

**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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Corpus Christi: Year B, Cycle II

2<sup>nd</sup> June 2024

***Eat my Body, drink my Blood  
that you may have Eternal Life***

***Exodus 24:3-8; Hebrews 9:11-15; Mark 14:12-16,22-26***

The solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi), which the Church celebrates today reminds us all of the wonderful gift of God to us through Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. Today, also, some of our children, shall be receiving their First Holy Communion. While the primary focus of this solemnity is on the spiritual nourishment that Christ gives us, its secondary focus is on the Body of Christ which is the Church. The Body and Blood of Christ (the Eucharist) is the most excellent gift ever given to us by Christ. It also shows how much God loves and cares for both our temporal and spiritual welfare. Therefore, what we celebrate today is the sacramental presence of Christ in his Church.

The feast of Corpus Christi (the Body of Christ) is really a celebration of the great sacrament of the Eucharist – the sacrament of Christ's permanent presence with us. In the Eucharist, Christ is present in many ways: in the gathered community, in the Word (scriptures) proclaimed, but most especially in the bread and wine transformed into Christ's body and blood shared among us in the act of transubstantiation. The Second Vatican Council underlines the importance of the Eucharist in its statement that 'the Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian Life.'

The Eucharist is, first and foremost, a meal in which we gather around the table of the Lord (Communion). During his life on earth, Jesus' favourite way of expressing his love for people, especially those who were rejected and unloved, was to share meals with them. Shared meals were, for the Jews, signs of acceptance and friendship. And, like many people today, they were rather particular about those with whom they shared their meals. In seeking out sinners and tax collectors, Jesus was contravening their traditions. They invited only friends or powerful people to their meals. But Jesus wanted to make friends with those who had no friends. In eating with sinners, he was showing them respect and love, and drawing them into the family of God. He was helping them to realize that no matter what others might think, they too were God's beloved children and citizens of his Kingdom.

The Eucharist, however, is not just any meal. It is a very special kind of meal, recalling and re-enacting Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples. His last act before his death on the Cross was to share a meal with those he had chosen. During this meal, he took bread and wine, blessed them and gave them to his disciples saying: 'Take and eat.... Take and drink... Do this as a memorial of me.' The meaning of Jesus' final meal with his disciples is inseparable from the sacrifice of his life on the Cross. This was his greatest act of love. Ultimately, love is manifested in self-sacrifice. 'Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends' (Jn. 15:13). Jesus is present in the Eucharist as the One who gives his life for us.

The moment of communion in Mass, when we eat the body of Christ and drink his blood, is the moment of greatest intimacy that can exist between Christ and us. However, we cannot be in communion with the Lord without being in communion with one another. This recognition of the oneness of all who partake of the Body and Blood of Christ is expressed in several ways in the Mass. The common acknowledgement that we are sinners, the common responses, the songs of praise, the Gloria, the Creed, the Acclamation of Faith, the Great Amen, and the kiss of Peace. We receive the body of Christ and become one body in Christ. As St Augustine used to remind the assembled congregation as he held up the Sacred Host: 'See what you are and become what you see, the body of Christ.'

Every Eucharist ends with a sending on Mission. 'Go in Peace to love and serve the Lord.' We are charged and entrusted with bringing the message of the Eucharist into the world. Just as Jesus has become our spiritual food, giving himself completely to us, so we, too, must give ourselves for the sake of the world. We are challenged to live the love we have experienced, becoming sources of nourishment for a starving world, longing for the bread of life.

**Happy First Holy Communion Day to all our new Communicants.**

*Fr. Elijah*

## **Feast of Corpus Christi**

### ***Saturday, 1st June 2024 Vigil Mass***

5.30pm **St. Brigid** (West End)  
*For the people*

### ***Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2024***

9.15am **Our Lady of the Assumption** (Hedge End)  
*For First Holy Communion Children and their families*

11.00am **Christ the King & St Colman** (Bitterne)  
*For First Holy Communion Children and their families*

## **Weekday Mass Times (4<sup>th</sup> June – 9<sup>th</sup> June)**

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

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

**SB** – St Brigid (West End)

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Tue 4<sup>th</sup> 10.00am **OLA**

Wed 5<sup>th</sup> 10.00am **SB** *Patrick Callaghan RIP*

Thu 6<sup>th</sup> 10.00am **CKSC** *Margaret Dunning RIP*

Fri 7<sup>th</sup> 10.00am **OLA** *Special Intention 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination*

Sat 8<sup>th</sup> 10.00am **CKSC** *Special Intention*

Sun 9<sup>th</sup> 9.15am **OLA**

11.00am **CKSC** *Margaret Mary Sadler RIP*

5.30pm **SB** *For the people*

6.00pm **CKSC** *Polish Mass*

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**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)**

## **Celebration of First Holy Communion 2024**

At 11.00am Mass at Christ the King & St Colman on Sunday, 2nd June, the Feast of Corpus Christi, young people from across our whole parish will be receiving the Holy Eucharist for the first time:

- David Hoffman Ogundele
- Elsa-Christina Chissinoh Amungwa (Chissy)
- George Basil
- Matthew Miell
- Thandie Ndlovu
- Luca Santos de Castro
- Jessica Cummings
- Cherise Ruvarashe Zhou
- Damian Kisielewski
- Julie-Karen Nkwenti
- Jessica Kempa

Please hold these young people and their families in your prayers at this significant and joyful time during their Faith Journey.

## **First Friday Soup - 7th June**

### **Our Lady of the Assumption Church Hall**

Please come along and join us for lunch at about 12.00 noon on Friday 7th June in Our Lady of the Assumption Church Hall for a lovely bowl of homemade soup with crusty bread. There is no charge, however, gratefully received donations will all go to CAFOD. We look forward to seeing you.

## **Confirmation**

Our next Confirmation meetings will be 5<sup>th</sup> June, 19<sup>th</sup> June. **The confirmation date is 30<sup>th</sup> June at 3pm at Portsmouth cathedral.**

Please pray for those going forward to receive the sacrament of confirmation.

## **Hedge End & West End Parish Donation Day**

Our Parish Donation Day will be on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2024. This is our main fund-raising event of the year towards the maintenance and upkeep of our churches in Hedge End and West End.

Please be as generous as you possibly can, to support the present and future of our parish community and its continuing part in the work of the Lord. There will be an appeal in both churches on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June and envelopes for donations will be given out from these dates to be returned on Parish Donation Day.

## **CKSC Repository**

New boxed rosaries are now in stock at the back of church. Cost is £6 each, and payment may be by cash in the long red box or via the contactless machine – category 'Repository'.

A new selection of cards including 'Thank-You' and blank cards is also available, all at £1 each.

## **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.

## **St Colman's celebration BBQ – 9<sup>th</sup> June**

St Colman's celebration BBQ will include a second-hand sale on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June to raise much needed funds for our parish. **ITEMS WANTED!** Must be in a re-sellable condition: Books, games, toys, toiletries, bags, DVDs, CDs, household items, accessories, unused gifts, stationery etc.

Please place your donated items in the boxes in the church porch by Saturday 8th June. If you want to help then please speak to Sonia or Richard Davis, or send an email into the parish office. Thank you.

## CKSCOLASB Calendar of Events

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

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

**SB** – St Brigid (West End)

### MAY

Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> Tea, Coffee, Biscuits after Holy Mass (CKSC)

Tue 4<sup>th</sup> 9.30am-12pm Table Tennis (OLA Hall)

7.30-9pm Growing in Faith (OLA)

Thu 6<sup>th</sup> 10.30am-12pm Prayer Group (CKSC)

10am-12 noon Open Church (OLA)

Sun 9<sup>th</sup> 12.30-2pm Youth Meeting (CKSC)

Tea, Coffee, Cake after Holy Mass (SB Hall)

Tue 11<sup>th</sup> 9.30am-12pm Table Tennis (OLA Hall)

7.30-9pm Growing in Faith (OLA)

Thu 13<sup>th</sup> 10.30am-12pm Prayer Group (CKSC)

10am-12 noon Open Church (OLA)

Fri 14<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm Choir Practise in church hall (CKSC)

Sun 16<sup>th</sup> Children's Liturgy during Mass (OLA)

Tue 18<sup>th</sup> 9.30am-12pm Table Tennis (OLA Hall)

7.30-9pm Growing in Faith (OLA)

Wed 19<sup>th</sup> 7.00-8.30pm Carer's Group (OLA Hall)

Thu 20<sup>th</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 every Thursday from 10am-12pm

#### 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
- Choir practice in hall - 7:30pm on 2nd & 4th Friday each month. All welcome.

#### 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.

## 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 30<sup>th</sup> June.

## Life in the Spirit Course (Invitation)

Judith Aylmer (supported by Russ Fairman) from the Portsmouth Diocese Life in the Spirit team invites you to sign up for the next online course beginning on Thursday evenings

- from Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June to Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July
- 7.30pm until 9pm

There is an excellent line-up of speakers including Fr Paul Leonard, Alastair Emblem (ADORE), Geoff Poulter (Called and Gifted), Gary Stephens (New Dawn), Allegra Mutanda (Director of Evangelisation at St. Peters and The Winchester Martyrs) and Charles Whitehead.

There is also an in-person **Holy Spirit Day** on **Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June**. This powerful experience has been life changing for so many.

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

Father Elijah is talking to the deanery about Eucharistic minister training. The idea is that those who have previously done a course should carry out refresher training.

As yet no date has been set for training.

## Bull of Indiction for the Jubilee

On Ascension Day the Holy Father presented and read the Bull of Indiction that announced and 'launched' the Jubilee Year 2025.



The Diocesan webpage for the Jubilee Year is: <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/jubilee-year-2025/>.

## 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/)

### 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.

### Safeguarding E-Learning

The Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) has developed the Learning Management System (LMS) as an online learning platform specifically for the Catholic Church in England and Wales.

Training is now aligned with the nature of the role the volunteer is undertaking and 3 modules are available:

Level 1 – Casual volunteers (roles with no DBS eligibility).

Level 2 – Volunteers who hold a role with DBS eligibility but do not require a check of the barred list.

Level 3 – Volunteers who hold a role with DBS eligibility, including a check of the barred list.

Level 3 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.



### SVP and CAFOD working together

St Vincent de Paul Society and CAFOD have produced a guide for Catholics for the General Election, with suggested questions to ask candidates. Please see [cafod.org.uk/encounter](http://cafod.org.uk/encounter) or [svp.org.uk/encounter](http://svp.org.uk/encounter) for more information.

### Funeral of Margaret Dunning

The funeral of Margaret Dunning will take place at the Wessex Vale Crematorium on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June at 1pm. A requiem Mass will be celebrated for her on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June at 6pm at Christ the King & St Colman church.

### Invitation to leave a legacy for CAFOD

Join CAFOD's Director Christine Allen to explore leaving a gift in your Will to make a lasting impact in the world, at Our Lady of Sorrows & St. Philip Benizi in Fordingbridge SP6 1EG on Tuesday 18 June, 10.45am to 12:25pm.



To find out more and to book your place please go to [leave-a-gift-in-your-will](#)

### 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)

### Collection figures for CKSC for April 2024

Here are the figures for CKSC for April 2024:

• Loose Offertory	£256.82
• Contactless Giving - Parish	£137.71
• Standing Orders & Direct Debits	£1,899.50
• Donation from Polish Community	£500.00
• Hall Rent	£705.00
• CAFOD (cash & contactless giving)	£9.83
• Clergy Assistance Fund (cash & contactless giving)	£134.88
• Holy Places (cash & contactless giving)	£198.44

### Sunday's Readings:

#### Daily Readings

<https://universalis.com/europe.english/20240602/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>