



Corpus
Christi

Corpus Christi

Wokingham

South Berkshire Pastoral Area

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth



Corpus
Christi

Parish Priest: Canon Simon Thomson JV

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Website:- www.corpuschristi-wokingham.org

Link for live streamed Masses:

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

17th March 2024: Fifth Sunday of Lent - Year B



'Eat drink and be merry.... for tomorrow we die.' In a life or death situation, human nature would always prompt us to hold on to life no matter what the consequences, but in today's gospel a grain of wheat is used to teach us a valuable lesson. The selfless grain of wheat falls and dies to enable a fresh harvest. What point is there in choosing life, if that life boils down to nothing more than self-preservation? On the other hand, what great value death, if that sacrifice gives others life. Many of us fail to understand why Jesus perceived the necessity of going to Jerusalem where he knew he would die. Wouldn't it have made more sense for him to bypass Jerusalem and carry on teaching into his dotage? Jesus however, isn't about to compromise his purpose.

Jesus determines to give his life so others can find true life. This is what Christianity is all about. Jesus teaches us that we must 'die to self' before we can be of any use to God. Letting one's own ambition die to be replaced by God's plans for us? 'Dying to self'? Could we be blamed for not feeling enthused? How many of us really see the wisdom in ditching our own exciting life plans to go around being holy? Perhaps we need to think again about how exciting our ambitions really are. Perhaps sacrificing our own agenda and recognising God's plan in our lives could be the best and most exciting thing that ever happened to us. Perhaps sacrificing something of ourselves for a greater purpose could put us in touch with who we really are.

"Eat drink and be merry for tomorrow we die." This epitomises everything as Christians we are not!

Mass Schedule and Intentions

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 *Winnie Karombo - In Thanksgiving*

Sunday 17th March - Fifth Sunday of Lent

9am *Noeleen and Jim McGeehan RIP*

11am *Colin Whelan RIP*

Tuesday 19th March - St Joseph, Solemnity

7pm *Josef and Kaethe Dahman RIP*

Wednesday 20th March - of the 5th Week of Lent

9.30am *Private Intention*

(F) Foundation (P) Perpetual

Thursday 21st March - of the 5th Week of Lent

9.30am *Ann Nemeth's 80th Birthday in Thanksgiving*

11.30am *Funeral Mass for Dennis Dent*

8 - 9pm *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*

Friday 22nd March - of the 5th Week of Lent

7.30am *Brian Bayliss RIP (F)*

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

7pm *Stations of the Cross*

Saturday 23rd March

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

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

Vigil Mass (First Mass of Sunday)

5.30pm *All the Holy Souls in Purgatory*

Sunday 24th March - Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

9am *People of the Parish*

11am *David Guy Young 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

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 and Fr Jim Joyce.



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?

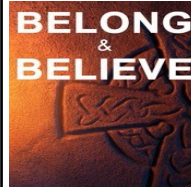
3. Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

On Saturday 16th and 23rd 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.

St Joseph, Husband of Mary Tuesday 19th March, Solemnity

Joseph was wholeheartedly obedient to God... In marrying Mary, in naming Jesus, in shepherding the precious pair to Egypt, in bringing them to Nazareth, in the undetermined number of years of quiet faith and courage. The Bible pays Joseph the highest compliment in calling him a “just” man. This just man lived his life by faith, seeking to do good in every concrete circumstance of life ... a model for fathers everywhere.



Catholic Faith Exploration - The Parish has been running an interesting series of short films from CaFE about Celtic Christianity called *Belong and Believe*. Join us for the last film on Tuesday 19th March from 7.30pm until 9pm (at the very latest) Do join us in the Keenan Rooms. The films have been 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>



marriage care

better relationships
better lives

Marriage Care Volunteers Needed!

Marriage Preparation Course Facilitators

Marriage Care is a Catholic organisation specialising in relationship support. We are looking for Marriage Preparation

Course Facilitators to prepare couples for the Sacrament of Marriage (full training is provided for this role), Qualified Relationship Counsellors to support couples in distress and Trustees to provide governance and strategic direction for the organisation. For more information please visit: www.marriagecare.org.uk or email: volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk

VOLUNTEER



Volunteer as a Receptionist/Chaperone for Marriage Care at Corpus Christi Church, Wokingham

Do you enjoy meeting people and putting them at ease? Would you welcome some quiet time knowing that your presence is helping our **vital** relationship counselling service?

We are looking for friendly and helpful volunteers who can spare a couple of hours on a weekday evening once a month to meet and greet couples who come for counselling and remain in the counselling venue during sessions. We are currently looking at a Monday evening, not to include bank holidays.

If you are interested, please email Hannah: wokingham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk by **Friday 12th April 2024**.

Help Needed!



Church Cleaning Team – a request for extra hands for the ‘big’ pre- Easter clean on Monday 25th March at 09.30 and perhaps to join the team on a more regular basis. We meet on a Monday at 09.30, and we have a rota for availability – it’s not necessary to sign up weekly! Please contact the parish office for further information.



Mass Intentions - If you would like to have a Mass offered for a particular intention then please contact the parish office. 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. Perhaps you have never thought of having a Mass offered before? 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.



**Divine Mercy
Apostolate**

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a Divine Mercy Reflection on Saturday 13 April 2024 from 1 pm to 4:30 pm at St Mary's R C Church, 157 Aldershot Road, Guildford GU2. The Reflection will include the Holy Rosary, teachings on the Message of Mercy, Stations of the Cross, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All Welcome. Please call Millie on 07957 594646 for more information.



Holy Week and Easter Services Times

- * Thursday 28th March - Holy Thursday - Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper - 8.00pm followed by watching at the Altar of Repose until midnight
- * 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



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.

Lost Property

If you have left any items in the Church or Keenan Rooms please take a look at the lost property (water bottles and a pair of glasses) standing on the first aid cabinet as well as articles of clothing hanging in the Keenan Rooms lobby.

Please follow the link for current vacancies throughout the Diocese:

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



Parish Coffee Morning

Please be aware that there will be **no** Parish Coffee Morning this month. The next one will be on Thursday 25th April. .

CANCELLED

Friday **22 March** is **UN WATER DAY for PEACE** focussing on the critical role water plays in the stability and prosperity of our world. Water can create peace or spark conflicts. Tensions rise when water is scarce, polluted or difficult to access. More than 3 billion people depend on water that crosses national boundaries yet only 24 countries have agreements to cooperate and share. Find out more at <https://www.un.org/en/observances/water-day>. Take action to save water or could you join a clean-up around a local river or lake and pray for peace?



EARTH HOUR on Saturday **23 March** at 8.30pm – join others across our world in doing something – anything – positive for our Common Home – we might turn off our lights and devices, turn our leftovers into a zero waste meal, go star-gazing or explore a career in conservation. See <https://www.earthhour.org/> for more ideas.



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 23rd 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.

Ann Wylie, Emma-Jane Pizer and others, on behalf of the parish and our Live simply campaign, are doing the Big Walk and the good news is we are more than halfway with over 300K walked so far between us. You can sponsor us using this link and check on updates. Thanks to all those who have already sponsored us. https://www.justgiving.com/team/corpus-christi-wokingham-big-lent-walkers?utm_medium=proxy_team&utm_content=team%2Fcorpus-christi-wokingham-big-lent-walkers&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=pfp-email

JustGiving sends your donation straight to The Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD) and automatically reclaims Gift Aid if you are a UK taxpayer, so your donation is worth even more. So please donate if you can as part of your Lent contributions

You might like to join Ann at in the **parkrun at Dinton Pastures 16th & 23rd March at 9.00am** – you don't have to run, you can jog or walk and bring the family and the dog! <https://www.parkrun.org.uk/dintonpastures/>

A. B. WALKER

Annual Memorial Service

Sunday 21st April at 4pm

Reading Minster Church of St. Mary the Virgin
St. Mary's Butts, Reading, RG1 2LG

All are welcome to join us for a heartfelt gathering of reflection, support, and shared memories.

www.abwalker.co.uk

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.