

CHRIST THE KING & ST. COLMAN (Bitterne) OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION (Hedge End) ST. BRIGID (West End)

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

Registered Charity number 1199568

Parish Priest: Fr. Elijah Fru Nde (emergency use phone number 0777 466 7010)

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6th Sunday of Easter: Year B, Cycle II

5th May 2024

Sixth Sunday of Easter

This Sunday, 5th May, is the Sixth Sunday of Easter. Deacon Tony Darroch offers this commentary on the readings...

The Gospel today, taken from the final discourse Jesus had with his disciples on Holy Thursday; is centred on love. Here we have Jesus repeating his command to love, but this love is not from some romantic novel. This is a love where one gives of oneself, completely and without counting.

Jesus tells the disciples where this love comes from. This love comes from the Father. Jesus gives an example of how we can demonstrate our love; quite simply he says that if we wish to remain in Christ's love then we will keep his commandments. Jesus cites his own example of how He has remained in the Father's love, he kept the father's commandments, therefore we must follow this example. We are also to follow the example Jesus had given before he started speaking. Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, another sign of that pure love, a love with service at the heart of it. Jesus the master, got down on his hands and knees and washed the feet of his disciples. When I see our priest do this on Holy Thursday, I find this to be such a moving Liturgy. Remembering that Jesus was aware of what was going to happen to him; yet He carried on teaching and setting examples for us; loving us. The other key part from this Gospel, is

that we did not choose Jesus, He chose us; just as He chose to die on the cross for us. Thus demonstrating [and again, giving us the example] the greatest love of all, is where a man or a woman lays down their life for another person.

When we read Scriptures, or listen to them during our Liturgy, we are not doing so blindly or in a vacuum. Scriptures are meant to be digested and change us. This Gospel, being about love, calls us to love. So, what does that mean for us as individuals and as Parish Communities when we look out at the wider community we live in? For me, as a deacon, it prompts and drives me to look out for the unloved, the lonely, the poor in our society. Those on the peripheries; they may have addictions; they may have poor mental health. I am called to love them without judgement. We are called to serve them and take Jesus to them. Today, we are all challenged to ask ourselves, what does God want me to do? How does He want me to share his love with my neighbour?

(Reflection from Bishop Phillip in this week's Diocesan eNews)

Sunday's Readings:

Daily Readings

<https://universalis.com/europe.english/20240505/mass.htm>

Reflections

<http://www.mycatholic.com/>

Diocesan eNews

<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/communications/news/enews/>

UK Catholic Newspapers

<https://www.churchpaper.co.uk>

6th Sunday of Easter 5th May 2024

Today we welcome Fr Paul Nwune who will be saying Mass in all three churches

9.15am **Our Lady of the Assumption** (Hedge End)

11.00am **Christ the King & St Colman** (Bitterne)

5.30pm **St. Brigid** (West End)

6.00pm **Christ the King & St Colman** (Bitterne)

Polish Mass

Weekday Mass Times (7th – 12th May)

OLA – Our Lady of the Assumption (Hedge End)

CKSC – Christ the King & St. Colman (Bitterne)

SB – St Brigid (West End)

Tue 7 th	10.00am	OLA	<i>For the people</i>
Wed 8 th	10.00am	SB	NO MASS
	7.00pm	SB	<i>Vigil - Ascension of the Lord Bernadette Consdale RIP</i>
Thu 9 th	10.00am	CKSC	<i>Ascension of the Lord For the people</i>
	7.30pm	OLA	<i>Holy day of Obligation For the people</i>
Fri 10 th	10.00am	OLA	<i>Rita Hensworth RIP & family</i>
Sat 11 th	10.00am	CKSC	<i>Linda McDonald RIP Baptism of Olivia Dinnage within the Mass</i>
	1.00pm	SB	<i>Wedding of Clare O'Brien and Nicholas Hayes</i>
	Sun 12 th	9.15am	OLA
	11.00am	CKSC	<i>The Reading Family</i>
	5.30pm	SB	<i>Siobhan Waters RIP</i>
	6.00pm	CKSC	<i>Polish Mass</i>

Exposition & Rosary at 9.30am before Mass (Tues – Fri)

Sacrament of Confession is available on request

Please consider offering Mass Intentions for families and friends (contact Fr. Elijah or Parish Office)

Easter Collections:

Your Easter Donations via the Give as you Live websites, would be sincerely appreciated:

CKSC: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/southampton-christ-the-king-and-st-colman-catholic-parish-easter-collection-2024>

OLA & SB:

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/hedge-end-our-lady-of-the-assumption-and-st-brigid-catholic-parish-easter-collection-2024>

Keep in touch with Portsmouth Diocese

@PortsmouthRC Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

@PortsmouthRC

<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/>

If you have news to share, contact:

communications@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Confirmation

Our next session is on Wednesday 8th May, 7.30pm in CKSC church. We are moving towards committing to receive this important sacrament, so please come.

Pentecost May 19th

Save the date!! We will have an international feel to the mass at CKSC. Followed by an international shared lunch. Please bring something representative of your culture!! All welcome to join us for mass, lunch or both.

Novena to the Holy Spirit

Leaflets are available at the back of all the churches for use to pray this Novena. Please only take one if you are committed to pray. Let us all pray for a renewal in the Spirit so that our churches will be alive in Christ.

Baptism of Olivia Dinnage

We welcome Olivia Dinnage who will be baptised at Christ the King & St Colman, Bitterne during the 10am Mass on Saturday 11th April. Please keep Olivia and her family in your prayers.

Wedding of Clare O'Brien and Nicholas Hayes

Congratulations to Clare O'Brien and Nicholas Hayes who celebrate their marriage at 1.00pm on Saturday 11th May at St. Brigid's Church

Faith on Fire group not meeting until July

There will be no Faith on Fire for March, April, May and June, until after the confirmation on 30th June.

OPEN CHURCH: Our Lady of the Assumption

Our Lady of the Assumption Church in Hedge End is open for private prayer every Thursday from 10am until midday. To join the rota, please contact Pauline or Jane.

OLA - Friday Soup 10th May 2024

First Friday Soup for May will be on the **Second Friday of May!**

Please do come along and join us for a lunch of delicious home-made soup and crusty bread being served from **12.00 noon on FRIDAY 10th MAY in Our Lady of the Assumption Church Hall.**

There is no charge. However, donations will be gratefully received for CAFOD.

We look forward to seeing you on 10th May.

With thanks and God bless.

CKSCOLASB Calendar of Events

OLA – Our Lady of the Assumption (Hedge End)

CKSC – Christ the King & St. Colman (Bitterne)

SB – St Brigid (West End)

MAY

- Thu 2nd 10.30am-12pm **Prayer Group** (CKSC)
10am-12 noon **Open Church** (OLA)
- Sun 5th **Tea, Coffee, Biscuits & friendly chat**
after Mass (CKSC Hall)
- Tue 7th 9.30am-12pm **Table Tennis** (OLA Hall)
7.30-9pm **Growing in Faith** (OLA)
- Thu 9th 10.30am-12pm **Prayer Group** (CKSC)
10am-12 noon **Open Church** (OLA)
- Sun 12th 12.30-2pm **Youth Meeting** (CKSC)
Tea, Coffee & Cake after Mass (SB Hall)
- Tue 14th 9.30am-12pm **Table Tennis** (OLA Hall)
7.30-9pm **Growing in Faith** (OLA)
- Wed 15th 7.00-8.30pm **Carer's Group** (OLA Hall)
- Thu 16th 10.30am-12pm **Prayer Group** (CKSC)
10am-12 noon **Open Church** (OLA)
- Sun 19th **Children's Liturgy** during Mass (OLA)
- Tue 21st 9.30am-12pm **Table Tennis** (OLA Hall)
7.30-9pm **Growing in Faith** (OLA)
- Thu 23rd 10.30am-12pm **Prayer Group** (CKSC)
10am-12 noon **Open Church** (OLA)

Recurring Events

Our Lady of The Assumption (Hedge End)

- **Tea Coffee, Biscuits, Friendly Chat** (and often cake) in the hall every Sunday after Holy Mass
- **Children's Liturgy** during Mass every 3rd Sunday of the Month (except in July/August)
- **Carers Group** on third Wednesday of every Month from 7.00pm to 8.30pm
- **Growing in Faith** every Tuesday evening 7:30-9pm
- **Table Tennis** every Tuesday from 9.30am to 12pm
- **Open Church** Thursday from 10am-12 noon (OLA)

Christ the King & St. Colman (Bitterne)

- **Prayer Group** every Thursday 10.30am-12 noon
- **Children's Liturgy** for 4 to 7-year-olds every Sunday
- **Faith on Fire** 8-9pm last Wednesday of every month except **March, April, May, June, December**
- **Youth Meetings** 12:30 -14:00 on 2nd and 4th Sundays of every month
- **Tea, Coffee, Biscuits & friendly chat** in the hall every 1st Sunday of the month

St Brigids (West End)

- **Tea, coffee & cake** every 2nd Sunday of the month after Mass

If you would like a future event to be included in the Calendar of Events, kindly advise the Parish office.

Invitation to leave a legacy for CAFOD

Join CAFOD's Director Christine Allen to explore the power of leaving a gift in your Will to make a lasting impact in the world, at Our Lady of Sorrows & St. Philip Benizi in Fordingbridge SP6 1EG on Tuesday 18 June, 10.45am to 12:25pm.

To find out more and to book your place please go to cafod.org.uk/legacyevent

Sudan Crisis Appeal 2024

Millions of families in Sudan, forced to flee their homes amid conflict, now face yet another urgent crisis- extreme hunger. please give to CAFOD's Sudan Crisis Appeal in church or at cafod.org.uk/sudanappeal. Your donation will help CAFOD's partners to support more families with food packages and help to get medicines, as well as rebuilding water pipelines so clean water can reach communities who need it. Thank you for your generosity and your prayers.

Special Ministers of the Eucharist

Please can anyone who has been, is currently, or wishes to be a Eucharistic Minister contact the church office so we can update our information list.

We are especially in need of ministers who would be willing to visit parishioner at home or their place of care.

Father Elijah is talking to the deanery about Eucharistic minister training. The idea is that those who have previously done a course should carry out refresher training.

CAFOD - A Year of Encounter

A Year of Encounter is a joint initiative between CAFOD and St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP). Please see cafod.org.uk/encounter for more information, including online sessions on Thursday 25th April and Saturday 4th May to learn more.

CAFOD provides practical support to people and communities in need around the world. We are all invited to play our part in creating the social conditions necessary to build a world that reflects the Kingdom of God.

Parish Web Pages on Diocesan Website

Parish web pages are on the diocesan website at:

- [Christ the King & St Colman](#)
- [Our Lady of the Assumption](#)
- [St Brigid](#)

They can also be selected from

www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/parishes/

Continuing Support of the Church

Please consider setting up a **standing order**.

For Christ the King & St Colman:

Account Name: CDP Christ the King & St Colman

Sort code: 30-93-04

Account Number: 00887553

For Our Lady of the Assumption and St Brigid:

Account Name: CDP Hedge End Our Lady

Sort code: 30-93-04

Account Number: 00879747

Please use your surname as a reference.

Make out cheques for Fr Elijah to Rev Fru N Elijah

Thank you for your support.

Caritas Portsmouth

Caritas Portsmouth is hosting Sue Carter from the Alzheimer's Society, to run a Dementia Friends Information Session for anyone interested in hosting a Dementia Café, looking to make their parish more Dementia Friendly or just want to know more to support people in their family or community. The session will be held online on **Tuesday 21st May at 7pm**. Please register in advance [HERE](#).

For more information please contact us at caritas@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or visit <https://caritasportsmouth.org.uk>



STELLA MARIS – RING OF PRAYER (6th to 10th May)

Dear Parishioners, we have been invited, as a joint Parish, by Stella Maris to take on one week of a 50 week Ring of Prayer around the UK. This is in support of Seafarers, Fishers, SM Chaplains and the Ocean Environment

Stella Maris Rosary Prayer will take place before weekday Masses, at all three of our Churches, starting 09:30am. We are further encouraged to pray as families, at home, on each of the days allocated to us, using specific prayers for each day. This is a beautiful way to support Stella Maris and introduce our children to Rosary Prayer, and the joy of praying for others.

Full details of the prayers for each day can be found on this website -<https://sailingpilgrimages.co.uk/ring-of-prayer/>.

Contact Russ Fairman for more information

russ.fairman@gmail.com

Mobile: +44 (0) 7985 433953

Lord Mayor of Southampton's Charity

Sunday 5th May at 2.30pm, as one of her final acts as the Right Worshipful the Lord Mayor of Southampton, Councillor Valerie Laurent will as 'Admiral of the Port', host the traditional Rogation Service on board the prestigious steamship, SS Shieldhall celebrating the Solent Waters.

All those who wish to celebrate the importance of the Solent waters to Southampton in providing a recreational, business and natural resource, are invited to join her.

A service will take place followed by refreshments with musical accompaniment by the Albion Band and Sea shanties sung by the Southampton Salty Sea Dogs. The event is ticket only for a £5 donation to include refreshments and available through Eventbrite https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/blessing-of-the-waters-tickets-658568214257?aff=ebdssbdestsearch&keep_tld=1.

Participants will also have an opportunity to visit the engine room.

All funds will go to the Lord Mayor's three chosen charities: Saints Foundation, the Southampton Sea Cadets, and Southampton City Farm and the SS Shieldhall.

Safeguarding - E-Learning

In accordance with the national safeguarding standards, training is mandatory for anyone who holds a role within the parish working with either

- children
- adults at risk or those who might otherwise be vulnerable.

Training must be refreshed every 2 years.

If your training is not up to date, please register for either face-to-face or on-line training at:

<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/safeguarding/training/>

or scan the QR-code.

Attendees will receive certificates on completion of their training to support continuing ministry.



DIOCESAN VACANCIES

View vacancies at:

<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs>