



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/>

14th September 2025: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross - Year C



Non-Christians might think it odd that we use the cross as a symbol of salvation. We wear crosses on gold chains; fix them to the roofs of our churches and illustrate crucifixes on cards and book covers. To a non-Christian it must seem bizarre that we choose to exalt an instrument of torture and death.

Stranger still, why should Moses have presented a bronze serpent on a pole as a symbol of salvation? In answer, it seems that we need to have experienced the snake's sting before we experience victory over it. It seems that we must experience suffering before we experience victory. It seems that we cannot fully appreciate freedom and triumph without knowing the opposites first.

On the news we notice that our worst human tragedies are followed by an examination. Why did this tragedy occur we ask? Should perpetrators be forgiven? How can we prevent something like this happening again? Where do we go from here? After a tragedy we think in terms of rebirth and reconciliation. Out of something bad, something good can happen.

Things must have looked bleak to the apostles at Jesus' crucifixion. The cross must not have seemed a symbol of victory to them at this time, more a symbol of defeat. But with the Resurrection, the seeming failure of Jesus' crucifixion was no longer a failure but a triumph. Their lives were transformed. Death no longer held the same fear.

On this feast day, we are not of course exalting the cross as an instrument of torture and death. We exalt the cross as a symbol of Christ's victory over death. When we look up at a cross on a church spire, or put on a cross and chain, we remember that it is not just an ornament or a piece of jewellery, but a strong reminder that Jesus promised us that we too can share eternal life.

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Saturday 13th September

5pm - 5.20pm *Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)*

Vigil Mass (First Mass of Sunday)

5.30pm *People of the Parish*

Sunday 14th September - The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

9am *John and Julia Harrington RIP*

11am *Richard Bennett RIP - 3rd Anniversary*

Tuesday 16th September - SS Cornelius, Pope, & Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs, memorial (of the 24th week in Ordinary Time)

7pm

Wednesday 17th September - Feria

8.30am - 9.30am *Silent Adoration*

9.30am *St Teresa's School Mass - For Blessings on the new School Year*

Thursday 18th September - Feria

9.30am

8 - 9pm *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*

Friday 19th September - Feria

9.30am *Sybil Rogerson RIP*

10am *Praying the Rosary*

Saturday 20th September

5pm - 5.20pm *Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)*

Vigil Mass (First Mass of Sunday)

5.30pm *Nora Noone RIP*

Sunday 21st September - Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9am *Maureen Harman RIP*

11am *Mariano Pintor RIP*

St Teresa's Catholic Academy

Easthampstead Road, Wokingham, RG40 2EB Tel: 0118 9784310

Head Teacher: Mrs Nikki Peters

Website: www.st-teresas.wokingham.sch.uk



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

CTW Rep: dougcleary91@gmail.com

Parish Steering Group:

ccsteering.wok@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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, John Butterworth, Kathy Kramers, Neil Harman, Jim Cuthbert, James Phillips, Bill Hogston, Sylvia Saunders, Rita King, Norma Pover, David Thomas and Fr Jim Joyce.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Maureen Harman who passed away on Wednesday 10th September and for her family. Details of Maureen's Funeral Mass are still to be confirmed.



*Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let Your perpetual light shine upon her.
May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.*

Sarah White's Funeral Mass will be held at Corpus Christi on Thursday 25th September at 9.30am followed by a burial at St Paul's Churchyard.



Baptism - Please welcome Aoife Tucker and Scarlett Marques Neves into the family of the Church. They will be Baptised at Corpus Christi on Sunday 14th September, please pray for them and their families.



Church Car Park Barrier

To ensure the continued safety of our children a barrier has been installed at the front of the car park which will be closed at school drop off and pick up times.



Please note that the planned Quiz Night at St Joseph's, Bracknell, this Saturday has been cancelled and rescheduled for Saturday 8th November, more details to follow.

RIDE+STRIDES for Churches

HELP SAVE OUR CHURCH HERITAGE

13TH
SEPT.
2025

**Choose your own route and travel at your own pace
– enjoy the day!**

Cycle, ride or walk to help save our churches. Through sponsorship or a donation you will be supporting your local heritage



Berkshire Churches Trust

Contact:
rideandstrideberks@gmail.com

Support Berkshire's churches by donating at
www.justgiving.com/berkshirechurchestrust

Find out more at
www.berkschurchestrust.org.uk

Charity number 288797

Supported by the
National Churches Trust
Charity Number 1119845



CAFOD A better world needs all of us

Please donate to our Family Fast Day parish collection to share God's abundant gifts with our global neighbours as they find lasting solutions to poverty and climate challenges. Your generosity offers "signs of hope" in this Jubilee Year, helping build more water tanks in communities like Waré's in Ethiopia where women have to walk for hours to get water. Use the CAFOD envelope at the back of the church, donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope, use the QR code here, or call 0303 303 3030. You can also text CAFOD to 70560 to donate £10. Thank you for your support.

CAFOD Family Fast Day Appeal this Harvest



Garden of Peace
Isaiah 32:14-18

PEACE WITH CREATION SEASON OF CREATION 2025

Season of Creation runs from 1st September - 4th October, a time to renew our relationship with God our Creator and with all creation. This year the focus is on *Peace with Creation* inspired by *Isaiah 32:14-18* with its portrayal of a desolate creation, wounded by human injustice but with hope that peace will flourish when justice is restored. We can give thanks for all that God has made, repent for the damage and commit ourselves to take action to protect our Common Home.



Corpus Christi Africa Fund - Our Lady of Nazareth Fundraiser

Parishioner Nick Gorton is running a marathon for the Corpus Christi Africa Fund on the 7 May to raise funds for uji porridge. Some of the proceeds will also go to Autism and Neurodiversity (A-ND) North Scotland. You can donate and read more by using the following link [Crowdfunding For Good From JustGiving](#). All donations go directly to the charities and are greatly appreciated.



CAFOD A better world needs all of us

CAFOD Meeting

You are invited to a CAFOD meeting at St Bedes Church Hall Basingstoke on Saturday 20th September from 10:30am to 1:30pm. Come and hear about the difference your donations are making to communities around the world and CAFOD's work with partners in Southern Ethiopia. A simple lunch will be provided so please book your place by emailing Jo on jlewry@cafod.org.uk.

Mass of Anointing

Mass for those who are sick with anointing at Corpus Christi on Saturday 4th October at 10.30am. Tea and coffee will be available in the Keenan Rooms after the Mass. If you need a lift to church please call the SVP on: 0118 2114130.



Corpus Christi Parish Panto invites you to join in with the next family panto

Possibly the funniest Parish group is restarting with preparations for our January 2026 Pantomime, Snow White. Show dates are at the end of January 2026, with rehearsals on Sundays and Tuesdays. Come along to the first rehearsal try-out and script read through 4.30pm - 6.30pm on Sunday 21 September at St Teresa's School hall, Wokingham RG40 2EB. No experience necessary, just enthusiasm to have a good time. New faces and all abilities welcome; adults, teens and children (Y6 or above).

For further details tact parishpantocc@gmail.com

Parish Pantomime Group presents

Snow White



Read-through and audition
Sunday 21 September
contact parishpantocc@gmail.com
to register your interest



Interested in training and volunteering as a Relationship Counsellor with Marriage Care?

We are a Catholic organisation specialising in relationship support and are currently looking for those who would be interested in training via our **Certificate in Relationship Counselling (CRC) course**. We are reaching out early to give you the opportunity to benefit from a new and additional pathway we are offering - the option to volunteer with our marriage preparation service prior to the CRC selection. To find out more and to register your interest either for entry at this stage or prior to our CRC selection process in Autumn 2026 please visit: www.marriagecare.org.uk or email: volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk. If you would like any more information, please do get in touch.

Nikolas' Wheelchair Football Fundraiser

Nikolas and his family are parishioners at St Joseph's, Bracknell and Nikolas, who is 15 years old, suffers from Duchenne muscular dystrophy. He is raising funds to purchase a DB Bullet Football Powerchair. Please help Nikolas reach his target. You can read his story and donate using the link below:

[Fundraiser by Nikolas Prenga : Nikolas bullet powerchair](#)

The Financial Support of our Parish

To support the parish financially please consider setting up a monthly standing order. If you are a tax payer and can help further by using 'Gift Aid', please ask the parish office for a form.

Bank Details: A/c Name: CDP Wokingham
Corpus Christi,
Sort Code: 30-93-04,
A/c No: 00891666

Or if you prefer not to have a regular standing order, please consider using the digital collection plates or the QR code. Thank you for your ongoing support.



ATTENTION

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..



Job Vacancies - Please follow the link for details of our [current vacancies](#) in the Diocese of Portsmouth, and how to apply.



Bringing people closer to Jesus Christ through His Church
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth



Barn Dance

The Wokingham Catenians would like to invite you to join us for a Barn Dance on Saturday 4th October 2025. We have run this a few times before as a Parish event and is always great fun for ages 5 - 95! No dancing skills required as full

instructions are provided. :-)

Date: Saturday 4th Oct 2025

Time: 7:30pm – 11pm

Venue: Barkham Village Hall, RG40 4PL

Band: Saxon Drain

Cost: Just £5 per person. Bring your own food and drink.

To book tickets please email Martin Robins:

martin.robins71@gmail.com

Mass Intentions

If you would like to have a Mass offered for a particular intention then please contact the parish office. Please detail who the Mass is to be offered for together with your name and contact details. Often Mass Intentions are for the deceased but a Mass can be offered for any good intention e.g., in thanksgiving for some happy event, for someone who is sick. It is traditional, though totally without obligation, to make an offering (a Mass stipend) to the priest who celebrates the Mass. Mass stipends make up part of a priest's annual income.



Open Day!



**Little T's
Preschool**

at St. Teresa's Catholic Academy

PLAY - LEARN - GROW

Tuesday 21st October

See Little T's in action

Meet the staff

Make an enquiry

See our children in action

Ask any question!

Let your child play

9:15am and 1:30pm

Book your space today!

0118 978 4310



www.st-teresas.wokingham.sch.uk

 Easthampstead Road,
Wokingham, RG40 2EB

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Children's Liturgy

Sunday Mass 9am and 11am

Children's liturgy has restarted at Sunday Mass at both 9am and 11am. This is a wonderful opportunity for children to enjoy the gospel in a more relaxed environment. Children are welcome up to the time when they have taken their First Holy Communion. Any child not of school age must be accompanied by an adult. We kindly request that adults rather than older siblings accompany children as we have to include all children under the age of 18 in our ratio numbers.

We are also in need of additional helpers to run the liturgy programme. We require either volunteers to take the register and prepare the activity or catechists to lead the sessions. Full training will be given. Please pop into any of our sessions to see how it is run or contact the parish office.

If you don't feel safe at home call

National Domestic Abuse Helpline

0808 2000 247

Run by Refuge

If in immediate danger call 999



Caritas Portsmouth is part of the Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth
Charity No. 1139568, Jersey 457 and Guernsey CH263

