

# Corpus Christi

Wokingham

South Berkshire Pastoral Area

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth



Parish Priest: Canon Simon Thomson JV Telephone: 0118 978 0348 Office e-mail: wokingham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Website:- www.corpuschristi-wokingham.org Link for live streamed Masses:

https://www.facebook.com/Corpus-Christi-Wokingham-100445488273222/

# 28th April 2024: Fifth Sunday of Easter - Year B



There's a lot of work to do in today's world. Almost daily, the TV and Radio brings terrible news of atrocities and disasters around the planet. It's easy to feel overwhelmed by all the bad news and to feel powerless to do anything. We do not consider that we can individually instigate change for lots of reasons. We do not feel clever enough, or brave enough or rich enough. In short, it's hard to know where to begin and even whether change is possible. The inspirational message in today's gospel is that we can make changes as long as we work together.

We are already familiar with the ethos of trade unions. Trade unions operate on one powerful principle. Individually we can be easily overlooked but together we have the power to bring the whole country to a stand-still and sway governments. If a trade union wanted to promote solidarity and unity, the vine would make an ideal logo. The vine itself is the heart of the union, the part that determines the ethos. The branches do the work of the vine and the fruit they bear is the outcome.... the final result. Today we are told that with Christ as our vine we can do great things. All too often we become wrapped up in developing our own spirituality, trying to work out what God means to us as an individual.... striving to find our niche. It's easy to forget that we are part of a huge family of people the biggest union on the planet. With Christ's teaching and pruning, we as a body, have the ability to transform the world by putting faith into action. Our individual responsibility is to look for ways in which we can become part of the overall plan. We don't have to branch out alone, we branch out as a team.

#### Mass Schedule and Intentions

(F) Foundation (P) Perpetual

Saturday 27th April - of the 4th Week of Easter 10.30am Mass of the Anointing of the Sick 5pm - 5.20pm Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) Vigil Mass (First Mass of Sunday) 5.30pm Sweden Barreto's Intentions

Sunday 28th April - Fifth Sunday of Easter 9am Sean Tracy RIP 11am Peter Pinson RIP

Tuesday 30th April - of the 5th Week of Easter 7pm Rajam Ramamoorthy RIP (F)

Wednesday 1st May - St Joseph the Worker, memorial 8am For Sr Thérèse's Good Estate Thursday 2nd May - St Athanasius, Bishop, Doctor of the Church, memorial 8am Michael Barrett RIP (F) 8 - 9pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

**Friday 3rd May - SS Philip and James, Apostles, Feast 9.30am** *Richard Diffenthal RIP - 3rd Anniversary* **10am** *Praying the Rosary* 

Saturday 4th May - The English Martyrs, Feast 11am First Holy Communion Mass 5pm - 5.20pm Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) Vigil Mass (First Mass of Sunday) 5.30pm The Barreto Family Intentions

Sunday 5th May- Sixth Sunday of Easter 9am Michael Page RIP - 5th Anniversary 11am People of the Parish



St Teresa's Catholic Academy Easthampstead Road, Wokingham, RG40 2EB Tel: 0118 9784310 Head Teacher: Mrs Nikki Peters Website: <u>www.st-teresas.wokingham.sch.uk</u>

#### Important Contacts

**Other Priests of the Pastoral Area:** Fr Marcus Brisley (Crowthorne & Sandhurst) - 01252 876820 Fr. Danny McAvoy (Bracknell) - 01344 425729 Safeguarding Team: Claire & Jordana safeguarding.wok@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk SVP: 01182 114130

Parish Office Opening Times - Tuesday 10.00 to 14.00, Wednesday 09.30 to 12.00, Thursday 09.30 to 12.00 and Friday 10.00 to 14.00 Parish Administrator, Hannah Procter, can be contacted on Tel: 0118 978 0348 or email: wokingham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Corpus Christi Church, 60 Sturges Road, Wokingham, Berkshire RG40 2HE

Please remember all who are sick, especially, Joyce Unwin, Mary Ann Froude, Daniel Sutton, Sarah White, John Butterworth, Joy Phillips, Kathy Kramers, Bernie O'Keeffe, Francesca Vincent, Neil Harman, Patricia Grayston, Pat Kerton, Jim Cuthbert, Pam Bedwell, James Phillips and Fr Jim Joyce.



#### A Big Thank You from Sr Thérèse

Sr Thérèse wishes to thank everyone for their kindness to her and especially for the farewell Mass last Tuesday, the reception afterwards, and for the gifts she has received. Sister asks that we keep her in our prayers and thoughts as she begins this new phase of her life back in France.

N.B. This weekend will be the last chance to write a message for Sister Thérèse in the book in the Church porch. Canon Simon will be giving the book to Sister on Sunday afternoon prior to her departure early on Monday morning. Bon Voyage, Sister Thérèse!

# CAF D Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

#### CAFOD's Sudan Crisis Appeal

Millions of families in Sudan, forced to flee their homes amid conflict, now face yet another urgent crisis – extreme hunger. Please give to CAFOD's Sudan Crisis Appeal in church or at <u>cafod.org.uk/</u><u>sudanappeal</u>. Your donation will help CAFOD's partners to support more families with food packages and emergency cash payments as well as rebuilding water pipelines so clean water can reach communities who need it. Thank you for your generosity and prayers.



## Day of Prayer for Victims and Survivors of Abuse - 30th April

The Day of Prayer for Victims and Survivors of Abuse will be observed on Tuesday 30th April 2024. It is always marked on the Tuesday of the Fifth Week of Easter in England and Wales.

This year's focus is on communities who have been directly affected by allegations or convictions related to abuse – especially, but not exclusively, within the Church. Here's a prayer to say next Tuesday:

Loving Father, one who is Healer, we ask for your mercy for the times we have drastically failed in showing love, respect, and dignity towards others, especially the most vulnerable of society. We pray for all victims of abuse, for failing to be attentive in listening and accompaniment. Be always their refuge and strength. Give us the grace to bring healing to the broken hearted, to show love and respect to all people. Give us the wisdom to know what to say and how to act in times of great injustice. Give us the courage to speak out against all forms of abuse. Bring your healing love and protection upon all those who are in hurt. We ask through Our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

The Church not only expresses her heartfelt sorrow and her apologies to anyone who has suffered abuse within her domain but wishes to do all she can to help and to assist with healing.

As a Diocese, we are committed to safeguarding as an integral part of the life and ministry of the church. Safeguarding is a leadership priority and a responsibility that rests with us all. Through ministry, we seek to embed a culture where all those within our parishes and church communities are safe from harm and abuse. We ensure that all concerns of a safeguarding nature are responded to promptly. Our approach is one of zero tolerance; where an allegation of abuse is made against those working in the name of the church, regardless of whether the allegation relates to their behaviour in their role within the Church or another setting, we will report this to the statutory authorities. This includes allegations where the identified perpetrator is deceased.

If you have been impacted by abuse, there are organisations that can provide support, advice and guidance:

<u>Safe Spaces</u> is a free and independent support service, providing a confidential, personal and safe space for anyone who has been abused by someone in the Church or as a result of their relationship with the Church of England, the Catholic Church of England and Wales or the Church in Wales Safe Spaces can be contacted on 0300 303 1056.

Minister and Clergy Sexual Abuse Survivors (MACSAS) supports those who have been sexually abused, as children or adults, by ministers, clergy or others under the guise of the Church. MACSAS can be contacted on 08088 010340.

<u>Grief to Grace UK</u> – Healing the wounds of abuse. Grief to Grace is a UK charity supporting victims and survivors of abuse perpetrated by members of clergy. Grief to Grace can be contacted on 020 8154 2719.



Children **should not** go unaccompanied to the toilet during Mass and should be with an adult at **all** times. This is for their own safety. Thank you for your cooperation.

#### St. Joseph the Worker 'For human work' - Wednesday 1st May



"May Day" has long been dedicated to labour and the working man. It is fitting that St. Joseph, a working man who became the foster-father of Christ and patron of the universal Church, should be honoured on this day.
On this day we are asked to pray for all who work, that they may earn a just wage and be treated with dignity.
We also pray for those who are under-employed or unemployed, and we pray for the stewardship of the earth's resources so that all may benefit for generations to come.

## Priest Swap Weekend - 5th and 6th May

Next weekend we welcome Fr Marcus Brisley, parish priest of Holy Ghost, Crowthorne and the Immaculate Conception, Sandhurst, who will be celebrating all the Masses. Meanwhile Canon Simon will be going to St Jospeh's, Bracknell, to celebrate all the Masses there whilst Fr Danny McAvoy will be celebrating the Masses in Crowthorne and Sandhurst. As the three parishes move towards becoming one parish in due course, our priests will move around every first weekend of the month so that they get to know the different communities and likewise the communities get to know them.



# Christian Aid Week (May 12-18<sup>th</sup> 2024)

We are looking for volunteers to deliver—only, envelopes to certain areas as a group in the evenings of CA Week as follows:

Beanoak/Carina Drive (Monday 13th May ) Glebe Park/Ashridge/Readwin (Tuesday 14th May) Joel Park (Wednesday 15th May) Woosehill East/Walter Road (Thursday 16th May) Rances Lane/Priest Avenue (Friday 17th May) Meeting point Beanoak Shops Meeting Point top of Crutchley Road Meeting Point Jubilee Avenue Meeting point Morrison's Car Park Meeting Point Rances Lane Shops



We will meet at 7.30 pm each evening and cover the estates in groups We are usually out for approx. 40-45 mins each evening, so you may consider doing more than one evening. If you could let me know if you are willing to help and which night or nights you could join in, that would be great, and if you prefer to do the area you would normally cover on your own, please let me know so we can avoid duplication. (Obviously, it will be delivery-only still) (Phone: Frankie Chard 0118 9784630)

I hope that you will support ChristianAid this year as you have done in the past. It makes a massive difference to have your help and support. On behalf of Christian Aid and the people they serve in the poorest communities of the world, "Thank You".



**Live**Simply – It's a year since we began our parish venture responding to the Cry of the Earth and the Cry of the Poor and Pope Francis' exhortation to change our lifestyles - by living more **simply** and **sustainably** and in **solidarity** with those in need. Have we been able to make any differences so far? Check out our noticeboard in the Keenan Rooms lobby and visit our page on-line <u>https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100091950233961</u> to review our activities - from our *Tree of Pledges* to fundraising for *World Gifts* via support for *Salina's homegrown seeds*. Comments and ideas welcome!