



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

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/

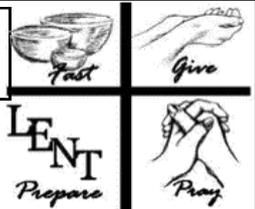
Member of Churches Together in Boscombe:
<http://www.ctib.community/>

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: 2nd week of Lent

RESPONSORIAL PSALM RESPONSE: May your merciful love be upon us, as we hope in you, O Lord.



Second Sunday of Lent Year A - 1st March 2026

Appearances make a difference

For two years, 1992- 1994, I lived in Ottawa whilst studying Canon Law. Recently, my mind wandered back to those happy days when I was watching Canadian teams compete in the Winter Olympics. At this time of the year the city was covered in snow: it usually started to fall in November and continued until March. Initially it was wonderful to see so much snow, but after a few months it did become rather monotonous. I remember looking out of the window one morning after yet another huge dump of snow. Everywhere was white; the sky was bright blue. The only blobs of bright colour were the jackets worn by people scurrying to work, university or school. Everyone wore bright clothes. I asked a local whether this was just to make themselves more visible. She replied that yes, that was one reason. The other was just to cheer people up in a monochrome landscape. [Even the squirrels in Canada were black – not grey, not red].

Sometimes I look down the church on Sunday and observe how dark most people's clothing is: blacks, greys, dark blues. Have you ever noticed? I wonder why we choose not to wear so much clothing in bright colours. When I walk down to the shops in Boscombe I see faces which look anxious, pre-occupied, even unhappy. And then I think to myself: 'how do I look'!

In the Gospel on Ash Wednesday Jesus encouraged prayer, fasting and giving to others. But he included an instruction: don't do it with a miserable face so that other people realise what you are doing. "Don't put on a gloomy look" he said, "wash your face". In other words, the way we appear is important – not to impress others but simply so that whatever is going on beneath the surface we don't wear others down by looking miserable.

Now, I'm not suggesting we walk around with an inane grin plastered on our faces. Of course not. But if we are a people of hope, a people of joy because of our faith then surely that ought to be transmitted and communicated to others by our appearance. To proclaim that Christians are joyful when we look downright miserable sends a mixed message – to say the least.

The Canadians wearing brightly coloured jackets against a background of snow cheered others up. The way I appear to others in the coming week could give them a bit of a lift ... or the opposite.

Fr John



THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR MARCH For disarmament and peace. Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY Thank you to all those who have brought back their completed donation envelopes. You can still donate to the Family Fast Day collection online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or call 0303 303 3030. Text CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10.



ON FRIDAYS IN LENT there will be **Stations of the Cross at 7pm** followed by **Mass at 7.30pm**.

LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICE. On Friday 27th March there will be a Penitential Service at 7pm. There will be a number of priests available for individual Confession. All welcome.





NOVENA PRAYER TO SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER (4 - 12th March.)

O most kind and loving saint, in union with you we adore the Divine Majesty.

The remembrance of the favours with which God blessed you during life and of your glory after death, fills us with joy; and we unite with you in offering to Him our humble tribute of thanksgiving and of praise.

We implore of you to secure for us, through your powerful intercession the all-important blessing of living and dying in the state of grace.

We also beseech you to obtain the favour we ask in this Novena (- - - -), but if what we ask is not for the glory of God or for the good of our souls, obtain for us what is most conducive to both. **Amen**

O God, who was pleased to gather unto your Church the peoples of the East by the preaching and miracles of blessed Francis, mercifully grant that we, who honour his glorious merits, may also imitate the example of his virtues, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen** (Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father)



YOUTH MASS today (1st) at 5pm. Come and join your friends with refreshments & pizza afterwards. All welcome



REMINDER TO ALL FACI - ACI Family Recombination – **Sunday 1st March at 2.45pm** in the Sacred Heart Chapel followed by a celebration in the Memorial room. Livestream incorporating the Province of Europe Atlantica at 4pm in the Memorial room.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD We look forward to meeting with the children on 8th, 22nd & 29th March at Sunday 10am Mass. As a guideline this Liturgy is for children between 4 & 7 years old. **The CLOW team.**



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP MEETINGS in March will be on **Wednesday's 4th and 18th March at 7pm - 9pm** in the Memorial Room. For enquiries, please contact Jack on 07710306543

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 Prostrate Cancer. If you would like to sponsor me, you can use the following link - <https://uhdcharity.enthuse.com/pf/14382f/fundraiser#!/> or 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**



CANCELLED SVP TEA GATHERING There will be no tea on 26th March due to a school event in church.

SVP AND CAFOD WORK EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITY The St Vincent de Paul Society and CAFOD are working together to offer a week of free residential work experience for 20 young adults in England and Wales The experience will run from 21 – 26 June in London. Candidates must be aged 18-25 years old and priority will be given to those in their first or second year at university. Applications close on 6 April. For more info, scan the QR code or email: KeziaH@svp.org.uk.



VACANCIES: The Governors of **Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School** are looking to appoint:

Lead (Senior Leadership Team) - Closing date: midday Monday 9th March.

Pre-School Teaching Assistant (Early Years Foundation Stage (yrs 2-5)) Closing date: midday Monday 23rd March.

Pastoral Support Worker - Closing date: midday Thursday 16th April.

More information is available on the school website www.cccpschool.co.uk

STAY AWAKE 2026 – our 8th all-age, all-day Catholic Christian Conference with music and worship on **2nd May** at the Thomas Hardy School in Dorchester, DT1 2ET from 10 am to 6 pm. The theme this year is: 'Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.' (Ps 51:10). Your place can be booked from www.stayawakejc.com now! We invite all parishioners – whatever age - to a fun faith-filled day with appropriate children's streams (so that adults can engage) and David Wells is our main keynote speaker! We have a choice of workshops too and more! Refreshments supplied including home-made cakes and free pizza after Mass. **Free for children and £12.50 for the rest of us! See you there!**

VOCATIONS: "This is my beloved Son... listen to him." God's voice calls us to follow His Son closely. Could priesthood be your path to proclaiming Christ's message, leading others to listen to Him? Trust His guidance. Talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke. vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318 869

INTENTIONS: For the Church, that those called to serve as priests and consecrated may be transfigured by God's love and shine as witnesses of Christ, 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
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Reg. Charity No.1199568

