



Corpus Christi

Wokingham

South Berkshire Pastoral Area

Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth



Parish Priest: Canon Simon Thomson

Telephone: 0118 978 0348

Office e-mail: wokingham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Website:- www.corpuschristi-wokingham.org

11th December 2022: Third Sunday of Advent - Year A



It's at this time of year that our children are asking for every new toy they see on the TV. Our children's expectations are unrealistic. Today's gospel is all about unrealistic expectation.

From his prison cell John the Baptist sends word to Jesus. "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answers, "Go and tell John what you hear and see. The blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them." It's interesting that Jesus doesn't send back a "Yes I am," kind of answer. Rather he sends a "Work it out yourself," kind of answer. He asks John to look at the

evidence. It seems strange that John, normally so certain and so confident should declare a doubt, but perhaps we can understand his disappointment. John has been arrested and thrown into prison. He is feeling tired and disillusioned. It is likely that he'd had misguided expectations of Jesus. Perhaps he'd expected Jesus to come in the manner of a king or of a great warrior with the power to conquer the oppressor. John has some working out to do. John needs to understand that the work of a Messiah is to teach God's love, not just push a few Romans around.

So what of our own expectations? Do we expect God to sort out all our problems and make our lives easy and comfortable? Or do we believe that God is there to help change us and guide us through our daily choices. Do we understand that God is preparing us for his kingdom? Perhaps we have some working out of our own to do.

Mass Schedule and Intentions

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 *Joseph Bredin RIP*

11am *Tom Hessron RIP*

Tuesday 13th December - St Lucy, Virgin, Martyr, Memorial

7pm *Private Intention*

Wednesday 14th December - St John of the Cross, Religious, Doctor of the Church, Memorial

9.30am *Patrick Keelty RIP - 5th Anniversary*

Thursday 15th December - Of the 3rd Week of Advent

9.30am *Martin Gallagher RIP*

Friday 16th December - Of the 3rd Week of Advent

11am *Funeral Mass for Margaret Price RIP*

Saturday 17th December

11am - 12noon *Sacrament of Reconciliation*

5pm - 5.20pm *Sacrament of Reconciliation*

Vigil Mass (First Mass of Sunday)

5.30pm *Gordon Fowle RIP*

Sunday 18th December - Fourth Sunday of Advent

9am *Denise Oduntan's Birthday - In Thanksgiving*

11am *Andrew Robertson RIP*

(F) Foundation (P) Perpetual

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.

Welcome into the family of the Church - Please pray for Sienna Marques Neves who will be baptised at Corpus Christi on Sunday 11th December.



Important! Children should not go unaccompanied to the toilet during Mass. This is for their own safety and they should be with an adult at all times. Thank you.



Gaudete Sunday

The third Sunday of Advent is called 'Gaudete Sunday' and is a day for rejoicing, 'Gaudete' being the Latin word for 'rejoice'. At this midpoint in Advent we pause to remember everything that we should feel joyful about. Today is the day we light the rose coloured candle in the Advent wreath.

Safeguarding Surgery

Both Claire and Jordana are available on Saturday 10th December after 5.30pm Mass to answer questions about volunteering and the DBS process at Corpus Christi.

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!



Corpus Christi Africa Fund (CCAF)

Corpus Christi Africa Fund (CCAF)

Thank you to everyone who donated following the CCAF appeal last weekend. There will be a collection again this weekend. Please see the attached Update and donation form .



Wokingham Foodbank

We had a good response to the 'reverse advent calendar' and all items have now been delivered to the Foodbank. A big thank you to you all for your generosity. If you would still like to donate to the Foodbank they are short of the following items: coffee, fruits squash, custard, rice pudding and pasta sauce. Thank you

Christmas Fair - 10th December 2022

We look forward to seeing you at the joint Christmas Celebration! We have teamed 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.



**Parish Coffee Morning
15th December**

We invite you to drop in to The Keenan Rooms for coffee and biscuits and a chat on Thursday 15th December after 9.30am Mass until 12.00. 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.



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>



Thank you to all our parish groups who have decorated the Christmas Tree in the church porch so beautifully. There is also a **Remembrance Tree** which is for parishioners to decorate with an angel, on which you can write the name of a loved one who will not be with you this Christmas. The angels (and pens) are in a box at the foot of the tree. Canon Simon will then offer mass for all those named on the tree on Friday 30th December at 9.30am .



Crisis- Together we will end Homelessness

Donate to Crisis at Christmas today and stand with someone facing homelessness. Your gift can help someone leave homelessness behind for good. <https://www.crisis.org.uk/get-involved/donate-to->



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.