



# Corpus Christi Wokingham

South Berkshire Pastoral Area  
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth



Parish Priest: Canon Simon Thomson JV  
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Website:- [www.corpuschristi-wokingham.org](http://www.corpuschristi-wokingham.org)

Link for live streamed Masses:

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

## 21st July 2024: Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B



The younger generation are very good at telling us to “take a chill pill...” and there’s nothing more infuriating. But funnily enough, “taking a chill pill” is something we’re extraordinarily bad at. We are surrounded by twenty first century devices to save us time, such as emails, microwaves and disposable nappies, yet somehow we don’t end up with hours of free time as a result. Quite the contrary, we work faster, travel faster, eat faster and take on more and more work. We feel that we need to fill every waking moment with an extra job. Yet sitting still for a moment in silence and solitude whilst the world rushes around us is very important.

Today Jesus understands that his disciples are exhausted by the demands of the crowds and suggests escaping by boat to find a quiet place to rest, recharge and presumably take stock. Unfortunately, the crowds worked out where Jesus was off to and beat him to it. Jesus stepped out of the boat to be greeted by the same crowds he had just left behind. If Jesus felt any exasperation he didn’t show it. Moved by compassion, because the people are like ‘sheep without a shepherd’ Jesus sets about putting their needs before his own. It might appear that Jesus was just about as bad at ‘taking a chill pill’ as the rest of us, but the story simply points to his level of compassion and discernment.

Taking time out to recharge and take stock is often more important than fitting in that extra job. Have you ever got to the end of a very busy day and wondered what you have actually achieved? How much worse to get to the end of one’s life and realise that we have achieved little of real importance. Take a chill pill. Remember to retreat from the world from time to time. Remember to regularly ask yourself those all-important life-enhancing questions.

### Mass Schedule and Intentions

#### Saturday 20th July

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

Vigil Mass (First Mass of Sunday)

5.30pm *Mary Davies RIP*

#### Sunday 21st July - Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9am *Ciaran Sliman RIP*

11am *Armando and Felomena Rodrigues RIP*

#### Tuesday 23rd July - St Brigid of Sweden, Foundress, Patron of Europe, feast

7pm *Canon Simon’s 30th Anniversary of Ordination*

#### Wednesday 24th July - Feria

9.30am *Maggi Fletcher’s Intentions*

#### Thursday 25th July - St James, Apostle, feast

9.30am *Trista & Tom Foy’s Wedding Anniversary - In Thanksgiving*

#### Friday 26th July - Ss Joachim and Anne, Parents of Our Lady, memorial

11.00am *Funeral Mass for Lorenza Carpenter*

#### Saturday 27th July

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

Vigil Mass (First Mass of Sunday)

5.30pm *Natividad Ramos RIP and Gorgonia Valenton RIP*

#### Sunday 28th July - Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9am *Ciaran Sliman RIP*

11am *Maureen Goodall 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](http://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](mailto:safeguarding.wok@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

SVP: 01182 114130

CTW Rep: [dougcleary91@gmail.com](mailto:dougcleary91@gmail.com)

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](mailto: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, Neil Harman, Patricia Grayston, Jim Cuthbert, Pam Bedwell, James Phillips, Maggi Fletcher and Fr Jim Joyce.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Kathleen Boardman, who passed away this morning, and for her family. Details of Kathleen's funeral are to be confirmed.

Francesca Vincent's funeral Mass will be held on Thursday 1st August at 11.30am

***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.***



**Welcome into the family of the Church** - Please pray for Oscar Murphy, and his family, who was baptised at Corpus Christi last Sunday.



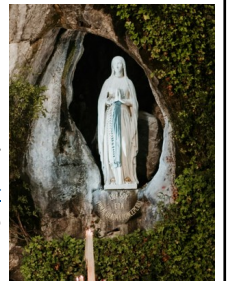
**Mass of Celebration - Tuesday 23rd July**

Please join us on Tuesday 23rd July at 7pm for a Mass to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of Canon Simon's Ordination to the Priesthood. Fizz and cake to follow in the Keenan Rooms, all are welcome.

**Safeguarding Drop In** - Claire and Jordana will be available for DBS 'surgery' on Sunday 21st July after 11am mass in the Keenan rooms.

**Lourdes Pilgrimage:** On Monday our young parishioners, Comfort and Austin, will be heading to France on the Lourdes Pilgrimage. Thank you to everyone for their kind donations which helped make this possible. Please keep them in your prayers whilst they are away.

**Prayer Intentions:** Bishop Philip has made arrangements with the Lourdes Pilgrimage team to take with him prayers for those unable to attend pilgrimage in person. If you would like the Bishop to offer a prayer for your intention at the Grotto in Lourdes this July please email your petition in confidence to [lourdespetition@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lourdespetition@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk). Alternatively, please use the paper and envelopes in the pink box in the church porch and Comfort and Austin will take them with them to give to Bishop Philip.



**Parish Coffee Morning - Thursday 25th July**

We invite you to drop in to The Keenan Rooms for coffee and biscuits and a chat on Thursday 25th July after 9.30am Mass until 12.00. This is an opportunity to meet and chat to other parishioners - catch up with old friends and make new ones. Everyone is welcome so please feel free to bring a friend.

**Ss. Joachim and Ann - Friday 26th July** - Whether or not Joachim and Ann are the real names of Mary's parents, this date is a great opportunity to celebrate grandparents everywhere. It reminds grandparents of their responsibility to establish a tone for generations to come and it reminds the younger generation that older people's greater perspective, depth of experience are all part of a wisdom not to be taken lightly or ignored.



**Significant Wedding Anniversary Mass - Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September**

Are you celebrating a 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup> or anniversary over 60 years? If so, Bishop Philip would like to invite you to a Mass of celebration. This will take place at St Bede's church in Basingstoke on **Saturday 7th September at 2pm**. It is a wonderful occasion to celebrate and witness to Marriage.

Please send an email to [anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) to request a form for you to complete and return. Please note this address is not monitored daily and you may have to wait for a reply, so please be patient. If you do not have access to the internet, please contact your own Parish office, who will have the form you need to complete. To help celebrate the occasion please could you provide a **COPY** of your Wedding photograph, you can upload it when you return the form. Again, if you have no access to the internet, you can post a **COPY** along with completed form by post to the following address: **St Bede's Parish Office, Popley Way, Basingstoke, RG24 9DX**. Please mark envelope Significant Wedding Mass.



**International Picnic 2024**

Following the success of the international summer picnic last year, we are holding it again this year! It will take place on Sunday 15th September after 11am Mass in the church and school grounds. All are welcome! Once more we are asking parishioners if they would like to contribute a national dish for sharing. Please click [here](#) to sign up. The social committee would like to wish you a very happy and relaxing summer and look forward to seeing you at this event in September.



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.



### A note to the Parish from the Chair of the Parish Finance Committee

You haven't had financial information for over two years so I'm writing with an update on where our Parish finances stand. The delay has been partly due to changes in our accounting systems as well as the change of the old Diocesan Trust to a 21<sup>st</sup> century Charitable Incorporated Organisation. In addition, we have refreshed the Committee adding Julia Braithwaite and Simon Spilsbury to the existing team of Canon Simon, Jeremy Best, George Ennis, Sue Nind and myself.

You have continued to be a generous Parish despite the pandemic and more recently the "cost of living crisis". As a result, our finances remain in good order and we are one of the best funded Parishes in the Diocese.

More specifically:-

- ◇ Your giving has continued at c £120k annually
- ◇ Our costs have stayed broadly the same and in percentage terms are:-
  - Clergy and staff 31%
  - Church 14%
  - Office, Presbytery and grounds 15%
  - Diocese 27%
  - General 13%
- ◇ We continue to record an annual surplus
- ◇ Since our year end in August 2021 our bank balances have risen from £250k to c£310k.

The stained glass windows for the East side of the church are fully funded with no Parish funds being required.

We are now in the process of receiving that part of your generous giving to the "Closer to Christ" campaign that will return c£80k to the Parish over 5 years.

In 2022 the Parish assets were subject to a professional Quinquennial inspection which has identified repairs across the estate. At present we are in the process of devising, pricing and assembling a programme of works with a professional surveyor, which will need to be agreed with the Diocese as it now oversees all significant non-routine spending. The likely numbers involved are c£150k over the next three years, on a whole range of small renovations and repair projects reflecting the need to reinstate the fabric of the estate. I will report more fully in late October after the year end accounts are prepared and reviewed by the Diocese. In the meantime, if you have any specific questions please contact me via the Parish Office.

In conclusion, we continue to operate as a standalone Parish, while working more closely with our sister Parishes in Bracknell and Crowthorne/Sandhurst (both in good financial standing), using our robust finances to now repair and improve the fabric of our estate and support any new projects the Parish may decide will help us deliver the Mission of the Church in Wokingham.

Gerry McCormack, Finance Committee Chair, July 2024



**St Vincent  
de Paul Society**  
England and Wales  
Turning Concern into Action

#### SVP Membership Support Officer (MSO)

The St Vincent de Paul Society is a Catholic lay organisation whose members seek out and help those in need in the community. **It would like to recruit an MSO for the Portsmouth diocese, which specifically includes the Bournemouth district,** to support member recruitment and development, provide general support for members and be the link between groups and National Office.

This is a part time, home-based role (15 hours per week – 2 days equivalent, with a salary of £11333 pa), working as part of the SVP Membership Team. It requires the ability to travel around the area to make recruitment appeals, work with existing groups, attend meetings and meet with interested parties where appropriate. Having your own transport is essential. Travel expenses are paid. For further information and details how to apply contact Lance Philpott, Head of Membership at [lan-cep@svp.org.uk](mailto:lan-cep@svp.org.uk)

What is God calling me to  
do in my life?

CALLED & GIFTED