



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/>

22nd March 2026: Fifth Sunday of Lent - Year A



Fifth Sunday
of Lent

The most unsettling parts of the Bible are the bits where Jesus doesn't do exactly what we expect. Today Jesus' good friends Mary and Martha send him a message to come quickly because their brother Lazarus is dying. We would expect Jesus to drop everything and go quickly to their house. Instead, he hangs around for a couple of days and does nothing. What can he be thinking of? In truth, the delay is an essential part of the story. If Jesus had simply raised Lazarus from feeling unwell the story would have lacked poignancy, and no one would have had their faith significantly deepened that day. That Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead has a dramatic and profound impact on all not least Lazarus himself.

We might have expected Lazarus to have more to say on the matter. We might wish that he had shared a couple of life after death experiences with us, but it seems that Lazarus and his experiences are not really the point of the story. The main point of the story is Jesus' ability to transform the meaning of life and death for those who trust in him. Jesus says, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die." In bringing Lazarus back to life, Jesus shows the crowds that death need hold no fear for those who place their trust in him. It is truly life changing to know that we are invited to place this much faith in God. To know that God can handle any situation in which we find ourselves, and that he knows how to lead us through it. All we have to do is focus our faith on God rather than our own imagined solutions. Expect surprises. Expect a God who can guide us through life with all its challenges.

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Saturday 21st March

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

Vigil Mass (First Mass of Sunday)

5.30pm *Canon Simon's Intentions*

Sunday 22nd March - Fifth Sunday of Lent

9am *Brian Bayliss RIP (F)*

11am *People of the Parish*

Tuesday 24th March - of the 5th Week of Lent

7pm *Sally McGee RIP*

Wednesday 25th March - The Annunciation of the Lord, Solemnity

8.30am - 9.30am *Silent Adoration*

9.30am *Zach Harris' Healing*

(F) Foundation (P) Perpetual

Thursday 26th March - of the 5th Week of Lent

9.30am *Carolyn Davies' Intentions*

8 - 9pm *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*

Friday 27th March - of the 5th Week of Lent

7.30am *Gregory Arthur RIP (F)*

7pm *Stations of the Cross*

Saturday 28th March

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

Vigil Mass (First Mass of Sunday)

5.30pm *George McCormack RIP - 1st Anniversary*

Sunday 29th March - Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

9am *John and Julia Harrington RIP*

11am *Andrew Robertson RIP - 9th Anniversary and Bruce Robertson 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

crowsand@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Fr. Danny McAvoy (Bracknell) - 01344 425729

office@bracknellcatholicchurch.org

Safeguarding Team: Claire & Jordana

safeguarding.wok@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

SVP: 01182 114130

CTW Rep: dougcleary91@gmail.com

Parish Steering Group:

ccsteering.wok@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk



Parish Office Opening Times - Tuesday 10.00 to 14.00, Wednesday and Thursday 09.30 to 12.00, and Friday 10.00 to 14.00

Parish Administrator: Hannah Procter



Please remember all who are sick, especially, Joyce Unwin, Mary Ann Froude, Daniel Sutton, John Butterworth, Kathy Kramers, Neil Harman, Jim Cuthbert, James Phillips, Rita King, Norma Pover, David Thomas, Derek Davey, Maria Howse and Carolyn Davies.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Terry Rogers, who passed away on Sunday 15th March, and for his family at this time of sorrow. Terry's Funeral Mass will be held at Corpus Christi on Tuesday 28th April at 11am followed by Committal at Easthampstead Park Crematorium at 12.30pm.



*Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let Your perpetual light shine upon him.
May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.*

Second Collection - Clergy Assistance Fund Sunday 22nd March

The Clergy Assistance Fund contributes to the work of the Department for Clergy Team. The Department for Clergy, which has four members of staff, exists to provide care and support for the ordained in our Diocese. The Diocese of Portsmouth is responsible for supporting the diocesan clergy in active ministry, those from religious orders, the Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham or overseas, and our retired priests, who with dedication and care serve our parishes, chaplaincies, schools, outreach and mission: bringing people closer to Jesus Christ through His Church. This appeal resources our Diocese to assist our priests towards holiness, happiness and health - to serve those who serve us. The Clergy Support Team is responsible for looking after the welfare, ongoing formation and personal support of our clergy, such as the provision of spiritual direction, counselling, appraisal, ongoing formation and practical advice. It organises retreats, ministerial formation days, courses and sabbaticals. It looks after the junior clergy, the overseas clergy and especially the retired clergy. It is the principal mechanism through which the Bishop looks after the wellbeing of the clergy. Please use the DONA machines or baskets in the church porch or the link to donate: [Diocesan Clergy Assistance Fund 2026 - Give as you Live Donate](#)
Thank you for your support.



Safeguarding Drop In - Claire and Jordana will be available for DBS 'surgery' and Q&A this **Sunday, 22nd March** after 11am Mass in the Keenan rooms.

To all Missio and Red Box supporters:

There are new Spring 2026 Mission Today magazines at the back of the church. Feel free to help yourself to a copy and read updates describing the training of priests in Kenya, India, Malawi, Nigeria and Sri Lanka as well as news of missionary work in Myanmar. Please remember that you can use the parish DONA machine for Missio donations throughout the year, or you can donate via your usual method."



CAFOD Big Lent Walk 2026

The Corpus Christi Youth Group are taking part in CAFOD's Big Lent Walk 2026. During the 40 days of Lent, they will be walking, running, or strolling a total of 750km to raise £750.00 to support our neighbours around the world who are facing poverty. Any donations would be greatly appreciated. You can donate via the link below or by using the Dona machines at the back of the church.



[Corpus Christi YG The Big Lent Walk is fundraising for CAFOD](#)

Thank you for your generosity and support.

CAFOD A better world needs all of us

Our Parishioner Ann Wylie is making good progress with her Big Lent Walk for CAFOD and you can sponsor as she does the final days of this challenge here.

[Ann's fundraising page is fundraising for CAFOD](#)



Lenten Extras 2026

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?

Lent Penitential Service and extra Confession times

A Penitential Service for the Pastoral Area with the opportunity for individual confession will be held at the Immaculate Conception church, Sandhurst on Thursday 26th March at 7.30pm. In addition, there will be extra times for confession on Saturdays at Corpus Christi: 21st, 28th March and 4th April from 11am to 12 Noon. Confession is also available every Saturday from 4.45pm until 5.20pm. Please use these opportunities to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for Easter.



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.



Job Vacancies - Please follow the link for details of our [current vacancies](#) in the Diocese of Portsmouth and how to apply.



**Parish Coffee Morning
Thursday 26th March**

We invite you to drop in to The Keenan Rooms for coffee and biscuits and a chat on Thursday 26th March after 9.30am Mass until 12.00. The coffee morning is a great 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.



Calling All Altar Servers

Canon Simon and Jeremy will be holding a Holy Week Altar Servers practice at 4.00pm on Wednesday 1st April. If you have signed up to serve at any of the Holy Week Services (Thursday (8.00pm), Friday (3.00pm) and Saturday Vigil (8.00pm) please ensure you attend this practice.

Polite Request

Please do not place notices or flyers on the pinboard, or leave leaflets and literature on the cupboards in the church porch, without first seeking approval from the Parish Office. Thank you for your cooperation.



CLUBINHO VERDE AMARELO
Aulas de Português e Cultura Brasileira para Crianças!

- AULA EXPERIMENTAL GRÁTIS!
- Sábados: 11h30 - 12h30
- Local: Holt School, Wokingham

Inscreeva-se já!
✉ clubinhoverdeamarelouk@gmail.com

The Financial Support of our Parish

To support the parish financially please consider setting up a monthly standing order. If you are a tax payer and can help further by using 'Gift Aid', please ask the parish office for a form.

Bank Details:

A/c Name: CDP Wokingham Corpus Christi,
Sort Code: 30-93-04,
A/c No: 00891666

Or if you prefer not to have a regular standing order, please consider using the digital collection plates or the QR code.

Thank you for your ongoing support.



Passion Play - Reading 3rd and 4th April 2026

Rise Theatre CIC, a local professional Christian theatre company, are again performing their Passion Play in Forbury Gardens (RG1 3BB) in central Reading at **2.00pm on both Good Friday 3rd April and Saturday 4th April**. It is a **FREE** event. Bring a blanket or outdoor chair to sit on! The play includes a dramatic interpretation of the crucifixion so parental guidance is advised. See www.risetheatre.co.uk/passionplay for more information and to WATCH THE VIDEO TRAILER. Please support this local initiative during the Easter weekend and invite your friends too!

Holy week

SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday (March 29):

5.30pm (Saturday Vigil) • 9am • 11am (Procession at all Masses)

The Easter Triduum

Maundy Thursday (April 2):

8pm Mass of the Lord's Supper (followed by watching the Altar of Repose until midnight)

Good Friday (April 3):

10.30am (Stations of the Cross)
3pm (Celebration of the Lord's Passion)

Holy Saturday (April 4):

8pm (The Easter Vigil)

Easter Sunday (April 5):

Masses at 9am • 11am