



OUR PARISH MOTTO  
"ONLY JESUS"

## CORPUS CHRISTI, BOSCOMBE NEWSLETTER

**PARISH PRIEST: Monsignor John Nelson**

**Tel: 01202 425286 Email: [jnelson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:jnelson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)**

**Deacon: Gregory Cook Email: [gcook@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto: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](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, 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/](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 2: The Presentation of the Lord Thurs 5: St Agatha Fri 6: St Paul Miki & Comps**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM RESPONSE: Blessed are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven**

### Fourth Sunday of Year A - 1st February 2026

#### **The Beatitudes – how to be a Christian**

Over the past two weekends, I've emphasised how the Church takes us back to the essentials in our Sunday Readings. Today we listen to the first section of the Sermon on the Mount. If you visit the Galilee area the Church of the Beatitudes is a 'must' for all pilgrims. Some are surprised that the area where it is believed Jesus spoke to the crowd is not actually a high mountain – more of a raised piece of ground, a mound. But without microphones and speakers it would have been necessary for him to be elevated at least a little so that his voice could reach out to the many who had gathered. Why were they there? Some may have reached a crossroads in their lives and were seeking inspiration and direction. Others would have been encouraged to 'come and see' by friends who had picked up news of this man Jesus – they were curious. Others had specific needs and had heard about the healing powers Jesus exercised: perhaps they might get lucky. And I'm quite certain there were people present who were just nosey, not wanting to miss out, curious.

Jesus begins to speak. He starts by laying out a list of qualities which he will then unpack and develop in the course of his Sermon. These are the hallmarks of those who he wants to be his disciples: people of peace, not war and dissension; people of mercy and forgiveness, not holding a grudge; people who empathise and mourn with the bereaved ... and so on. The Beatitudes offer a kind of menu, a list of the qualities every Christian is called to embody and show in their lives. It has been said that the Sermon on the Mount is a compact version of all that Jesus teaches during the years of his public ministry, and that the Beatitudes are a distilled version of the whole Sermon. So, in these few verses we are taken to the very heart of the message Jesus has come to proclaim: the Good News of salvation and life with God. Nothing less.

We are called, each of us, to live the beatitudes in a unique way. How they are to shape my life will be a little different to the person next to me. We must listen repeatedly to the beatitudes and ask ourselves: how are these working out in my life? Are there some where I'm getting it right and others where more work is needed? The Beatitudes provide a rich source for prayer, for reflection, and then must be a spur to action. Now we have our new translation of the Lectionary containing all the passages from the Bible we hear at Mass. You might notice that previously the Beatitudes began 'Happy are they'. Now each starts with 'Blessed are those' which does take things to a deeper level. Being happy is a nice feeling. Being blessed connects us with God who pours out his grace upon us when we live the Beatitudes – which are a bit like the Ten Commandments. They are not optional extras or things we can include if in the mood. They are essential, vital, a 'must' for every Christian.

This weekend we welcome **Canon John Cooke** who is celebrating the three weekend Masses and speaking in his capacity as Diocesan Vocations Promoter. As well as welcoming him to preach, I am personally grateful for his willingness to preside at the Masses in my absence. I am due back in the parish in time for next weekend.

**Fr John**



**THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR FEBRUARY** For children with incurable diseases. Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.



**NOTICE FROM THE FAMILY OF MICHAEL DONLEVY**, Michael, who used to be of this Parish, died on 21st January 2026, in Croft Meadow in Steyning, Sussex. *May he rest in peace.*



**VOCATION PROMOTION VISIT** A very warm welcome to **Canon John Cooke** who is visiting us this weekend (31st Jan/1st Feb.) to talk about vocations.

"Have you asked yourself who is responsible for 'finding' your next priest? Is it Cardinal Vincent Nichols or his successor (Bishop Richard Moth), is it down to Bishop Philp or maybe even a task for Msgr John to plan for his own succession? It may surprise you to realise that the duty of fostering and supporting vocations lies with the whole Christian community. What do you do at the moment to foster and support vocations? Whilst it is important that each one of us comes to a realisation of our own personal vocation through God's plan for each one of us; our call to holiness & discipleship in Jesus' name - it is good to focus on the need for priestly vocations in our Diocese. I hope that our visit to you highlighting vocations will be memorable, that it stirs up a fresh enthusiasm in the parish for praying for vocations, for actively encouraging vocations & for being open to the possibility of exploring a God-given call. And who knows, it may be the start of a journey towards the priesthood for one of your parish members sat in the pews this weekend. We can all play a part in God's Divine plan because the Holy Spirit works through each one of us."



**CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD** We look forward to meeting with the children 8th and 22nd February 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.**

**SPONSORED CHARITY EVENT FOR MARY'S MEALS** Patrick Rowson, 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 tomorrow (2nd) until Friday, he will be doing 26.219 miles each day, 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 28<sup>th</sup> 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.enthouse.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**



**GIFT CARD FRAUD** is an increasingly common way of tricking victims into purchasing gift cards and sharing their details, leading to financial loss. Please be aware that there have been scam messages circulating which appear to come from priests or diocesan staff, asking people to buy gift cards or provide financial help urgently. The Diocese and its clergy will never ask for money, gift cards, vouchers, or personal details by email, text message, or social media. If you receive a message of this kind, do not respond and do not send any money. Please report it to your parish office or to the Diocese communications team so that we can alert others. The Diocese Communications team email is: [communications@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:communications@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL CHOIR SCHOOL - Opportunity for boy choristers.** Zoom calls on Wed 28th Jan and Wed 11th March at 6.30pm. Email: [rbonnet@choirschool.com](mailto:rbonnet@choirschool.com) for link. **See poster for more info.**

**A THOUGHTFUL TALE:** A barrister, a busy career woman, was living just ten miles from her old, widowed father. But months often passed between her visits to him. When her father texted to ask when she might bring his grandchildren to visit him, she listed lots of reasons that kept her from doing so, court schedules, meetings, new clients, etc. Her father then asked her, sadly, 'When I die, will you come to my funeral?' The daughter was indignant. "Dad, how can you ask me that? Of course, I'll be there!" He smiled and said, "Aah! Then please forget my funeral and come to visit me now. I need you now more than I will then." Message understood – and the daughter began to visit him regularly as she could after that."

**VOCATIONS:** "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." The Beatitudes guide us in living holy and generous lives no matter the vocation He has placed on our heart. We are all called to embody these virtues, serving God and His people with humble hearts. Pray for discernment and openness to where God might be inviting you to follow Him. Talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke. [vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) or call 01329 318 869

**INTENTIONS:** World Day for Consecrated Life is on February 2, 2026 - For our parish, that we may honour and support our unique call to holiness especially of those who live consecrated vocations, 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.**

**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)

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