

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/)**

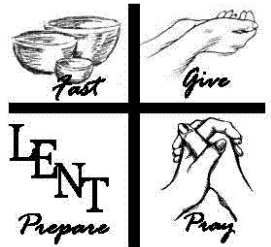
Member of Churches Together in Boscombe:  
<http://www.ctib.community/>

**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:

RESPONSORIAL PSALM RESPONSE: Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.



## FIRST SUNDAY of LENT Year C 9th March 2025

### Engaging with the Season of Lent

On Ash Wednesday we listened to the Gospel passage in which Jesus challenged his listeners to avoid hypocrisy. Do not fast, pray or give in order to attract attention and praise, he said. Do it secretly so that only you and your heavenly Father know what's going on – and he will reward you. But has Lent, our 'annual tithe' to God, become an anachronism? After all, why practice self-denial and mortification in our well-supplied, consumer-orientated society, even if we are aware of its inherent injustice and falsehood? But it begins to make sense if we see our Lenten Practices as going into training in order to become stronger, making an effort to change our life-style, acting together to ensure all men and women have a more human existence. Then 'asceticism' can be appreciated. Teilhard de Chardin called asceticism 'a pattern to live by' – practices which help us grow in self-awareness, make us more available to others and more open to the 'Other', God himself.

Viewed in this light, the threefold practice of fasting, almsgiving and prayer becomes very worthwhile. Fasting clarifies the mind and reveals those limitations on our liberty which self-indulgence imposes. Almsgiving makes us more available to others in a sharing unhampered by the divisions and artificialities of social life. Prayer makes us more open to God and more aware of that fundamental dependence of all creation on his word, more aware of his plan of salvation. Ascetical exercises should be undertaken with the joy of spiritual longing for Easter (according to St Benedict), in a genuine search for what is truly Christian. Also, we should be seeking solidarity with those who feel the burden of the world's sins – the poor, the oppressed, the hungry, the dispossessed – and seek to walk as children of God in the footsteps of Jesus Christ.

'Your Father will reward you' (Matthew 6:4 – 6:17). God is the reward of the just – even here on earth. More so, hereafter, when we have come to the end of the 'Lent' of this life, when we meet him face to face in his light and his peace. The Season of Lent is a powerful reminder to all of us that this life is a preparation for heaven.

Walking the Way of the Cross, supporting the work of CAFOD through next Friday's Family Fast Day, making time for prayer, celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation, are just some of the ways by which we can engage in this Lenten Journey, which is both intensely personal yet something we do in solidarity with one another. Lent is truly a time of blessing.

**Father John**



**STATIONS OF THE CROSS - THANK YOU** to all those who have offered to lead Stations of the Cross during Lent. There is only **Friday 28th March at 7pm** remaining, if you would like to volunteer. Please contact the Parish Office. **On Fridays in Lent there will be Mass at 7.30pm after Stations of the Cross.**

**CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY** Next Friday 14th March. Please donate to our Family Fast Day parish collection and be a pilgrim of hope with CAFOD this Jubilee Year and help those experiencing war, poverty, and climate issues. Donate online at [cafod.org.uk/envelope](http://cafod.org.uk/envelope) or call us on 0303 303 3030. You can also text CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10. CAFOD envelopes attached to this newsletter.





**THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR MARCH 2025.** For families in crisis. Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences. *Let us pray for Pope Francis, who is still unwell in hospital. Our Lady of Lourdes, Health of the Sick, pray for him.*



**CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD** We look forward to meeting with the children, today (9th) and on 23rd March 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.**

**NATIONAL MILL HILL NOVENA to ST JOSEPH 10th - 18th March.** See poster for more details.

**CAFOD SOUP LUNCH**, to raise funds for Family Fast Day, on **March the 14th at 21 Montague Road, Boscombe, Bournemouth, BH5 2EW, from 12.30 to 2pm** All welcome.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.** Here are some upcoming dates for your diary:

- ◆ Mother's Day: 30th March
- ◆ **Penitential Service for Lent (with Confessions): Thursday 10th April 7.00pm**
- ◆ Palm Sunday: 13th April: Masses at the usual times with Blessing of Palms at each mass including the Vigil.
- ◆ The Solemn Easter Triduum: Thursday 17th – Sunday 20th April
- ◆ First Holy Communion Mass: Saturday 24th May at 11.00am
- ◆ Corpus Christi Procession: Sunday 22nd June, after 10am Mass.



**ST PETER'S SCHOOL VACANCY - CHAPLAIN – Full time/ Part time considered (please state the FTE you are applying for) Start date – 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025** St Peter's is a Catholic school

with a strong Christian ethos, that are an Academy jointly sponsored by the Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth and the De La Salle Order – an international organisation which has been running schools for over 300 years. The school consists of two sites, with Primary accommodated at Iford and Years 7 to 13 at Southbourne. They seek to appoint staff who are comfortable with the Catholic ethos of the school and able to support core values and for teachers who have a clear pastoral commitment. To apply go to <https://www.st-peters.bournemouth.sch.uk/jobs> and download the application form. Complete the form and email to [applications@st-peters.bournemouth.sch.uk](mailto:applications@st-peters.bournemouth.sch.uk) by the closing date of 8.00am on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2025. Interview date Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

**SIGNIFICANT WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS** Are you celebrating a 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th or anniversary over 60 years? If so, Bishop Philip would like to invite you to a Mass of celebration, at St Bede's church in Basingstoke on **Saturday 21st June at 11am**. This will be followed by a buffet lunch. A wonderful occasion to celebrate & witness to Marriage. Please contact your Parish Office or send an email to [anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) to request a form. Please note this email address is not monitored daily, so please be patient for a reply. To help celebrate the occasion please could you provide a COPY of your Wedding photo, you can upload it when you return the form. Again, if you have no access to the internet you can post a COPY along with completed form by post to: St Bede's Parish Office Popley Way Basingstoke RG24 9DX

**DIOCESEAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 7 - 11 July 2025** £879 FROM Heathrow . All bookings on the Pilgrimage should be made through Canon PJ Smith in the Pilgrimage Office. Tel: 07780 221686, or email: [lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk). Postal address: Canon PJ Smith, Lourdes Pilgrimage, St Edmund's House, Bishop Crispian Way, Portsmouth. PO1 3QA. No booking is definite until a completed booking form, a non-refundable deposit are received & deposit is receipted by Joe Walsh Tours Pilgrimage Office. <https://portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Portsmouth-Diocesan-booking-form-2025-FINAL.pdf> **see poster**

**VOCATIONS:** "You shall worship the Lord, your God, and Him alone shall you serve." This Lenten season, reflect on your life's direction. Are you being called to serve God with an undivided heart as a priest, deacon or religious brother or sister? Talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke. [vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) or call 01329 318 869

**INTENTIONS:** For those discerning their vocation, that they may be steadfast in their commitment to following Jesus, resisting the temptations of fear and doubt. 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.**

*There is a poster up at the back of church with ideas about giving 40 food items to Food Banks during Lent.*

**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

