

OUR PARISH MOTTO
"ONLY JESUS"

CORPUS CHRISTI, BOSCOMBE NEWSLETTER

PARISH PRIEST: Monsignor Canon 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/

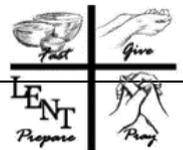
Member of Churches Together in Boscombe:
<http://www.ctib.community/>

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: 5th week of Lent Wed 25: The Annunciation of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM RESPONSE: With the Lord there is mercy, in him plentiful redemption.



Fifth Sunday of Lent Year A - 22nd March 2026

Corpus Christi Parish Centre

It is now eighteen months since the Parish Centre [referred to by some as 'The Guildhall'] was closed – with the exception of the Coffee Lounge which has been used once a week after the 10am Mass. The closure has significantly reduced the losses incurred by the parish although there have still been some standing costs (related to utilities, etc.). It would be fair to say that taking the Centre out of use has not impacted in any major way the life of our Parish. For two years now the First Holy Communion Programme has been held in the church and there have been definite advantages to this arrangement. Greater use has been made by groups of the Memorial Room. The Parish Centre is slowly deteriorating and there are now leaks which demonstrate the poor quality of the building.

Steps are underway to look at a potential disposal of the building and site. Because we are part of a Registered Charity (the Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth) it is essential that 'best value' is obtained so any interested parties would need to pay the price at which the site is valued. When the properties [Church, Centre and Presbytery] were transferred from the Jesuit Trust to the Diocese, there were certain stipulations if any elements were sold. The Jesuit Trustees generously agreed that, in that event, if the proceeds were fully reinvested in the parish, then there would be no expectation of resulting funds – or part of them – going back to the Jesuit Trust. In other words, the proceeds of a sale would be spent developing and maintaining what we have here at Corpus Christi.

These things never happen quickly and I have no clear idea of timescale. The outward appearance of the Parish Centre is not the best. There are issues with the site [TPOs on two trees, location of electricity facilities near Parkwood being just two.] My own feeling is that any purchaser would probably look to develop the site rather than retain and utilise the building in its current state. It is no secret that Health Sciences University, our next door neighbour, is growing its number of students on the courses and clinics it offers. With its constricted site, HSU has expressed an interest. We have a good relationship with the University and there is potential for the parish to use space within their buildings on the occasions when a larger space is needed for us to gather. We also have our Primary School with its Hall on St James's Square.

I know that there are parishioners who would like us to keep everything as it is. But the realities of financial demands and ever-increasing bills and costs, mean that hard decisions must be taken with a reassessment of what the parish actually needs. Everyone who comes to Corpus Christi uses the church; very few parishioners ever set foot inside the Parish Centre. The decline in use by outside bodies was a further factor. As a parish we must consider our situation now, not what it was in the past, and grasp the reality to provide properly for the future. As soon as there is more definite news I will of course share it with the parish.

Fr John

LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICE. Next, **Friday 27th March** there will be a **Penitential Service here 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.**



SPECIAL COFFEE MORNING after 10:00 Mass, next Sunday, Palm Sunday 29 March, for a parish celebration in honour of Fr John being installed in the Chapter of Canons. **See you there.**

NEW EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION On Sunday at the 10am & 5pm masses there will be 12 candidates being commissioned to become Eucharistic Ministers, **please keep them in your prayers.**

GIFT AID DECLARATIONS NEEDED The Diocese has informed us that many Gift Aid declarations have not been updated. If you Gift Aid your donations could you please complete a new GA form - this can be done online by scanning the QR code or there are some forms at the back of church (once completed give into Parish Office). Many thanks for your co-operation as this gives us 25p extra for every GA £1 donated. *If you are unsure if you need to, contact the office.*

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth
Gift Aid Declaration Form



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

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



THE CARLO CLUB (YOUNG ADULTS) meets on Saturday 28th of March, for an outing to Swanage. Contact Nicola for further details (07932) 142594. Timings are weather-dependent.

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.enthouse.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. See poster.” – **Liam Foy**

VACANCIES - Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School Information available at www.cccpschool.co.uk

- ◆ **Pre-School Teaching Assistant** (Early Years Foundation (yrs 2-5)) Closing date: midday Monday 23rd March.
- ◆ **Pastoral Support Worker** - Closing date: midday Thursday 16th April.

 **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.**



CAFOD LADIES CLOTHES SWAP Sat 25th April in Immanuel Church, Southbourne 10.30 - 12 noon £2 entry. *See poster for more details.*



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’

EASTER TRIDUUM RETREAT at the Verbum Dei Retreat Centre, on the Isle of Wight - 2nd - 5th April 2026 - It wants to help us explore the depth of the Easter Triduum and live it in a prayerful way. If you are interested to join it or want to know more information about it, please contact us: verbumdei.iow@gmail.com

PARTICIPANTS NEEDED “We want patients and carers to help us make our care better by sharing stories and ideas. There is going to be a Fundamentals of Care workshop in **Christchurch Hospital on 21st April 2026**. The event is to set the Trust wide standards for what is important to our patients when receiving care in our hospitals. We are looking for a **diverse group of people** to join this workshop who can represent the needs of the communities we serve. It is easy to register to attend using the information on the attached poster. **Travel reimbursement will be provided** and all written materials will be translated to any different formats that are required.” *See poster to register*

CHRSTIAN HERTIAGE CENTRE, STONYHURST. Course for ‘Forming Catholic Student leaders’ - apply by 30th April and ‘A weekend retreat for single & dating Catholics’ on 2/3 May. *See poster for more info.*

VOCATIONS: "I am the resurrection and the life." Jesus' promise of new life inspires all vocations. Could He be calling you to the priesthood, to bring His Word to others through the sacraments? Open your heart to His plan. Talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke. vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318 869

INTENTIONS: For our parish, that through our prayer and encouragement, hearts may be awakened to serve Christ as priests, deacons and consecrated, 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

