



Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ 9th JUNE 2024: TENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

What Never Dies

On Thursday 4th July, we will present in our parish an Exhibition about Takashi and Midori Nagai – Beacons of Faith and Hope Among the Ruins of War. It is a fascinating story (you can watch the trailer on the homepage of our website). Here are some extracts from an article about Takashi, written by Michael Cook.

At 11:02 on the morning of 9th August 1945, an atomic bomb exploded over St. Mary's Catholic Cathedral, in the Nagasaki suburb of Urakami. The explosion killed an estimated 70,000 people, about one-third of the population of Nagasaki.

Why Nagasaki? Historians tell us that it was just bad luck. The B-29's goal had been the city of Kokura but since that city was obscured by clouds, it flew on to Nagasaki. This explains where the bomb fell, but for Japanese Christians, the question "Why Nagasaki?" remained. In the 16th century Nagasaki was the centre of Japanese Christianity. But after a severe persecution in which many died as martyrs, Christianity was all but obliterated. Only on a few remote islands near Nagasaki did "hidden Christians" preserve their faith. Having suffered all that, why did Nagasaki and its tiny Christian community have to endure the bomb? Was there meaning in all that pain? Were they cursed by their God? There was a saint in Nagasaki who was brave enough to search for answers.

His name was Takashi Nagai, a soldier, doctor, university lecturer, husband, father, and A-bomb survivor. He was born in 1908 and studied medicine in Nagasaki and decided to specialise in the exciting new field of radiation medicine. In 1934, after the encounter with the local catholic community, he became a Catholic and later that year married Midori in the Urakami Cathedral.

On 9th August, Nagai was at work in Nagasaki Medical University, 700 metres from the centre of the blast. Many of his colleagues were killed immediately. A splinter of glass severed his temporal artery but he managed to stanch the bleeding and take command in the chaos. Squeezing the blood from his bandage into a red circle on a white sheet, he raised a crude Japanese flag to rally his staff in midst of the hell that Nagasaki had become.

Two days passed before he could return home to see what had happened to his wife Midori. She had been incinerated. All that was left were ashes, a few charred fragments of bone and the melted Rosary she had been saying when the bomb exploded.

His reaction to this terrible events was astonishing. In the last page of his autobiography, he writes: "What had to perish had perished. What had to die had died... When I realized that I had worked my whole life for something that had turned to ashes, I was devastated. A life for ashes! I could not bear a senseless life! I had to find what does not perish. I had to cling to what never dies." His life is the story of this Friendship, which manifests through his affection and relationship with his wife Midori and his friendship with the descendants of Nagasaki's "hidden Christians," leading him to discover "what never dies." Despite being immobilized by illness in a small wooden hut, Takashi Nagai becomes an inspiring and influential figure throughout Japan.

Fr Luca

GEM OF THE WEEK



This week's GEM is the Trailer of Takashi and Midori Nagai Exhibition - 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 **10am on Wednesday 12th June**, please email your messages/notices to: office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

If you wish to make a donation to our parish please go to: <https://www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk/financesdonations>

LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday 9th June 2024: Year B - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 2

PSALM RESPONSE: WITH THE LORD THERE IS MERCY, AND FULLNESS OF REDEMPTION.

1st reading Genesis 3:9-15 Psalm 129 2nd reading 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1 Gospel Mark 3:20-35

Sunday 16th June 2024: Year B - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 3

PSALM RESPONSE: IT IS GOOD TO GIVE YOU THANKS, O LORD.

1st reading Ezekiel 17:22-24 Psalm 91 2nd reading 2 Corinthians 5:6-10 Gospel Mark 4:26-34

PARISH GROUPS



Youth Groups (including First Holy Communion & Confirmation)

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

Grail Seekers (school years 7, 8, 9) &

Student Youth (school year 10 until sixth form)

Please check the parish website for the calendar of meetings, times and venues. To register for these groups please go to our website:

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

The Little Flowers Baby & Toddler Group

Meet on Wednesdays during term time from 10am in the Holy Cross Resource Centre, Eastleigh.

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

Happy Monday Club would like to invite you to their next event in the Holy Cross Resource Centre, Eastleigh on Monday 17th June at 2pm, Bingo and Cream Tea. Suggested donation of £3 to include refreshments and prizes. Please join us, all welcome. Any queries please contact Karen, Peter or Angela on 07809596831 or jakeman1966@hotmail.co.uk. Thank you and we look forward to seeing you.

See our website for details of more groups: Fellowship, GIFT, C&L, Ark of Fellowship, Prayer Groups, Knitting...

First Holy Communion - Sunday 9th June
9am at St Edward's & 11am at Holy Cross
Please keep the children in your prayers.

Confirmation - Sunday 30th June 2024

Please keep our young people in your prayers as they are confirmed by Bishop Philip at St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth on 30th June.

Second Collection Next Weekend
15th & 16th June: Day for Life

Parish Get2Gether Walk and Picnic Saturday 15th June, 10.30am-4pm

An event outdoors for all of the parish, especially families. We will start at 10.30am in Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church in Bishop's Waltham (Martin Street, SO32 1DN). You can leave your car in the church car park.

11am: We start a 1 hour circular walk in the Bishop's Waltham countryside, taking us along the old railway line and the Pilgrim's Trail. The walk is suitable for both adults and children. Please bring suitable shoes and clothes, hat, water, rucksack and sun cream. There is the option of an easier walk suitable for pushchairs in which we visit Bishop's Waltham Palace and the old Railway Line.

12.30pm: Picnic in the field next to OLQA church, please bring your own food/beverage/plates/blanket. Toilets of the church are available. Free time for children to play in the playground next to the field and among themselves.

2.30pm: Music and games for everyone.

3.30pm: Talk by Sr Coeey & Sr Lucy, members of the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph (Lymington), who will talk about their story and vocation.

4pm: End (free Ice Cream for everyone).

To book your place please go to our parish website and

MESSAGES

click the link:

<https://www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk/>
There you will find a map and some photos.

Grail Seekers & Student Youth Summer Camp Monday 29th July to Friday 2nd August

St Joseph's House, 8 Lyndhurst Rd, Southampton
Cost: £180 for eldest/only child, siblings £130 each
Registrations are now open. For more information and to register please go to:
<https://www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk/camp>

Upcoming Funeral

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Chris Ferrer and for his family. Chris' Funeral Mass takes place on Friday 14th June at 9.30am in OLQA church.

General Election - The Prime Minister has called a General Election for Thursday 4th July. The Bishops' Conference have developed a page on the CBCEW website with information and guidance on key issues of importance to us, as Catholics, to help inform us how we might vote. An election is the best time for Christians to speak out, to get involved, and to lead. There are many issues of interest to Catholic voters, here we focus on seven: Criminal Justice, Poverty, Family Life and Taxation, Environment, International Relations, Human Rights and Peacebuilding, Migration and Life issues. The President of the Bishops' Conference, Cardinal Vincent Nichols, is asking voters to be active rather than passive to engage with politicians on the key issues. "You want to know what your candidate will think and say on your behalf when that candidate gets into Parliament," says the Cardinal. "I would like to put forward a theme for us all to think about. How do we seek to construct a society in which families can flourish? That's the bedrock". To view the Cardinal's message and the other matters raised here please go to:
<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/election24/>



MESSAGES CONTINUED

Changes to Mass at OLOA

Please note there will be **No Mass on Wednesdays or Thursdays** for the time being.

Ordination to the Priesthood of Dcn Matteo Pagani

As you know Dcn Matteo will be ordained to the priesthood at 3pm, on **Saturday 22nd June in St Paul outside the Walls in Rome**. This is an occasion of great joy for both Matteo and for our parish and we would like to present him with a gift to mark this momentous occasion. If you would like to make a donation for Matteo's gift please either put cash or a cheque (made payable to CDP St Swithun Wells) in an envelope and hand this to the clergy or take the envelope down to the parish office. If you would like to contribute to the collection please do so by **Monday 1st July 2024**. You can also make a transfer to the parish account. The account details are as follows:

Account Holder: CDP ST SWITHUN WELLS
Account number: 01786599 Sort Code: 30-93-04
Reference: *please indicate*
"MATTEO_yoursurname" (for example:

MATTEO_Smith). Fr Matteo will be celebrating his first parish Masses at St Edward (9am) & Holy Cross (11am) on Sunday 7th July and at St Andrew, St Joseph & St Swithun Wells the following weekend. He will be presented with the gift during the Parish Summer BBQ on 7th July.

Upcoming Parish Festival

Please make sure you take a leaflet regarding the programme for the Parish Festival which takes place from **2nd-7th July**.

Significant Wedding Anniversaries Mass - couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th (or longer) Wedding Anniversary are invited to join Bishop Philip for this year's Mass at St Bede's Church, Basingstoke on **Saturday 7th September at 2pm**.

If you would like to attend, please email anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk for an application form.

Misa en Castellano / Mass in Spanish

Padre Mark Hogan les quiere invitar a una celebración de la Santa Misa en Castellano el 24 de junio (La Natividad de San Juan Bautista) a las 1900h en la iglesia de San Pedro, Jewry Street. Todos son bienvenidos. Por favor traen un plato típico de su país para compartir en el Pastoral Centre después de la Misa.

Fr Mark Hogan would like to invite you to a celebration of the Holy Mass in Spanish on **24th June** (The Birth of St. John the Baptist) at **7pm in St. Peter's Church, Jewry Street**. Everyone is welcome. Please bring a typical dish from your country for us to share in the Pastoral Centre after the Mass.

Ruby Jubilee - A heartfelt thank you to everyone who made my Ruby Jubilee Mass of Thanksgiving so special. Thanks also to all who sent me cards, emails, gifts and greetings for my 40th anniversary of Ordination to the Diaconate. A big thank you to all of you who contributed to my generous gift, the Tanakh

(Hebrew Scriptures) and cheque. I was totally surprised and very grateful. Marion would like me to thank you for the beautiful roses. We enjoyed the champagne on Monday, 3rd June - the actual day! Thanks again. *Bob & Marion*

Financial Requests

In order to save time and postage the office would like to request the following:

1. If you wish to make a Mass Offering, please could you hand in your donation in advance of the Mass taking place. This is important as the donation is paid directly to the priest who celebrates the Mass. In the case of a supply priest, we send their supply fee, expenses, and Mass offerings as soon as possible after the Mass is celebrated. However, late donations mean often this must be done in two separate payments, which costs extra time and postage.
2. We are happy to support CAFOD through various fundraising activities and make larger payments at certain intervals in the church year. However, if you wish to donate to CAFOD regularly by personal cheque, please could you send your donation directly (the address is below,) as it now costs the parish 85p for every cheque we must forward and we feel obliged to send cheques on, as soon as possible.

CAFOD address: CAFOD, Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7JB

Many thanks Fiona & Sarah

Roadworks in Hanns Way, Eastleigh

Please note Hanns Way is being resurfaced (works scheduled until 13th June). The road will be closed alternately at each end, therefore access should be available from one end or the other. At some point, whilst they resurface the driveway to the church, it will not be possible to drive into or out of the church car park for a short period of time. Unfortunately we won't know, until closer to the time, when this will be.

SCHOOL NOTICES

URGENT



St Swithun Wells Catholic Primary School

Are **URGENTLY** recruiting a Mini Bus Driver. Please see full advert on church noticeboards. 10 hrs per week, Mon to Friday, Term Time only. Start date: September 2024.

More info can be found on the school website: <https://www.st-swithunwells.org.uk/staff-vacancies/>
This role would suit a semi-retired person and less hours will be considered for people that can only do certain days. To arrange an appointment to visit the school or for an application form please contact the school office on 02380 266210 or email: adminoffice@st-swithunwells.hants.sch.uk

TIMES A PRIEST WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MEET

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|--------------------|---|
| Tuesdays: | Fr Raffaele, 3.30pm-5.30pm, Holy Cross Resource Centre, Eastleigh |
| Wednesdays: | Fr Luca, 3.30pm-5.30pm, Holy Cross Resource Centre, Eastleigh |
| Saturdays: | Fr Mario, 2.30pm-4.30pm, Romsey Parish Office (26A Abbey Water) |

MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Saturday 8th June <i>Morning Mass: The Immaculate Heart of Mary</i>	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross St Swithun Wells OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Carmela Campese FM People of the Parish Anne Hooper RIP 1st Anniversary Brian Young RIP
Sunday 9th June <i>Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLQA Holy Cross (also livestreamed) St Joseph	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Skipton Leonard Haslam RIP Shafika Hamood RIP Elsy Joseph RIP
Monday 10th June	9.30am	Holy Cross	
Tuesday 11th June <i>St Barnabas</i>	10.00am 6.00pm	St Andrew St Edward	
Wed 12th June	9.30am 9.30am 10.00am	Holy Cross OLQA St Edward	<u>No Mass</u> Intentions of the Layzell Family
Thurs 13th June <i>St Anthony of Padua</i>	9.30am 12 Noon 6.00pm	Holy Cross OLQA St Joseph	Antonio Cicu RIP FM <u>No Mass</u>
Friday 14th June	9.30am 10.00am 10.00am	OLQA St Joseph St Edward	<u>Funeral Mass: Chris Ferrer RIP</u> Janet Cooke RIP
Saturday 15th June	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross St Swithun Wells OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Martyn & Kathleen Cole (40th Wedding Anniversary) Sr Carmel Wragg RIP Thomas, Rose & Paul Murray RIP
Sunday 16th June <i>Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLQA Holy Cross (also livestreamed) St Joseph	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Daniel Munro RIP Charles & Martha Barrett FM Elvira Golez & Elaine Ceballos RIP

CLERGY & PARISH OFFICE

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

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

Fr Mario Toma (Assistant Priest)
Tel: 023 8061 2430; E: mtoma@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 Matteo Pagani
Tel: 023 8061 2430; E: mpagani@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Deacon Paul Wilson
Tel: 023 8061 6618; E: pwilson@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