

CATHOLIC PARISH OF WESTBOURNE NEWSLETTER



31 MAY 2026

HOLY TRINITY

THE HOLY TRINITY

We have in these verses a part of the conversation that Jesus had with Nicodemus. Nicodemus was a rich Pharisee and a member of the Sanhedrin, the supreme ecclesiastical court of the Jews. He came to Jesus at night for fear of his fellow Pharisees. Although the Holy Spirit is not mentioned in this text from St. John's gospel, the text is included in the readings for the feast of the Blessed Trinity because two of the persons are mentioned. They are clearly distinguished one from the other, yet both are the one God. God the Father sent God the Son into the world (in human nature) in order to bring eternal life within the reach of all men.

While we must admit from the evidence so clearly given in the story of our redemption and elevation to adopted divine sonship that the three Persons of the Trinity cooperated in that work, we cannot claim we understand the mystery of three Persons in one God. We can and must admit the fact on the evidence presented to us, but we must also admit that our human intellects are too finite to grasp the essence, the nature of that fact.

How could it be otherwise? If our limited minds could grasp the divine nature and all its qualities, it would no longer be divine - it would be limited like ourselves. There are many finite created things in our world which we cannot fully understand. How then could we claim that we should be able to understand the infinite? Of infinity itself, we have only a negative description - something that has no beginning or end. When we get to heaven,



our minds will be illuminated with greater grace, but even then there will always be something new in God for us to see and admire.

While we wait for that happy day, our attitude toward the Trinity should be one of gratitude for having placed us on the road to heaven.

Visit our website: www.catholicwestbourne.org

MASS TIMES

Sunday 31 May - HOLY TRINITY

9.00am
11.00am

Monday 1 June - ST. JUSTIN

No Mass

Tuesday 2 June - 9TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

10.00am

Wed 3 June - ST. CHARLES LWANGA & COMPANIONS

10.00am

Thursday 4 June - 9TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

10.00am

Friday 5 June - 9TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

10.00am

Mass is followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday 6 June - OUR LADY ON SATURDAY

10.00am

Sunday 7 June - CORPUS CHRISTI

9.00am
11.00am

OUR PARISH

**OUR LADY IMMACULATE CHURCH
SEAMOR ROAD, WESTBOURNE,
BOURNEMOUTH, BH4 9AE**

Parish Priest: Fr. Leslie Adams

Telephone: 01202 764027

Email: ladams@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

*(Baptism, Marriages, Sick Visits,
Funerals and Confessions)*

Parish Administrator: Peter Murdock-Saint
General enquires and hall bookings

Telephone: 01202 760640

Email: oliadmin@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Safeguarding Officers:

Joan Smithies and Edward Adamson
safeguarding.boush@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Donations: CDP Bournemouth

Our Lady Immaculate

Sort code: 309304 **Account:** 00875075

SUNDAY READINGS

Entrance Antiphon

Blest be God the Father, and the Only Begotten Son of God, and also the Holy Spirit, for he has shown us his merciful love.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; the God who is, who was, and who is to come. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

Since you are children of God, God has sent into your hearts the Spirit of his Son, the Spirit who cries out: Abba, Father.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION. Aurora, Rodrigo, Motiejus, Oliver, Nicholas, Diego G, Lara, Thomas and Diego M will receive their First Holy Communion on Sunday 7 June at 11.00am. Please keep them in your prayers.

As this Mass is likely to be very busy, some parishioners may wish to attend Mass at 9.00am on that day. Please note that the first five rows in the church will be reserved for the children and their families on that day. Thank you for your understanding. *Fr. Leslie*

CAFOD - STAND WITH SUDAN. It is three years since the outbreak of conflict in Sudan. CAFOD continues to work through local church partners, providing food, clean water and vital support to those most in need. Find out more at: www.cafod.org.uk.

ENGAGED AND MARRIED COUPLES RETREAT. Isle of Wight, 13 - 15 June 2026. The Verbum Dei community invite engaged and married couples to a weekend retreat designed to help deepen love, communication and shared purpose in the light of faith. Reflecting on Psalm 1:3, "... like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season", the retreat offers space to pause, pray and grow together, renewing your relationship in God's love and discovering fresh direction for your journey as a couple. For more information, please email the team at the following address: verbumdei.iow@gmail.com.

PARISH AND DIOCESAN NEWS

A DATE FOR THE DIARY. Ordination to the Priesthood, Saturday 18 July, 11.00am, St. John's Cathedral, Portsmouth, PO1 3HG. Deacon Jack Ryan, who is currently serving as Assistant Chaplain at the Fisher House Chaplaincy for Cambridge University, is to be ordained by Bishop Philip. Everyone is very welcome to attend.

MASS INTENTION. If you would like to dedicate a Mass to a loved one, please speak to Fr. Leslie.

MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTION OF THE HOLY FATHER. *That everyone might have food.* Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES. This diocesan pilgrimage will be with Bishop Philip Egan. Monday 6 - Friday 10 July 2026. We will fly from Heathrow Airport. The cost will be £949 per person for a shared room. Youth pilgrims can join us from £895. Please contact: Cn. P.J. Smith on 07780 221 686 or by post to St. Edmunds House, Bishop Crispian Way, Portsmouth, PO1 3QA.

THE SAMARITANS. Call 116 123 for free.

CELEBRATE FESTIVAL 2026. 15 - 19 August. This family-friendly, Catholic event will take place at Worth Abbey, West Sussex, RH10 4SD. This will focus on faith, fellowship, and community. The residential festival features a "*Witness to Hope*" theme, offering Mass, worship, workshops, and age-specific activities. There is a camping site and accommodation is available. Visit the website for further details: www.celebratefestival.org.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE. 9.00am on Wednesdays.

PORTSMOUTH VOCATIONS. If you're considering a vocation to the priesthood, please contact Canon John Cooke on 01329 318 869 or email: vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

CARITAS PORTSMOUTH is a social action team within Portsmouth Diocese who help parishes to support their local community in sharing the love and mercy of God.

Caritas Portsmouth can help parishes to run their own projects supporting the vulnerable, addressing issues such as poverty, homelessness, isolation, domestic abuse, migrants & refugees and modern slavery, all in accordance with our Catholic social teaching as instructed in Isaiah, '*Learn to do good, seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, plead for the widow.*' 1:17

Further details will follow. In the meantime, if you would like to find out more, please go to: www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/caritas/

BOURNEMOUTH AND CHRISTCHURCH PASTORAL AREA PRAYER. *Lord Jesus Christ, you call us to be your witnesses in this area and in this time. Root us deeply in your love, shape us as missionary disciples, and teach us to steward wisely all that you have entrusted to us. Give us the courage to change, the humility to listen, and the faith to trust where you lead. May your Spirit guide our prayer, our planning, and our action, so that all we do may give glory to the Father and draw others to you. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen*

PLEASE REMEMBER all the sick and housebound in our parish: *Mary Stone, Mike Ellestone, Cecilia Agnes Grimston, Geoffrey Dixon, Christopher Browne, Teresa Wraith, Elizabeth Lubrow and Liz Judge.*

MARRIAGE SUPPORT. 0797 338 0443. All calls are treated in the strictest confidence.

SICK AND HOUSEBOUND. If you are interested in a home visit, please contact the office, so this can be arranged.

THANK YOU for your continued generosity. It is much appreciated.

GOSPEL - JOHN 3:16-18

God sent his Son so that through him the world might be saved

Jesus said to Nicodemus: *'God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved. No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God's only Son.'*

ST. PETER'S CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL INFORMATION EVENING. Tuesday 9 June, 6.00pm. Doors open at 5.30pm. This is open to families of Year 5 students who are considering joining the school in September 2027. To book your place, please scan the QR code on the poster in the porch.

LIFE AT ALLEN HALL SEMINARY DOCUMENTARY. www.youtube.com/watch?v=FTqUWz6TQHW. This video has been created by Nathan King.

SIGNIFICANT WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS. Saturday 20 June, 11.00am, St. Bede's Church, Basingstoke. Are you celebrating a 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th, or 60+ anniversary? Bishop Philip invites you to a special Mass followed by a buffet lunch. A wonderful way to celebrate and witness to marriage. Contact the parish office for details.

TRADITIONAL PRAYER BEFORE A CRUCIFIX. Look down upon me, good and gentle Jesus while before your face I humbly kneel and, with burning soul, pray and beseech you to fix deep in my heart lively sentiments of faith, hope, and charity; true contrition for my sins, and a firm purpose of amendment. While I contemplate, with great love and tender pity, your five most precious wounds, pondering over them within me and calling to mind the words which David, your prophet, said to you, my Jesus: *"They have pierced my hands and my feet; they have numbered all my bones"*.

REFLECTION (Brother Duncan Smith from The Liturgy Project). Faith in the Holy Trinity, belief in the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit - three persons, yet one God - belongs to the foundations of the Christian religion. But this faith is notoriously hard to understand. For many it has the appearance of an insoluble riddle, if not a mere game with words. But this we cannot accept. The Holy Trinity is a great mystery of faith, a truth we can never come to the end of, but by faith we know the Trinity. In the Trinity we live and move and have our being as Christians. And faith leads us to understand the experience of this in dwelling. In faith we find the obscure beginnings of that lucid vision which will be our eternal life in God.

The Communion Antiphon for the Solemnity well describes our immersion in the mystery: *"Since you are children of God, God has sent into your hearts the Spirit of his Son, the Spirit who cries out: Abba, Father."* (cf. Gal. 4:6) All Christians are children of God by baptism. We have received the Spirit of God into our hearts. This Spirit prays within us with sighs too deep for words, but sighs deeply felt nonetheless. And so we know the Spirit. And this Spirit is the Spirit of the Son, who possesses the Spirit in his fullness. So, knowing the Spirit, we know the Son also. And the Spirit of the Son gives form to our prayer after the pattern of Jesus' own. In Jesus we cry out: *"Abba, Father!"* We become sons in the Son. We are launched toward heaven; we share in the dynamism of Jesus' own journey to the Father. And so we begin to know the very source of Trinitarian life.

OUR STUDENTS. Please remember our students who will be undertaking various exams and assessments over the next two months. The pupils and students in our schools work incredibly hard, guided by teachers and a wide range of learning support and auxiliary staff, so they all would appreciate your prayers as the academic year enters its final furlong. Thank you.

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