



Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ
24th OCTOBER 2021: THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THIS AND THAT: THOUGHTS ON HOLIDAY

I have just returned from two weeks in "sunny" Exmouth, Devon. My Grandparents on my Father's side, and an Uncle and Aunt, on my Mother's side, lived in Exmouth and my brother and I spent many a childhood holiday in this beautiful town at the mouth of the river Exe in South Devon. I was able to re-visit the places where we explored rock-pools, jumped off cliffs into the water and fished from the harbour wall. This holiday, however, was composed of brisk walks along the Esplanade and enjoying the space to read and catch up with ones thoughts. Three of these random thoughts I would like to share with you.

I heard someone call another person a *crackpot* - an expression which has gone out of fashion these days. I think they were suggesting that the person was a little mad or eccentric. Cracks might be dangerous in nature but, oddly enough, in certain spiritual lives, it seems to me, they play a large part. In the Orthodox Church tradition there have been many what you would call "crackpots" whose aesthetical life and eccentric behaviour astonished the Christian Church but they were trying to show us that cracks are important to let in the light. They were called Holy Fools. We are all sinners with cracks in our nature and unless we acknowledge them we can never let Christ in. Thank God for Crackpots.

From crackpots to *idiots*. In particular to *The Idiot* by the Russian author, Dostoevski; an author who combined his writing with Philosophy, Theology and Spirituality. He had a great gift for studying human nature and perceiving how society was developing. Here is the quotation which I found set my thoughts wandering:

Tolerance will reach such a level that intelligent people will be banned from thinking so as not to offend the imbeciles.

It seems to me that a large majority of people today (perhaps it was ever thus) do not want to listen to cogent arguments but would rather pursue their own opinions or as is said - "do their own thing." It is no wonder that the voice of correction or the call for a personal moral life or the upholding of the sanctity of life, should fall on deaf ears especially when spoken by the Catholic Church or Christianity in general.

From crackpot to idiot and to me! In the mirror I see both a crackpot and an idiot but I am not depressed or in despair because I am also able to see the most wonderful miracle of a human life. A life loved and sustained by God as a unique part of His Creation. What is more God does not abandon me in my folly and at my crackpot moments.

Yes! My holiday has made me feel I need much more time and space to be a fool for Christ; to fill myself with His presence so that He takes priority in all that I say and do whether people like it or not.

Let no man deceive himself. If any one among you thinks that he is wise in this age, let him become a fool, that he may become wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He catches the wise in their own craftiness. (1 Corinthians 3:18-19)

Fr Bruce

GEM OF THE WEEK



This week's GEM is an interview with Timothy Radcliffe, "NOTHING HUMAN IS ALIEN TO CHRIST"- 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 27th October, please email your messages/notices to: stswparish@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday 24th October 2021: Year B - Year 1 - Psalter Week: 2

PSALM RESPONSE: WHAT MARVELS THE LORD WORKED FOR US! INDEED WE WERE GLAD.

READINGS: 1st reading: Jeremiah 31:7-9 Psalm: 125 2nd reading: Hebrews 5:1-6 Gospel: Mark 10:46-52

READINGS FOR SUNDAY 31ST OCTOBER:

READINGS: 1st reading: Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14 Psalm: 23 2nd reading: 1 John 3:1-3 Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12a

PARISH GROUPS



Stars of Abraham (school years 3-6) Meet in person:

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

Tues, 4.15pm-5.45pm in St Andrew;

Sat, 10.30am-Noon in Holy Cross Resource Centre.

To join and for more info please click the Stars of Abraham Icon on our homepage.

Grail Seekers (school years 7, 8, 9)

Meet in person on Saturdays in St Edward, 2.00-4.00pm. To join and for more info please click the Grail Seekers Icon on our homepage.

Student Youth (school year 10 until sixth form)

Meet in person on Friday evenings at 6.30pm in Holy Cross Resource Centre. If you would like to attend please book your place on our website by clicking the Student Youth Icon on our homepage.

Sacramental Preparation for Adults (RCIA)

If you would like to be baptised, confirmed or received into the Catholic Church (or know more about the Catholic faith) please email Deacon Paul Owen: powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or alternatively please speak to a priest.

Growing In Faith Together (GIFT) Group

Tuesdays, 10.15am in the Holy Cross Resource Centre. For the 26th October we will watch a DVD and have a discussion on 'Growing in Faith Together'. All are welcome!

Fellowship Group - There will be no meeting on Wednesday 27th October. Meetings resume on 3rd November at 7.30pm.

Communion & Liberation Groups

School of Community in Holy Cross meets every Wednesday, for more information please click the link on the homepage of our website. All are welcome!

School of Community in St Edward meets every Thursday at 8pm in St Edward's cloister. All are welcome!

Beginning of the Year Communion & Liberation (CL)

We will hold an afternoon for the CL members of our Diocese on Saturday 23rd October at Holy Cross Church. We will meet at 2.30pm and we will be joined by Giacomo Mazzi, the UK leader of CL. Children are welcome and there will be a children's programme running for them. Mass will be celebrated at 4.30pm and we will have Tea & Coffee afterwards. If you want to participate please email: dallora.chiara@gmail.com We are asking for a contribution of £1, you can bring it on the day.

Afternoon Club - St Joseph's Parish Centre (26 Abbey Water), first Tuesday in the month. Come and join us for tea, games and good fun. All welcome!

CAFE - The CAFE group has restarted in Romsey and North Baddesley. It is on 2nd and 4th Tuesday in the month at 2pm in St. Joseph's Parish Centre and 7.30pm in St. Andrew's. Our course until December is "This is My Body", a series of DVDs which take us deeper into the Eucharist. All are welcome. For more information please contact Ann Heslop: ann.heslop@virginmedia.com / 02380 734429.

MESSAGES



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

Monday 25th - Friday 29th October, 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.

Memorial Mass for Mike Walsh

Takes place at Holy Cross on Saturday 30th October at 12.30pm. All are welcome.

Upcoming funerals

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Salvatore Murucci and for his family. Salvatore's funeral takes place at Holy Cross on Tues 2nd November at 11am.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Barbara Scott. Barbara's funeral takes place at St Edward's on Fri 12th November at 11am.

Change of Mass time at OLOA

Please note that the time of the Wednesday Mass (previously 7.30pm) has changed to 9.30am.

Change of time Fr Raffaele can meet parishioners

Fr Raffaele is able to meet parishioners on a Friday in Romsey from 10.30am-11.30am.

MESSAGES CONTINUED



Annual Mass and lighting of candles for Parishioners who have died in the past year

This will take place at the following churches:
Holy Cross, Tuesday 2nd November at 9.30am;
St Andrew's, Tuesday 2nd November at 10am;
St Edward's, Tuesday 2nd November at 6pm
(please note Adoration will start immediately after Mass);
St Joseph's, Tuesday 2nd November at 7pm;
St Swithun Wells, Saturday 6th November at 5pm.

All Souls Day Mass at OLQA

Two Masses will be celebrated at OLQA on Tuesday 2nd November.

9.30am Mass for All Souls (names not read out)

7.30pm Mass for Parishioner's Holy Souls - We are encouraging all those who attend the evening Mass to bring a white flower to present to the Altar when the names of their loved ones have been read. The flowers will be placed in vases around the altar to remind us of the presence of the Holy Souls.

Blessing of Graves

In November each year we remember in a special way those who have died and gone before us. One of our traditions is the Blessing of Graves in the cemeteries within our Parish. Details for this year are:

Sunday 7th November

OLQA, Bishop's Waltham, after the 9.30am Mass

Sunday 14th November

Romsey Cemetery (Botley Rd) - 2pm

Woodley - 2.30pm

Bishopstoke Cemetery - 2pm

Fair Oak Cemetery - 2pm

Eastleigh (Brookwood) Cemetery - 3pm

Ramalley Cemetery - 3pm

Tuesday 16th November

North Baddesley St John's Churchyard - 10.30am.

Upcoming Second Collection

Bamenda Sunday on 7th November 2021.

St Charles Borromeo Feast Day

The 4th November is the Memorial of St Charles Borromeo, patron of The Fraternity of frs Raffaele, Luca, Marco and our seminarian Andrew. On this day we will pray for all the missionaries of The Fraternity.

Come to a Quiz...

At OLQA on Friday 29th October at 7.30pm

Come and join the parishioners and friends in the Hall of Our Lady Queen of Apostles, Bishop's Waltham for a sociable get-together punctuated by the excitement of questions and answers! Bring your own team or join one on the night. For details contact Angus Somerville on 07929 867472.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

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

Parish Get2Gether - Sunday 7th November, 1pm-4pm

Pavillion on the Park, 1 Kingfisher Road, SO50 9LH
An event for all of the parish. We begin at 1pm, sharing a meal together. 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.

On this day we will have an online meeting with fr Dominic (Missionary Priest from the Fraternity of St Charles Borromeo). He will give a talk about his missionary experience in Nairobi, Kenya.

Message from CAFOD

Thank you for supporting our Climate Crisis Appeal for our recent Family Fast Day. Every donation helps us in our work and is gratefully received. **Please pray for the success of the upcoming UN climate talks in Glasgow, COP26, from 31st October to 12th November.** Prayer cards are available in the churches. For more info see: cafod.org.uk/COP26

Prayer for COP26

In our Parish we will pray for the success of the COP26 talks during the Eucharistic Adorations held in our Parish during the 2nd - 4th November.

Symposium on Politics & Religion

Takes place on **Saturday 6th November.**

To book please go to:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/politics-and-religion-a-symposium-tickets-173534876487>

Message from Margaret French

I would like to thank everyone who contributed in any way to my Macmillan coffee morning at St Andrew's. Considering I left it too late to advertise it in the newsletter, you still helped me to raise an incredible £590.60 for this very worthy charity.

Parish Office Closures

The Parish Office will be closed on **Friday 29th October, Monday 1st & Tuesday 2nd November.**

End of British Summer Time

Please remember that the clocks go back by one hour on the **weekend of 30th/31st October.**

TIMES A PRIEST WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MEET

Tuesdays: Fr Raffaele, 3.30pm-5.30pm, Holy Cross Resource Centre (back of Holy Cross Church), Eastleigh

Wednesdays: Fr Luca, 4.00pm-6.00pm, Holy Cross Resource Centre (back of Holy Cross Church), Eastleigh

Fridays: **Fr Raffaele, 10.30am-11.30am,** 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
Saturday 23rd October	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross (also Live Streamed) St Swithun Wells St Joseph OLQA St Edward	For the People of the Parish Deceased Members of the Wilson & Bonetti Families RIP
Sunday 24th October Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLQA (also Live Streamed) Holy Cross (also Live Streamed) St Joseph	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Zdzisław Krupa RIP Anniversary Monica Carrasco RIP Anniversary Mae (Thanksgiving)
Mon 25th October	9.30am	Holy Cross (also Live Streamed)	Alda Soares RIP
Tues 26th October	10.00am 6.00pm	St Andrew St Edward	Margaret Martindale RIP
Wed 27th October	<u>9.30am</u> 9.30am 10.00am	<u>OLQA</u> Holy Cross (also Live Streamed) St Edward	Calisto De Deus RIP
Thurs 28th October <i>Ss Simon & Jude</i>	9.30am 12 Noon 6.00pm	Holy Cross (also Live Streamed) OLQA St Joseph	Hilda Greenfield RIP Janet Cooke (Well being)
Friday 29th October	9.30am 10.00am 10.00am	OLQA St Joseph St Edward	John Hooley (for Recovery)
Saturday 30th October <i>Morning Mass: Blessed Winchester Martyrs</i>	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross (also Live Streamed) St Swithun Wells St Joseph OLQA St Edward	Leonard Bissen RIP Jackie Callow RIP Roy Russell-Smith RIP Anniversary Paul Chandler RIP (6th Anniversary)
Sunday 31st October All Saints	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLQA (also Live Streamed) Holy Cross (also Live Streamed) St Joseph	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Jan & Helena Gaca RIP Irene Dornan RIP Gerard Carr RIP FM For the People of the Parish

CLERGY & PARISH OFFICE

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