

OUR PARISH MOTTO
"ONLY JESUS"

CORPUS CHRISTI, BOSCOMBE NEWSLETTER

PARISH PRIEST: Monsignor John Nelson

Tel: 01202 425286 Email: jnelson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Deacon: Gregory Cook Email: 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

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/

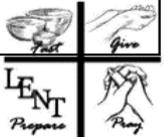
Member of Churches Together in Boscombe:
<http://www.ctib.community/>

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: 3rd week of Lent Next weekend there will be a collection for the Clergy Assistance Fund

RESPONSORIAL PSALM RESPONSE: O, that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts'.



Third Sunday of Lent Year A - 8th March 2026

Every war affects us all

For the past week we have watched events unfold in the Middle East with a mixture of horror, anxiety and concern. Although experts will tell us that the signs were present of an imminent conflict [buildup of US military power in the region, failure of talks with Iran, etc.] I think that most of us were taken by surprise. As Israel and the United States unleashed hundreds of missiles directed at Iran [a country with a population of around 90 million] we were left wondering what will happen next. Again, many did not expect the regime in Iran to start firing missiles and drones at a range of countries within reach. Some of us have been to Dubai which has the feel of affluency filled with high shiny buildings. Others will have been to Abu Dhabi, Oman, Bahrain. Even more will have taken a holiday in Cyprus [which is only about 100 miles from Israel]. The United Kingdom has thousands of military personnel based in Cyprus on Sovereign Territory. To hear that RAF Akrotiri had come under attack was a shock.

For centuries the Middle East has been a tinder box with so many factions and groups with different agendas. Presidents and Prime Ministers have tried to unknot the 'Middle East Problem' without lasting success. At its heart there is deep-rooted distrust – even hatred. It goes back a long, long time and is incredibly complicated. This week that bone-dry tinder ignited and already many civilians as well as leaders have died. History demonstrates that no problems ever find a lasting settlement through conflict. At best, war and conflict bring about a stalemate, a stand-off. But that's not the same as peace.

Already we are hearing from our politicians and broadcasters that the war now raging in the Middle East will have consequences for the whole world. Oil prices are higher. Gas prices have already risen and could feed through to household bills in the coming months. No one is immune because our world is now so interconnected. The days when families lived and worked in self-contained villages where they grew their own food and lived simply are long gone. We pride ourselves on living a sophisticated lifestyle. But this comes at a cost: dependence on others over whom we have no control or influence.

So what do we do, here in Boscombe? What can we do? First and foremost we must pray for peace, in the belief that the war can be stopped and at the very least a stand-off, a ceasefire, a truce, can be established. We must pray for the millions of totally innocent civilians in Iran and elsewhere in the region who are on the receiving end of unimaginable destructive power. I know from experience that living each day with the constant threat of attack is exhausting – wondering when an alarm will sound and you must take cover. As I write this (early on Thursday morning) the number of deaths in Iran alone stands at over 1000. Around 200 of those were children. The human cost of this and every conflict is a sign of the failure of humanity to manage itself. We should also pray that one day human beings will learn the lessons of history and seek a better path.

Fr John

LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICE. On Friday 27th March there will be a Penitential Service at 7pm. A time in Lent, to come together, to ask for God's mercy, before we come to Palm Sunday and Holy Week. There will be a number of priests available for individual Confession. **All welcome.**



EASTER SERVICE CARDS - please take a card from the back of church, that gives the dates and times of services over Holy Week and Easter.

FRIDAYS IN LENT (until 20th March) there will be Stations of the Cross at 7pm followed by Mass at 7.30pm.





NOVENA PRAYER TO SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER (until 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)



REMINDER TO ALL FACI - ACI Family Evening Group Meeting – Tuesday 10th March at 7pm in the Memorial room. We are a local lay group who interact with other ACI groups in many different countries.

We come together once a month. We support each other through friendship and union. With our interaction with the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we share their charism and deepen our spirituality and understanding through Saint Raphaela Mary. **Come and see, all are welcome.**



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

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



NATIONAL MILL HILL NOVENA to ST JOSEPH 10th - 18th March. See poster .

SAINT CARLO ACUTIS - ORATORY WEEKEND VISIT of the RELIC Friday 13th - Sunday 15th March. For detailed information go to the Sacred Heart, Bournemouth website at: <https://www.bournemouthoratory.org.uk/>

TIME AT THE OASIS: monthly meeting of prayer and contemplation in the Ignatian tradition, a different experience of prayer, using imagination to seek a closer union with God. Our theme is Easter People - Pilgrims of Hope in Action. **Corpus Christi memorial room, Saturday 14th March, 11am to 1pm, or on Zoom.** Refreshments after 10 o'clock Mass. For further information or Zoom link please contact Jackie on 07948516854

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



PURPLE DAY (OR EPILEPSY AWARENESS DAY) will take place on **Thursday 26th March.** Visit purpleday.org

ST PETER'S COMMUNITY CHOIR CONCERT 'Spring Sounds' Sunday 19th April at 2.30pm in St Immanuel URC Church, 120 Southbourne Road BH6 3QJ. **Tickets £12, includes refreshments & cake, from Ticket Source <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-peters-community-choir> or scan the QR code.** Please bring cash for our fabulous Raffle. Monies to go to 3 charities, Bournemouth Hospital BEACH appeal, Quilts for Care Leavers and Reaching the Unreached.



TREK26 WALK FOR ALZHEIMER'S SOCIETY – 'On Saturday **May 2nd** I will be doing the 13 mile walk to raise fund on behalf of Parish families and their relatives that are experiencing this terrible disease. Your contribution doesn't just fund groundbreaking research but gives support to people who need it most. If you, or anyone one on your contact list, would like to sponsor me, please use the following link – www.justgiving.com/page/allan-wheeler-1 or put the contribution in an envelope, with your name & message and I will enter it for you. Leave the envelope at the office or hand it to me at end of 10am & 5pm Sunday Mass. See poster on notice board. Thanking You, Allan - 07782968593'

VACANCY - Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School Lead (Senior Leadership Team) - Closing date: midday **Monday 9th March.** More information is available on the school website www.cccpschool.co.uk



VOCATIONS: "Whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst." Only Jesus can satisfy the deepest desires of our hearts. When we encounter Him, our lives overflow with the living water of grace. Some are called to share that grace as priests, deacons, religious brothers or sisters, or consecrated virgins. Could God be inviting you to share His living water with others? 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 find refreshment and clarity from Christ, the source of life, let us pray to the Lord.

FOOD BANK COLLECTIONS are Friday mornings 10.30 -11.30am & 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

