

CHRIST THE KING & ST. COLMAN (Bitterne) OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION (Hedge End) ST. BRIGID (West End)

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

Registered Charity number 1199568

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6th Sunday of Lent: Year B, Cycle II - Palm Sunday

24th March 2024



Holy Week



Holy Week is an important time for Christians throughout the world. This is the final week of Lent, which begins on Palm Sunday, the Sunday before Easter. Holy Week is a time when, we as Catholics, gather to remember and participate in the Passion of Jesus Christ. The Passion was the final period of Christ's life in Jerusalem. It spans from when He arrived in Jerusalem to when He was crucified and rose from the dead.

Four special ceremonies commemorate the events of Christ's Passion from His entrance into Jerusalem, when palm branches were placed in His path, through His arrest on Holy Thursday and Crucifixion on Good Friday, to Holy Saturday, the day that Christ's body lay in the tomb. The summit of the Liturgical Year is the **Easter Triduum** – from the evening of Holy Thursday to the evening of Easter Sunday. Though chronologically three days, they are liturgically one day unfolding for us the unity of Christ's Paschal Mystery. The single celebration of the *Triduum* marks the end of the Lenten season, and leads to the Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord at the Easter Vigil.

Palm Sunday recalls Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem. On this day, the Church recalls the entrance of Christ, the Lord, into Jerusalem to accomplish his Paschal Mystery. In the Gospels, Jesus entered Jerusalem riding a donkey to the praise of the townspeople who laid palms or small branches, in front of him as a sign of homage. The Mass has two different moods, jubilation at the outset, then lamentation at the end. Jesus' entry to Jerusalem was exuberant as the people joyfully cheered Hosanna to greet him, but moments later all is somber as they shouted: "Crucify him!"

Holy Thursday: The Easter Triduum begins with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper when Jesus consecrated bread and wine into His Body and Blood. In the morning, bishops typically gather with priests from their diocese for the Chrism Mass or a day near Holy Week that works best for the Diocese. They bless holy oils during the Mass, and also call on the Priests to renew their commitment to service in the Church. Later in the evening, the Mass of the Lord's Supper is celebrated. The Mass commemorates the institution of the Eucharist, the institution of the priesthood, and the

foot-washing where Jesus gave a mandate: "You ought to wash one another's feet. I have given you an example. As I have done, so you should also do" (Jn. 13:14-15). Jesus is made present when disciples put aside their prideful aspirations, humble themselves, and serve one another, even to the point of doing a menial task joyfully.

Good Friday covers Jesus' arrest, trial, and crucifixion. This is the day that Christ gave himself over completely into the hands of his persecutors to show the depth of his love. The events of Good Friday are commemorated in the Stations of the Cross, a 14-step devotion, traditionally prayed during Lent and especially on Good Friday. Good Friday is a day of fasting within the Church. Traditionally, there is no Mass. However, Holy Communion comes from hosts consecrated on Holy Thursday Mass. Altars are left bare. Statues and cross are covered in purple, or the decor simply remove. Church bells remain silent until the Gloria at Easter Vigil. The solemn, muted atmosphere is preserved until the Easter Vigil.

Holy Saturday/Easter Vigil is the night of keeping vigil for the Lord (Ex. 12:42), in which, following the Gospel admonition (Lk. 12:35-37), the faithful, carrying lighted lamps in their hands, should be like those waiting for the Lord when he returns, so that at his coming he may find them awake and have them sit at his table. Also, the account of Creation is heightened as the beginning of all things anew when the resurrection of Jesus repeats the words: "Let there be light." Death is conquered as the tomb is thrown open and Christ emerges as the True light. The Easter Vigil takes place at the end of the day because the new liturgical day begins at sunset outside the church, where an Easter fire is kindled and the Paschal candle is blessed and then lit. This Paschal candle will be used throughout the season of Easter, remaining in the sanctuary of the church and throughout the coming year at baptisms and funerals, reminding all that Christ is our life and light.

I wish you all a very grace-filled Holy Week and Easter

Fr. Elijah

Images courtesy pixabay



6th Sunday of Lent - PALM SUNDAY

24th March 2024

- 9.15am **Our Lady of the Assumption** (Hedge End)
Deceased priests of the parish
- 11.00am **Christ the King & St Colman** (Bitterne)
For the people
- 5.30pm **St. Brigid** (West End)
Caroline Burstons RIP
- 6.00pm **Christ the King & St Colman** (Bitterne)
Polish Mass

Weekday Mass Times (26th – 31st Mar)

OLA – Our Lady of the Assumption (Hedge End)

CKSC – Christ the King & St. Colman (Bitterne)

SB – St Brigid (West End)

Tue 26 th	10.00am	OLA	NO MASS <i>Chrism Mass at the Cathedral</i>
Wed 27 th	10.00am	SB	<i>For the people</i>
Thu 28 th	8.00pm	SB	<i>Maundy Thursday Mass</i>
Fri 29 th	3.00pm	CKSC	<i>Good Friday Service</i>
Sat 30 th	8.00pm	OLA	<i>Vigil Mass</i>
Sun 31 st	9.00am	CKSC	<i>Polish Mass</i>
	9.30am	SB	<i>For the wellbeing of Clare O'Brien</i>
	11.00am	CKSC	<i>Maureen Hawkes RIP Remembering a wonderful mum & nanny on what would have been her 90th birthday</i>

Exposition & Rosary at 9.30am before Mass (Tues – Fri)
Sacrament of Confession is available on request

Please consider offering Mass Intentions for families and friends (contact Fr. Elijah or Parish Office)

Easter Vigil Baptisms

As this year we don't have any adult baptisms planned for the Easter Vigil, we would like to make it available for any families looking to have their child baptised to do so during the Easter Vigil. If this is something you would like, please contact the Parish office to complete a request form.

Good Friday Walk of Witness West End

Meet in St. Brigid's Catholic Church car park, Woodlea Gardens, for an 11am start. Walking along West End High Street to the beacon at Hatch Grange Park. We will be singing, sharing the Word and praying over the whole of West End. Everyone very welcome!

Second Collection – Good Friday

Kindly note that the second collection on Good Friday 29th March is for Holy Places

Purple Coverings in Church for Crosses/Images

Crosses and images may be veiled from Saturday 16th March until after the Good Friday Liturgy.

Stations of the Cross – Hedge End/West End

There will be *Stations of the Cross* at St Brigid's on Wednesday evening, March 27th at 7pm

OPEN CHURCH - Our Lady of the Assumption

Our Lady of the Assumption Church in Hedge End is open for private prayer every Thursday from 10am until midday. To join the rota, please contact Pauline or Jane.

Penitential Service 22nd March

Please note in your diaries the Lent Penitential Service for our Parishes is on 22nd March from 5-7pm at Our Lady of the Assumption.

Easter Triduum & Penitential Service

Penitential service: 22nd March 5-7pm OLA

EASTER TRIDUUM

HOLY THURSDAY

8.00pm St Brigid, West End
followed by Watching until 11.00pm

GOOD FRIDAY

3.00 The Passion CKSC, Bitterne

HOLY SATURDAY:

8.00pm Vigil Mass OLA, Hedge End

EASTER SUNDAY

9.30am Mass St Brigid, West End

11.00am Mass CKSC, Bitterne

Choir for Easter Triduum

Ahead of the Easter Triduum we are looking for volunteers from all our parish communities to form a choir. There is no need to attend a practice as the music chosen is well known, but arriving about 20 minutes early for the service would be helpful to run through things. Seats will be reserved in each of the churches for the choir.

Our Lady of the Assumption - Easter Celebration Refreshments following Easter Vigil Mass

Following the celebration of the Easter Vigil Mass there will be refreshments in the hall: cake, nibbles, etc. tea, coffee, orange juice, Bucks Fizz or, perhaps... a glass of "Celebration Fizz" :-)

Please do come along if you can, to celebrate as a Community of Faith, the joyful Feast of Easter.

Please bring along a plate of food to share.

We wish you a Blessed Easter and look forward to welcoming you. God Bless

DIOCESAN VACANCIES View vacancies at:

<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs>

CKSCOLASB Calendar of Events

OLA – Our Lady of the Assumption (Hedge End)

CKSC – Christ the King & St. Colman (Bitterne)

SB – St Brigid (West End)

MARCH

Sun 17th **Children's Liturgy** during Mass (OLA)

Tue 19th 9.30am-12pm **Table Tennis** (OLA Hall)

7.30-9pm **Growing in Faith** (OLA)

Wed 20th 7.00-8.30pm **Carer's Group** (OLA Hall)

Thu 21st 10.30am-12pm **Prayer Group** (CKSC)

Sun 24th 12.30-2pm **Youth Meeting** (CKSC)

Tue 26th 9.30am-12pm **Table Tennis** (OLA Hall)

7.30-9pm **Growing in Faith** (OLA)

Wed 27th 7.00-8.30pm **Carer's Group** (OLA Hall)

Thu 28th 10.30am-12pm **Prayer Group** (CKSC)

Recurring Events

Our Lady of The Assumption (Hedge End)

- **Tea Coffee, Biscuits, Friendly Chat** (and often cake) in the hall every Sunday after Holy Mass
- **Children's Liturgy** during Mass every 3rd Sunday of the Month (except in July/August)
- **Carers Group** on third Wednesday of every Month from 7.00pm to 8.30pm
- **Growing in Faith** every Tuesday evening 7:30-9pm
- **Table Tennis** every Tuesday from 9.30am to 12pm
- **Open Church** Thursday from 10am-12 noon (OLA)

Christ the King & St. Colman (Bitterne)

- **Prayer Group** every Thursday 10.30am-12 noon
- **Children's Liturgy** for 4 to 7-year-olds every Sunday
- **Faith on Fire** 8-9pm last Wednesday of every month except **March, April, May, June**, December
- **Youth Meetings** 12:30 -14:00 on 2nd and 4th Sundays of every month
- **Tea, Coffee, Biscuits & friendly chat** in the hall every 1st Sunday of the month

St Brigids (West End)

- **Tea, coffee & cake** every 2nd Sunday of the month after Mass

If you would like a future event to be included in the Calendar of Events, kindly advise the Parish office.

Special Ministers of the Eucharist

Please can anyone who has been, is currently, or wishes to be a Eucharistic Minister contact the church office so we can update our information list.

We would like to arrange a refresher event as many of have not undertaken this ministry since the pandemic and we can also verify DBS Certificates are up-to-date. We are especially in need of ministers who would be willing to visit parishioner at home or their place of

Christ the King & St Colman Easter Celebrations

We will be needing to get our church ready for our Easter celebrations. So we invite parishioners to come together to help at Christ the King & St Colman from 10am Saturday 30th March. Please come and join us. Thank you

St Anne's Catholic School and Sixth Form College

The Governors of St Anne's Catholic School are looking to appoint a Chaplain.

Grade 7 Pt 19 to Pt 25

(Pro rata £24,213 to €27,602)

35 hours per week, Term time only

Required as soon as possible

The governors of St Anne's Catholic School seek to appoint a Lay Chaplain for the school who is a committed disciple of Christ who wishes to nurture the faith of other in the LSU tradition as well as to look after the needs of our diverse community. We will consider a full-time (term-time only) or part-time role for the right candidate. St Anne's is a highly successful 11-16 girls' school with a mixed sixth form in the heart of Southampton.

Specifics for this role

The successful applicant will be a practising Catholic with a deep commitment to his/her own faith and a passion for evangelisation to and working with young people. The candidate appointed to this key post will make a significant contribution to the spiritual formation of the school

Closing date: midday, Friday 19th April 2024

Interviews: TBC - We reserve right to interview early for the right candidate.

Application forms and further details can be obtained from www.st-annes.uk.com Alternatively, please contact the Head's PA via email pahead@st-annes.uk.com or call 023 8032 8200.

Marriage Encounter

The next weekend for priests and couples is 13-14th April 2024 in Corpus Christi, Boscombe. Come and rediscover your vocations and the joy from getting to know your spouse and self in a deeper way. It is a non-residential which means the sessions are held from 9am till 5pm on the Saturday, and from 8.30am to 4pm on the Sunday. To book please go to the website wwme.org.uk. Please talk to us Deirdre and Russ if you want to know a bit more.

Help Wanted moving Furniture

Do you drive a big car or van? We are needing to remove two sofas from the presbytery at CKSC and could do with some help. If you're able to help, please could you contact the office. Thank you.

Faith on Fire group not meeting until July

There will be no Faith on Fire for March, April, May and June, until after the confirmation on 30th June.

Continuing Support of the Church

Please consider setting up a **standing order**.

For Christ the King & St Colman:

Account Name: CDP Christ the King & St Colman

Sort code: 30-93-04

Account Number: 00887553

For Our Lady of the Assumption and St Brigid:

Account Name: CDP Hedge End Our Lady

Sort code: 30-93-04

Account Number: 00879747

Please use your surname as a reference.

Make out cheques for Fr Elijah to Rev Fru N Elijah

Help Wanted - Holiday Bible Club this August

Can you help at our Holiday Bible Club this August? It's run by Churches Together in Hedge End, West End & Botley. Monday 5th to Friday 9th August 2024, 09.45a.m. to 12.30pm. For children aged 5 to 11 years. Great fun for kids & adults alike!

Held this year at Hedge End Methodist Church Hall, 42 St. John's Road, SO30 4AG. For further info, please contact Veronica Hoskins 07847 475806.

DBS check required but simple to obtain.

Figures for CKSC for February 2024

Loose Offertory - £232.62

Contactless Giving - Parish - £158.36

Standing Orders & Direct Debits - £1878.50

Donation from Polish Community - £400

Hall Rent - £740

CAFOD (contactless giving) - £117.99

Day for Life (cash & contactless giving) - 139.41

Gift Aid reclaimed (GASDS) - £253.96

Sunday's Readings:

Daily Readings – [here:](#)

<https://universalis.com/europe.England/20240324/mass.htm>

Reflections – [here:](#)

<http://www.mycatholic.com/reflections/>

Diocesan eNews: – [here:](#)

<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/communication/news/enews/>

UK Catholic Newspapers – [here:](#)

<https://www.churchpaper.co.uk>

Parish Web Pages on Diocesan Website

Parish web pages are on the diocesan website at:

- [Christ the King & St Colman](#)
- [Our Lady of the Assumption](#)
- [St Brigid](#)

They can also be selected from

www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/parishes/

Safeguarding - E-Learning

In accordance with the national safeguarding standards, training is mandatory for anyone who holds a role within the parish working with either

- children
- adults at risk or those who might otherwise be vulnerable.

Training must be refreshed every 2 years.

If your training is not up to date, please register for either face-to-face or on-line training at:



<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/safeguarding/training/>

or scan the QR-code.

Attendees will receive certificates on completion of their training to support continuing ministry.

CTIB Walk of Witness

Please come and join us on Good Friday at 10am for our walk of Witness starting at Holy Saviour Church, processing up the precinct and back down again, and finishing off with hot cross buns at the URC above Iceland. Look forward to seeing you all there!

St George Catholic College Alumni Reunion

Did you attend or work at St George Catholic College in the 1960s, 70s or 80s?

To celebrate the school's recent outstanding Ofsted report, we are inviting past pupils and staff in the 60s, 70s or 80s to join us for a reunion afternoon tea and cakes and a tour of the school:

- Date: Sunday 28th April 2024
- Time: 3-5 pm

Please spread the word and save the date!

Email Jeanine Bonavia at jbnavia@stgcc.co.uk or call **023 8067 0104** to book a place by **Friday, 26th April**, so we know the numbers attending. All welcome.

Easter Collections:

Your Easter Donations via the Give as you Live websites would be sincerely appreciated:

CKSC: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/southampton-christ-the-king-and-st-colman-catholic-parish-easter-collection-2024>

OLA & SB:

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/hedge-end-our-lady-of-the-assumption-and-st-brigid-catholic-parish-easter-collection-2024>

Keep in touch with Portsmouth Diocese

@PortsmouthRC Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth
@PortsmouthRC

<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/>

If you have news to share, contact:

communications@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk