

Our Mission: LOVE GOD - LOVE OTHERS - MAKE DISCIPLES
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www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk  
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Registered Charity No. 246871

Sunday Cycle: Year B  
Weekday Cycle: Year 2  
Psalter Week: 2

## EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Although I spent eight years of my life living and studying in Rome, and even though I came to love the 'Eternal City' I have to confess that Florence is more beautiful. Nestled in a natural bowl with the River Arno wending its way through the buildings, the city looks as though it was designed and built off one plan and according to one vision. Last week I spent a day there. The central area is not extensive and is dominated by the magnificent Cathedral, with the Baptistery and Bell Tower close by, not far from the Ponte Vecchio with its jewellers and traders. It was very busy with visitors from across the world - and extremely hot.

Despite the heat, we'd pre-booked timed tickets to climb the dome of the Cathedral. This involves 463 "lung-busting steps" (to quote the guide book) but is well worth the effort. From the top the views over Florence and beyond are stunning and provide a totally different perspective on this most Italian of cities. For a period in history, this was the capital of the country, before a deal with the Papal States and the switch to Rome. To see Florence from the ground up is fascinating; to look down on it is something else. Of course, through the centuries the people living there had the great Cathedral looming over them as a constant reminder of the presence of God in their lives. It is an amazing feat of man's commitment, resolve, vision and skill.

As I stood on the top of the dome (cupola in Italian) I found myself musing on the way that our perspective on things can be altered by a whole range of factors. One of the most obvious I have heard many times over the years is from those who have just become parents for the first time. Suddenly, all those things which seemed so important are now much less significant because a new life has been entrusted to their care. It alters their perspective and can lead to quite dramatic reassessment of values and priorities. But it can happen in all kinds of ways to each of us. When the familiar, what we've become used to in our lives, suddenly changes or disappears we have the opportunity to take a fresh look and make decisions about how and why we do this or that. This is not always a welcome or comfortable process.

With the change of priests this September in St Swithun Wells Parish there will be, inevitably, a change of perspective. This is not a bad thing: fresh eyes on what's going on can help focus energies and emphasis. Recently we have been looking at the ways we can support our youth and I am confident that will be developed further by the new priests. They will also be keen to involve themselves in the life of our Primary School and St George College which is all good. For parishioners the change can be unsettling but if everyone approaches this openly and sees the change as positive then it can enhance the way we see the work we are all called to do. In other words, a different perspective on familiar things is good, not bad.

I read that, on special occasions, the Cathedral in Florence was filled with 10,000 worshippers. Imagine if our churches were filled to overflowing. Perhaps we have accepted that this isn't going to happen, that we are in decline and nothing can reverse the trend. But maybe that perspective should, ought to be challenged and we should look anew, from a different angle to see what **could** be, not just what **is**.

*Father John*

Parish Office: Holy Cross Church, 53 Leigh Road, Eastleigh, SO50 9DF

Tel: 023 8027 3882. Email: stswparish@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

Office hours: Monday-Wednesday 9.30am-5pm; Thursday & Friday 9.30-2.30pm Newsletter items should be received by Wednesday 12:00 noon

**Entrance Antiphon:** O God, come to my assistance; O Lord, make haste to help me! You are my rescuer, my help; O Lord do not delay.

**Psalm Response:** The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

**Readings for next Sunday 12th August 2018  
Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Gospel: John 6:41-51

1st reading: 1 Kings 19:4-8

Psalm: 33

2nd reading: Ephesians 4:30-5:2

**Prayer Link** - "Summer 2018" is now available in all of our churches. Please contact me if you have any requests, queries or comments. **Marion** (02380 692416) [marionbirtles@gmail.com](mailto:marionbirtles@gmail.com)

**Growing in Faith Together (GIFT) Group**

The GIFT group is taking a summer break, however we will still meet for coffee and a chat after Tuesday Mass in the resource centre. Thank you to everyone who continues to support our Group, which restarts fully on 4th Sept. Any queries please contact Paul on 02380 616618; [pwilson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:pwilson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).

**Fellowship Group is taking a Summer break**

Date of next meeting in September TBA.

Queries to Peter Baggott and Deacon Bob Birtles.

**Journey in Faith is taking a Summer break - restarts September 2018**

It is for anyone enquiring about the Catholic faith and for people intending to become a Catholic. For further information please contact: Deacon Paul Owen (tel: 02380 254806) E: [powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**New to the Parish?**

A very warm welcome to our Parish; we are delighted that you have joined us. Please feel free to make yourself known to one of the Welcomers or Priest at each Mass and join us for a cup of coffee after Mass.

Please complete one of the new to the parish registration forms available in the church foyers, giving us your contact details and leave the form with one of the Priests or Welcomers. All families are welcome at **ALL** Masses; however we have specific Children's Liturgies on Sundays. Please ask one of the Welcomers for details of the times at your Church.

**Street Pastors - Volunteers Required**

Street Pastors engage with people on the streets to care, listen and to help them. They work together with other partners in the night-time economy to make our communities kinder and safer. *Could you spare 4-5 hours once a month on a Friday night to serve in our community?* Next set of provisional training dates are: 14/15/16 Sept 2018; 28/29/30 Sept & 12/13/14 Oct.

Volunteers needed in Chandlers Ford, Eastleigh and Fair Oak. Enquiries to Eric Hyom, t: 02380643457 or e: [erichyom@hotmail.com](mailto:erichyom@hotmail.com).

**Father John's Leaving Gift**

If you would like to contribute to Father John's leaving gift (a cheque), collection baskets will be made available at each of our churches at the end of Mass on the following weekends:

4th/5th August; 18th/19th August;

11th/12th August; 23rd/24th August.

Please can all Gift Aid donors use the yellow collection envelopes for their cheques/cash to ensure that Gift Aid can be claimed on them.

The last date for *all* donations will be

**Sunday 24th August** as we have to centrally count and bank the money, and raise the cheque.

This will be presented to Father John at his final Parish Mass on Sunday 2nd September at Holy Cross.

**Reminder about Cheques:**

If you are paying by cheque these should be made payable to:

**PRCDTR St Swithun Wells**

Please ensure the counters know what the funds are for e.g. name of special collection, priest farewell leaving gift etc, by writing this on the back of the cheque. Funds can then be allocated accordingly.

**Fanning the Flame Catholic Mission: Summer Camp**

**20th-24th August 2018** - for ages 10-25 years.

Come and join us in the New Forest, Hampshire!

Wherever you are in your Catholic faith, come and be refreshed and renewed in God's love for you! See

[www.FanningTheFlame.co.uk](http://www.FanningTheFlame.co.uk) for more info.

Bookings close on 12th August, so there's not long left to book your place - email: [ffcm1995@gmail.com](mailto:ffcm1995@gmail.com).

**Young Catholic Adults Weekend: 7-9th Sept 2018**

Will be running a retreat at Douai Abbey for young catholic adults (18-40yrs). To guarantee your place please book your place by 17th August 2018. For more information please see poster on church noticeboards.

**Essential Training for Catechists (Sept 2018)**

5 sessions to cover five essential themes in Catechesis and Children's Liturgy of the Word, on Tuesday evenings at St Edward's (7.30-9pm) starting on 4th September. This is open to anyone who is interested in becoming a catechist.

Please speak to Anne Owen (tel: 02380 254806) for more information or look at the poster on the church noticeboards. To register please email Sr Hyacinthe at [ffm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:ffm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).

**Saint Padre Pio of Pietrelcina Reflection Day**

**Sunday 23rd Sept 2018**

Fr Des Connolly SMM invites you to join Padre Pio Prayer Groups and other devotees to celebrate his Padre Pio's birthday/Feast day in this his 50th Anniversary of his death. The day will be held in St Joseph's Centre, 8 Lyndhurst Rd, Ashurst, SO40 7DU. Arrival from 10am for a 10.30am start, until 4pm and will include Mass. A donation of £22.50 per person would be very much appreciated. Please bring a packed lunch.

### Upcoming Afternoon Tea Events

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#### Parish Tea Party for Our Senior Citizens (hosted by Our Young People)

**Sat 11th Aug, 3-5pm at St Edward's**

If you would like to be a guest at this tea party, please put your name on the list (in the foyer at Holy Cross and Cloister at St Edward's). If you would like to come and need a lift, please let me know. Max 50 guests across the WHOLE parish. If you don't normally attend Holy Cross or St Edward's and are unable to put your name on the sign-up sheet please phone the Parish Office and they will put your name on the list if any spaces are left.

**Joanna** ([joannapuzzle@gmail.com](mailto:joannapuzzle@gmail.com))

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#### Afternoon Tea in aid of AWAMU

**Holy Cross Resource Centre**

**Thurs 16th Aug, 2-4.30pm**

£5 each - to book a cup please contact Jenny Walsh on 07787 532642. Proceeds to AWAMU - a charity that works in the slums of Kampala, Uganda to change the lives of orphaned and vulnerable children. Their purpose is to ensure these children gain the education and skills that are vital to their future.

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#### Parish Tea at Poppies (Choice Plants Nursery) -

**Tues 21st Aug, 3pm**

All are welcome. As we have to provide numbers please let Rosemary (01794 522411) know by Monday 13th August if you would like to attend. Poppies is about 2 miles out of Romsey on the Stockbridge Road.

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#### Summer Tea - St Edward's

**Wed 22nd Aug, 2.30pm**

Adults £5.00/Children free - everyone is very welcome! Proceeds to Christians Against Poverty (CAP). This is a Christian charitable company in the UK specialising in debt counselling for people in financial difficulties. It also provides Job Clubs for those seeking employment and Fresh Start Courses for people looking to overcome addictions and dependencies. A brief talk about the charity will be given during the afternoon.

#### Newsletters During August

Sarah is now on holiday back in the Office Wed 22nd August. Peter Nash has kindly volunteered to publish the Newsletters whilst she is away and can include additional notices—please either phone these through to the office or email

[stswparish@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:stswparish@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).

#### SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES:

St Swithun Wells Primary School 023 80266210;

St George Catholic V.A. College 023 8032 2603;

St Anne's Catholic School 023 80328200;

Charlton House 023 8067 7575;

St Mary's Independent School 023 8067 1267.

#### **WE ACKNOWLEDGE WITH THANKS**

Last week's collections: £TBC; SO/SD for July '18: £TBC



#### Knit for Peace – St Andrew's, Wed 8th Aug, 2-4pm

Donations of mens clothes and shoes for 2 Saints welcome. Please contact Anne Harcourt on 02380 734710 with any queries.

#### Knit & Natter at St Edward's

**Monday 13th August, 2-4pm**

Refreshments available and everyone most welcome! Please contact Maureen Stephenson on 02380 252104 with any queries.

#### Good Companions

The next lunch, which is for those who live alone or are lonely, will be at 12.30pm on **Thursday 16th August** at Keats Restaurant in Ampfield. As Pauline has been in hospital, it has been necessary to make alternative arrangements, therefore if you wish to attend please call John Williams on 023 80251483.

#### The Knights of Columba Annual Barbecue

**St Edward's Church - Sat 22nd Sept, 1pm**

Cost £10

The Knights of St Columba invite all parishioners to a BBQ at St Edward's Church. Proceeds go towards parish causes including parish youth and Lourdes pilgrimage. Tickets will be on sale in early September and/or RSVP to Neil Hendricks 023 8026 6324.

#### Southampton Celebrate Weekend 29/30th Sept '18

Full details and a booking form can be found on their website: [www.celebrateconference.org/southampton](http://www.celebrateconference.org/southampton). They have been fully booked for the past few years, so early booking is advisable!

#### Hospital Admittances

If you are expecting to be admitted into the Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester, in the near future, please inform St Peters Parish Office (Tel: 01962 852804) so they can arrange for a member of the clergy to come and visit and/or bring Holy Communion. Additionally, if you are being admitted to Southampton General Hospital please contact Father Michael Cronin on 02380 774273.

#### Tour of NHS Treatment Centre

Margaret French is trying to arrange a guided tour of the NHS Treatment Centre in Southampton. This will take place hopefully during the last week of August and will be during the daytime. If you think you might be interested, please contact Margaret on 01794 278151 or 07534 214937. At this stage you will not be making a commitment, but she is just trying to find out how big the group might be, plus she may have a confirmed date by then.

#### Parish Office - Changes to August Opening Hours

The office will be closed on:

**Friday 10th & 17th ; Bank Holiday Monday (27th) & Tuesday 28th.**

Reduced hours on:

**Thursday 9th & 16th** (until 1pm instead of 2.30pm);  
**Wed 22nd** (until 2.30pm).

# Mass Times for our Six Church Communities

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION	DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
<b>Sat 4th August Vigil Masses</b>	5.00pm	St Sw	Bernadette Barrow RIP	<b>Thurs 9th</b>	9.30am	HC	Holy Souls in Purgatory RIP
	6.00pm	St J	Fr Owen Cannon SMM (Anniversary)		10.00am	OLQA	
	6.00pm	OLQA			6.00pm	St J	
	6.30pm	St Ed	Nora Cain RIP				
<b>Sun 5th August 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta  Diamond Jubilee of Sr Dorothy Baxter & Sr Margaret Young Bella's Special Intention	<b>Fri 10th</b>	10.00am	St Ed	Holy Souls in Purgatory RIP
	9.00am	St Ed			10.00am	St J (AH)	
	9.00am	St A					
	9.30am	OLQA					
	11.00am	St J					
<b>Mon 6th</b>	10.00am	St Ed	Living & Deceased Members of the Layzell Family FM	<b>Sat 11th</b>	9.30am	HC	Repose of the Soul of Thomas Doyle
<b>Tues 7th</b>	9.30am	HC	Amarant Ferreria RIP	<b>Sat 11th Vigil Masses</b>	5.00pm	St Sw	Douglas Shaw RIP  The Living & Deceased Members of the Johns Family FM
	10.00am	St A			6.00pm	St J	
	10.00am	OLQA			6.00pm	OLQA	
			6.30pm		St Ed		
<b>Wed 8th</b>	9.30am	HC	Janet Burton FM	<b>Sun 12th August 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta
	10.00am	St Ed	Peggy Jones RIP		9.00am	St Ed	John Davis RIP
					9.00am	St A	Susan & Harold Butcher RIP
					9.30am	OLQA	
					11.00am	St J	Herbert Howie RIP
					11.00am	HC	Emily Ray RIP

### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

<b>Tuesday</b>	HC	Adoration 1st Tuesday of the month 10.00-1.00pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	St A	Adoration 9.15-10am with Morning Prayer
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>St ED</b>	<b>No Holy Hour, restarts Sept (date TBC)</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	St J	from Noon-6pm, Rosary and Benediction at 5.30pm (before Mass at 6pm)

### Rosary And Prayers

**St Edward** 9.30am Wednesday The Holy Rosary  
**St Joseph** 6.00pm Wednesday Evening Prayer

### CONFESSION (SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION)

<b>Saturdays:</b>	10.00am	Holy Cross Church
	12 noon	St Edward's
	5.30pm	OLQA
	5.30pm	St Joseph
<b>Sundays:</b>	8.30am	St Andrew

**St Ed** **St Edward's**, 191-193, Winchester Rd, Chandlers Ford, SO53 2DU  
**OLQA** Our Lady Queen of Apostles, Martin Street, Bishops Waltham. SO32 1DN  
**HC** Holy Cross, 53, Leigh Road, Eastleigh. SO50 9DF  
**St Sw** St Swithun Wells, Allington Lane, Fair Oak, SO50 7DB  
**St A** **St Andrew's**, Fleming Avenue, North, Baddesley SO52 9EP  
**St J** **St Joseph's Church**, Abbey House Drive, Romsey SO51 8YB

**Mgr John Nelson (Parish Priest)**  
 Tel: 023 8061 2430  
 jnelson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Fr Wojciech Paszko (Assistant Priest)**  
 Tel: 01794 512599  
 wpaszko@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Canon Alan Griffiths (Assistant Priest)**  
 Tel: 07760220346  
 frgriffiths@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Parish Office: Sarah Goodfellow**  
 Tel: 023 80 27 3882  
 stswparish@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Deacon Bob Birtles** Tel: 023 8069 2416  
 bbirtles@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Deacon John di Meo** Tel: 01794 515688  
 jdimeo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Deacon Paul Owen** Tel: 023 80254806  
 powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Deacon Paul Wilson** Tel: 02380 616618  
 pwilson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Holy Cross Resource Centre & Finance**  
**Admin: Linda Roberts** Tel: 023 80 27 3882  
 lroberts@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk