



Immaculate Conception & St Joseph Parish

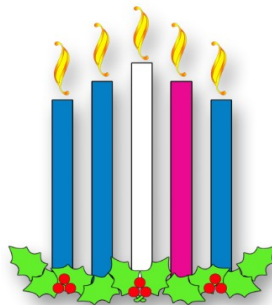
67 Purewell, Christchurch, BH23 1EH

PARISH PRIEST - Rev. Paul Obada pobada@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
 PARISH DEACON - Rev. Richard Martin rmartin@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
 Website: www.avonstour.co.uk/parishes/icsj

Bishop: Rt. Rev. Philip Egan Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Reg. Charity No. 1199568
 Part of Bournemouth – Christchurch Pastoral Area



Parish Office: Telephone: 01202 483340
Wednesday - Friday 8:30am – 4:30pm
Please leave a voicemail if there is no reply.
Office email office@icsj.org.uk
Parish Administrator: Wendy Wadsworth
Parish Newsletter: email: office@icsj.org.uk
Finance Officer: Ursula Cook
email: accounts@icsj.org.uk
Parish Centre Bookings:
email: bookings@icsj.org.uk



Safeguarding:
Please contact the office
Gift Aid: Brigid Hincks
Please contact accounts
Families and youth enquiries:
Please contact the office
Hospital Chaplains:
Bournemouth: 0300 019 4221
Poole: 0300 019 2167
Christchurch: 0300 019 5111

20th and 21st December 2025: Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday's readings: Isaiah 7:10-14, Romans 1:1-7 Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24
Psalm from Psalm 24(23)

ST JOSEPH'S, CHRISTCHURCH (Including Mass Intentions)
 Sat 20th **5pm Mass with confessions from 4pm to 4:45pm**
 William Curtis RIP Anniversary Mass
 Sun 21st **9am Mass (livestreamed link [HERE](#))**
 Matthew Bates RIP
 Tues 23rd **6:30pm Mass**
 Wed 24th **4pm Family Vigil Mass**
 Angela Murphy RIP
 Thurs 25th **9am Mass The Nativity of The Lord**
 Fri 26th **10am Mass The Feast of Stephen**
 Mary and Peter Thomson

PRIVATE PRAYER in the chapel: Mon & Tues 9:30am – 4pm.

HOLY REDEEMER, HIGHCLIFFE (Including Mass Intentions)
13 – 15 Kilmington Way, BH23 5BL 01425 274838
 Sun 21st **11am Mass**
 Stephen O'Brien RIP,
 Richard and Lillian Beddow RIP
 Wed 24th **6pm Carols followed by Mass at 6:30pm**
 People of the Parish
 Thurs 25th **11am Mass The Nativity of The Lord**
 People of the Parish

PRIVATE PRAYER: Daily 10am - 2pm

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH OFFICE - 01202 483340

The office will be closed from midday
 on Christmas Eve and will reopen again
 on Wednesday 7th January at 8:30am.



If you have an urgent enquiry
 outside these hours, please leave a message as all
 voicemails are picked up.
 Alternatively if your enquiry isn't urgent,
 please email office@icsj.org.uk
 and I will reply on my return.

THE CHRISTMAS COLLECTION FOR FATHER PAUL

In addition to the usual ways of giving this Christmas,
St Joseph's has a dedicated Christmas collection page
on the fundraising platform,
Give as You Live.

To access, please [CLICK HERE](#)



Please note - Any additional donations
 given over Christmas will be used to support
 the priests of the Diocese.
 Every penny specifically donated over this weekend
 (together with any Gift Aid on qualifying donations)
 will be used to support your local priest.

JOURNEY THROUGH ADVENT

The 4 sessions exploring Advent finished
 last Tuesday, 16th December.

We would like to thank all those who attended and
helped to make it such an enriching experience.
Wishing everyone a blessed and joyful Christmas.
Mary & Peter Thomson & Peter Evans



A BIG THANK YOU

to everyone who has helped
 throughout the year
 and with our Christmas celebrations.

There has been such a huge amount of time, effort and
 commitment given;

the choirs, musicians, sacristan, cleaners,
 the repository helpers, church grounds, the lunch group,
 the grandparents group, flower arrangers,
 the bric a brac teams, Becky's cafe teams,
 people setting up the crib, the servers,
 the baptism preparation team, children's liturgy leaders
 and teams, lectors, the building and maintenance team,
 the finance team, the social and fundraising team,
 Eucharistic ministers, chapel openers, the gift aid minister,
 the counting teams, the tea and coffee teams,
 welcomers and stewards ...

the list goes on and indeed on.

Bless you all and if anyone is missed out, apologies
 but know that all the hard work is greatly appreciated.

Last but most definitely not least
 – a BIG THANK you from myself and Ursula
 who do our best to support Fr Paul, Deacon Richard
 and the parish behind the scenes,

but who couldn't do it
 without the support of the Parish.

We hope you all have
 the most wonderful, happy,
 peaceful and healthy Christmas and 2026.



There will be Tea & Coffee after 9am Mass,
 in the Parish Centre to which you are all welcome.





PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please keep the following people in your prayers, especially at this time:

Kevin Curtis, Anne Crane, Helena Shrubbs, Anne Wood, Dave Wood, Joan Miller, Andrew Allen, Jillie Ryan, John Kennedy, Peter Mattimoe, Baby Edward, Helen Pollard, Pat Feltham, Suzanne, Richard, Slawek Gawlik and family, John Michael Ryan, Anna and Raymondo Hubbard, Howard Wood, Carol Sneed, Maria Golding-Cooney, John Packer, Danny McQuillan, Anne-Marie Fletcher, Steven, Daphne Fish, John Atkins, Veronica Purchase, Winifred Phillips, Wrox Rehill, Daniel Hyatt, Michael O'Connell, Gutierrez family, Pam Quinn, Madeleine Rose Halston, Martin Sumner, James Gardiner, Jackie and Tim Knight and Fr John Chadwick.

If you have any personal prayer intentions that you would like included in our Bidding Prayers and/or newsletter, or if you would like a Mass said for a particular intention, please contact the Office with details.

REST IN PEACE

Please keep in your prayers Ted Edwards, Roger Spencer, Christina Cosgrove, Daniel Burgess, and Sheila Chazot and any other anniversaries that occur at this time. May they all rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.



BECKY'S COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNINGS will be closed now for a well deserved Christmas break.

We look forward to welcoming you all again on Thursday 8th January between 11am and 12:30pm. For more information, contact Rosie 07762 315288.

CHRISTCHURCH FOODBANK+

Our needs this week are Christmas goodies, UHT milk, tinned ravioli and meatballs, tea and coffee. Thank you for helping us to help those in our community who are struggling, in crisis or isolated. Love, hope and blessings in advance.

TO THOSE WHO MAY FIND CHRISTMAS HARD

To many, Christmas may be sad, lonely or may bring memories we would prefer not to have. If this is you, please know that you are much loved, are valued and we at St Joseph's hold you in our community and personal prayers. May you feel God's presence in your life daily.



CAR PARKING FOR CHRISTMAS SERVICES

At Priory Vets (next door): we may park in the 8 spaces at the front of the surgery, on Christmas Day and Boxing Day only. **DO NOT park at the side or back of the building. Should we park in places other than directed, we risk this valuable offer of parking being withdrawn.**

At Harbour House (opposite the Vets):

We can park in the back car park ONLY on Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

There is a gate to get into the car park so please open and then close on leaving.



At Priory Concept Group (the front of Harbour House): If empty, please utilise the parking spaces at the front of the building on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and Boxing Day only.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US MAINTAIN GOOD RELATIONS WITH OUR NEIGHBOURS.

CHRISTCHURCH COMMUNITY CAROLS

at the Priory on Saturday 20th December at 7.30pm.

Join with our specially-formed choir, which include some of our parishioners, to sing carols and hear festive readings in a relaxed atmosphere.

Please come along to support us and join in with the festivities.



LIVING WITH DEMENTIA

"Living with Dementia – a Christian Perspective".

We will be hosting a talk by Karen Martin, author of *Memorable Loss: A Story of Friendship in the Face of Dementia* and an excellent and experienced speaker:

Saturday 7th February, 2pm to 3pm, followed by refreshments.

More information and online booking [CLICK HERE](#).



Should you wish to make any donation to St Joseph's, or set up a direct debit or standing order regular payment, please use the information below.

Account number 00876292

Account name

CDP St Joseph's Christchurch

Sort Code 30-93-04

Thank you for your continued and ongoing generosity.



ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

St Joseph's is undertaking a consultation regarding proposed changes to the Admissions arrangements for entry from 2027-2028 onwards.

Copies of the proposed arrangements can be obtained from the school office or downloaded from the school website (Parents/Admissions).

The consultation period runs from 8th December 2025 to 24th January 2026 and any comments should be sent to Clerk to the Governing Body at

clerk@stjosephs.dorset.sch.uk

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School website:

<https://www.stjosephs.dorset.sch.uk/>

NEW FACEBOOK PAGE

Our new Pastoral Area now has a Facebook Page, called "Coast Catholics Bournemouth-Christchurch", to share information across our area.

Please visit it, like it and share with others.

You can access the page via this link:

www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61583334070125

or search Facebook for

Coast Catholics Bournemouth-Christchurch.

THE PORTSMOUTH GREGORIAN CHANT COURSE at St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth, offers three one-day workshops scheduled for

10th January, 14th February and the 14th March.

Whether you are a beginner or an experienced singer, this opportunity covers the practical interpretation of Gregorian Chant, as well as its history and liturgical dimensions.

How to Register

For more information and to register, visit

<https://portsmouthgregorianchant.blogspot.com> or follow @portsmgregchant on X (Twitter).



UKRAINE CANDLES UPDATE

Whilst we have been very grateful for the many 'baked bean' tins people have dropped off, we do not need any more at the moment, thanks.

We do however still need wax to fill the cans we have, so if anyone has any unwanted or half used candles, please pop them in a bag and leave in the church porch.

Thank you.