

## **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

Parish Priest: Fr. Elijah Fru Nde (emergency use phone number 0777 466 7010)

Parish Safeguarding Coordinator: Michael Ingram ([safeguarding.soukc@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding.soukc@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk))

Office: 2 Dean Road, Bitterne, Southampton SO18 6AP – Open Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 9.30am–1pm

Phone **023 8044 9088**, Email [ckscolasb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:ckscolasb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

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

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter: Year B, Cycle II**

**14<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

### ***The Risen Christ Illumines and Strengthens Our Faith***

On this third Sunday of Easter, the church invites us to celebrate the living Christ, who is our advocate. Through his death and resurrection, he advocates for us. Ignorance and doubt keep us in fear and darkness, while Christ illumines and strengthens our faith. The significant problems of the Jewish leaders who crucified Christ were ignorance. They thought they knew God and were advancing his course. On the contrary, they were working against it. Hence, they remained stubborn.

One crucial point that all the Sunday readings have in common is the relationship between ignorance and faith. Peter observed the Ignorance of the Jewish leaders. Hence, he addressed them: “It was you who accused the Holy One, the Just...Now brothers, I know that neither you nor your leaders had an idea of what you were doing.”

They were waiting for the fulfilment of God’s promises. However, when He came, they ignorantly rejected him. Hence, John writes: “Anyone who says I know him and does not keep his commandments is a liar refusing to admit the truth.” Ignorance of God’s command and will leaves one with a false impression that he knows the truth. It makes one think that he is fighting for God when the contrary is the case. We should be different because “the time of ignorance is over” (Acts 17, 30-31). It is over through the risen Christ, our advocate. Therefore, we must continuously seek divine counsel and illumination from Christ, our advocate. Most importantly, we must continually repent and receive forgiveness. John assures us today that: “We have an advocate before the Father who is Just, he is the sacrifice that takes our sins away.”

In the gospel, Christ continues to strengthen his disciples’ faith by illuminating their minds with the scriptures. Even though they heard him preach and saw his miracles, they were ignorant of what the scriptures said about Him. St Jerome reminds

us that: “Ignorance of the scriptures is ignorance of Christ.” Ignorance of God’s word and commandments is a major stumbling block to faith. Jesus knew this, so, “He opened their minds to scriptures...you see how it was written...” Hence, Paul always prayed: “May the Lord open the eyes of your minds” (Eph. 1:18). Indeed, our minds need the illumination from the light and glory of the risen Christ.

Today’s gospel also reveals something fundamental. Often, we think that only Thomas doubted the resurrection of Christ. Of course, according to the gospel of John 20: 19-21, (which we read last Sunday), it seemed so. However, without contradicting John, Luke takes us further by revealing that Thomas was not alone in this boat. Jesus asked his disciples: “Why are you agitated, and why are these doubts rising in your hearts? Of course, Jesus knew that most of his disciples doubted, even though they did not manifest it out publicly. So, he did everything humanly possible to convince them. Christ visited them, eat, and drank with them. He even allowed them to touch his wounds.

How many of us attend Sunday Masses, and yet, do not believe in the Eucharist? How many are Christians, and yet do not believe in the resurrection of the dead? How many receive the sacrament of confession and do not believe in the forgiveness of sin? How many are Christians, and yet do not believe that Jesus is true God and true man? How many Christians still believe that Christ was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit? These are different shades of doubt. We manifest them differently. May the risen Christ illuminate our minds that we may believe in him. Alleluia!

***I wish you all a very grace filled Sunday and a Blessed Week.***

*Fr. Elijah*

## 3rd Sunday of Easter 14<sup>th</sup> April 2024

- 9.15am **Our Lady of the Assumption** (Hedge End)  
*Josephine and Michael Shepherd RIP*
- 11.00am **Christ the King & St Colman** (Bitterne)  
*Patricia Rose on her 100th birthday*
- 5.30pm **St. Brigid** (West End)  
*For the people*
- 6.00pm **Christ the King & St Colman** (Bitterne)  
*Polish Mass*

## Weekday Mass Times (16<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> April)

**OLA** – Our Lady of the Assumption (Hedge End)

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

**SB** – St Brigid (West End)

Tue 16 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	<b>OLA</b>	<i>Carmel Ingram RIP</i>
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	<b>SB</b>	<i>Callaghan &amp; Lambert family</i>
Thu 18 <sup>th</sup>	10.00pm	<b>CKSC</b>	<i>For the people</i>
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup>	10.00pm	<b>OLA</b>	<i>Carmel Ingram RIP</i>
Sat 20 <sup>th</sup>	10.00pm	<b>CKSC</b>	<i>Eileen O'Toole RIP</i>
Sun 21 <sup>st</sup>	9.15am	<b>OLA</b>	<i>In thanksgiving</i>
	11.00am	<b>CKSC</b>	<i>Josephine Eyston Elwes</i>
	5.30pm	<b>SB</b>	<i>Marion Lloyd on her birthday</i>
	6.00pm	<b>CKSC</b>	<i>Polish Mass</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)**

## 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.

## 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>

## 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.

## 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 are especially in need of ministers who would be willing to visit parishioner at home or their place of care.

## 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.



## 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.

## Thanks from Friends of the Holy Land

Friends of the Holy Land would like to thank all parishioners for the church collection of £64.31 for Christians in the Holy Land. Your donation will help us to support the most vulnerable at this very challenging time. Please continue to pray for the Holy Land and a peaceful resolution.

## Confirmation

Our next meeting is Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm in the usual place. Looking forward to seeing you all. Happy Easter time.

## 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](mailto:communications@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

## CKSCOLASB Calendar of Events

**OLA** – Our Lady of the Assumption (Hedge End)

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

**SB** – St Brigid (West End)

### APRIL

- Sun 14<sup>th</sup> 12.30-2pm **Youth Meeting** (CKSC)  
Tue 16<sup>th</sup> 9.30am-12pm **Table Tennis** (OLA Hall)  
7.30-9pm **Growing in Faith** (OLA)  
Wed 17<sup>th</sup> 7.00-8.30pm **Carer's Group** (OLA Hall)  
Thu 18<sup>th</sup> 10.30am-12pm **Prayer Group** (CKSC)  
10am-12 noon **Open Church** (OLA)  
Sun 21<sup>st</sup> **Children's Liturgy** during Mass (OLA)  
Tue 23<sup>rd</sup> 9.30am-12pm **Table Tennis** (OLA Hall)  
7.30-9pm **Growing in Faith** (OLA)  
Wed 24<sup>th</sup> 7.00-8.30pm **Carer's Group** (OLA Hall)  
Thu 25<sup>th</sup> 10.30am-12pm **Prayer Group** (CKSC)  
10am-12 noon **Open Church** (OLA)  
Sun 28<sup>th</sup> 12.30-2pm **Youth Meeting** (CKSC)  
Tue 30<sup>th</sup> 9.30am-12pm **Table Tennis** (OLA Hall)  
7.30-9pm **Growing in Faith** (OLA)

### MAY

- Thu 2<sup>nd</sup> 10.30am-12pm **Prayer Group** (CKSC)  
10am-12 noon **Open Church** (OLA)

## 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of every month
- **Tea, Coffee, Biscuits & friendly chat** in the hall every 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month

### St Brigids (West End)

- **Tea, coffee & cake** every 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

## 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 to nurture the faith 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.

**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](http://www.st-annes.uk.com) Alternatively, please contact the Head's PA via email [pahead@st-annes.uk.com](mailto: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](http://wwme.org.uk). Please talk to Deirdre and Russ if you want to know a bit more.

## **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 [jbonavia@stgcc.co.uk](mailto:jbonavia@stgcc.co.uk) or call **023 8067 0104** to book a place by **Friday, 26th April**, so we know the numbers attending.

All welcome.

### 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

Thank you for your support.

### ADoRE mini-retreat for spiritual renewal

**27<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

#### LIVE OPTION

**Venue:** St Bede's Church, Popley Way,  
Basingstoke RG24 9DX

**Timing:** 9.30am - 3.30pm

**Guest speaker:** Kristina Cooper, former editor of  
"Good News" magazine.

Please bring food for shared lunch!

#### LIVESTREAM OPTION

The morning session 9.30-1.00 will be live-streamed  
on Zoom. Please register in advance for the link at

<http://bit.ly/ADOREAPR2024>

### Clergy Training Fund Appeal Second Collection on 21<sup>st</sup> April

Each year we make an appeal to support the Clergy  
Training Fund in response to the ever-increasing costs  
of training priests and deacons to serve in our Diocese.

There is no state funding for seminaries or for the  
formation of permanent deacons and so the money  
required to provide each student with accommodation,  
living costs and tuition for a number of years needs to  
be found from the generous support of people who  
contribute to this fund.

The Clergy Training Fund is  
also used to finance the on-  
going formation of diocesan  
clergy, whether it be for  
professional studies or to  
support the educational costs for  
those on sabbatical.



Please support the Clergy Training Fund at:

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/clergy-training-fund-second-collection-2024>

### Advert for HEWEB Treasurer

At Churches Together in Hedge End, West End &  
Botley (HEWEB) we need a volunteer to be our  
Treasurer. The role will take up very little time as there  
are few transactions each month.

The main task is to keep an eye on the HEWEB bank  
account & provide a brief report to the committee once  
a month. There are occasional payments for items such  
as out-of-pocket expenses, room hire & insurance.  
You will also be responsible for collecting annual  
subscriptions from member churches.

If you think this is something you would like to do,  
please contact Veronica Hoskins by phone on 07847  
475806 or by email at [veronica.hoskins@gmail.com](mailto:veronica.hoskins@gmail.com)

### 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 5<sup>th</sup> to Friday 9<sup>th</sup> 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.

### Sunday's Readings:

#### Daily Readings

<https://universalis.com/europe.english/20240414/mass.htm>

#### Reflections

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

#### Diocesan eNews

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

#### UK Catholic Newspapers

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

### DIOCESAN VACANCIES

View vacancies at:

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

### 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/](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/parishes/)