



Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ

22nd JANUARY 2023: THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Launching the Ship of Faith

In the Gospel for this weekend we see a stark contrast between the Wilderness experience of Jesus, where he has a personal encounter with the devil, and the beginning of his ministry in the bustling and thriving town of Capernaum.

The Jesus who was alone and isolated opts to stay in this busy commercial town with a population of about 1500 people; many of the townsfolk were fishermen but there was also a thriving commercial business centre along what was called the Via Maris, along which passed many travellers, caravans, and traders. These Gentiles formed a significant proportion of the population. There was also a large synagogue in the town and a Roman Garrison stationed nearby. It was into this strange mixture of people and thriving activity that Jesus chose to live and choose his Disciples.

Matthew sets a scene of Jesus in this cosmopolitan town for a purpose which is not at first glance obvious. Matthew shows that the prophesy of Isaiah and that of Simeon is fulfilled - here is the Light to Lighten the Gentiles and the glory of his people Israel. I like to think that Jesus also cuts right across materialistic values by choosing the Disciples from among the fishing fraternity. He did not choose a successful merchant or a notable leader of the Community. Instead he takes the lowly ordinary working men and gives them the opportunity to be rich and fulfilled in his company. The relationship that Jesus offers is so strong and personal that he calls each one by name. It is an intimate gesture from a stranger and yet the message is so strong and perceptively genuine that a change of life style is accepted and a new life and beginning initiated for those willing to follow.

This call to discipleship is common to all Christians and the relationship offered is as intimate now as it was on the shores of Galilee to those first disciples. These men and women who were called to follow the Lord will be able to effect change anywhere in the world. The same is true for us. All we have to do is something which the fishermen knew how to do - Launch out. You do not need a sea to do this, we have instead the sea of millions of faces, peoples and places. The nets are clean, the boat is ready and the fish are waiting!

Father Bruce

GEM OF THE WEEK



This week's GEM is 'About Christian Unity - words of Pope Benedict XVI during his visit to the UK in 2010' - 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 25th January 2023**, please email your messages/notices to: office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday 22nd January 2023: Year A - Year 1 - Psalter Week: Psalter Week 3

PSALM RESPONSE: THE LORD IS MY LIGHT AND MY HELP.

READINGS: 1st reading Isaiah 8:23-9:3 Psalm 26 2nd reading 1 Corinthians 1:10-13,17 Gospel Matthew 4:12-23

Sunday 29th January 2023: Year A - Year 1 - Psalter Week: Psalter Week 4

PSALM RESPONSE: HOW HAPPY ARE THE POOR IN SPIRIT: THEIRS IS THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.

READINGS: 1st reading Zephaniah 2:3,3:12-13 Psalm 145 2nd reading 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 Gospel Matthew 5:1-12a

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)

This week we invite the parents to attend the session with their children.

Please check the parish website for the calendar of meetings, times and venues.

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!

Growing In Faith Together (GIFT) Group

Tuesday 24th January at 10.15am to approx.

11.30am in the Holy Cross Resource Centre. We will be continuing our DVD series on Prayer called 'Strength to Strength'. All are welcome!

Fellowship Group - Wed 25th January, 7.30pm in St Swithun Wells Church, Fair Oak. We are continuing our series on "Sacred Spaces" - a look at how religious buildings touch our lives. Everyone is welcome.

For queries or information on joining by Zoom please contact Peterbaggott@aol.com

Romsey Prayer Group - Every Wednesday morning at 11am in the St Joseph's Parish Centre, 26A Abbey Water. All will be made very welcome.

Afternoon Club - St. Joseph's Parish Centre (26A Abbey Water), first Tuesday in the month.

Come and join us for tea, games and good fun.

All welcome! Next Meeting: 2pm on 7th February.

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!

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

MESSAGES



Upcoming Second Collection

This weekend (21st/22nd Jan) for our Cathedral in Portsmouth.

Upcoming Funerals

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Shirley Hughes and for her family. Shirley's Funeral Service takes place in Holy Cross on Thursday 26th January at 10.30am.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Sr Theresa McAnelly and for her family. Sr Theresa's Funeral Mass takes place in St Joseph's on Tuesday 31st January at 1.30pm.

St Swithun Wells Parish Financial Summary 2021/22

A summary of the Parish Finances covering the period 1st September 2021 to 31st August 2022 has been produced and is available in all of our churches, please pick up your copy.

Cultural Friday

20th January, 7pm at St Edward's

The topic will be Pope Benedict's Life and Legacy. Cheese, wine and nibbles will be available from 7pm, suggested donation of £1.

Parish Get2Gether - 5th February, 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 'Education of the children in their faith'. 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.

Future Get2Gether date for your diaries: 5th March

MESSAGES CONTINUED



Parish Lunch at the Hunters Inn, Romsey on Thursday 9th February, 12.30pm. All are welcome. Menus are on the noticeboards. Please let Rosemary (01794 522411) know your choice of meal before Wednesday 1st February as we have to pre-order. Thank you.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (18th-22nd Jan)

As the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity draws to a close, Bishop Philip asks you to "consider on a personal level whether you have ever thought of "the ecumenical cause" as being a "non-optional dimension" of being a Catholic. If you haven't, I want to encourage you to think again, for we have it from the very highest authority that unity is central to the very nature of the Church."

Churches Together in Chandlers Ford - As part of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, at **4pm on Sunday 22nd January 2023** there will be an Ecumenical Songs of Praise Service at the **Methodist Church in Chandlers Ford**. All are welcome.

Romsey - The Service for Christian Unity Week takes place on **Sunday 22nd January at 6pm in Romsey Abbey**. All are welcome.

Eastleigh - There is a **Service at Eastleigh Parish Church (All Saints) on Sunday 22nd January from 6.30pm to 8pm**. This is an annual service of prayer for unity. All are welcome.

Beat The Winter Blues - Come to a light-hearted quiz in Romsey Parish Centre, 26 Abbey Water, on **Tuesday 14th February, starting at 2.30pm**. No charge but, due to limited space, we need to know numbers. If you intend to come, please let Margaret French (01794 278151), Jean Prescott (prescott@waitrose.com) or Rosemary Peacock (01794 522411) know by Tuesday 7th Feb.

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

Monday 13th - Friday 17th February, 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.**
Payment to be made by 10th February.

Parish Pilgrimage to Walsingham (30th June -2nd July 2023) - We have now secured accommodation for those wishing to join our parish pilgrimage/retreat to Walsingham. **To book please go to our website and complete the NEW FORM by Sunday 5th February.** The cost per person will be £250. Payments can be made by bank transfer, cheque, or cash. Bank transfers should be made to 'CDP St Swithun Wells' with Sort Code:30-93-04, Account No:01786599 with beneficiary reference *WALS_yoursurname* (e.g. *WALS_Smith*). Cheques should be made payable to *CDP St Swithun Wells* and posted or handed into the Parish Office. If you wish to pay by cash, payments can be made Mon-Thurs 9.30am-5.30pm in the parish office.
All payments to be received by Sunday 5th February.

Message from Poitiers Care - Poitiers Care wish to thank all who donated gifts or money over the Christmas period and for the ongoing support they receive.

Amazing Afternoon Tea

My sister and I would like to thank Pat and all her team for the lovely, delicious and entertaining New Year Afternoon Tea held at St Swithun Wells Church. We really enjoyed it as, as I am sure, did everyone there. A real team effort. Thank you all so much, Pam & Glenda.

Latest Diocesan Job Vacancies

Head of Communications (£50,000-£55,000 per annum)
Head of Fund Raising (£50,000-£55,000 per annum)
(Application deadline for both roles is 27/01/23)
Music Team Leader - St Peter and the Winchester Martyrs Parish, Winchester: part time 21 hrs per week, including weekends and major feasts, 18 months, fixed term contract, salary competitive.
(Application deadline is Midday on Thurs 16th Feb)
Please go to the Diocesan website for more info and how to apply for the above roles.
<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs/>

St Swithun Wells Parish Online Giving

If you would like to give directly online please use your phone to scan in this QR code which will take you to our online giving page.



SCHOOL NOTICES

Warm Room - St Swithun Wells Catholic Primary School are holding a Warm Room **every Thursday between 1-3pm**. This will provide somewhere for parishioners to enjoy the company of others in a warm and welcoming environment.

TIMES A PRIEST WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MEET

Tuesdays: Fr Raffaele, 3.30pm-5.30pm, Holy Cross Resource Centre, Eastleigh
Wednesdays: Fr Luca, 3.30pm-5.30pm, 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

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

MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 21st Jan <i>Morning Mass: St Agnes</i>	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross St Swithun Wells OLOA St Joseph St Edward	Hazel Freda Jurd FM Harry Long & Joan Long RIP Sr Agnes (Wellbeing) People of the Parish
Sunday 22nd Jan <i>Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLOA (also live streamed) Holy Cross (also live streamed) St Joseph	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Keith Small RIP Anniversary FM Stella & Peter Bowerman RIP Anniversary Ronald Walter Russ RIP FM Sr Rosaleen (Wellbeing)
Mon 23rd Jan	9.30am	Holy Cross	Regina Turl (Special Intention) Douglas Hammerton (Wellbeing)
Tues 24th <i>St Francis de Sales</i>	10.00am 6.00pm	St Andrew St Edward	Jesus Ocaya & Francisco Villaver RIP
Wed 25th <i>The Conversion of St Paul</i>	9.30am 9.30am 10.00am	Holy Cross OLOA St Edward	Russell Speight RIP Anniversary Sheila O'Neill (Intentions)
Thurs 26th <i>St Timothy & St Titus</i>	9.30am <u>10.30am</u> 12 Noon 6.00pm	Holy Cross <u>Holy Cross</u> OLOA St Joseph	Maria Smyth FM <u>Funeral Service: Shirley Hughes RIP</u> Joan & John Stallwood (Wellbeing)
Fri 27th Jan	9.30am 10.00am 10.00am	OLOA St Joseph St Edward	Colette Tait (Wellbeing) Tony Silvester RIP Anniversary
Sat 28th Jan <i>Morning Mass: St Thomas Aquinas</i>	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross St Swithun Wells OLOA St Joseph St Edward	Sylvester McMahon RIP FM Sam & Sheila Sanders RIP Margaret Martindale RIP Florentina Boucher RIP
Sunday 29th Jan <i>Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLOA (also live streamed) Holy Cross (also live streamed) St Joseph	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Mrs Edward Christian FM Calvin Nel RIP Anniversary People of the Parish Marianne Copp RIP

CLERGY & PARISH OFFICE

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

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

Fr Bruce Barnes (Assistant Priest)
Tel: 01489 890947 (OLOA 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

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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)