



Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ

5th July 2020: **FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Like Stars Fixed in His Heart

As most of you already know, my year here is coming to a close. On Saturday 11th July I will set off for Rome to continue my formation in seminary. I want to share with everyone in the parish my gratitude for this year and take the opportunity to share a few things I take with me.

This year I learned that God doesn't entrust my vocation to something in the clouds or to my own personal strength. I saw that He entrusts my vocation to something real, physical; He entrusts my vocation to a piece of His Body. This year this was primarily the life, friendship, and work with Fr Luca, Fr Raffaele, and Fr Marco. I saw again that when Jesus asks us something He also prepares a place for us to discover and live it. This is one of the things that emerged most clearly from these months of emergency: gratitude for the life of the house and the possibility to live and grow in my vocation and relationship with Him.

This year I had the chance to spend a lot of time with the young people of the parish. I want to share just one of the many episodes. On Thursdays I used to go with Fr Raffaele to one of the classes at St Swithun Wells Primary School to spend an hour with the children. We had a lot of fun during these visits, especially when we started responding to the questions of the kids. One day they asked us, 'Why did God create the world?' Fr Raffaele flipped the question back on them, 'Why do you think He created the world?' Then we listened for about 20 minutes to everything they had to say. One of them said something that really made us smile, 'God created the world because He wanted a place where Jesus could walk around.' Then another chimed in, 'Yeah, Jesus needed a place to land!' In a humorous way they intuited something profound, as children often do: God created the world out of love for His Son. And this earth is precious because Jesus walked on it and because it continues to be the place where we meet Him.

One thing I learned from my time spent with the young people is that no time is wasted when it is lived in front of Jesus. I don't know what will remain with the children from the time I spent with them, but I am sure that all the time we spent playing or learning, every act of charity and moment of truth that we shared in friendship will last forever, because Jesus saw them and they remain fixed in His heart like stars that will never fade away.

Ever since I began seminary there have been people in the media saying that priests should get married. This year, however, I saw again the profound reason for priestly celibacy. I saw again that the Church is the Bride of Christ, and that the priest has the responsibility and privilege of loving Her as Christ did. Being in a new country I also saw just how unique this Bride is. She has her own rich history here and her own saints; and at the same time, she is always close at hand, she is the person I could chat with after Mass, the faces of the elderly I visited, the people connected for the rosary during lockdown, or the kids in the Grail Seekers. This year showed me the beauty of the priesthood, the beauty of a life spent for the Church, the Bride of Christ.

Philip Stokman

GEM OF THE WEEK



This week's GEM is a message from the Archbishops in England about the resumption of Public Worship. If anyone has suggestions for GEMs please contact the Webmaster on website.sswp@gmail.com

LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday 5th July 2020:

Year A - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 14

PSALM RESPONSE: I WILL BLESS YOUR NAME FOR EVER, O GOD MY KING.

READINGS FOR SUNDAY 5TH JULY:

1st reading: Zechariah 9:9-10 Psalm: 144 2nd reading: Romans 8:9,11-13 Gospel: Matthew 11:25-30

MESSAGES



GUIDELINES FOR THE REINTRODUCTION OF MASS IN OUR PARISH

From the 6th July we will begin to have public Masses. Below are some indication which may help you to decide if coming back to Mass is safe for you. Please read carefully and let us know if you have questions.

1) Even if everyone desires to come back to Mass, parishioners are currently not obliged to attend Sunday Mass, and ought not attend if the following apply:

- For example if they are sick, or experiencing cold or flu like symptoms
- They are experiencing symptoms of a serious illness, or if they are in the "vulnerable" category (the elderly, people with weakened immune systems, people with long term conditions such as cancer, diabetes, heart conditions etc.)

It is envisaged that the Sunday obligation will not be imposed until the latter phases of the lifting of restrictions.

2) Alcohol hand gel will be provided at the church doors. Parishioners should sanitize their hands as they enter and leave the church.

3) Stewards will be at the Church entrance to assist parishioners when they enter, leave, and during Mass. They will make sure social distancing is respected.

4) Churches will be marked out with appropriate signage to make sure social distancing is respected.

5) We have a limited space available in our churches. When the maximum number is reached it will not be possible to enter the church.

6) We encourage parishioners to come 15 minutes before Mass starts to help the work of the stewards.

7) Parishioners who don't work during the week or are retired, are encouraged to attend Mass on week days rather than Sundays.

8) Congregational singing will not be possible at Mass.

9) Parishioners should wear masks or face coverings during Mass.

10) The priest and deacons will not wear gloves or masks during the Mass. However, they will wear masks when distributing Holy Communion.

11) There will be no physical sign of peace. People may still turn to one another and say "Peace be with you."

12) The Eucharist will be distributed under one kind only; distribution of Holy Communion from the Chalice is suspended.

13) When giving Holy Communion in the hand, the priest will ensure that the host is placed in the hand of the recipient in such a way that there is not touching and that the maximum possible social distance is maintained.

14) Social distancing must be maintained in the communion lines.

15) A priest will be available after Mass to hear Confessions if requested, following appropriate social distancing.

16) We encourage parishioners to make their offering by Direct Debit or Standing Order. In any case a basket will be placed at church exits and parishioners may put their collection there.

17) For the time being we will carry on streaming Mass from Holy Cross on Thursday at 9.30am and on Sunday at 11.00am.

18) An outside Mass will be celebrated every Sunday at St Swithun Wells Primary School outside Field at 4.30pm. Bring your own seating. Mass will be suspended only in the case of very bad weather. It will be possible to park in the playground.

19) If a parishioner attending Mass does develop Covid, they or their family should make the parish aware.

CONTINUED MESSAGES



Volunteers

We need your help. Volunteers are needed to manage the opening of the churches, ushers to ensure and maintain social distancing and cleaners to ensure that we have a clean environment.

Who can be a volunteer?

People who are in the High or Moderate Risk Groups, as defined by the NHS, at this stage cannot be volunteers. This includes those people who are 70 yrs. or more and those who have underlying health conditions. This is to ensure that these groups of people are protected during this time of transition. As the situation is changing rapidly, this can be reviewed and we are hopeful that we can be more inclusive in the near future.

If you want to help as a volunteer please contact the following people. We really do need you!

St Edward the Confessor: Deacon Paul Owen
powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Holy Cross: Elizabeth Nash
nashp@aol.com

St Andrew: Deacon John Di Meo
jdimeo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Our Lady Queen of Apostles: Canon Alan
frgriffiths@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

School of Community

We are planning to have a barbecue together on **Friday 24th July** in the carpark outside the Resource Centre. This will be confirmed closer to the date.

MASS TIMES



Timetable for public Masses and private prayer

From **Monday 6th July** we will be able to have public Masses in our churches. Here is the timetable for the Masses.

St Edward the Confessor:

- **Wednesday 10.00am** (church will remain open until 12.00pm for private prayer)
- **Saturday 6.30pm** (the church will close after Mass)
- **Sunday 9.00am** (church will remain open until 11.00am for private prayer)

St Swithun Wells Primary School Field:

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

Holy Cross:

- **Thursday 9.30am** (church will remain open until 12.00pm for private prayer)
 - **Sunday 11.00am** (church will remain open until 1.00pm for private prayer)
- ⇒ Both public Masses in Holy Cross (Thursday and Sunday) will also be streamed. To join visit our website.

St Andrew:

- **Tuesday 10.00am** (church will remain open until 12.00pm for private prayer)
- **Sunday 9.00am** (church will remain open until 11.00am for private prayer)

Our Lady Queen of Apostles

- **Sunday 9.30am** (the church will close after Mass)

PARISH OFFICE & MASS INTENTIONS



Main Parish Office

The Parish Office is closed to visitors, however you can call **Thursday and Friday 9.30am-2.30pm**. Parish Office telephone number: **02380 273882**.

Mass Intentions: There are open spaces in the following weeks for Mass intentions. Please book them by sending an email or calling the office.

How to make an offering for your Mass intention.

(1) You can send cash or a cheque to the office made payable to **PRCDTR St Swithun Wells** (writing on the back the date your Mass was said and your Mass intention).

You can make a bank transfer to the main parish account **PRCDTR St Swithun Wells** with sort code **30-93-04** and account number **01786599**

Please indicate that the transfer is for a Mass intention, the date it was celebrated and who/what the Mass was celebrated for. This is very important for keeping everything in order.

MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 4th July	9.30am	Holy Cross (Only Streamed)	Bennett Family (Special Intention)
Sun 5th July <i>Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	10.00am	Holy Cross (Only Streamed)	Mrs Mary McManus (FM) Chant and Clifton families (FM) Elsie and Brian (50th wedding anniversary)
Mon 6th July		Private Mass	Maureen Carolan (RIP) Jim Shine (RIP)
Tues 7th July	10.00am	St Andrew	Richard and Victoria (Wellbeing) Philip Stokman (Thanksgiving)
Wed 8th July	10.00am	St Edward	Keith Small (RIP) Paul Owen (Anniversary of ordination)
Thurs 9th July	9.30am	Holy Cross (Also Streamed)	Charles Maria Cooper (FM)
Fri 10th July		Private Mass	Jim Shine (RIP)
Sat 11th July	6.30pm	St Edward	Jim Shine (RIP)
Sun 12th July <i>Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary time</i>	9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 4.30pm	St Edward St Andrew OLQA Holy Cross (Also Streamed) SSW Primary School	James Kerr (RIP) The work of Stella Maris, The Apostleship of the Sea Diane Lopez (RIP)

CLERGY

Father Raffaele Cossa (Parish Priest)
Tel: 023 8061 2430; E: rcozza@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: Tuesday-Friday: 10.00am-6pm

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