



Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ

9th OCTOBER 2022: TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Defender Of The Faith

The loss of Queen Elizabeth II brought to light many interesting topics. Over the last month, newspapers and TV shows have been filled with articles and debates about the role of the monarchy in a modern society. I found one argument particularly interesting. It is about the title the English monarch has had for almost 500 years: "defender of the Faith".

Some people say that in a multicultural society like ours, it would be discriminatory if the head of the state were affiliated to a specific church. Wouldn't it be better for the King to be faith-neutral?

Others say something different. Daniel Finkelstein wrote in the *Times*: "As a Jew I feel I cannot be fully secure in respect of my own religion unless assurance is given by someone secure in what they themselves believe".

Richard Chartres wrote something similar in the *Spectator*: "Spiritual progress and deeper appreciation of other traditions comes from the serious and disciplined choice of a particular way to follow".

In a nutshell, what the two columnists think, and I agree with them, is that only if you belong to somewhere can you appreciate people who belong to somewhere else. I would go even further: only if you belong to somewhere can you help and support people who are in search of somewhere to belong to.

This simple truth has enormous consequences, especially in the field of education. Let's take a mother or a father, for example. Sometimes we hear people say: "I want my child to be free, to believe in what they want. Even if I believe in something it is better if I don't show it with too much conviction, not to damage my child's freedom". My question would be: do you think your child will believe in something if they have never had the chance to see someone *believing*, if they have never seen that *believing* is possible?

Another example is the way the education system works today. Teachers are discouraged to express their own opinions and beliefs. They have to be neutral. But again, I ask: how can you encourage someone to have an opinion if you are the first who doesn't show one? Strong views trigger a debate and the adventure of being in a community that seeks the truth and grows in this quest. Neutral views lead nowhere, they leave people where they are and expose them to accept passively the opinion of the one who speaks the loudest.

To summarize my point I would like to quote Pope Francis' letter "Fratelli Tutti":

Just as there can be no dialogue with "others" without a sense of our own identity, so there can be no openness between peoples except on the basis of love for one's own land, one's own people, one's own cultural roots (n. 143).

Fr Luca

GEM OF THE WEEK



This week's GEM is "The Economics of Unconditional Love" by Tommaso Gabrieli - you can find this on our homepage. If anyone has suggestions for GEMs please contact website.sswp@gmail.com

For the next Newsletter, items should be received into the Parish Office by **9.30am on Wednesday 12th October**, please email your messages/notices to: office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday 9th October 2022: Year C - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 4

PSALM RESPONSE: THE LORD HAS SHOWN HIS SALVATION TO THE NATIONS.

READINGS: 1st reading 2 Kings 5:14-17 Psalm 97 2nd reading 2 Timothy 2:8-13 Gospel Luke 17:11-19

Sunday 16th October 2022: Year C - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 1

PSALM RESPONSE: OUR HELP IS IN THE NAME OF THE LORD, WHO MADE HEAVEN AND EARTH.

READINGS: 1st reading Exodus 17:8-13 Psalm 120 2nd reading 2 Timothy 3:14-4:2 Gospel Luke 18:1-8

PARISH GROUPS



Youth Groups (including First Holy Communion & Confirmation)

Stars of Abraham (school years 3, 4, 5 & 6)

Tues, 4.00pm-5.30pm in St Edward's Cloister;

Tues, 4.15pm-5.45pm in St Andrew;

Sat, 10.30am-Noon in Holy Cross Resource Centre.

This week during our Stars of Abraham groups we invite the parents to attend the session with their children.

Grail Seekers (school years 7, 8, 9) & Student Youth (school year 10 until sixth form)

We usually meet on Friday evening in Holy Cross Resource Centre. Please check the parish website for the calendar of meetings, times and venues.

Youth Group Registrations for the year 2022/23 are still open on our website: www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

Communion & Liberation Groups

School of Community meet weekly:

Holy Cross every Wednesday at 8pm;

St Edward's every Thursday at 8pm.

For more information please click the link on the homepage of our website. All are welcome!

Sacramental Preparation for Adults (RCIA)

Wednesdays at 8pm in St Edward's

If you would like to be baptised, confirmed or received into the Catholic Church (or know more about the Catholic faith) please email Deacon Paul Owen: powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or alternatively please speak to a priest.

Fellowship Group - Wed 12th October at 7.30pm in SSW church, Fair Oak. We will be having a Harvest Liturgy followed by a Harvest Supper. Everyone is welcome to join us in person or online by Zoom. For the Zoom link please contact Peter: peterbaggott@aol.com

Growing In Faith Together (GIFT) Group

Tuesdays at 10.15am to approx. 11.30am in the Holy Cross Resource Centre. This week we will be looking at the life of St Therese of the Child Jesus. All are welcome!

The Little Flowers Baby & Toddler Groups

Holy Cross Group meet on **Wednesdays from 10am** in the Resource Centre, Eastleigh;

St Joseph's Group meet on **Thursdays from 10.30am - 12 Noon** in the Hall (26 Abbey Water, Romsey).

The groups are for 0-4 years and their families. More information is on the website or you can email: littleflowers.sswp@gmail.com

Ark of Fellowship - Group for learning disabilities or learning difficulties, their families and friends

Thursdays at 6.30pm in the Holy Cross Resource

Centre. Interested in volunteering or know some young adults who would like to join the group? If yes, please contact: arkoffellowship.sswp@gmail.com

Afternoon Club - St. Joseph's Parish Centre

(26A Abbey Water), **first Tuesday in the month at 2pm.** Come and join us for tea, games and good fun.

Knitting Club - Third Tuesday of the month, from 2pm-4pm in the Holy Cross Resource Centre. If you would like to join us for a knit and cup of tea please come along, all levels of knitting ability welcome!

Romsey Prayer Group - Every Wednesday morning at 11am

in the Romsey Parish Centre in Abbey Water. Although this group came about following the CaFE group's sessions on The Gift, a Life in the Spirit, it is open to everyone in the Parish. The sessions will last no longer than an hour. All will be made very welcome.

MESSAGES



Second Collections

CAFOD Family Fast Day Second Collection on 8th/9th October - This Harvest, we are responding to the World Food Crisis. Millions of families are facing a food crisis that could be the worst in living memory.

Please use the CAFOD Fast Day envelopes or alternatively please give to CAFOD direct at: <https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Family-Fast-Day>
World Mission Sunday on 22nd/23rd October

Parish Calendar (Sept 2022-Aug 2023) on Church

Noticeboards - The calendar contains dates for upcoming key events taking place in the Parish.

St Joseph Church Revised Opening Times

Thursdays: 10am-6.30pm

Fridays: 9.30am-10.30am

Saturdays: 10am-7pm

Sundays: 10am-12 Noon

Parish Office - will be closed **Tuesday 18th October** and **Friday 21st October**.

OLQA Quiz - Join us on Sat 8th October at 7.15pm

£5 per person to include drink & cheese/charcuterie. Bring or join a team of up to six people. Please phone 07760 809640 to check for ticket availability.

MESSAGES CONTINUED



Parish Get2Gether - 9th October, 1-4pm

Pavillion on the Park, 1 Kingfisher Road, SO50 9LH
An event for all of the parish, especially families.
We begin at 1pm, sharing a meal together followed by some activities and a discussion on the topic of 'Family & Forgiveness'. No cost, however we kindly ask you to give a donation to cover the hire of the Pavillion. Please bring some food, beverages or cakes to share with others. Please can you bring your own cups/plates/cutlery. To book your place please go to our parish website and click the link.
Next Get2Gether date for your diaries: 6th November

Cultural Friday - 21st October at 7pm in St Edward

The revolutionary James Webb Space Telescope
We will listen to a talk by Francesco Shankar, Professor of Astrophysics in the School of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Southampton.
The James Webb Space Telescope has opened a new window into the origin of the universe and galaxies, but also new puzzles to solve. Professor Shankar will help us to tour towards the early universe learning how astronomers measure the size and weight of the Universe.
7pm - Cheese and wine (suggested donation £1),
7.30pm - Talk.

Come & See Half Term Club (7-14yrs)

Monday 24th - Friday 28th October, 9am-3pm
St Edward's Cloister Cost: £5 per day.
Spaces are limited. For any enquiries please contact Fr Luca/Fr Marco at: comeandsee.sswp@gmail.com
For more information and to book your child's place please go to the parish website. **Please only book if you are sure your child is going to attend, thank you.**

Parish Lunch - Wednesday 26th October, 12.30pm at the Hunters Inn, Romsey.

Menus are on the church notice boards. All are welcome. Please let Rosemary (01794 522411) know your choice of meal before Tues 18th October as we have to pre-order. Thank you.

Upcoming Funerals

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Roger Candler and for his family. Roger's funeral service will take place at St Edward on Wed 19th October at 1.30pm.

Rosary at Holy Cross

We will pray the Rosary every Thursday during October at 9am (before Mass).

CONFESSION (SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION)

Tuesday:	6.30pm-7.30pm	St Edward
Tuesday:	9.30am-10.00am	St Andrew
Saturday:	10.00am-10.30am	Holy Cross
	10am or by appointment	OLQA
	5.30pm-6.00pm	St Joseph
Sunday:	8.30am-9.00am	St Edward
	8.30am-9.00am	St Andrew

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesday: St Edward's - after Mass (6.30pm-7.30pm)
Wednesday: Holy Cross - after Mass (10.00am-11.00am)
Thursday: St Joseph - before Mass (5.00pm-6.00pm)

Going Deeper - Are you wanting to go deeper into your faith and prayer life? A new monthly meeting in the Romsey Parish Centre (26a Abbey Water SO51 8EJ) will provide an opportunity for that. The first meeting will begin at 10.30am on Saturday 22nd October. It will include the Morning Prayer of the Church, discussion of a Carmelite text, lunch (please bring your own), and a period of silent prayer. This meeting is sponsored by the Secular Carmelites (OCDS), who constitute a lay branch of the Discalced Carmelite Order (OCD). For more info please contact Samantha Harris (parish organiser) on 01794 503716.

Kneelers at St Joseph - In order to make it more comfortable for people to kneel during Mass at St Joseph's we are investing in 50 kneelers at a cost of £20 each. Some people have already offered help to cover the cost by making a contribution: this would be greatly appreciated and Janet Cooke will collect any offerings on behalf of the parish.

The Digital Collection Plate - A card reader is now available in the church foyers at Holy Cross, St Edward & St Andrew (to start with). The digital collection is another way to give, it does not replace the second collection baskets or direct debits/standing orders. Alternatively, please scan in this QR code which will take you directly to the online giving page.



Mass Intention Offerings

For St Andrew's & St Joseph's please book Mass Intentions through Deacon John di Meo. For OLQA please book Mass Intentions through Fr Bruce. For Holy Cross, St Swithun Wells and St Edward's please speak to Sarah or send her an email:

office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

If you are making your offering by cash or cheque please put this in one of the white Mass Offering envelopes (not the yellow gift aid envelopes) available in the church welcome areas. If you cannot find any please ask someone in the church. For St Andrew or St Joseph please hand the white Mass offering envelope to Deacon John Di Meo. For OLQA please hand the white Mass offering envelope to Fr Bruce. For Holy Cross, St Swithun Wells and St Edward's please hand the white Mass offering envelope to a priest, deacon or the Parish office when it is open.

Alternatively you could make a bank transfer to the main parish account - "PRCDTR St Swithun Wells" with sort code 30-93-04 and account number 01786599, however please indicate that this is for a Mass Intention and the date/church it was celebrated at.

TIMES A PRIEST WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MEET

Tuesdays:	Fr Raffaele, 3.30pm-5.30pm, Holy Cross Resource Centre, Eastleigh
Wednesdays:	Fr Luca, 4.30pm-6.30pm, Holy Cross Resource Centre, Eastleigh
Fridays:	Fr Raffaele, 10.30am-11.30am, Romsey Parish Office (26 Abbey Water), Romsey
Saturdays:	Fr Marco, 9.30am-12.30pm, Romsey Parish Office (26 Abbey Water), Romsey

MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 8th Oct	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross St Swithun Wells OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Frederick Bishop FM Maria Jacobs (Anniversary) John Hooley - For Recovery People of the Parish
Sunday 9th Oct <i>Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLQA (also live streamed) Holy Cross (also live streamed) St Joseph	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Brendon O'Connell RIP Carrie Fung & Peter Tse (Wedding Anniversary) Algars & Edvardas Numsedis RIP Margaret Martindale RIP
Mon 10th	9.30am	Holy Cross	Brian Roy Smith RIP 16th Anniversary
Tues 11th	10.00am 6.00pm	St Andrew St Edward	Gladys Glassett RIP Birthday Anniversary Mathew Family (Special Intention)
Wed 12th Oct <i>St Wilfred at OLQA</i>	9.30am 9.30am 10.00am	Holy Cross OLQA St Edward	Victoria Rodrigues (Wellbeing) Paulina Lesniczuk RIP FM
Thurs 13th	9.30am 12 Noon 6.00pm	Holy Cross OLQA St Joseph	Margaret Martindale RIP Helen Conlon RIP
Fri 14th	9.30am 10.00am 10.00am	OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Mrs Edward Christian FM
Sat 15th Oct <i>Morning Mass: St Teresa of Avila</i>	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross St Swithun Wells OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Allan Barltrop RIP Helen Sanders (Thanksgiving) Christine Morley RIP 1st Anniversary Layzell Family Intentions
Sunday 16th Oct <i>Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLQA (also live streamed) Holy Cross (also live streamed) St Joseph	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Ian Warwick FM Daniel Andrade RIP People of the Parish

CLERGY & PARISH OFFICE

Fr Raffaele Cossa (Parish Priest)
Tel: 023 8061 2430; E: rrossa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Fr Luca Speziale (Assistant Priest)
Tel: 023 8061 2430; E: lspeziale@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Fr Marco Vignolo (Assistant Priest)
Tel: 023 8061 2430; E: mvignolo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Fr Bruce Barnes (Assistant Priest)
Tel: 01489 890947 (OLQA Office)

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

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

Deacon Paul Owen
Tel: 023 8025 4806; E: powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Deacon Paul Wilson
Tel: 023 8061 6618; E: pwilson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Deacon Andrew Lee
Tel: 023 8061 2430; E: alee@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Office Holy Cross Church, 53 Leigh Road, Eastleigh, SO50 9DF Tel: 02380 273882
Opening Times: Mon-Thurs 9.30am-5.30pm;
Fri 9.30am-2.30pm (see newsletter for changes).

Holy Cross Resource Centre & Finance Admin: Fiona Mooney
Email: accounts@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

Parish Secretary: Sarah Goodfellow
Email: office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

Website Contact: website.sswp@gmail.com

Safeguarding: Please see Safeguarding posters in each of our churches for details of the Parish Safeguarding Reps. Diocesan Safeguarding: Ruth Attfield (rattfield@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)