



Corpus  
Christi

## Corpus Christi

### Wokingham

South Berkshire Pastoral Area

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth



Corpus  
Christi

Parish Priest: Canon Simon Thomson JV

Telephone: 0118 978 0348

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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/>

### **10th March 2024: Fourth Sunday of Lent - Year B**



From the minute we open our eyes in the morning, we are faced with choices. By the end of the day we have made hundreds of choices and not all of them good. In fact, we probably fail to choose God in a hundred and one different ways, yet God still loves us. How do we know? We know because every time we look at a Crucifix we are reminded of the sacrifice Jesus made out of love for us. Just as Moses held up a bronze snake on a pole to remind the Israelites of God's love, so we look to the Crucifix as a reminder that God doesn't condemn us for our mistakes but offers us a second chance of salvation. Too often we take God's love for granted. How could we make ourselves more deserving? We could begin by looking at all those choices we make on a daily basis. Do we choose to fritter our lives away in inconsequential activities, or do we choose to make the world a better place? Do we choose to bury our heads in the sand when we see someone bullied at work, or do we make a brave stand? Do we determine to look after ailing family members or do we put it off until we are less busy? Do we shroud our decisions in darkness and secrecy, or do we walk in the light with our heads held high?

But how do we start making good choices when we have spent so much time making poor ones? This is the beauty of reconciliation; our mistakes are part and parcel of making better choices from now on. We remember how it felt to make a bad choice and we don't want to go there again. Knowing what we are about is also a part of making good choices. Jesus knew what he was about and so must we. There's no better time than Lent to sit down and think about who we want to be. Lastly, once we have decided what choices we are going to make, we mustn't procrastinate. The Bible never tires of telling us that time is of the essence.

#### Mass Schedule and Intentions

##### **Saturday 9th March**

**11am - 12noon** Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

**4.45pm - 5.20pm** Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

**Vigil Mass (First Mass of Sunday)**

**5.30pm** Paddy Donohoe RIP

##### **Sunday 10th March - Fourth Sunday of Lent**

**9am** John and Julia Harrington RIP

**11am** Kathleen Vaughan RIP

##### **Tuesday 12th March - of the 4th Week of Lent**

**7pm** William and Winifred Sawyers RIP

##### **Wednesday 13th March - of the 4th Week of Lent**

**9.30am** The Thomson Family Intentions (UCM)

##### **Thursday 14th March - of the 4th Week of Lent**

**9.30am**

**8 - 9pm** Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

##### **Friday 15th March - of the 4th Week of Lent**

**7.30am** Ballubhai Maisuria RIP

**6.30pm - 6.55pm** Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

**7pm** Stations of the Cross

##### **Saturday 16th March**

**11am - 12noon** Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

**4.45pm - 5.20pm** Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

**Vigil Mass (First Mass of Sunday)**

**5.30pm** People of the Parish

##### **Sunday 17th March - Fourth Sunday of Lent**

**9am** Noeleen and Jim McGeehan RIP

**11am** Colin Whelan 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

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, Bernie O'Keeffe, Francesca Vincent, Neil Harman, Patricia Grayston, Pat Kerton, Jim Cuthbert, Pam Bedwell, Valerie Loughnane and Fr Jim Joyce.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Dennis Dent who passed away on Saturday 2nd March, for his wife Margaret and for his family and friends. Dennis' funeral Mass will be held on Thursday 21st March at 11.30am.

Please also pray for the repose of the soul of Colin Whelan who passed away on Sunday 3rd March, for his wife Gertrude and for his family and friends.

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



**Second Collection - Sunday 10th March  
Clergy Assistance Fund**

The Clergy Assistance Fund contributes to the work of the Department for Clergy Team, responsible for looking after the welfare, ongoing formation and personal support of our clergy, such as the provision of spiritual direction, counselling, appraisal, ongoing formation and practical advice. The team organises retreats, ministerial formation days, courses and sabbaticals. It looks after the junior clergy, the overseas clergy and especially the retired clergy.

Online donations can be made by using the following link: [donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/clergy-assistance-fund-second-collection-2024](https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/clergy-assistance-fund-second-collection-2024) or using the baskets in the porch. We are most grateful for your generosity and support.

**Safeguarding Drop In** - Claire and Jordana will be available for DBS 'surgery' on Sunday 10th March after 11am mass in the Keenan rooms.



**The 'Real Easter Egg'**

Hunt down the 'Real Easter Egg' this year – of 80 million Easter Eggs sold in the UK every year, this is the only one to tell the story of Easter. Not only that, the chocolate is

Fairtrade. You can order online at [eden.co.uk](https://eden.co.uk) or [meaningfulchocolate.co.uk](https://meaningfulchocolate.co.uk)



**Corpus Christi Africa Fund (CCAF)**

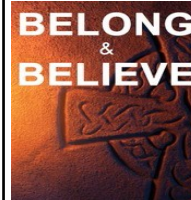
**Corpus Christ Africa Fund Appeal**

Please help support Our Lady of Nazareth Primary School in Nairobi. An update is attached, together with a Donation form. Thank you in advance for any support you can give.



**Mothering Sunday - 10th March 2024**

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is traditionally called Laetare Sunday, a celebration very much like Gaudete Sunday in Advent. For each of those Sundays, we can use rose-coloured vestments, and both Latin words can be translated, "rejoice." Both also announce to us that we are drawing ever closer to the feast for which we are preparing (Christmas for Gaudete Sunday, and Easter for Laetare Sunday). This day has also come to be known as 'Mothering Sunday' and has been celebrated in the UK on the fourth Sunday in Lent since the 16th century. On this Sunday it was expected that families should attend their nearest big church (the 'Mother Church'). On Mother's Day we pray especially for all mothers and thank God for the care and love they give to their children. It is a day to show our mothers our appreciation. Happy Mothering Sunday!



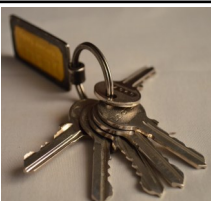
**Catholic Faith Exploration - The Parish**

will be running an interesting series of short films from CaFE about Celtic Christianity called Belong and Believe. Join us on Tuesday 12th March and Tuesday 19th March from 7.30pm until 9pm (at the very latest) Each session stands alone. Do join us in the Keenan Rooms. These films are very inspiring and can help us today to refresh our communities and renew our mission. Tea and coffee will be served. Please register your interest by using the following link: <https://forms.fillout.com/t/gAv9X2HchLus>



Please follow the link for current vacancies throughout the Diocese:

<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs>



**Keys**

We are currently updating our list of key holders therefore if you hold keys to either the Church or Presbytery please contact the Parish Office. Thank you.



**LiveSimply**

Two new ways to REDUCE your WASTE locally: BOOTS in the Market Place, Wokingham have installed a box where you can recycle medicine and vitamin **blister packs** of any brand (and can earn reward points if you wish).

**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.

And the new **Wokingham Repair Café** will open its doors at **All Saints' Church** on the second Saturday of the month starting on 13<sup>th</sup> April. If you are handy with pliers, screwdriver or sewing machine, they are looking for volunteer repairers and also receptionists/welcomers. If interested please visit their website <https://wokinghamrepaircafe.uk/> for more details and to register – and go along on 13<sup>th</sup> April if you have something for repair.

## Lenten Extras

### 1. Friday Mass time Changes

On the Fridays of Lent Mass will be at the earlier time of 7.30am. This gives those going to work or to school the opportunity to start the day with a time of quiet reflection.

### 2. Stations of the Cross

On Fridays at 7pm why not come and walk the Way of the Cross as we recall Jesus' Passion and death?

### 3. Sacrament of Reconciliation

Extra Confessions will be available on Fridays from 6.30pm to 6.55pm (before Stations of the Cross).

On Saturday 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> March Canon Simon will be available for individual Confession between 11am and 12 noon in the Confessional in the Church. Also, on these Saturdays in Lent the evening Confession time will begin at 4.45pm until 5.20pm.



## Parish Steering Group (PSG)

As is usual, the Corpus Christi parish pastoral council was disbanded when Fr. David left the parish. Last year, Canon Simon asked a group of parishioners to pray and discern with him what God might be asking of this parish. We came up with a vision to help Corpus Christi parish,

**"Build the kingdom of God guided by the Holy Spirit in a loving and welcoming community".**

So far, the PSG has initiated the Welcoming Ministry, the Parish Picnic, has oversight of the Confirmation programmes, and is working towards a new programme for Baptism preparation.

The Bishop's 10 year plan for the Diocese and its parishes, "You Will Be My Witnesses", was published in late 2023. What the plan means for our parish is now becoming a main focus of the PSG.

PSG members are: Canon Simon, Deacon Ben, Sue Nind, Nicola Cleary, Stefan Dahmann, Denise Oduntan, Jordana Onegi, Graham Powell, Ursula Skrakowski (Chair). Membership has already and will evolve, with an aim to reflect the diversity, talents, experience and views of our Parish.

We look forward to introducing ourselves in the coming weeks and encouraging everyone to help build our parish community. A contact email address for this group will be published shortly.

# TIME TO SAY GOODBYE

## A Date for your Diary: Farewell to Sr Thérèse

After spending the last sixty years in Wokingham Sr Thérèse will be moving to a convent in France at the end of April. Sr Thérèse's departure is a very significant moment for the parish as we say farewell not only to her but also to the Dominican Sisters of the Presentation of Our Lady who first arrived in Wokingham 120 years ago. To mark Sister's immense contribution to St Teresa's and to Corpus Christi and to give thanks for the presence of the Dominican Sisters over the years, a Mass of Farewell and Thanksgiving will be celebrated on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April (the Solemnity of St George) at 9.30am. As the departure of the Sisters is significant also for the town, civic and ecumenical guests have been invited. Everyone is welcome.

## Holy Week and Easter Services Times

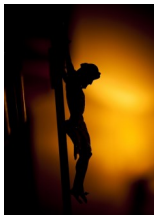
Thursday 28th March - Maundy Thursday - 8.00pm

Friday 29th March - Good Friday - Stations of the Cross at 10.30am

Friday 29th March - Good Friday - Celebration of the Lord's Passion - 3.00pm

Saturday 30th March - Holy Saturday - Easter Vigil at 8.00pm

Sunday 31st March - Easter Sunday - 9.00am and 11.00am



## Mass Intentions

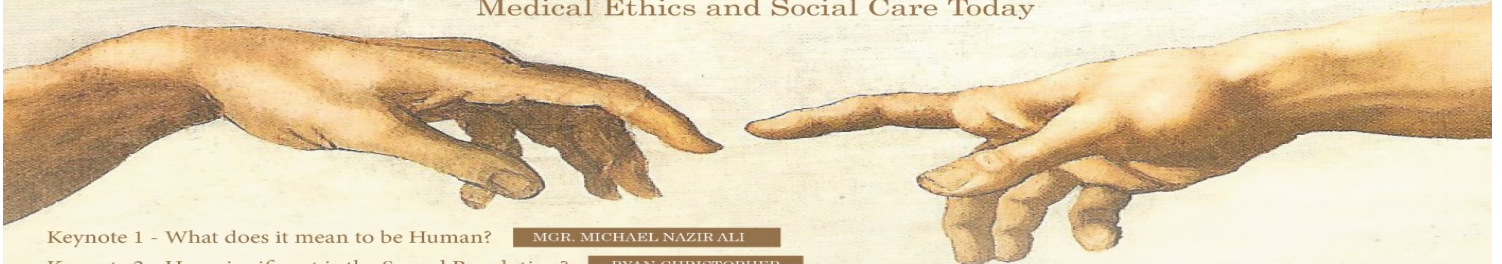
If you would like to have a Mass offered for a particular intention then please email (or phone) the details to the parish office.

The Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth's Dialogue with Cultural Sectors Team presents

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

# What does it mean to be Human?

Medical Ethics and Social Care Today



Keynote 1 - What does it mean to be Human?

MGR. MICHAEL NAZIR ALI

Keynote 2 - How significant is the Sexual Revolution?

RYAN CHRISTOPHER

Saturday 16th March 2024 10:00 - 16:15

The Arc, Jewry Street, Winchester, SO23 8SB

Tickets £20 (includes lunch and light refreshments) Scan the QR code with your smart phone or use this link: <https://what-does-it-mean-to-be-human-symposium.eventbrite.co.uk>



DAVID WELLS

Hosted by:



BISHOP PHILIP EGAN