

Our Mission: LOVE GOD - LOVE OTHERS - MAKE DISCIPLES



www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Registered Charity No. 246871

Sunday Cycle: Year C
Weekday Cycle: Year 1
Psalter: Office Proper

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

In the last few weeks two things happened that captured my attention. One Saturday evening I was in one of our churches to celebrate the Vigil Mass. When I entered the sacristy to wear the vestments and prepare myself, I noticed that there was a new altar server. He was really young. It was the first time for him. He was not alone; his grandad was with him and was explaining everything he had to do. The child was attentive, staring at his grandad, trying to catch as much information as possible. Before Mass began, the grandad taught him the prayer that we use to pray with the altar servers: the child repeated word for word. There was no formalism in him and in the grandad as well.

The second thing happened the next Saturday. During the readings of the Vigil Mass my attention was drawn to a grandmother and her grandson, seated with the congregation. The lady had the Bible in her hand, and was pointing to the words that the reader was speaking. Again, the child was deeply attentive, following the finger of his grandmother.

These two little observations made me grasp the importance and the way of teaching faith. I realized again that in a world where the only proposal is "emptiness", young people have a greater thirst for certainties and solidity. They look at us, grown-up men and women. Maybe they don't listen to us, but they look at us, like the two children who were looking at their grandparents. I don't remember all of the words that my father and my mother spoke to me, but I clearly remember their faces, their way of living, their gestures and actions. They showed me through their lives that they were living for something greater than money or success. I learned from them, and from those grandparents in the church, that only life generates life, only a daily living faith can be trustworthy. Only if we try to live consistently to what we listen and to what we proclaim in the church, people will encounter what they need.

And what do our children and young people need? In order to be happy they need the only One who can give them true happiness. They need God. That's why the best present that we can give to them is our friendship with Jesus: not a set of rules or words, but our daily and living friendship with Him. Their heart is like our heart. They don't need a lot of little things. They need to see our friendship with God. We are called to be like that grandmother, who pointed out the words of God in the Bible. We are a sort of finger of God, we are not God. Therefore being a teacher is above all being a disciple, such as being a mother or a father is first of all being a son.

Father Luca

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

13th January 2019:

Entrance Antiphon: After the Lord was baptised, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered:
This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

Psalm Response: Bless the Lord, my soul!
Lord God, how great you are.

**Readings for next Sunday 20th January 2019
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Gospel: John 2:1-11
1st reading: Isaiah 62:1-5
Psalm: 95
2nd reading: 1 Corinthians 12: 4-11

Parish Groups

Growing in Faith Together (GIFT) Group

Tuesdays between 10.15-11.30am (after Mass) in the Holy Cross Resource Centre. **It is a time of simple sharing, come and join us, we start with tea and biscuits, and everyone is assured of a warm welcome.** Upcoming topic: John baptising Jesus.

Journey in Faith - Every Wednesday at St Edward's

It is for anyone enquiring about the Catholic faith and for people intending to become a Catholic. The sessions run from 7.30pm to 9pm.

For further information please contact
Deacon Paul Owen - tel: 02380 254806;
email: powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

Fellowship Group - Wed 16th January 2019

An evening on Celtic Christianity.

St Swithun Wells Church, Fair Oak, 7.30-9pm.
Everyone very welcome.

Any queries to Peter Baggott or Deacon Bob Birtles.

Youth Groups at Holy Cross Resource Centre

All young people from school year 4 up to and including 6th Form are welcome to come and join us once a month on Sunday evenings from 7-8.30pm. For more info please contact: Marianne Wanstall on 07771 704600 [Inspire - school yrs 4-9], Cath Szymanski on 07846 438224 [TOZ - school yrs 10, 11 & Sixth Form College].

Upcoming dates: 13th Jan; 10th Feb; 17th Mar.

CaFE

The next meetings will be on:

Monday 14th January, 2.30pm in St Joseph's;

Tuesday 15th January, 7.30pm in St Andrew's.

Further details from Sheila Keefe, 01794 518071 or
s.keefe@btopenworld.com.

Knit & Natter - St Edward's, Mon 14th Jan, 2-4pm

Refreshments available and everyone most welcome!
Any queries please contact Maureen Stephenson on 02380 252104.

Oasis Women's Group - Tuesday 15th Jan

Topic: The Power of Good. Come along and be inspired by the story of Nicholas Winton. *'A gripping documentary about the courage and determination of a young English stockbroker who saved the lives of 669 children.'* 7:30pm, St Edward's Cloister, finish at 9pm. All ladies warmly welcomed.

Future dates: **12th Feb; 12th Mar; 2nd Apr; 14th May.**

January Parish Events

Children's Mass at St Edward's

Once a month there will be a Children's Mass involving the children in Church; this will normally be held on the first Sunday of the month, however for January the Children's Mass will be celebrated on **13th January**.

Cinema at Holy Cross

The next film showing at Holy Cross Resource Centre will be *The Giver* (Cert 12A) on **Saturday 19th January** at 7pm. See posters on church noticeboards for more information.

Churches Together United Service, Sunday 20th January, 6.30pm at Holy Cross Church

As part of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Christians from Churches Together in Eastleigh will meet for a United Service on Sunday January 20th at 6.30pm at Holy Cross. As we are hosting the service this year we especially ask for your support. It will be based on a service compiled by the Churches Together in Indonesia, reflecting the world - wide church, on the theme of "Justice and only justice you shall pursue." (Deuteronomy 16:19-20) We shall also pray for local initiatives. The guest speaker will be Gareth Davies from Care U.K.

Refreshments afterwards in the Resource Centre.

Churches Together in Romsey

During the Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity the Catholic community as part of *Churches Together in Romsey* will be the hosts for **Morning Prayer on Thursday 24th January at St Joseph's Church 11am**. Printed sheets for Morning Prayer will be provided; tea/coffee afterwards. Everyone welcome!

CTCF Church 'Swaps' 2019

As part of the week of prayer for Christian Unity this year, Churches Together in Chandlers Ford have organised their annual visits between churches. St Edward's will be visiting the URC 9.30am Communion service on Sunday 20th January, and so volunteers are invited to attend. In previous years around 4-6 parishioners have enjoyed these exchanges and we hope for a similar number this year, so if you are interested please contact Paul Carmody on 02380 615373; email carmody16@btinternet.com.

Messages

Prayer Link

Please contact me if you have any requests, queries or comments. **Marion**
(02380 692416) marionbirtles@gmail.com

Messages Continued

St Swithun Wells Parish Website

Our website has been redesigned and updated!
Please take a look at:

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

Catenian's New Website

The Catenian Association has launched a new website for young people at <https://www.catenianbursary.com/> and a Twitter account <https://twitter.com/CatenianBursary/status/1078933107732930560>.

If you are aged between 16 and 24 this will be of interest to you. For further information please contact Bas Bush 023 8076 6998.

Urgently Needed - Volunteer Gift Aid Co-ordinator

To help with administration in Bishops Waltham.

Job Overview

To keep records of all donors including DD/SO and weekly envelope givers on a spreadsheet. Updating the gift aid claims via the Portsmouth Diocese System and acknowledging donations at year end. Close working with Parish Office & Diocese essential.

Job requirements

Access to a computer and knowledge of spreadsheets desirable.

If interested please leave your name and contact details with the Parish Office.

Wanted

A volunteer to help with Sunday coffee after 9am Mass at St Edward's, it should only be four times a year. For more information please contact Clare Lasker on 02380 252138.

Eastleigh & Chandlers Ford Street Pastors

Could you spare one Friday night a month to volunteer with either Eastleigh or Chandlers Ford Street Pastors. Over the past 9 years the Churches Together, through Street Pastors, have played an essential part in keeping people safe. Night-time patrols, have meant we can be out there building community in new ways, loving our town and offering reassurance, safety and support through listening, caring and helping.

Our next training will be on:

8/9/10 March, 22/23/24 March & 5/6/7 April 2019.

Please contact:

Eric Hyom on 02380 643457; erichyom@sky.com or
June Wilson on 02380 616618;
juneannwilson52@yahoo.co.uk.

Bishopstoke, Fair Oak and Horton Heath

Street Pastors - Request for support

Our dedicated Prayer Pastors meet every Friday from 7.45-10pm to support our teams as they go out on patrol, however we desperately need more. We also need more Street Pastor volunteers.

For more information on how to be involved and what this would entail please email Liz Richardson on

fairOak@streetpastors.org.uk.

Thank You

As the priests in St Swithun Wells Parish, we thank you all for your kindness and generosity at Christmas. The cards and thoughtful words they contained, gifts and Offerings we received are truly appreciated.

Fathers Raffaele, Luca, Wojciech and Alan.

Message of Thanks from Father John

Thank you to all those parishioners who sent me cards and greetings and an assurance of your prayers. Although Christmas in Cyprus was a bit different from the celebrations in St Swithun Wells Parish, I kept you all in my prayers as I called to mind how things would be unfolding back in the UK. As another New Year gets underway, I wish each of you a peaceful and a blessed year ahead. *Father John*

Thanks to all at St Edward's who supported World Gifts. Enough money was raised to purchase 6 llamas and some chickens.

Our CAFOD Connect2 project with Peru has now come to an end. The total amount raised in 2 years was **£4,259**, for which we thank the Parish Community at St Edward's. A new project titled 'Hands On with Columbia' will be started later in the year. Details to follow when we have more information.

Thank you from SWAG

SWAG's performance of The Magi are in a Muddle was supported by a fabulous audience who have helped raise £450 for Canine Partners, which has been matched by Lloyds Bank, raising our donation to £900! Thank you to everyone!!

Holy Cross Coffee Stop Christmas Raffle

By co-incidence the raffle was held on the same day that the Sisters from the Convent of St Elizabeth (Minsk, Belarus) were selling their handmade items at Holy Cross. The £96 raised was donated to the convent. Thank you to all who donated items and participated in the event.

Poitiers Care

Would like to thank all those who donated food, gifts or money for Christmas, and those who continue to support by giving food or making donations. In 2018 we fed 3,100 families.

Jenny Clemas writes "On behalf of Father Des and the whole of the Poitiers team thank you so very much for your generous donation of **£541.40**".

Two Saints

Would like to thank you for the Christmas gifts and also the clothing and shoes that they receive on a regular basis throughout the year.

St Swithun Wells Parish Acknowledges with thanks

Last week's collections: TBC

SO/DD for Dec'18: £12,874.09

Mass Times for our Six Church Communities & Parish Contact Information

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 12th Jan Vigil Masses	5.00pm	SSW	Terry Rogers (Very Sick)
	6.00pm	St J	Muriel
	6.00pm	OLQA	
	6.30pm	St Ed	Molly Oag RIP
Sun 13th The Baptism of the Lord	9.00am	HC	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i>
	9.00am	St Ed	Consecration Thanksgiving
	9.00am	St A	Sheila & George Marshall RIP
	9.30am	OLQA	
	11.00am	St J	Sr Maureen
	11.00am	HC	Margaret Egan RIP
Mon 14th	10.00am	St Ed	FOSS (Friends of Suffering Souls) RIP
	12 Noon	St J	Funeral Mass: Brian Anthony Stevens RIP
Tues 15th	9.30am	HC	Gualteri Smyth FM
	10.00am	St A	
	10.00am	OLQA	
Wed 16th	9.30am	HC	Catherine Mary Robinson FM
	10.00am	St Ed	Mary Johnston RIP
Thurs 17th	9.30am	HC	Rocio Bates (In Thanksgiving: Birthday)
	10.00am	OLQA	
	6.00pm	St J	
Fri 18th	10.00am	St Ed	Alexander Hill (Special Intention)
	10.00am	St J: AH	
Sat 19th *Vigil Masses	9.30am	HC	Charles Egan RIP
	5.00pm*	SSW	
	6.00pm*	St J	Barbara & Julian
	6.00pm*	OLQA	
	6.30pm*	St Ed	Deceased Family Members & Friends of the Bennett Family RIP
Sun 20th Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00am	HC	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i>
	9.00am	St Ed	Hazel Freda Jurd FM
	9.00am	St A	Tennyson Family
	9.30am	OLQA	
	11.00am	St J	Special Intention
	11.00am	HC	Hazel Freda Jurd FM

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesday: HC - Adoration **restarts 1st Tues in Feb** 10am-1pm
Thursday: St ED Holy Hour (7-8pm) **restarts on 10th Jan 2019**
Thursday: St J from Noon-6pm, Rosary and Benediction at 5.30pm (before Mass at 6pm)

ROSARY AND PRAYERS

St Edward's 9.30am, Wednesday - The Holy Rosary
St Joseph's 6.00pm, Wednesday - Evening Prayer

CONFESSION (SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION)

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

Clergy

Father Raffaele Cossa (Priest in Charge)
Tel: 023 8061 2430; Email: rcosa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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

Fr Wojciech Paszko (Assistant Priest)
Tel: 01794 522884; Email: wpaszko@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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

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

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

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

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

Parish Office
Holy Cross Church, 53 Leigh Road, Eastleigh SO50 9DF
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Office Hours: Monday-Wednesday 9.30am-5pm;
Thursday & Friday 9.30am-2.30pm

Holy Cross Resource Centre & Finance
Admin: Linda Roberts
lroberts@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Secretary: Sarah Goodfellow
stswparish@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Website
Webmaster: website.sswp@gmail.com

CHURCH ADDRESSES

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 Church, 53, Leigh Road, Eastleigh, SO50 9DF
SSW St Swithun Wells Church, 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

CATHOLIC 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.