



Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ

27th SEPTEMBER 2020: TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Power, Pardon, Mercy.

The Collect for this Sunday's Mass asks us to reflect on the word 'Almighty' or 'All-powerful' as applied to the One whom Jesus knows and names as 'Father.'

The Collect is found in a Mass book probably copied in the Paris region in the early 7th century AD from a manuscript originally brought from Rome. This Mass book, copied and re-copied, played a part in the spread of the Roman form of the Mass throughout Europe in the 7th - 9th centuries, the time of Charles Martel, Charlemagne and the many Anglo Saxon and Irish missionaries (Willibrord, Boniface, Lioba, Columbanus), who created centres for the revival of Christian faith and learning across Europe.

Our translation says that God manifests his almighty power above all by pardoning and showing mercy. The Latin in this prayer for 'almighty power' is *omnipotentiam*. That's a strong word. It's not just power, but power without let or limit, truly 'omnipotence.'

Human notions of power imagine a ruler, a 'strong man.' We think of political or military strength or massive personal charisma. But the prayer asks us to think again, to reflect on the 'evangelical' sense of God's 'omnipotence.' Power is subverted in the spirit of the Beatitudes, in which the gentle inherit the earth, peacemakers are God's children and mourners are consoled. God's power is displayed *above all* not in earthquake, wind or fire, but *by pardoning and showing mercy*.

Such a 'subversion' is the theme of the hymn quoted in Paul's letter to the Philippians, the Second Reading of this Sunday's Mass. Christ Jesus, God from God, Light from Light, assumes power, not by taking or seizing it, but by surrendering it. It is a crucial text of the New Testament: *His state was divine, yet ...he emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave ... and was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross* (Philippians 2:6-11). That Cross is the place of power: strength in utter weakness, victory accomplished by seeming defeat, glorious life through humiliating death. That is the power, the 'authority' of which Jesus can say to his disciples *All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me*. (Matthew 28:18). It is in the power of Jesus' Cross that Christians go as his missionaries.

This is my last contribution to the Newsletter of St. Swithun Wells Parish. Next week you will have a new priest in Bishops Waltham, Father Bruce Barnes. I hope you will welcome him and that his time among you will be blessed. Please remember me in your prayers.

Canon Alan

GEM OF THE WEEK



This week's GEM is "Reopening of St Swithun Wells Church in Fair Oak" - you can find this on our homepage. If anyone has suggestions for GEMs please contact website.sswp@gmail.com

LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday 27th September 2020:

Year A - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 2

PSALM RESPONSE: REMEMBER YOUR MERCY, LORD.

1st reading: Ezekiel 18:25-28 Psalm: 24 2nd reading: Philippians 2:1-11 Gospel: Matthew 21:28-32

READINGS FOR SUNDAY 4TH OCTOBER:

1st reading: Isaiah 5:1-7 Psalm: 79 2nd reading: Philippians 4:6-9 Gospel: Matthew 21:33-43

PARISH GROUPS



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

Meet every other week:

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

Tues, 4.00pm-5.30pm in St Andrew;

Sat 10.30am-Noon in Holy Cross Resource Centre.

To join Stars of Abraham please click the link on our website.

There will be a meeting for the parents in October:

Sat 10th October, 10.30am at St Edward for the St Edward's & Holy Cross groups.

Tues 6th October, 6pm at St Andrew for the St Andrew's group.

Grail Seekers (school years 7, 8, 9) - meet weekly every Saturday from 2.00pm-4.00pm in Holy Cross Resource Centre. To join the group please click the link on our website. There will be a meeting with the parents on 3rd October at 2pm in Holy Cross church.

Student Youth (school year 10 until sixth form)

meet weekly on a Friday. First meeting date: Friday

2nd October at 6.30pm in Holy Cross Resource

Centre. To join the group please click the link on our website.

Communion & Liberation Group (with Fr Luca) is

meeting every Wednesday, for more information please click the link on the homepage of our website.

Communion & Liberation Group (with Fr Raffaele)

is meeting every Thursday at 8pm in St Edward's cloister starting from 1st October.

Fellowship Group (Zoom Meeting): Wednesday

30th Sept, 7.30pm. This week's meeting will be about "The Season of Creation." All welcome - email Bob for more details.

bbirtles@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Following the recent Government change in rules, our three Youth Groups are still able to meet and socialise in person with those over 11 years needing to wear masks. Adult church groups are able to meet in person with adherence to the 1 metre plus rule with masks to be worn and a limit on numbers.

MESSAGES



First Holy Communion & Confirmation

If a child or a teenager wants to be prepared to receive First Holy Communion (and is at least in school year 3) or Confirmation (and is at least in school year 8) we will ask them to participate in one of the three youth groups according to their age. They will receive First Holy Communion and Confirmation when they are ready (usually after one year). Please click on the links on our website to join one of these groups:
<https://www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk/sacramentalpreparation>

Sacramental Preparation for Adults (RCIA)

If you would like to be baptized, confirmed or received into the Catholic Church please speak to a priest or email Deacon Paul Owen at:
powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Preparation will restart in October.

Parish Leaving Gift for Canon Alan - If you would like to contribute to the Parish's farewell gift please either make a bank transfer to the main parish account (PRCDTR St Swithun Wells, sort code 30-93-04, a/c no: 01786599) using Fr Alan as the reference, or send cash/cheque with his name on the back to the Parish Office as soon as possible.

Upcoming Funerals - attendance is by family invitation only due to COVID 19 restrictions. We pray for the repose of the soul of Amparo Castro and for her family whose funeral is at Holy Cross on 6th Oct, 11am.

Volunteers & Volunteers 70 years plus - Our churches have now been open since June 2020 for both private prayer and the celebration of Mass. This has been possible because of our amazing group of volunteers, without them it could not have happened. We wish to thank all those involved for their dedication and hard work. We are also aware that there are many 70 years plus people in our community who would have liked to help but were unable to do so because of being considered to be in a "Moderately at Risk Group" even though fit and healthy. Since the 1st August the rules have been relaxed. Having now established in all our Churches safe COVID protection practices we would like to be more inclusive as to who can volunteer. If you are in the 70 years plus group and feel you would like to join our teams of volunteers please contact:
Holy Cross - Elizabeth Nash (nashp@aol.com)
St Edward's - Dcn Paul Owen
St Joseph's & St Andrew's - Dcn John Di Meo
OLQA - Canon Alan
St Swithun Wells - peterbaggott@aol.com

MESSAGES CONTINUED



Additional Mass

From 4th October there will be an additional Sunday Mass at St Edward's starting at 10.30am.

Upcoming Second Collections

The diocese are setting up an online giving page for each second collection. On the 3rd/4th October the second collection will be for Peters Pence - the online giving page can be found at:

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/second-collection-for-peters-pence-1>

CAFOD Harvest Family Fast Day (Survive, Re-build & Heal). This year's day has been moved to Friday 9th October with the weekend for the collection being 10th/11th October.

CAFOD envelopes will be made available in our churches if you want to use them, alternatively you can donate online at cafod.org.uk/give.

Missio Red Boxes St Edward's Church - Please empty your red boxes into a named sandwich bag or such like. Bring it to St Edward's at either weekend Masses and give it to myself or Teresa in the repository. Alternatively post it through my letter box: 65 Pine Crescent, Chandlers Ford. Many thanks, Mary Vokes (Chandlers Ford only).

MASS (STREAMING & BOOKING SYSTEM) & CONFESSION



Live Streamed Mass

Mass at Holy Cross on Thursday, 9.30am and Sunday, 11am will be streamed. To join please go to our parish website www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

To reserve a seat at Mass in St Joseph's & OLOA

St Joseph's, Romsey:

- **Thursday 6.00pm** (the church will close after Mass). To reserve a seat for the Mass please contact Teresa Rayment from Monday through to Wednesday (Tel: 01794 513528 / teresarayment@tiscali.co.uk).
- **Friday 10am** (no booking required for this Mass)
- **Saturday Vigil Mass 6.00pm** (the church will close after Mass). To reserve a seat for the Mass please contact Joanna Russell from Wednesday through to Friday (Tel: 07917 802814 / joanna@silvasmiths.co.uk).
- **Sunday 11.00am** (the church will close after Mass). To reserve a seat for the Mass please contact Charles Crampin from Wednesday through to Friday (Tel: 02380 410595 / sancha@virginmedia.com).

Our Lady Queen of Apostles, Bishop's Waltham:

- **Sunday 9.30am** (the church will close after Mass). To reserve a seat please email: olqamassbook@gmail.com

St Swithun Wells Church

The 5pm Mass recommences on Saturday 26th September. The church will open 30 minutes before Mass begins and we would ask that you are seated 10 minutes before the start. Stewards will direct you to the designated seats.

If the church becomes full, a notice will be put outside the main entrance.

Any queries to Peter & Pat Baggott (02380 694060).

Outdoor Mass

Swithun Wells Primary School Field:

- **Sunday 4.30pm** (Bring your own seating. Mass will be suspended only in case of very bad weather). 27th September will be the last Mass.

Private Prayer

The following churches will remain open after Mass until 11.30am for private prayer (see back page for Mass times):

Tuesday: St Andrew's

Wednesday: St Edward's

Thursday: Holy Cross

CONFESSION

(SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION)

Tuesdays:	6.30-7.30pm	St Edward's
Saturdays:	10.00-10.30am	Holy Cross
	5.30-6.00pm	St Joseph's
Sundays:	8.30-9.00am	St Andrew's

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesdays: St Edward's - after Mass (6.30-7.30pm)

TIMES A PRIEST WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MEET

Tuesdays: Fr Raffaele, 3.30pm-5.30pm, Parish Office, Holy Cross, Eastleigh.

Wednesdays: Fr Luca, 4.30pm-6.30pm, Parish Office, Holy Cross, Eastleigh.

Fridays: Fr Raffaele, 11.30am-12.30pm, Parish Office (26 Abbey Water), Romsey

Saturdays: Fr Marco, 9.30am-12.30pm, Parish Office (26 Abbey Water) Romsey

MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 26th Sept	9.30am <u>5.00pm</u> 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross <u>St Swithun Wells</u> St Joseph St Edward	Cyril Hoskin RIP Pat Freemantle FM Patricia Wilson RIP Neil & Sylvia Hendricks (50th Wedding Anniversary)
Sun 27th Sept <i>Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary time</i>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 4.30pm	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLQA Holy Cross (Also Streamed) St Joseph SSW Primary School	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Ann Wood RIP (Anniversary) Falco Scappaticci RIP Maureen Boog RIP & John
Mon 28th Sept	9.30am	Holy Cross	Robert Richard Alexander Levey FM
Tues 29th Sept <i>The Holy Archangels Michael, Gabriel & Raphael</i>	10.00am 6.00pm	St Andrew St Edward	Jeronimo & Dolores Patino RIP Mrs Edward Christian FM
Wed 30th Sept <i>St Jerome</i>	9.30am 10.00am	Holy Cross St Edward	Florence Bohan FM Private Intention (Malloy Family)
Thurs 1st Oct <i>St Teresa of the Child Jesus</i>	9.30am 6.00pm	Holy Cross (Also Streamed) St Joseph	Joyce Whitlock (Intentions) Deirdre Jennings RIP
Fri 2nd Oct <i>The Holy Guardian Angels</i>	10.00am	St Joseph (Church not AH)	Rebecca Haughian (Special Intention)
Sat 3rd Oct	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross St Swithun Wells St Joseph St Edward	Antonio Cicu FM Andrew Bates RIP Patricia Wilson RIP Matteucci Family (Thanksgiving - 50th Wedding Anniversary)
Sun 4th Oct <i>Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary time</i>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am <u>10.30am</u> 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLQA <u>St Edward</u> Holy Cross (Also Streamed) St Joseph	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Living & deceased members of the Murphy & Lucas Families Mike Walsh RIP Deceased members of the Kelly, Slevin & Fox families

CLERGY

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

Father 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

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

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 80254806; E: powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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

PARISH OFFICE

Holy Cross Church, 53 Leigh Road, Eastleigh SO50 9DF
Tel: 02380 273882

Office Hours:
Monday-Wednesday: 9.30am-5.30pm (closed for an hour over lunchtime on Monday & Tuesday)
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 Contact: website.sswp@gmail.com