



Corpus Christi

Wokingham

South Berkshire Pastoral Area
Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth



Parish Priest: Canon Simon Thomson

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4th December 2022: Second Sunday of Advent - Year A



Change is a difficult notion for most of us. Like the Pharisees and Sadducees we probably think we are okay just the way we are. Then along comes John the Baptist with his Advent message "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand." It seems that staying just the way we are is not an option.

'Repentance' is an unfashionable word, but it simply means a 'change of direction'. It also implies that we should be sorry for our old way of life. But as John points out, saying 'sorry' isn't enough. We must be able to provide the proof of the pudding. Lip service is all too easy. Saying that we are sorry and that we want to change is good start, but unless we put any practical provision into place, our good intentions are going to remain exactly that.... good intentions.

John gives us a piece of very helpful advice for making our good intentions fruitful. In preparing a way for Christ in our lives we must "Make straight his paths." That means identifying the obstacles that have prevented us from getting things right in the past and removing them.

If we are serious about wanting to change, John has more advice to offer. "There is one who is more powerful who is coming after me. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." With the best will in the world our own lack of willpower can prevent us from realising our good intentions. This is where the Holy Spirit can help us. We need to ask the Holy Spirit to give us the vision and the will to produce the proof of the pudding.

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Saturday 3rd December

10.30am Mass for the anointing of the sick

5pm - 5.20pm Sacrament of Reconciliation

Vigil Mass (First Mass of Sunday)

5.30pm Deceased Members of the Laydon Family

Sunday 4th December - Second Sunday of Advent

9am Laurence Devereux RIP

11am Peggy and Charles Froud RIP

Tuesday 6th December - of the 2nd Week of Advent

7pm Chris Evans RIP

Wednesday 7th December - St Ambrose, Bishop, Doctor of the Church, Memorial

9.30am Bob Camponi RIP

Thursday 8th December - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Solemnity
8am

Friday 9th December - Of the 2nd Week of Advent
9.30am

Saturday 10th December

11am - 12noon Sacrament of Reconciliation

5pm - 5.20pm Sacrament of Reconciliation

Vigil Mass (First Mass of Sunday)

5.30pm Alfonso Sandino Olier RIP - 5th Anniversary

Sunday 11th December - Third Sunday of Advent

9am

11am

Parish Office Opening Times :-

Tuesday 10.00 to 14.00, Wednesday 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

Important Contacts

Other Priests of the Pastoral Area:

Fr Marcus Brisley

(Crowthorne & Sandhurst) - 01252 876820

Fr. Danny Mc Avoy

(Bracknell) - 01344 425729

Fr Kevin Bidgood (Ascot) - 01344 620591

Safeguarding Team: Claire & Jordana

Email: [safe-](mailto:safe-guardng.wok@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

guardng.wok@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

SVP: 01182 114130



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



Please remember all who are sick, especially, Joyce Unwin, Mary Ann Froude, Daniel Sutton, Sarah White, John Butterworth, Pat Hall, Joy Phillips, Kathy Kramers, Bernie O'Keeffe, Florence Longman, Fr Jim Joyce and Sr Veronica.

Mass for those who are sick with anointing: at Corpus Christi 10.30am on Saturday 3rd December. Tea and coffee in the Keenan rooms afterwards. If you need a lift to church please call the SVP on 07704-538226 or email mccormackng@yahoo.co.uk.



Corpus Christi Africa Fund (CCAF)

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The annual CCAF appeal and collection, postponed from Lent 2022, will take place this weekend. There will also be a collection next weekend. Please see the attached Update and donation form .

Welcome into the family of the Church - Please pray for Phineas Hutchinson who will be baptised at Corpus Christi on Saturday 3rd December.



Walk With Me Advent Booklets

Make Advent a special time of preparation for Christmas by picking up a Walk with Me Journey of Prayer booklet. There are copies for both adults and children priced at £1 each at the back of the Church. Please place the money in the baskets provided. Thank you.



Christmas Concert 4th December 2022

South Berkshire Singers with Saint Teresa's School Choir are giving a Concert of Christmas Music on Sunday 4th December in Corpus Christi Church at 4pm. The cost of tickets to be £5 per adult and children free. There will be a retiring Collection for the Corpus Christi Africa Fund. All net proceeds of the concert are also for the CC Africa Fund. Refreshments of wine and mince pies will be provided by the CCAF Committee. Due to the Bishops appeal for Financial Support for the Diocese the CCAF Committee decided that this Concert will be the main fundraising event for CCAF for this year.



Sounds of the Season



Wokingham Foodbank

The Foodbank has put together a 'reverse advent calendar' idea and is asking for 24 particular items to fill boxes for clients this Christmas. Please help us with donations (from a Christmas cake to washing-up liquid) to fill a box or two for our local food bank before December. If you are interested, please sign up at the back of church for one of the 24 items listed on the Advent Calendar and 'tick it off when you drop it off'. Thank you.

Christmas Mass Times

- * Saturday 24th - Christmas Eve - 4.00pm, 6.00pm and 9pm
- * Sunday 25th - Christmas Day - 10.00am
- * Monday 26th - No Mass



Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) - In addition to the usual Saturday evening time Canon Simon will be available to hear confessions at Corpus Christi on Saturday 10th, 17th and 24th December from 11.00am to midday.

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Solemnity - 8th December

The dogma of Mary being conceived without sin was defined by Pope Pius IX in 1854. Mary was chosen for her innocence and goodness to be the mother of Jesus. But the church teaches that she is our heavenly mother too. We can pray to Jesus through Mary. We can pray to her as a powerful intercessor, highly favoured by God... immaculately conceived. **NB Mass at 8am**

Corpus Christi and St Teresa's Christmas Celebration

This year we are joining with St Teresa's to hold a joint Christmas celebration. In the past you have always been very generous with donations of bottles for our tombola. If you are able to help us again with either bottles or chocolate we would be very grateful. Boxes for donations are in the porch. Don't forget everyone is welcome to join us for our celebration on Saturday 10th December between 1pm and 4pm and thank you for all the donations so far!



Parish Pantomime - Jack and the Beanstalk - Tickets Now on Sale

Dame Trott and her family are struggling. Prices are rising, sales in the farm shop are falling and Fleshcreep is demanding yet more taxes. What can the Trott family do to avoid the bailiffs? This family pantomime, brought to you by the Corpus Christi Parish Pantomime Group is full of the usual singing, dancing & silliness. Get your tickets now for 28th or 29th January 2023 for our version of Jack and the Beanstalk and you may just believe a cow can climb. Supporting First Days Children's Charity Wokingham. Tickets £5. Full details and online booking at <https://beanstalkpanto.eventbrite.co.uk>



All hands on deck! Your church



cleaning team would be grateful for some extra hands on Monday 19th December, from 09.30, to help get the church sparkling for Christmas. Bring your marigolds!

Christmas Fair - 10th December 2022

This year we are teaming up with the School Association from St Teresa's to create a magical Christmas experience for families of our Parish. We invite you to join us on a Christmas Journey, starting at 1pm in the Church. We will take you from the church through our Christmas village in the school. Hear some carols, write a letter to Santa, decorate a Christmas cookie and spend your elf tokens on our stalls and for the older children in our community there will be games and activities specifically for them! There will be incredible food from around the world and a chance to visit Santa. (All activities and stalls for children, and children's drinks will be free of charge.) Please come and join us for what we hope will be a wonderful community event.

