrete if... we realize that even today we remain under the rule of Pharoah. A rule that makes us weary and indifferent. A model of growth that divides us and robs us of our future."

He added that the Lenten journey involves a struggle. It is a time for action, the Pope said, but also a time "to pause" – to pause in prayer and to pause "in the presence of a wounded brother or sister."

"Love of God and love of neighbour are one love,"

Pope Francis continued, explaining that "the contemplative dimension" of Lent can help us "release new energies," to be "more sensitive to one another: in the place of threats and enemies, we discover companions and fellow travellers."

Pope Francis concluded his Lenten message on a hopeful note: "To the extent that this Lent becomes a time of conversion, an anxious humanity will notice a burst of creativity, a flash of new hope."

Calling on the faithful to "be ready to take risks," he invited them "to find the courage to see our world, not as in its death throes, but in a process of giving birth; not at the end, but at the beginning of a great new chapter of history."

"Faith and charity," he said, "take hope, this small child, by the hand. They teach her to walk, and at the same time, she leads them forward." Source: vaticannews.va

<u>VOCATIONS</u>: "Do everything for the glory of God." Your vocation is your sanctification in this life to lead you to sainthood in the next. Your vocation is to give glory to God through your very being. Is He choosing you to be a priest or consecrated religious? Talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke. vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318 869

**INTENTIONS**: **World Marriage Day.** That the Holy Spirit will be the guiding force in every marriage and lead spouses to protect and pray for each other every day, 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.** 

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

