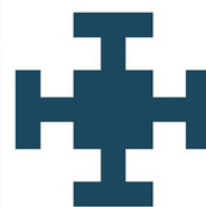




CORPUS CHRISTI WOKINGHAM

NEWSLETTER



*11th October 2026 - Twenty-Eighth Sunday in
Ordinary Time Year A*

Fr Benjamin writes....

When I was about Fourteen years old, I remember wanting to join an activity which ran from 6 – 8pm every Monday. It wasn't the best of times and took a lot of effort to attend, involving a long journey. True to form, my enthusiasm for the activity quickly diminished and, having won a few trophies, I decided I wanted quieter evenings on a Monday. This should have made my mother happy. Indeed, it would have made life far easier. No expense, no long journeys. To my surprise, she was having none of it. I had to continue until the end of the year because I had made a commitment, and people had made commitments for me.

In the end I continued with the programme and learnt a valuable lesson in the process (as well as gaining a few more trophies). The parable Our Blessed Lord tells us in this week's Sunday Gospel is all about commitment. We see how a generous king is spurned by his people for whom he has prepared a great feast. He is generous to his people, and they give him nothing but thankless scorn and even violence in return. When he then invites others who were not of his people to the feast, they do come, and yet some come on their own terms. Again, it is an issue of commitment.

It may seem harsh that someone is thrown into "the outer darkness" for not wearing the appropriate wedding garment. This would have been a white garment, which immediately points to Baptism. Everyone is invited to the great feast of heaven, but do we wish to enjoy it on our own terms, coming inappropriately dressed? Do we desire heaven and yet do nothing to merit being there? It cannot be just to lead lives incompatible with the Gospel and expect a heavenly reward. When we follow Christ, we do so with the understanding that we are not disciples who follow at our whim or simply on our own terms, as and when we want. We need to lead lives of faith, trying to live the virtues, all of which the wedding garment represents. We need to commit ourselves to what Christ asks when we follow Him, placing Him at the centre and remaining with Him.

Parish Office and Contacts

Corpus Christi Catholic Church, Sturges Road, Wokingham, RG40 2ES
South Berkshire Pastoral Area

Telephone: 0118 978 0348 Office e-mail: wokingham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Website: www.corpuschristi-wokingham.org

Parish Priest: Fr Benjamin Theobald

Parish Administrator: Hannah Procter

Safeguarding Team: Claire and Jordana - safeguarding.wok@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

SVP: 01182 114130

Churches Together Wokingham Representative: Doug Cleary - dougcleary91@gmail.com

Link for live streamed Masses: <https://www.facebook.com/Corpus-Christi-Wokingham-100445488273222/>

Parish Office Opening Times

Tuesday 10.00am to 2.00pm, Wednesday and Thursday 9.30am to 12.00, and Friday 10.00am to 2.00pm



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

Readings at Mass - 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

First Reading	Isaiah 25:6-10a
‘The Lord will make a feast, and he will wipe away tears from all faces.’ On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined. And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. He will swallow up death for ever; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, ‘Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the Lord; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.’ For the hand of the Lord will rest on this mountain.	
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 23(22):1-3a. 3b-4. 5. 6. ~~R~~1
<i>In the Lord’s own house shall I dwell for length of days unending.</i>	
Second Reading	Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20
‘I can do all things through him who strengthens me.’ Brothers and Sisters: I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me. Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.	
Gospel	Matthew 22:1-14
‘Invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.’ At that time: Jesus again spoke to the chief priests and the elders of the people, in parables, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. Again he sent other servants, saying, “Tell those who are invited, ‘See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast.’ ” But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, “The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.” And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests. ‘But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. And he said to him, “Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?” And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, “Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” For many are called, but few are chosen.’	

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Welcome Back

Please join us in giving a warm and friendly welcome to Fr Tom McGrath, who will be joining us at Corpus Christi this weekend.

Fr Tom will be celebrating the Masses in Fr Benjamin's absence, and we are delighted to have him back with us again.

Saturday 10th October

4.30pm - 5.20pm Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Vigil Mass (First Mass of Sunday)

5.30pm Thanksgiving Mass for Lorna Lobo and Farida Rodrigues

Sunday 11th October - Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9am Fr Jim Joyce RIP

11am Richard Bennett RIP

N.B. Please note there will be no Masses between Monday 12th October and Friday 16th October inclusive.

Thursday 15th October

8 - 9pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday 17th October

4.30pm - 5.20pm Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Vigil Mass (First Mass of Sunday)

5.30pm Rodrigues Family RIP

Sunday 18th October - Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9am John and Julia Harrington RIP

11am People of the Parish

(F) Foundation (P) Perpetual

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) is also available for 30 minutes before each weekday Mass

Mass Intentions - If you would like to have a Mass offered for a particular intention, please contact the parish office. Please provide the name of the person or intention for whom the Mass is to be offered, together with your own name and contact details.

Mass intentions are often offered for those who have died, but a Mass can be offered for any good intention, for example, in thanksgiving for a happy event or for someone who is sick or in need of prayer.

It is traditional, though entirely voluntary, to make an offering (known as a Mass stipend) to the priest who celebrates the Mass. Mass stipends form part of a priest's annual income.



Please pray for Mary Ann Froude, Daniel Sutton, John Butterworth, Kathy Kramers, Jim Cuthbert, James Phillips, Norma Pover, David Thomas, Derek Davey, Carolyn Davies, Trudi Whelan and Ann Nemeth.

The Financial Support of our Parish

To support the parish financially we can take digital donations via the Dona collection plates at the back of the porch, by scanning the QR code or via the Parish Bank Account. Thank you for your continued support.

CDP Wokingham Corpus Christi Sort Code: 30-93-04 Account Number: 00891666



Parish Notices

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day Collection

THANK YOU for your donations which will help our neighbours improve their access to safe water and food. It's not too late to donate!

How:

- Use a CAFOD envelope available in the church porch.
- Donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope.
- Scan the QR code displayed here, or on the posters and envelopes.
- Tap your card on the parish Dona machine.

Please Gift Aid your donation if you can. Thank you for your generosity. Thank you!



Bishop Philip Visits St Teresa's



Last Thursday, Bishop Philip visited St Teresa's. His visit began with the whole school gathering in the church for Exposition and Benediction. During his visit, Bishop Philip also blessed the school's new Prayer Garden, a beautiful addition to our community.

We are very proud of our school and all that it continues to do. Please read more about Bishop Philip's visit below.

Last Thursday, 1st October, I visited St. Teresa's Primary School in Wokingham. The school is part of the Mother Teresa Catholic Academy Trust. The visit began with the whole school gathered next door in church, together with Fr. Benjamin Theobald, parish priest, for Exposition and Benediction. The school has a strong musical tradition and it was a great joy to join in with the children in their hearty singing of the Tantum ergo and the other Eucharistic hymns. Every Friday, during school lunchtime, the church is open for those children who wish to make a voluntary visit to church to pray before the Blessed Sacrament. Scores of children take advantage of this time of silent prayer with the Lord. After Benediction, I went with Mrs. Nikki Peters, the Headteacher, and the chaplaincy leaders (pictured) to bless the new Prayer Garden. I then met with the Senior Leadership Team, including Mrs. Paris Finnegan, Deputy Head and Head of RE, and Mrs. Anne-Marie Eden, a diocesan Trustee and the Chair of Governors. There are 342 children on the school roll. I had a quick tour of the school and the classrooms to greet the children and staff. It was truly a lovely visitation and uplifting to see all the excellent work being done.

When he visited England in 2010, Pope Benedict XVI said "A good school provides a rounded education for the whole person. And a good Catholic school, over and above this, should help all its students to become saints." Let us pray for the staff and students of St. Teresa's Wokingham that they may grow in knowledge, wisdom and skills, and above all in holiness.

Ministry of the Word - Call for Parish Readers

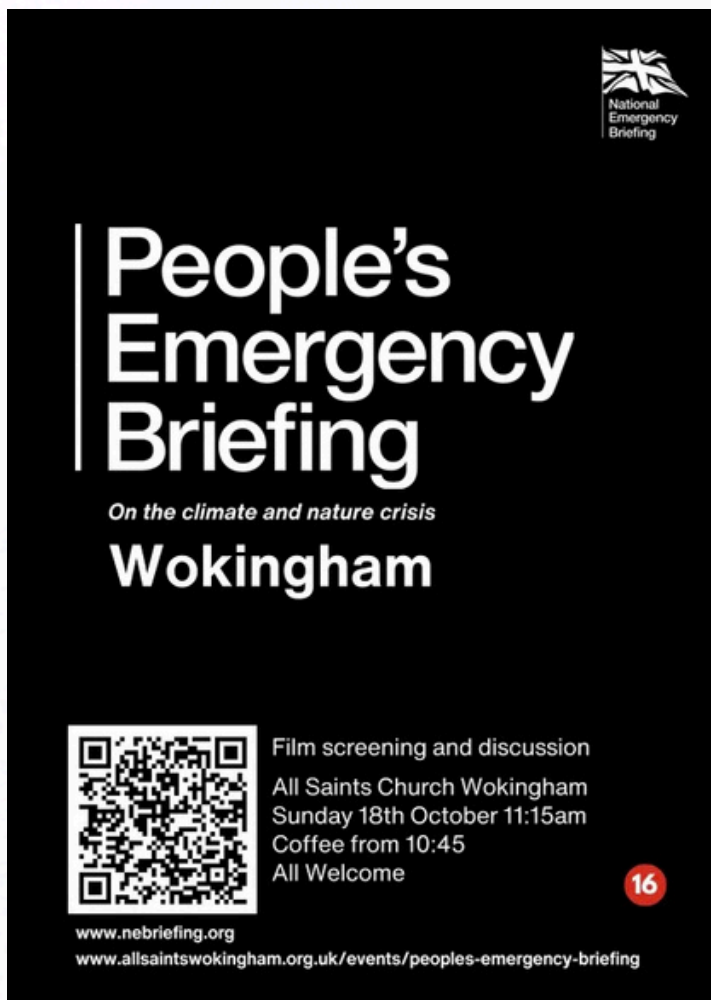
We are looking for parishioners to join our Ministry of the Word, proclaiming the readings at our 5.30pm Saturday and 11.00am Sunday Masses.

We are seeking Readers with strong, clear voices, a strong faith, and a commitment to serving our parish community.

Guidance and support will be provided. If you feel this ministry may be for you, please contact the Parish Office for more information.

Formation Day for Readers: 17th October 2026

It is not too late to sign up for the Formation Day for Readers being organised by the Diocesan Liturgy Team on 17th October 2026 at the Pastoral Centre in Winchester. All the details can be found on the attached PDF. Anyone wishing to attend is kindly asked to email: liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org



The poster is black with white text. At the top right is the 'National Emergency Briefing' logo. The main title 'People's Emergency Briefing' is in large white font, with 'On the climate and nature crisis' in smaller text below it. 'Wokingham' is written in a large, bold, white font. At the bottom left is a QR code. To the right of the QR code is the text: 'Film screening and discussion', 'All Saints Church Wokingham', 'Sunday 18th October 11:15am', 'Coffee from 10:45', and 'All Welcome'. At the bottom left are the websites 'www.nebriefing.org' and 'www.allsaintswokingham.org.uk/events/peoples-emergency-briefing'. A red circle with the number '16' is at the bottom right.

**People's
Emergency
Briefing**
On the climate and nature crisis
Wokingham

Film screening and discussion
All Saints Church Wokingham
Sunday 18th October 11:15am
Coffee from 10:45
All Welcome

www.nebriefing.org
www.allsaintswokingham.org.uk/events/peoples-emergency-briefing

16

You are invited to attend a screening of The People's Emergency Briefing

An eye-opening film featuring nine leading UK scientists and experts updating us on the latest in the climate and nature crisis and its impacts on everyday national life.

Including:

- extreme weather
- food security
- health
- cost of living

Based on the National Emergency Briefing in Westminster, as covered by ITV, C4, and the Times. Followed by a short open discussion about what we can do and what it means locally.

Featuring Chris Packham, Deborah Meaden, surprise guests, and a wide range of Brits.

Please note: The film is only being shown at in-person screenings, not online. Bring a friend or neighbour. Please book your free seat asap.

★ "You" equals churchgoers, non-churchgoers, environmentalists, people in public life, ordinary members of the public, ... Recommended minimum age 16 years.



Survivors and the Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA)

Could you work alongside them?

The CSSA are seeking victims or survivors of abuse in a Catholic Church Setting, to consider working alongside them to improve safeguarding standards in the Catholic Church. They are looking for new members to join their survivor panel.

To apply, please see this link, which outlines the role. Applications need to be submitted by 5pm on Friday 16 October.

Recollection for Women

A great opportunity to pray, meditate and recharge.
Join us on 20th October 2026 from 7:00pm - 9:00pm.

Recollection Schedule:

- 7:00 Meditation
- 8:10 Rosary
- 8:30 Meditation
- 9:00 End

SAVE THE DATE:
20th OCT
7:00pm - 9:00pm

*The priest will be available for confession and spiritual guidance
from 6:30pm and between meditations*

Venue: St Tarcicius, Camberley and Bagshot Parish,
227 London Road, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 3EY



Missio and Red Box Supporters



The new Autumn 2026 edition of Mission Today is now available at the back of the church, celebrating 100 years of World Mission Sunday.

Please feel free to take a copy and read Pope Leo XIV's message on the mission of the Church. The magazine also includes updates on missionary work in Mongolia, Pakistan and the Philippines.

Please remember that you can make Missio donations throughout the year using the parish DONA machine, or by your usual method of giving.

Thank you for your continued support of Missio and missionary work around the world.

Children During Mass

For the safety of our children, children must not go to the toilet unaccompanied during Mass. They should remain with a parent, carer, or other responsible adult at all times. We kindly ask all parents ensure that this is followed, even if a child feels able to go alone.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in helping us keep all our children safe.

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

Gift Aid

If you are able to Gift Aid your donations to the parish, we would be very grateful for your support. Gift Aid allows the parish to claim an additional 25p for every £1 donated, at no extra cost to you.

If you are eligible, please scan the QR code to complete the Gift Aid declaration electronically.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support of our parish.

