

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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28th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

13th October 2024

Our Attitude towards Wealth

Today, the 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B, the liturgy focuses on the importance detachment as a prerequisite to attaining eternal life. Wealth, riches, money, in themselves, are not bad: they are necessary for us to live with dignity. The problem lies in one's attitude towards them: first if they occupy the highest priority in one's life over and above God and the others; and, if one is overly attached to them such that one's life is cantered on possessing, amassing wealth forgetful of others. This attitude towards wealth constitutes a barrier to attaining eternal life. This is the reason why Our Lord taught us in the Beatitudes: "Happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (Mt. 5: 3).

Our readings today, present us with other aspects that should occupy the top tier of our priorities: WISDOM (1st Reading), the WORD OF GOD (2nd Reading), and FOLLOWING Christ (Gospel).

The 1st reading states: "I prayed, and prudence was given me; I pleaded, and the spirit of wisdom came to me. I preferred her to sceptre and throne, and deemed riches nothing in comparison with her, nor did I liken any priceless gem to her; because all gold, in view of her, is a little sand, and before her, silver is to be accounted mire."

In the 2nd reading, St. Paul tell the Hebrews: "Brothers and sisters: Indeed, the word of God is living and effective, sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating even between soul and spirit, joints and marrow, and able to discern reflections and thoughts of the heart. No creature is concealed from him, but everything is naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must render an account."

In the Gospel, we see a rich young man, a very good lad whose life has been unstained from his youth, through fulfilling the 4th-10th commandments, but still feeling void and empty...realizing that something is lacking. So,

when he saw Jesus, he ran up and knelt down before Jesus asking him the most important question which all of us pose in our life: "Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life? Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said to him, 'You are lacking in one thing. Go, sell what you have, and give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' At that statement his face fell, and he went away sad, for he had many possessions."

In this regard, St. John Paul II comments: "The sadness of the young man makes us reflect. We could be tempted to think that many possessions, many of the goods of this world, can bring happiness. We see instead in the case of the young man in the Gospel that his many possessions had become an obstacle to accepting the call of Jesus to follow him. He was not ready to say YES to Jesus, and NO to self and wealth. Real love is demanding. For it was Jesus — or Jesus himself — who said: 'You are my friends if you do what I command you' (Jn. 15:14). Love demands effort and a personal commitment to the will of God. It means discipline and sacrifice, but it also means joy and human fulfilment.

Summarily, we must learn how to be detached from material and worldly goods for they can never satisfy our infinite longing for happiness which only God can provide. Attachment to wealth or material goods is a serious hindrance, a huge obstacle to entering heaven. This is the reason why Jesus said: "children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for one who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." If a person has sufficient resources for his/herself and his/her family to live a decent life, they must learn to help those who are in need.

I wish you all a very Blessed Sunday and a Fruitful Week

Fr. Elijah

28th Sunday of the Year – 13th October 2024

- 9.15am **Our Lady of the Assumption** (Hedge End)
Sylvia Daphne Langlois
- 11.00am **Christ the King & St Colman** (Bitterne)
For the people
- 5.30pm **St. Brigid** (West End)
For Jane Calaghan
- 6.00pm **Christ the King & St Colman** (Bitterne)
Polish Mass

Weekday Mass Times (15th – 20th October)

OLA – Our Lady of the Assumption (Hedge End)

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

SB – St Brigid (West End)

Tue 15th 10.00am **OLA**

Wed 16th 10.00am **SB**

Thu 17th 10.00am **CKSC** *For Kate Dixon (RIP)*

Fri 18th 10.00am **OLA**

Sat 19th 10.00am **CKSC** *For all the departed family members of Klobe Nunes' family*

Sun 20th 9.15am **OLA**

11.00am **CKSC**

5.30pm **SB** *For the wellbeing of Jacqui Dowdell*

6.00pm **CKSC** *Polish Mass*

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)

Baptism of Otilie Jarvis

We welcome Otilie Jarvis who will be baptised at Our Lady of the Assumption on Sunday 13th October during the 9.15am Mass.

Please keep Otilie and her family in your prayers.

Appeal from Fr. Elijah

Last September, I made an appeal for anyone of goodwill to help sponsor a child's Tuition in Bamenda (£150 for Primary Schools; £250 for secondary schools).

As schools resume this September, I come again to make this appeal. If you wish to offer some help, please kindly let me or the Parish Administrators know. Donations of children's shoes suitable for casual and school use. Also text books from 'A' levels and GCSE's that are no longer needed.

Thank you so much.

Fr. Elijah

First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Preparation

The date for registration of children to prepare to celebrate the Sacraments in 2025 has now closed.

PARENTS' INTRODUCTORY MEETING

There will be an **Introductory Meeting** for parents/carers of children, who have been registered to prepare to celebrate the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion for the first time in 2025:

- Time: 7.30pm
- Date: Monday, 14th October 2024
- Venue: Christ the King & St Colman Church

If a copy of your child's Baptism Certificate has not been handed in with the Registration Form, please bring along a copy, or the original for copying, to the meeting on 14th October.

Preparation Sessions will take place, starting on **Monday 21st October**, during School Term Time, on Monday evenings from 6.15pm to 7.30pm. The venue will alternate each week between Christ the King & St Colman, Bitterne and Our Lady of the Assumption, Hedge End.

We very much look forward to meeting and getting to know you all. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to speak with one of us: Sonia at CKSC or Helen at OLA/SB.

Thank you and God bless.

We Dare to Say

Pope Francis has asked us, in preparation for the Holy Year in 2025, to make this year a time for refreshing our prayer, especially our appreciation and use of the Our Father.

We will be running "We Dare to Say", a five-week faith sharing resource on the familiar and powerful words of the Our Father. Each session is complete in itself so please come to the evenings you are able.

It will be held in Christ the King and St Colman church on Wednesday evenings 7.30pm to 9pm from October 2nd to November 1st.

The third session on October 16th is entitled '**Give Us Our Daily Bread**'.

For more information look at the link here <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/we-dare-to-say/>

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

CKSCOLASB Calendar of Events

OLA – Our Lady of the Assumption (Hedge End)

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

SB – St Brigid (West End))

Fri 11 th	7.30pm Choir Practise in church hall (CKSC)
Sun 13 th	Tea, Coffee, Biscuits after Holy Mass (SB)
Tue 15 th	9.30am-12pm Table Tennis (OLA Hall) 7.30-9pm Growing in Faith (OLA)
Wed 16 th	7.00-8.30pm Carer's Group (OLA Hall)
Thu 17 th	10.30am-12pm Prayer Group (CKSC) 10am-12 noon Open Church (OLA)
Sun 20 th	Children's Liturgy during Mass (OLA)
Tue 22 nd	9.30am-12pm Table Tennis (OLA Hall) 7.30-9pm Growing in Faith (OLA)
Thu 24 th	10.30am-12pm Prayer Group (CKSC) 10am-12 noon Open Church (OLA)
Fri 25 th	7.30pm Choir Practise in church hall (CKSC)
Sun 27 th	Tea, Coffee, Biscuits after Holy Mass (CKSC)
Tue 29 th	9.30am-12pm Table Tennis (OLA Hall) 7.30-9pm Growing in Faith (OLA)
Thu 31 st	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 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** 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
- **Tea, Coffee, Biscuits & friendly chat** in the hall every 1st 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 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.

COMMUNITY NOTICE

The national highways agency have asked that we advertise that the M27 Junction 7 eastbound exit slip road will be **closed**

- from 9pm on 15th October 2024
- to 6am on 19th October 2024

Faith on Fire

Following our session on Wednesday, we will meet again on Wednesday, 27th November in Christ the King and St Colman Church at 7.30pm until 8.30pm. All young people over secondary school age are welcome. We will be looking at poverty and our response to it as Catholic Christians.

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.

Our Lady of the Assumption 2025 - Our Big Year!

On Ascension Day, Pope Francis 'launched' the Jubilee Year 2025 with the theme "Pilgrims of Hope".

Also, in April 2025, Our Lady of the Assumption will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of our Church building (previously the church was in what is now our hall).

We need your ideas as to how, we can celebrate these 2 significant milestones. Please consider and pray on "What are our aspirations and hopes for the future of our church?" If you are interested and/or have ideas but couldn't make the meeting, please speak with Marion or Helen.

Safeguarding Training Session

Diocesan Safeguarding training will take place at Immaculate Conception Church in Portswood on 26th October between 11am and 4pm.

If you are a volunteer and have not received training in the last 3 years, please contact our Parish Office and they will send you an invite to the training.

They are keen to know numbers by the 18th, so please respond as soon as possible if you need training.

ADoRE spiritual mini-retreat - 26th Oct 10.00-1.00

"Heal the sick – Ministering in the charisms of the Holy Spirit," with Mass, Adoration, Praise, Prayer for the gifts of the Holy Spirit and speaker Joe Livingston.

Please register for the Zoom meeting in advance at bit.ly/ADOREOCT2024

More information at www.altonrenewal.com

The New Lectionary

The diocese is offering two sessions on the new lectionary, which comes into use in Advent. Each session will be led by Fr. Anthony Fyk, Director of Liturgy, and will be identical - so you need only attend one.

The sessions are on **Tuesday 5th November** and **Tuesday 19th November** and last one hour, from 7 to 8 pm.

Please register the for Tuesday 5th November session [here](#)

...and for the Tuesday 19th November session [here](#).



The session will cover what the lectionary is, its revisions and what they mean for us. It is also an opportunity for **Questions and Answers**.

If you wish to pose a question, please submit it in advance in writing to:

liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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/>

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

Ask your MP to stop assisted suicide being rushed into law

It only takes 30 seconds to contact your MP using this easy-to-use tool.

Ask your MP to stop assisted suicide being rushed into law.



Prayers for life - stop assisted suicide

The Prime Minister is paving the way for a parliamentary vote before Christmas to legalise assisted suicide.

The Government and assisted suicide lobbyists are putting intense pressure on MPs to support a Private Members' Bill to rush legislation into law. A Private Members' Bill was the same mechanism used to legalise abortion in 1967.

This is contrary to Catholic teaching and, as we have seen in other countries like the Netherlands and Canada, it particularly puts vulnerable people at risk.

Please pray this bill will not succeed.

You can also contact you MP at

<https://righttolife.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=2b57a06f3f56132a570ea2282&id=645828112e&e=2e3726ec9f>

Sunday's Readings:

Daily Readings

<https://universalis.com/europe.english/20241013/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>

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