



OUR PARISH MOTTO  
"ONLY JESUS"

# CORPUS CHRISTI, BOSCOMBE NEWSLETTER

**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)**

**PARISH WEBSITE: [www.corpuschristiboscombe.org.uk/](http://www.corpuschristiboscombe.org.uk/)  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**  
Monday and Thursday after 10am Mass until 11am.

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: Mon 10: St Scholastica Fri 14: St Cyril and St Methodius**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM RESPONSE: In the presence of the angels I praise you, O Lord.**



## FIFTH SUNDAY of Year C 9th February 2025

### **Sister Josephine Bakhita – a Saint for Our Times**

Josephine Margaret Bakhita was born around 1869 in Darfur, which is now in western Sudan. She had a comfortable childhood: her father was the respected and reasonably prosperous brother of the village chief. She grew up in a loving family with three brothers and three sisters. As she later wrote: "I lived a happy and carefree life, without knowing what suffering was." However, in 1877, when she was 7-8 years old, she was seized by Arab slave traders, who had abducted her elder sister two years earlier. She was forced to walk barefoot about 960 kilometres to El-Obeid and was sold and bought twice before she arrived there. Over the course of the next twelve years she was sold three more times.

'Bakhita' was not the name she was given by her parents at birth. It is said that the trauma of her abduction caused her to forget her original name; she took one given to her by the slavers 'bakhita' which is Arabic for 'lucky' or 'fortunate'. She was also forcibly converted to Islam. In El-Obeid, Bakhita was bought by a rich Arab who used her as a maid for his two daughters. But she was then sold to a Turkish General where she was beaten and mistreated. As she described in her autobiography: "During all the years I stayed in that house, I do not recall a day that passed without some wound or other. When a wound from the whip began to heal, other blows would pour down on me." Later Bakhita was bought by the Italian Vice Consul who did not beat her and, when he returned to Italy, she begged to be taken too.

Although 'owned' by an Italian family, in 1889 an Italian court ruled that because the British had outlawed slavery in Sudan before Bakhita's birth and because Italian law never recognised slavery as legal, Bakhita had never legally been a slave. For the first time in her life, she found herself in control of her own destiny, and she chose to stay with the Religious Sisters, [Canossians] with whom she had been placed not long before. On 9 January 1890 Bakhita was baptised with the names Josephine Margaret Fortunata (the Latin translation of the Arabic Bakhita). On the same day she was confirmed and received Holy Communion from Archbishop Giuseppe Sarto, the Cardinal Patriarch of Venice who was later to become Pope Pius X.

In 1893 Josephine Bakhita entered the novitiate of the Canossians and on 8 December 1896 took her vows. She spent the rest of her life in the northern Italian province of Vicenza, talking about her experiences and preparing younger Sisters for work in Africa. A strong missionary drive animated her throughout her life. Her last years were marked by pain and sickness. She used a wheelchair but always retained her cheerfulness. When asked how she was the reply would be: "As the Master desires." She died on 8 February 1947 and the process for her canonisation began almost immediately. On 17 May 1992 she was declared a Saint by Pope John Paul II. Her Feast Day is celebrated on 8 February. She is regarded as patron of both the country and the Catholic Church in Sudan. Caritas Bakhita House in London, which provides accommodation and support for women escaping human trafficking, is named in her honour.

**Father John**



**THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR FEBRUARY 2025** For vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

~~~ **PARISH OFFICE** is now closed. It will re-open on Monday 17th February. ~~~



**CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD** We look forward to meeting with the children today and 23rd 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. **CLOW team** .

**"WELCOME TO WORSHIP"** Bournemouth East Pastoral Area invite you to this popular event. It is an evening of Song, Scripture and Silence, with worship band and prayer stations. **Tuesday 11th February 7.30 – 9.00pm** in Immaculate Conception & St Joseph Church, 67 Purewell, Christchurch BH23 1EH, followed by refreshments Everyone welcome! (and why not bring a friend or two...?) Comments (from previous Welcome to Worship): "wonderful, reflective and uplifting" "a lovely sense of calm and deep prayer" "inviting, open and non-threatening"

**CAFOD MEETING on Saturday 15th February** from 10:30am to 1:30pm at St Margaret Mary Church Hall Middle Road Park Gate, Southampton SO31 7GH Please join us to find out how your donations to CAFOD are making a difference to communities in Kenya. Everyone is welcome and **please book your place so that we have an idea of numbers as a simple lunch will be provided by emailing Jo on jlewry@cafod.org.uk**

**MARCH FOR MEN 2025** - On Saturday 29th March, I am taking part in a 5km walk to raise money for the men's health services at our local hospitals. This year it is to support people with Prostrate Cancer. **If you would like to sponsor me, you can either scan the QR code** or use the following link: <https://uhdcharity.enthuse.com/pf/liam-foy-5883d> - both will take you to my fundraising page. If you are unable to donate online then please put the money in an envelope with your name & I will enter it for you. The envelope can be left at the office or I attend the Sunday 10am Mass & go for coffee afterwards. **Thank you. – Liam Foy**



**REQUIEM AND OTHER MUSIC by UNIVERSITY CHOIR & ORCHESTRA** 8th March 2025 at 7.30pm in Christchurch Priory. Tickets £20/£16 (50% student concession) Box Office: [www.christchurchpriory.org/service-and-events](http://www.christchurchpriory.org/service-and-events) or on the door. See poster.



**ST PATRICKS DANCE** Saturday 8th March 8.00pm to Midnight in the Hamworthy Club, Magna Road, BH21 3AP. All funds raised to be donated to the **DORSET AND SOMERSET AIR AMBULANCE** Live Music, Irish dancers & raffles, with excellent prizes. Tickets £20 pp. Call Veronica on 07774145394.

**ESCORTED JUBILEE TOUR TO WESTPORT, KNOCK & CO MAYO, 10<sup>th</sup> March 2025.** £799.00 pps. Price includes flight, 10kg hold luggage, 4 nights' in 4\* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Lunch on three days. All entertainment, excursions and transport included. Visit Knock, Galway City, Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick, Ballintubber Abbey, Quiet Man Museum. Single supplement on Enquiry. Contact 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email [knockpilgrimages@gmail.com](mailto:knockpilgrimages@gmail.com)

**CAFOD - BIG LENT WALK 200KM IN 40 DAYS TO HELP FIGHT GLOBAL POVERTY** Challenge yourself and take on The Big Lent Walk! Walk when and where you choose over 40 days, alone or with friends. Raise money to help people as they overcome poverty. **To sign up go to: <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/sign-up#signup> See poster.**  
**CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY will be Friday 14th March.**

**STAY AWAKE, 5<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2025** - a day conference for all the family including Mass, speakers, workshops and children's streams . **Bookings are now open!** Venue: All Saints School in Weymouth (Sunnyside Rd, Weymouth DT4 9BJ.) To book go to: <https://www.stayawakejc.com/2025> and enjoy the website for a taste of this enlivening and spiritually rich day....and please do come - whatever your age: it is for you. Refreshments and pizza in the evening are included but please bring a packed lunch! See poster.

**JOB VACANCIES** in the Catholic Church in England & Wales can be found by going to: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/recruitment/>

**In Portsmouth diocese there are vacancies,** Fundraising Manager, Communications Manager and IT Service Delivery Lead, and Management Accountant. **Go to: <https://portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/people/careers/>**

**VOCATIONS:** "They left everything and followed him." As we celebrate World Marriage Day, we honour the beauty and commitment of married couples who follow Christ together. Just as the apostles left behind their former lives to follow Jesus, couples are called to embrace their vocation of marriage with faith and trust, journeying together toward holiness. Take this opportunity to renew your marriage vows in your heart.

**INTENTIONS:** For all married couples, that, like Simon Peter who answered Jesus' call, they may live out their vocation with faith and dedication, drawing closer to God and each other. 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 & packet 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](mailto:accounts@corpuschristiboscombe.org.uk)  
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Reg. Charity No.1199568

