



Corpus Christi

Wokingham

South Berkshire Pastoral Area

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth



Parish Priest: Canon Simon Thomson

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Link for live streamed Masses:

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



23rd July 2023: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

Jesus compares the Kingdom of Heaven to a field in which the master has sown good seed. In the night, an enemy comes and plants weeds, so when the crop grows it is a mixture of wheat and weed. The servants' instinct is to pull the weeds out, but the master demands that the bad grow alongside the good, he himself will sort the wheat from the weeds at the final harvest.

It's a typical Palestinian problem, the darnel weed, which looks just like wheat in its early stages is a menace to the harvest. The roots of the darnel weed intertwine with the roots of the wheat. To pull the darnel out can jeopardise the harvest. Similarly, just as it's hard to tell the difference between wheat and darnel, so it's not always easy for us to tell the difference between good and evil. A bad person can change and become good, and a seemingly good person might not be as virtuous as we imagine. It's best if we refrain from judging; this job is best left to God.

In films and novels, the good guys always win and the bad guys always get their come-uppance. Happy endings satisfy our human sense of justice, but in reality justice seems strangely elusive. We come up against evil time and time again. Sometimes we get so angry that we want to take justice into our own hands. Sometimes we are incensed that God can allow evil to grow alongside good, but before we get too irate, maybe we need to stop and take a good long look in the mirror. What makes us so sure that we're not weeds too? Where did we get that assurance that we are represented in the parable as the wheat?

Rarely is reality black and white. We all have good and bad inside us. We all need to change, and we all deserve the opportunity to make those changes. Perhaps this is the reason Jesus' advises us to leave the evil to grow alongside the good. As Martin Luther King Jnr. once said, "God's purpose is not wrathful judgement. God's purpose is redemption, and the road to redemption is by way of reconciliation."

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Saturday 22nd July

5pm - 5.20pm *Sacrament of Reconciliation*

Vigil Mass (First Mass of Sunday)

5.30pm *Natividad Ramos RIP and Gorgonia Valenton RIP*

Sunday 23rd July - 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9am *Joe Nemeth RIP and Steven Nemeth RIP*

11am *Jack Picard RIP*

Tuesday 25th July - St James, Apostle, Feast

10am *Funeral Mass for Mary Dobson RIP*

Wednesday 26th July - Ss Joachim and Anne, Parents of Our

Lady, memorial

9.30am *Moir Buchanan RIP*

Thursday 27th July - Feria

9.30am *Trista and Tom Quash's Wedding Anniversary - In Thanksgiving*

8 - 9pm *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*

Friday 28th July - Feria

9.30am *Fr David O'Sullivan's Intentions*

Saturday 29th July

4pm - 5pm *Veneration of Relics*

5pm - 5.20pm *Sacrament of Reconciliation*

Vigil Mass (First Mass of Sunday)

5.30pm *Patricia Sanz RIP*

Sunday 30th July - 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9am *The Deceased Souls of the Gonsalves Family*

11am *Pat Hall RIP*

Parish Office Opening Times (temporary Summer opening) :-

Tuesday 10.00 to 14.00 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 McAvoy (Bracknell) - 01344 425729

Fr Kevin Bidgood (Ascot) - 01344 620591

Safeguarding Team: Claire & Jordana

safeguarding.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, Joy Phillips, Kathy Kramers, Bernie O'Keeffe, Francesca Vincent, Teresa Skeet, Neil Harman, Fr Jim Joyce and Sr Veronica.

Congratulations to Yulissa Mejia and Gibson Alvis who will be celebrating their Wedding at Corpus Christi next Thursday, 27th July at 1pm. We hope they have a wonderful day and enjoy many happy years together!



The Knights of St Columba's National Relic Tour 2023

The relics on display encompass a diverse array of saints, each with their own compelling story and heavenly intercession. Among the treasures to be showcased are relics of Saint Andrew, Apostle and Martyr, who was the brother of Saint Peter the First Pope; relics of Saint Margaret of Scotland, whose charity and piety was well known throughout her realm; and relics of Saint Columba of Iona, the patron saint of The Order of the Knights of Saint Columba, renowned for his missionary work and founding of monasteries. Please see the dates for our area below:

St Edward, Windsor - Wednesday 27th July 10.00am Mass

St Joseph, Maidenhead - Saturday 29th July 10.00am Mass

Corpus Christi, Wokingham - Saturday 29th July 4pm - 5pm Relics displayed for Veneration

St Joseph, Bracknell - Saturday 29th July 6.00pm Mass

St Francis, Ascot - Sunday 30th July 8.30am and 10.00am Mass



The National Relic Tour is not only an opportunity for personal spiritual growth but also a chance to strengthen the bond within the Catholic community. Through this event, the Order of the Knights of Saint Columba seeks to promote unity, encourage dialogue, and foster a sense of belonging among the faithful across the dioceses.



Parish Coffee Morning

Thursday 27th July

We invite you to drop in to The Keenan Rooms for coffee and biscuits and a chat on Thursday 27th July after 9.30am Mass until 12.00. This will be led by the Flower Arranging team, and 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.



Job Vacancies

The Diocese of Portsmouth are currently recruiting for a Parish Administrator at Fleet and Church Crookham parish. Please see the attached job advertisement and note the closing date for applications of 31st July 2023.



Catenian Provincial President's Mass

This weekend we expect a number of extra visitors from elsewhere for Sunday's 11:00am Mass which could put pressure on car parking. Please bear this in mind when planning your journey.

Calling all gardeners

Volunteers needed to spruce up the Presbytery garden over the summer and in time for our parish picnic on 3rd September. Please email Una at unasmith@outlook.com with your availability and she will coordinate and find the best date(s). Thank you



Parish Picnic/International Food – Sunday 3rd September



We would like to celebrate the diversity in our parish by inviting parishioners to bring a dish from their home country to share. If you would like to attend and/or contribute a dish please could you let Hannah in the parish office know as soon as possible. The picnic will start after the 11am Mass. All are welcome!



LiveSimply – WELL DONE if you were able to lower your carbon footprint when coming to Mass last weekend by foot, bike, scooter, public transport or car-sharing. If you were away (or forgot!), perhaps you can try to make a difference over the next month or so and record it on the chart on our noticeboard and also look for other opportunities to leave the car behind.

Holidays also allow time to get out into the garden and local green spaces. Why not spend fifteen minutes in a sunny spot taking part in the **Big Butterfly Count** in the next few weeks - see <https://butterfly-conservation.org/>. *Butterflies are fantastic indicators not only of other wildlife but the general health of our environment.*



Welcomers Needed

Our parish Welcoming Ministry is going really well - and now we need a few more people to join us. If you would like to help out every few weeks, please let the Parish Office know: your name, email address and phone number, and which weekend mass you normally attend. (We are particularly short of volunteers at 11.00).



St Francis Ascot Fatima Devotions KSC Home Prayer Group 30 minutes of praying the Rosary as requested by Our Lady. Monday 24th July to Friday 28th July at 1.30pm. Zoom ID: **73501916332** Password for each day: **rosary**



Important! 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.

