



Corpus Christi Wokingham

South Berkshire Pastoral Area
Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth



MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS N.B. All Masses will be livestreamed unless otherwise stated

The church will be open for public attendance for each weekday Mass, unless otherwise stated. The church doors will be opened 15 min before Mass starts.

Saturday 4th September - Vigil Mass
5.30pm *Martin Keelty RIP*

Sunday 5th September
Twenty-Third Sunday of Ordinary Time
10am *Tim Lamb RIP*

Tuesday 7th September - Feria
7pm *Paula and the Lamb Family*

Wednesday 8th The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Feast
10am *The O'Keefe Family*

Thursday 9th September - Feria
10am *Eunice Park RIP*

Friday 10th September - Feria
10am *Odran Steed RIP*

Saturday 11th September - Vigil Mass
5.30pm *People of the Parish*

Sunday 12th September
Twenty-Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time
10am *Robert Bedwell RIP*

(F) *Foundation Mass*
(P) *Perpetual Mass*

Important Contacts

Other Priests of the Pastoral Area:
Fr Marcus Brisley
(Crowthorne and Sandhurst) 01252 876820
Fr. Danny Mc Avoy (Bracknell)
01344 425729
Fr Kevin Bidgood (Ascot) 01344 620591

Safeguarding Team: Claire & Jordana
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Parish Office Opening Times :- Wednesday 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
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Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Registered Charity No. 246871

Parish Priest: Canon Simon Thomson
Assistant Priest: Father Anthony Ikhenoba
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Website:- www.corpuschristi-wokingham.org
Link for live streamed Masses:
<https://www.facebook.com/Corpus-Christi-Wokingham-100445488273222/>

5th September 2021: Twenty-Third Sunday of Ordinary Time - Year B



A 'bag lady' gets on the bus ranting and swaying. We spread ourselves out on the seat hoping against hope that she chooses to sit somewhere else. An old man stumbles in the high street and doesn't get up again. We suspect he's had too much to drink and hurry on. Perhaps someone else better qualified will lend a helping hand. We respond with fear and discrimination. It's a good job that

although many of us choose to close our eyes and ears, there are equally as many people who want to help. We only have to look at the number of aid agencies, charity campaigns and caring individuals to see signs of Jesus in our midst.

This is the significance of today's gospel story. What at first seems to be a straightforward account of the healing of a deaf man turns out to be much more. The story points to the miracle as a sign that Jesus was the Messiah the Jews had been expecting. It was prophesied that the ears of the deaf would be unsealed and that the tongues of the dumb would sing for joy. The curing of the deaf man was exactly the sort of miracle the Jews would have been expecting of the awaited Messiah. What seems like a straightforward account of a miracle takes us a step further. The deaf man happened to be a Gentile. In biblical times, orthodox Jews would have considered a Gentile unclean. By choosing a Gentile as the subject of his miracle, Jesus is telling us that there is no discrimination when it comes to God's salvation.

Today we ask God to help us see and hear the needs of others. There has never been a better time to show the world that Jesus is at the heart of our teaching. The migrant crisis that is on our news on a daily basis, shows some countries acting with empathy and others with inflammatory language and high barbed fences. We are reacting with the fear and discrimination that Jesus fought against. We cannot turn a deaf ear or a blind eye; we have to act like Christians in the way we speak, in the way we give, in the way we campaign and in our prayers.



Please remember all who are sick, especially, Joyce Unwin, Hugh Dwan, Mary Ann Froude, Daniel Sutton, Joseph Nemeth, Sarah White, John Butterworth, Pat Hall and Sr Veronica.

Covid-19 Reminders

We ask you to remain vigilant and help prevent spreading the virus.

- ◆ Please do not enter the church if you have COVID symptoms
- ◆ Please sanitise your hands when entering
- ◆ Wearing a face covering, in our enclosed space is advised
- ◆ Please be considerate of co-worshippers and respect personal space
- ◆ Maintain 1 metre distance where possible

**Please note that you no longer need to book seats online for weekend masses
Thank you for your cooperation**

Creation Time - 1st September to 4th October

During the 2021 Season of Creation thousands of Christians on six continents get together for a time of restoration and hope, a jubilee for our Earth. Please renew your commitment to supporting a climate changing charity or lessening your own carbon footprint. Click [here](#) for more information and to see if you can make a difference across the parish and diocese.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for September - An Environmentally Sustainable Lifestyle

Those of us above a certain age reacted with incredulity when supermarkets first started talking about selling water in plastic bottles. 'But it comes free in the tap,' we thought, 'it will never catch on.' Now a staggering 200 billion plastic water bottles are sold across the planet annually. So many of the daily choices we make that could improve our environment, like filling a jug of water from the tap rather than buying plastic bottled water, are very simple and sustainable choices. This month we join in Pope Francis's prayer for September ".....that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this."

Countdown to COP26 with CAFOD

Pope Francis will pay a brief visit to Scotland in November, to attend the 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow and with less than 2 months to go we need to help prevent communities who've done the least to cause the climate crisis from paying the biggest cost. **Time is running out! Please urge the Chancellor to act on climate before it's too late. Find out how at www.action.cafod.org.uk/page/85465/action/1**



Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary - 8th September

The Church has celebrated Mary's birth since at least the sixth century. A September birth was chosen because the Eastern Church begins its Church year with September. The September 8 date helped determine the date for the feast of the Immaculate Conception on December 8 (nine months earlier). Scripture does not give an account of Mary's birth.... the apocryphal Protoevangelium of James fills in the gap. This work has no historical value, but it does reflect the development of Christian piety. According to this account, Anna and Joachim are infertile but pray for a child. They receive the promise of a child that will advance God's plan of salvation for the world. Such a story (like many biblical counterparts) stresses the special presence of God in Mary's life from the beginning.



St Francis, Ascot, Fatima Devotions Knights of St Columba, Home Rosary Praying Group: Monday 6th to Friday 10th September at 1.30pm 30 minutes of praying the rosary as requested by Our Lady. Zoom ID: 79541720808 Password for each day: rosary



Walk for Sean – 19th September 2021 - Help us to raise £5000!

Over the last 5 years we have raised many thousands of pounds with our successful "Walk for Sean" campaigns. The walk is a lovely mixture of raising funds and an enjoyable social occasion and this year we are delighted that we can actually have a real live event once again. The £5000 will be to substantially improve the toilet block and associated facilities at our Brewerville school, as well as helping to maintain hygiene and safety during the time of Covid. For more information follow the link: www.seandevereux.org.uk/read-me

Stand with Afghanistan

Call for the UK to support the people of Afghanistan - Christian Aid Online Petition

As the Taliban take control of Afghanistan, millions of Afghan people are seeking safe passage - fearful of what comes next. The rights of Afghan women and girls are in jeopardy. Human rights defenders and civil society actors are now at grave risk. We must take action to protect those whose lives and rights are at stake. The UK Government must take responsibility and act with compassion. Christian Aid is inviting us to use our voice to demand the UK government massively increase its response, through:

- Increasing aid to Afghanistan and to neighbouring countries
- Providing more support for Afghans seeking refuge in the UK

Sign this online petition at www.christianaid.org.uk/get-involved/campaigns/stand-afghanistan

Our newsletters are also available on our new **website** where you may check mass times and all parish information: <http://www.corpuschristi-wokingham.org>