



OUR PARISH MOTTO
"ONLY JESUS"

CORPUS CHRISTI, BOSCOMBE NEWSLETTER

PARISH PRIEST: Monsignor Canon 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, 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: Wed 7: Our Lady of the Rosary Fri 9: St John Henry Newman

RESPONSORIAL PSALM RESPONSE: The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.

NOTE: DIOCESAN COUNT OF WEEKEND MASSES until 11th Oct. Thank you to the Count Volunteers
Please count each congregation and fill in the relevant column on the sheet in the SACRISTY. *Thank you.*

27th Sunday of Year A 4th October 2026

The Parish Centre

Soon after I arrived as Parish Priest at Corpus Christi, in September 2022, I came to understand the issues of cost related to running the Parish Centre. In my first year here it was apparent how little the parish actually used the Centre. A couple of Theatre Groups and an Indoor Bowling Club used the space, paying a rate that hardly covered the heating, lighting and cleaning. A rough calculation showed that the parish was paying out around £300 a week to keep the place open – mainly for the benefit of non-parish organisations and groups.

We held two Open Meetings when the realities were explained and, subsequently, the Centre was closed (with the exception of the Coffee Lounge on Sunday mornings). Corpus Christi Parish depends completely on Offertory Income of around £140,000 per annum (using round figures) to operate, preserve and maintain the Church and Presbytery, accommodate and provide for a priest, and cover all running costs. After the Diocesan Levy is applied to our income we have just over £100,000 to do all this. If you then deduct insurance, heating and lighting costs we are down to considerably less than £80,000 with which to pay for everything else. Spending £15,000 of that money on keeping a Parish Centre open that was, at best, underused, made no sense. I should add that currently the parish barely breaks even in a financial year, and that's without the cost of running the Parish Centre. The Parish Finance Committee has been fully involved in considerations over the future of the Centre throughout my time here.

My view was that we needed to reduce our liabilities and, through the sale of the Parish Centre, could create a fund which would provide for the preservation and maintenance first and foremost of our church – one of the largest in the diocese. A handful of parishioners have voiced their concerns about the disposal of the Parish Centre and so it is proposed that another parish meeting takes place to air views on the subject. I am waiting to hear when that meeting will take place.

As a general observation I believe that change, any change, is tough and usually not welcome. People would often prefer things to be as they were, without accepting the reality that we do live in a very different world today to the 1970s, 1980s or the 1990s. The number of parishioners attending church and contributing is significantly lower than in the past, money is tight for a lot of families and so sustaining buildings as something we would like to have without actually knowing how that could work is a burden on a parish which becomes increasingly impossible.

In the Diocesan Vision document entitled *You Will Be My Witnesses* there is a clear emphasis on 'Mission' rather than 'Maintenance'. This then determines the use of limited resources. My hope and prayer is that when making hard choices Corpus Christi Parish will embrace Mission.

Father John

NOTICE

USE OF TOILETS DURING MASS Adults are requested to use the facilities before Mass, not during Mass, if possible.

PARENTS: If a **child** needs to use the toilet during Mass they **MUST be accompanied by an adult**. We had a recent incident that highlighted the need for this supervision.



FUNERAL for **Jo Arthur RIP** will be on Wednesday 14th October at 10.30am. *May she rest in peace.*

CAFOD HARVEST FAMILY FAST DAY Thank you to all those who donated to the Family Fast Day collection. Put your faith into action and share the Lord's love by supporting our global neighbours experiencing shortages of food and safe water. Your gift can support children like Tayla in Zimbabwe to stay in school by helping communities & schools provide nourishing meals, improve access to water and grow food in school gardens. You can still donate by using a CAFOD envelope, donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or by calling call 0303 303 3030. or scan QR code.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2027 The application forms for next years First Holy Communion are now available at the back of church. Please take one, complete and return it to the Parish Office by **SUNDAY 18th OCTOBER at the latest**. NO late applications will be accepted. Only original applications will be accepted (**no photocopies**). **Please complete all sections of the form.**

We will need to see original baptism certificate, and obtain a copy, asap but it is more important to get the application form in before return date. The first parents evening will be on Thursday 22nd October at 7pm in Church.

A FULL-SIZE COPY OF THE WORLD-FAMOUS SHROUD OF TURIN is coming to **CORPUS CHRISTI MEMORIAL ROOM**, from the **evening of Fri 2nd to Sun 11th October** and will be available to view outside of service times. Many people believe the Shroud was the actual burial Shroud of Jesus Christ and the exhibition aims to tell the Gospel story of the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus. There are original Roman nails, a replica whip, a crown of thorns and a spear, together with information boards about art, history and scientific research on the Shroud. The latest tests suggest the material dates to the first century cloth. It is possible to get an idea of the Shroud from television pictures and books but seeing it in its entirety is very challenging and moving. Thanks to our **Men's Fellowship** for organizing and manning this event.



Photo ©1978 Barrie M. Schwartz Collection, STERA, Inc

YOUTH MASS TODAY (4th) at 5pm. Come and join your friends with refreshments afterwards. All welcome



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP MEETINGS Next one will be **Wednesday 14th October, 7pm - 9pm** in the Memorial Room. For enquiries, please contact Jack on 07710306543

CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH FOR ADULTS WHO ARE ON THEIR OWN at **OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE**. Sign up sheet at the back of church. The actual timings, diet requirements, transport will be sorted nearer the day. Thanking you, Allan - 07782968593.

HELP NEEDED - CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH - with serving lunch etc. If you can help, call Allan on 07782968593

PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE CATECHISTS' FORMATION DAY on Saturday **10th October**, 9:30am-1:30pm at St Bede's, Basingstoke. Come and be refreshed, inspired, and equipped to form disciples who make disciples. To register your interest please email ffm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

DAY FOR READERS - LITURGY PROJECT DIOCESAN FORMATION DAY on **17th October** 9am to 1.30pm in the Pastoral Centre, Winchester. Please RSVP to: liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

ENGAGED AND MARRIED COUPLES RETREAT – *I will give you hidden treasures* (Is 45:3) – **16th – 18th Oct.** – at the Verbum Dei Retreat Centre on the Isle of Wight. For more info, please, contact: verbumdei.iow@gmail.com, www.uk.verbumdei.org

CARITAS Charity Mass and Networking Event **Sat 14th Nov** 10.30am - 3pm in St Bede's Church Basingstoke. For more info email caritas@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk - see poster.



REQUIEM MASS for **Professor Vincent May RIP** will be on **Friday 16th October 2026**, 11.30am at Holy Redeemer, Highcliffe, BH23 5BL.



THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR OCTOBER For mental health ministry. Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

VOCATIONS: "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone." Jesus, the cornerstone, calls us to build His Church. In holy matrimony, couples become cornerstones of love and faith for a family. Have you talked to your children about their vocation? Pray with them and walk alongside them as they discern how God may be calling them to build up God's Church.

INTENTIONS: For parents, that they may lovingly guide their children in discovering and responding to God's plan for their lives, let us pray to the Lord.

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

