



OUR PARISH MOTTO
"ONLY JESUS"

CORPUS CHRISTI, BOSCOMBE NEWSLETTER

PARISH PRIEST: Monsignor John Nelson

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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

PARISH WEBSITE: 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, Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat 10.00am & Wed 9am

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/

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 26: Ss Timothy & Titus Wed 28: St Thomas Aquinas Sat 3: St John Bosco

RESPONSORIAL PSALM RESPONSE: The Lord is my light and my salvation

Third Sunday of Year A - 25th January 2026

Called and Chosen

Last week I mentioned that in these weeks between Christmas and the start of Lent the Church puts before us some of the most central points of Jesus' teaching and action. The Readings take us back to basics and the heart of the Good News proclaimed by the Son of God who was born to be our Saviour. This weekend we hear how Jesus began to gather a group of followers. He chooses a number of individuals to come with him, to begin the process of absorbing what he is all about. Over the coming years Jesus will share his life, his message, himself with this group of individuals who never claim to be perfect. But they will become his chosen group of Apostles upon whom the Church will be built. It all begins on the shores of the Sea of Galilee as he asks them to leave behind whatever they have been doing in order to devote themselves entirely to him. It's a huge ask – and they respond.

Before Christmas Bishop Philip sent us a Pastoral Letter on the topic of Vocations to the Priesthood. In particular, the Bishop highlighted the dire situation we face as a diocese with far too few students training for the priesthood. He noted that in the past year ten of our priests died (many already retired from full-time active ministry) and only one was ordained, Ryan Browne. This autumn it is quite likely that no students will enter a Seminary to train for our diocese. Often, when statistics like this are set before us, we assume that a solution will be found, that the Bishop will magic a few more priests (perhaps from other countries) to solve the crisis. But in the long-term that doesn't work.

Every baptised person has a vocation, a calling, something that God has in mind for them in their lives. I do, you do, we all do. Discovering what that might be and reaching the stage of saying 'yes' to God's plan can take time, it requires support from others, and it must be solidly founded on prayer. Discerning God's will for us is not always easy or clear. Sometimes we move in one direction because we feel it is the right thing to do but then realise it may not be. Mistakes happen – which again is why prayer, seeking the Lord's guidance, is so crucial. And we pray not only for ourselves and the choices we need to make – we pray for others, especially the younger members of our families and parishes and communities as they work out their way forward. It involves us all.

Next weekend Canon John Cooke will be here to celebrate the three Masses (Saturday evening and on Sunday). John has for many years been the Vocations Promoter in our diocese, appointed by Bishop Philip. His role is to encourage and support those who are considering whether God might be calling them to priesthood. Diocesan priests (like me, and like Canon John) come from parishes within the diocese. In fact, John is very much a 'local lad' who grew up here in Bournemouth. For me it was Holy Ghost Parish in Basingstoke. My point is that priests don't appear from some secret source: they emerge from our own families and parishes. John will speak on this theme next weekend and we warmly welcome his visit.

As Bishop Philip wrote, it is impossible to believe that God intends to leave local churches without the priests we need. Those priests of the future are in our schools, our homes, our churches. We must pray that they will hear the Lord's call to 'come, follow me' in this particular way.

Fr John

SECOND COLLECTION FOR THE CATHEDRAL THIS WEEKEND - Our cathedral is situated in the most deprived part of the diocese. The parish collection covers just over half of the ordinary running costs of £5,000 per week. Never has this annual collection by parishes for the mother church of the diocese been more critical or needed. You can donate online using the attached QR code. *Please support the second collection today. Thank you.*





CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD We look forward to meeting with the children today (25th) at Sunday 10am Mass. As a guideline this Liturgy is for children between 4 & 7 years of age. Parents please remember to sign in. **The CLOW team.**

ACI (LINKS OF LOVE) The next meeting of the morning ACI group will be on Monday 26th January at 11am in the Meeting Room as usual.

YOUTH MASS starts up again at Corpus Christi, Sunday 1st February, at 5pm followed by refreshments. *All welcome*



YOUNG ADULTS GROUP (Carlo Club) New Year Meal on Thursday 29th January. Contact Nicola on 07932 142594 for further details

SVP TEA GATHERING will be in the Memorial Room on **Thursday 29th January** at 2 - 3.30pm. *All welcome.*



RTU (Reaching the Unreached) will be holding a slideshow & talk about the work of the charity in St Mary's Church, Poole on **Tuesday 27th January** - 7.15pm for 7.30pm. *All Welcome.*

SPONSORED CHARITY EVENT FOR MARY'S MEALS Patrick Rowson, one of our parishioners will be undertaking 5 "marathons" on a cross-trainer to raise money for Mary's Meals, after hearing of the charity from the recent school's appeal. From Mon 2nd February he will be doing 26.219 miles each day until Friday, on cross-trainers in different BH Live centres. Mary's Meals provides food for some of the poorest children of the world - it costs just £19.15 to feed a child for a year. Please support him in this challenge, with whatever amount you can give - it will ALL help. *Take a flyer or scan the QR code to donate online.*



MARCH FOR MEN 2026 – On **Saturday 28th 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 Prostate 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/14382f/fundraiser#!> 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 & message, I will then enter it for you. The envelope can be left at the office or handed to me at the 10am Sunday mass or in the coffee room after mass. Thank you. All details are on a poster at the back of the church. – **LIAM FOY**



REPOSITORY: We now have the New Daily Missal (£70), Weekday Missal (£55) & Sunday Missal (£20) in the Repository. We also have a few 2026 Calendars & Diaries left. If you would like to purchase a Calendar (£1) or Diary (£3.60) but attend the 6pm Saturday mass or 5pm Sunday mass then please text me on 07969849099 & I will meet you before the mass so you can purchase the item. *Thank you.*



UKRAINIAN MILITARY CHAPLAINS In December 2025, Bishop Paul Mason, Catholic Bishop of the Forces, travelled to Kyiv with Professor Eric Vermetten of Leiden University in the Netherlands to spend time with Ukrainian military chaplains and conduct a course on psychological and spiritual resilience. These courses are sponsored by the Apostolat Militaire International, a Vatican NGO which promotes a Christian vision of military life and international cooperation in the cause of peace. 25 chaplains were in attendance as part of a longer programme of formation they receive for military service. Unlike the UK where chaplaincy is very much 'baked in' to all three services, Ukrainian chaplaincy has not enjoyed the same standing or support – hence the need for guidance as well as international solidarity and friendship.

Bishop Mason said: "The chaplains are fatigued, angry, afraid but realistic and determined. I did not speak to one, or indeed any Ukrainian I met, who was mentally preparing a white flag. In fact, quite the opposite. "They expressed gratitude for moral support as they face an encircling gloom of injustice, and gratitude that their struggle was not being forgotten. Please remember the Ukrainian military chaplains in your prayers. They are brave and faithful men serving in the most challenging of circumstances." <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/bishop-mason-visits-ukraine/>

VOCATIONS: "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Jesus invites you to follow Him boldly. Could He be calling you to the priesthood, diaconate or consecrated life to help form others in His ways? Talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke. vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318 869

INTENTIONS: For those discerning their vocation, that they may recognize the Lord's voice and follow His call with courage, let us pray to the Lord.

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

DID YOU KNOW? 31st Jan is National Hot Chocolate Day! Go for a walk & share a warming hot choccy with someone who may need friendship. Go to: <https://staging.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/caso/prayer-families/>



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

