



Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ

6th August 2023: THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

This double newsletter covers Sunday 6th August & Sunday 13th August

TRANSFIGURATION

This weekend we celebrate the Feast of the Transfiguration of Jesus, it is an interruption in the ordinary cycle of readings that we have on Sundays.

There are many ways of interpreting this feast today. A few years ago, Pope Francis gave a homily in which he used this feast as an illustration about the meaning of holidays for Christians. Just as Peter, James and John went away with Jesus to the top of the mountain and were refreshed by the special encounter they had with him, in the same way we go on holiday in the Summer to be refreshed and come back 'down from the mountain' in order to do our work better or more fruitfully.

Pope Francis said that the Transfiguration of the Lord is a kind of symbol of the way Christians should go on holiday. We should seek time to encounter the Lord Jesus when we are away, and then return to the world in which the Lord has placed us to be better mothers, fathers, workers, priests...

There is a difference, I think, between believers and non-believers when it comes to holidays. People without faith work in order to go on holiday. Those who are Christians go on holiday so that they can work harder. The Lord has given us many things to do, so the goal of our life shouldn't be going away, doing nothing or going on holiday. But we need to go away on holiday in order to be refreshed and to do our ordinary job better.

So we should evaluate our way of doing holidays. Do they really refresh us to come back to ordinary life with a greater deal of enthusiasm? Or do we come back from holiday more tired than when we went?

At the end of his homily, like he always does, Pope Francis reminds us that there are a lot of people in the world who don't have the opportunity to go on holiday, people who are poor or distressed. We should pray that everyone might have the possibility in his or her life to find time and space in order to rest, in order to re-embrace the life that God has given them in a more enthusiastic way.

Happy holiday to everyone!

Fr Raffaele

GEM OF THE WEEK



This week's GEM is "That's All That Matters" a surprising interview with the Oklahoma softball players - 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 16th August 2023**, please email your messages/notices to: office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday 6th August 2023: Year A - Year 1 - Psalter Week: Office Proper

PSALM RESPONSE: THE LORD IS KING, MOST HIGH ABOVE ALL THE EARTH.

READINGS: 1st reading Daniel 7:9-10,13-14 Psalm 96 2nd reading 2 Peter 1:16-19 Gospel Matthew 17:1-9

Sunday 13th August 2023: Year A - Year 1 - Psalter Week: 3

PSALM RESPONSE: LET US SEE, O LORD, YOUR MERCY, AND GIVE US YOUR SAVING HELP.

READINGS: 1st reading Kings 19:9a,11-13a Psalm 84 2nd reading Romans 9:1-5 Gospel Matthew 14:22-33

Sunday 20th August 2023: Year A - Year 1 - Psalter Week: 4

PSALM RESPONSE: LET THE PEOPLES PRAISE YOU, O GOD; LET ALL THE PEOPLES PRAISE YOU.

READINGS: 1st reading Isaiah 56:1,6-7 Psalm 66 2nd reading Romans 11:13-15,29-32 Gospel Matthew 15:21-28

PARISH GROUPS



The following groups are on their

Summer break resuming in September:

Youth Groups (Stars of Abraham, Grail Seekers & Student Youth);

School of Community Groups;

Fellowship Group;

Little Flowers Baby & Toddler Groups;

Ark of Fellowship Group for people with learning disabilities or learning difficulties, their families and friends.

Growing In Faith Together Group

Tuesdays 10.15am to approx. 11.45am in the Holy Cross Resource Centre. All are welcome!

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 at 2pm. Come and join us for tea, games and good fun.

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!

Sunday Boules Group OLOA

Meet in the car park at 11am, all welcome! If you have a set of boules please bring them along.

MESSAGES



Urgent Message

Gift Aid Declaration Forms cut off 31st August 2023

As you will all be aware we changed our charity name on 1st January 2023. This requires all of our regular Gift Aid donors to sign a new gift aid declaration form under the new charity name: Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth. **We are required, as a Diocese, to have completed this by 31st August 2023** or gift aid claims under **old declaration forms will be invalid.**

Please, if you haven't already, collect a new form from your church, your Gift Aid Co-ordinator

(Pat Baggott, Donna Scappaticci, Mike Greenslade, David Martin) or download from the 'Comprehensive Giving Guide' available on our parish website:

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

Please hand your completed forms in at the parish office, to any of our clergy, or to your Gift Aid Co-ordinator as a matter of urgency. Many thanks.

Message regarding Lyn Fryer - Lyn was a long-standing member of St Swithun Wells Church who died recently aged 99. The 5pm Mass at St Swithun Wells Church on Saturday 12th August will be celebrated in Lyn's memory. Everyone is welcome to stay for refreshments after Mass.

Holy Cross Shop - is closed during August for the Summer break and will re-open on **Sunday 7th September 2023.**

Come & See Summer Club

(ages 7 years to 14 years)

St Edward's Church, 8.30am to 3.30pm

Monday 7th to Friday 11th August 2023

Monday 14th to Friday 18th August 2023

Daily cost: £10 for the first child, £5 per additional child (siblings). For more information and to register please go to:

<https://www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk/comeandsee>
Volunteers will open the venue and welcome children from 8.30am (activities start at 9am) and will close it at 3.30pm (activities finish at 3pm). Please note that every day the Summer Club is on we are offering a **Club Extension** where children can stay at the venue from 3.30pm until (maximum) 5.30pm. The Club extension costs £10 per day per child.

Parish BBQ - The CAFOD group and the Knights of St Columba invite you to a parish barbeque at St Edward's on **Saturday 19th August, from 1pm.**

Food including desserts and a first free drink with each **£12 ticket. Children under 12 are FREE.**

BBQ, desert, and raffle contributions all gratefully accepted and there will be a CAFOD produce stall. Enquiries to Neil Hendricks (023 8026 6324); tickets on sale after Masses 5th/6th August and 12th/13th August. Places are limited, so don't delay!

MESSAGES CONTINUED



Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary **Tuesday 15th August**

As this is a Holy Day of Obligation Masses will be celebrated across the parish on this day. There are some changes therefore please see the list of Mass times on the back page of this newsletter. Also, due to the change in times there won't be Mass, Adoration or Confession at St Edward's in the evening, Mass will be celebrated in the morning instead.

St Andrew's & St Joseph's BBQ

Save the date! Following the success of last years BBQ in St Andrew, the event is being repeated on **Sunday 3rd September at 12.30pm**. The venue is St Andrew's, North Baddesley. Participation is by ticket only and announcements will be made at weekend Masses in the next couple of weeks at both St Andrew's and St Joseph's. Contact Tennyson Scaria or Roger Lillie after Mass.

Diocesan Day for Catechists

St Peter's Catholic Church, Winchester, SO23 8RY
Fr Mark Hogan and the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph invite you to join them on **Saturday, 30th September (10am-4pm)** for a day for fellowship, formation and prayer for the Catechists of Portsmouth Diocese to be encouraged and strengthened in faith. The day is free to attend, however please bring a packed lunch. Please register at:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/diocesan-day-for-catechists-registration-598927286637>

St Anne's Catholic School & Sixth Form College

St Anne's is an outstanding 11-18 state funded Catholic school for girls with a mixed sixth form in the heart of Southampton, with excellent transport links to all points of the compass. Places are open to all families seeking a school with a strong Catholic ethos. Parents with daughters in Years 4, 5 and 6 can visit us on **Wednesday 27th September 2023 for our Open Morning (9am - 11am) and/or our Open Evening (6pm - 8pm)**. Parents can book free tickets via Eventbrite (see poster in church welcome areas). We ask that parents arrive at 9am and 10am for open morning tours. Open mornings give parents the

opportunity to see the school on a normal day and talk to their student guides as they tour the school. Open evenings provide the opportunity to talk to staff and students, as well as hearing talks from the Head teacher, Head girls and Year 7 students. We look forward to seeing you. www.st-annes.uk.com

Parish Office - Summer Holidays

The Office closes on Saturday 19th August and reopens on Monday 4th September. One of our kind volunteers will check the answer machine for messages left during this time, however for anything urgent please phone the clergy on 02380 612430.

Our Parish Secretary returns on Wed 6th September, therefore a triple week newsletter will be produced for Sunday 20th August which will last until Sunday 10th September.

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 not on 15th Aug	St Edward
Tuesday:	9.30am-10.00am (before Mass)	St Andrew
Saturday:	10.00am-10.30am (after Mass)	Holy Cross
	10am or by appointment	OLQA
	5.30pm-6.00pm (before Mass)	St Joseph
Sunday:	8.30am-9.00am (before Mass)	St Edward
	8.30am-9.00am (before Mass)	St Andrew

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tues:	St Edward (6.30pm-7.30pm) not 15th Aug
Wednesday:	Holy Cross - 10.00am-11.00am
Thursday:	St Joseph - before Mass (5.30pm-6.00pm)

CLERGY & PARISH OFFICE

Fr Raffaele Cossa (Parish Priest)

Tel: 023 8061 2430; E: rcossa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Fr 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

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 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)

MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION	DATE	TIME	CHURCH	INTENTION
Sat 5th Aug	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	HC SSW OLOQA St J St Ed	Patricia Cowling RIP FM Andrew Flannery RIP People of the Parish	Mon 14th <i>St Maximilian Maria Kolbe</i>	9.30am	HC	Skipton Leonard & Mary Marjorie Haslam RIP
Sunday 6th Aug <i>Transfiguration of the Lord</i>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	HC St Ed St A OLOQA HC* St J	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Living and Deceased Members of the Layzell Family Alan French RIP Anniversary Deeb Mousa RIP John Gare RIP Anniv	Tue 15th <i>Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	10.00am <u>10.00am</u> <u>12 Noon</u> <u>7.00pm</u> <u>7.00pm</u>	St A <u>St Ed</u> <u>OLOQA</u> <u>HC</u> <u>St J</u>	Layzell Family Intentions
Monday 7th Aug	9.30am	HC	Fraternity of St Charles	Wed 16th Aug	9.30am 9.30am 10.00am	HC OLOQA St Ed	Rev Paul Beaumont FM
Tues 8th <i>St Dominic</i>	10.00am 6.00pm	St A St Ed	Clare & Eric Lasker (Wedding Anniversary)	Thurs 17th Aug	9.30am 12 Noon 6.00pm	HC OLOQA St J	Michael Lane RIP FM
Wed 9th <i>St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross</i>	9.30am 9.30am 10.00am	HC OLOQA St Ed	Elizabeth Kmeczkova RIP Mary McCormack RIP	Fri 18th Aug	9.30am 10.00am 10.00am	OLOQA St J St Ed	Mrs Edward Christian FM
Thurs 10th <i>St Laurence</i>	9.30am 12 Noon 6.00pm	HC OLOQA St J	For Dora & Family	Sat 19th Aug	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	HC SSW OLOQA St J St Ed	Andrew Bates RIP Anniv Layzell Family Intentions
Fri 11th Aug <i>St Clare</i>	9.30am 10.00am 10.00am	OLOQA St J St Ed	Mary Costigan RIP Living & Deceased Members of the Johns Family FM	Sunday 20th Aug <i>Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	HC St Ed St A OLOQA HC* St J	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> People of the Parish Kathleen Bernadette Reynolds FM John Marlow RIP Anniversary
Sat 12th Aug	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	HC SSW OLOQA St J St Ed	Lyn Fryer RIP Herbert Howie RIP Anniv Eileen & Joe Conlon (Wedding Anniversary)				
Sunday 13th Aug <i>Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	HC St Ed St A OLOQA HC* St J	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Mary Marjorie Haslam RIP Bob Page RIP Kathleen & Bernie Malone RIP People of the Parish * Also Live Streamed				

CHURCH ADDRESSES

St Ed - St Edward the Confessor
191-193, Winchester Rd, Chandlers Ford, SO53 2DU

OLOQA - Our Lady Queen of Apostles
Martin Street, Bishop's Waltham, SO32 1DN

HC - Holy Cross Church
53 Leigh Road, Eastleigh, SO50 9DF

SSW - St Swithun Wells
Allington Lane, Fair Oak SO50 7DB

St A - St Andrew
Fleming Avenue, North, Baddesley SO52 9EP

St J - St Joseph
Abbey House Drive, Romsey, SO51 8YB