



Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ

2nd FEBRUARY 2020: **THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD**

To be free is to have a fixed heart

I had the opportunity this week to watch an old film *Breakfast at Tiffany's* (Blake Edwards 1961). I had not seen it before and it struck me that in these old films there are treasures of wisdom that shouldn't be missed. This film is about happiness and belonging. Two words that nowadays seem incompatible but that for us Christians have a strong connection.

In one of the first conversations between Holly (Audrey Hepburn) and Paul (George Peppard), the beautiful protagonist asks: "You know those days when you get the mean reds?". Her neighbour, writer and new friend, replies: "The mean reds, you mean like the blues?". To which she explains: "No. The blues are because you're getting fat and maybe it's been raining too long, you're just sad that's all. The mean reds are horrible. Suddenly you're afraid and you don't know what you're afraid of".

This is the starting point for this young girl, who looks for a rich man to marry or to have fun in the happy New York days of the post-war years. She is independent, free, uncompromised, but is not fulfilled, she is not happy. So, she has to go to have breakfast in front of Tiffany's, where she dreams of the jewels that represent her future social ascension.

The famous 20th-century American writer Truman Capote wrote the novel on which the film is based 3 years before its production. The writer Capote wanted Marilyn Monroe to play this leading role, but he did not succeed because of the contracts already signed in Hollywood. Thus, Audrey Hepburn had the opportunity to shine with one of the best interpretations ever. Despite being nominated, she did not receive an Oscar for this film, which she had already obtained 7 years before with *Roman Holidays* (William Wyler, 1954). The Oscars that the film received went to the best original soundtrack and to the song *Moon river* (1961) by Henry Mancini and Johnny Mercer, a classic that we immediately associate with the best cinema.

Turning to Holly, it is necessary to emphasize that this young woman fascinates both by her speeches and by her attitudes. It makes us laugh when, for example, all of a sudden, she comes out with phrases like: "It should take you exactly four seconds to cross from here to that door. I'll give you two". Or when she starts to study Portuguese, because she wants to get away with the rich Brazilian José.

However, we see that there is something that is not right in her way of life. In particular, in her relationship with Paul and his unconditional love, always available to go wherever she wants and make the most nonsense, Holly's apparent indifference leaves us with some discomfort.

Towards the end, there is a remarkable discussion between the two, in which the patient and kind Paul explodes and clarifies Holly's existential problem: "You know what's wrong with you, Miss Whoever-you-are? You're chicken, you've got no guts. You're afraid to stick out your chin and say, "Okay, life's a fact, people do fall in love, people do belong to each other, because that's the only chance anybody's got for real happiness." You call yourself a free spirit, a "wild thing," and you're terrified somebody's gonna stick you in a cage. Well baby, you're already in that cage. You built it yourself. And it's not bounded in the west by Tulip, Texas, or in the east by Somali-land. It's wherever you go. Because no matter where you run, you just end up running into yourself".

And maybe the meaning of the film can be expressed through the words of G. K. Chesterton: "The *heart* must be fixed on the right thing: the *moment we have a fixed heart we have a free hand*". We are happy and totally free when we experience and accept that we belong, that we are loved. Even Holly will understand this at the end starting a new life full of meaning and joy.

If you have time and patience for old films, don't miss this!

Father Raffaele

GEM OF THE WEEK



This week's GEM is 'Remembering Kobe Bryant: Formed and saved by his Catholic faith' - you can find the link on our homepage. If anyone has suggestions for GEMs please contact the Webmaster on website.sswp@gmail.com.

LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday 2nd February 2020:

Year A - Year 2 - Psalter Week: Office Proper

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: YOUR MERCIFUL LOVE, O GOD, WE HAVE RECEIVED IN THE MIDST OF YOUR TEMPLE. YOUR PRAISE, O GOD, LIKE YOUR NAME, REACHES THE ENDS OF THE EARTH; YOUR RIGHT HAND IS FILLED WITH SAVING JUSTICE.

PSALM RESPONSE: WHO IS THE KING OF GLORY? IT IS THE LORD.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, 9TH FEBRUARY 2020:

1st reading: Isaiah 58:7-10 - **Psalm:** 111 - **2nd reading:** 1 Corinthians 2:1-5 - **Gospel:** Matthew 5:13-16

PARISH GROUPS



Growing in Faith Together (GIFT)

Tuesdays between 10.15-11.30am (after Mass) in Holy Cross Resource Centre. It is a time of simple sharing, come and join us, we start with tea and biscuits, and everyone is assured of a warm welcome.

Sacramental Preparation for Adults (RCIA)

Preparation will be on Wednesday evenings fortnightly at **St Edward the Confessor Church, Chandlers Ford at 7.30pm.** If you would like to be baptised, confirmed or received into the Catholic Church please speak to a priest or email Deacon Paul Owen at powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.
Upcoming dates: **5th Feb, 19th Feb**

Journey in Faith with the Bible

Wednesday evenings fortnightly between **7.30pm and 9pm at St Edward's Church, Chandlers Ford.**
All Welcome. Upcoming dates: **12th Feb, 26th Feb**
See poster on Church Noticeboards or contact Anne Owen on 02380 254806 for more information.

Fellowship Group - Wednesday 5th February, 7.30pm at St. Swithun Wells Church, Fair Oak.

Bible Study on the Song of Simeon - Nunc Dimittis. Everyone is most welcome and refreshments are served at the end of the evening. Queries to Peter Baggott or Deacon Bob Birtles.

School of Community

The weekly catechesis of the catholic movement Communion and Liberation every **Wednesday at 8pm in the Holy Cross Resource Centre.**

CaFE: Next Meetings

Mon 24th Feb, 2.30pm in Romsey Parish Office (26 Abbey Water);
Tues 25th Feb, 7.30pm in St Andrew's Social Centre.
Details from sheila.keefe20@gmail.com.

TOZ (for young people from school year 10)

meet twice a month on Sunday. Next Meeting Date: 9th February, from 2pm to 4.30pm where we will be visiting Fryars House in Romsey. The mini bus will leave at 2pm from Holy Cross. Contact: toz.sswp@gmail.com or phone 07846 438224 (Cath Szymanski).

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

We meet every other week:
Tuesday, 5.30-7.00pm in St Edwards Cloister; Saturday 10.30am-Noon in HC Resource Centre.
To join the group complete the application form (available on our website or from the Parish Office) and give it to the Parish Secretary.

Grail Seekers (school years 7, 8, 9) - We meet weekly every Saturday from 2.30pm-4.30pm in Holy Cross Resource Centre. To join the group complete the application form (available on our website or from the Parish Office) and give it to the Parish Secretary.

Afternoon Club - St. Joseph's Parish Centre (26 Abbey Water), first Tuesday in the month. Come and join us for tea, delicious scones/cakes, games and good fun. **Next Meeting: 2pm on 4th Feb.**

Oasis Women's Group – Tuesday 11th Feb

Film Night: We will be watching *Miracles from Heaven* - based on a true story about a family struggling with the illness of a child, questions of faith, and how God intervenes. *All ladies warmly welcomed - See you there! 7:30pm, St Edward's Cloister, finish at approx. 9.15pm.*
Future Dates: 10th & 31st Mar, 12th May, 9th Jun.

Holy Cross '60' Club will have their fortnightly meeting this Monday 3rd Feb, 2pm in Holy Cross Resource Centre. See you there! Maureen (023 80 692682)

CHANGES TO MASS & PARISH OFFICE OPENING



Parish Office

Please note that the Office will open from 10.15am instead of 9.30am on Friday 6th & 27th March - we apologise for any inconvenience.

OFFERINGS & SECOND COLLECTIONS



St Swithun Wells Parish Acknowledges with thanks

Collection for week starting 26th Jan: £1,380.40;
SO/DD for December '19: £12,672.09

The next Second Collection

Will be for CAFOD on 7th/8th March (Lenten Fast Day will be on Friday 6th March).

PARISH EVENTS

Get 2Gether Family Afternoon - Sunday 2nd February, from 2.30pm to 4.30pm in St Edward's Church (Cloister). It is an event for all the families of the Parish: parents, children, grandparents... During that afternoon we will have some music and games for all the families, and a short discussion with the parents about some topics of family life like education of the children, prayer in family and so on. It will be an opportunity to have some time together, with fun and friendship. If you want to bring a cake or some juice, it will be much appreciated, at the end we will finish with some refreshments.

Good Companions - Feeling lonely? Why not come and join us for a delicious lunch and good company at **Keats Restaurant, Ampfield, meet at 12noon for 12.30pm start on Wed 5th February.** Enquiries to Pauline on 023 80266617 or Susie on 023 80263436.

Praise In The Parish! - St Augustine said "to sing is to pray twice", so on **Friday 7th February, 7.30pm at OLQA, Bishops Waltham** give thanks and praise to the Lord through music. Sing it out loud (or very quietly if you prefer). Open to everyone and just come as you are. (Joanna on 07437 440299/ joannapuzzle@gmail.com)

Formation for All Volunteers of the Parish
Following on from the 'Vision of the Parish' we are continuing with our Formation for volunteers. We next meet on **Friday 14th February, 8pm at St Edward's.**

Call My Bluff - Tues 18th Feb in Romsey Parish Centre, starting at 2pm and finished by 4pm. Come and learn not only new English words but also what convincing liars some of your fellow parishioners can be. Numbers will be restricted by space available so we will collect names at the beginning of Feb. No charge and a free cup of tea/coffee.

SCHOOL NOTICES

Family Race Night

St Swithun Wells PTA is holding a family race night on **Friday 7th February.**

Doors open at 6.30pm with first race at 7.15pm.

Tickets must be purchased in advanced:

Adults £2, Children £1. Bets will be 50p.

Food (chilli or pasta) and licensed bar available to buy on the night. For tickets please contact Susanna.rayner@yahoo.com / 07793821853.

MESSAGES

Recommended Reading

The two new suggested books for parishioners are:
A Song for Nagasaki: The Story of Takashi Nagai by Fr. Paul Glynn (£12);
I'm Not Scared by Niccolò Ammaniti (£8).
It will be possible to buy the books after wk/nd Mass.

Funeral

Margaret Coultas, (Petra's Mum) has died. Her funeral will take place on **Monday February 3rd at 11.30am, at Wessex Vale Crematorium.** Parishioners welcome.

Bishop Philip Egan writes:

I'd like to invite the whole Diocese to join me at the Cathedral on the First Sunday of Lent, **1st March 2020** for a Day of Prayer and Reparation for the sins of sexual abuse by members of the Church. The purpose of the Day is to beg God's forgiveness and God's healing as well as to make reparation for the sins and crimes of sexual abuse that have taken place within the Church by and against members of the Church, especially children and vulnerable adults. As we begin the season of Lent, and especially during this two-year period of intense prayer for the spiritual renewal of our Diocese, it seems very important to me that we all have an opportunity to pray earnestly for the victims of sexual abuse and for the forgiveness of those, clerical and lay, who have perpetrated abuse. Over the next weeks, as we finalise the programme, I will give more details. Please keep the date.

Congratulations - The Daughters of Wisdom are to renew their vows during Mass this Sunday at St Joseph's. It is the anniversary of the foundation of their Congregation and the anniversary of profession for many of the Sisters. Sr Avis will be 70 years professed!

Thank You - The **Parish Quiz** was a wonderful evening of friendship, fun, food and drink, raising **£310** for CAFOD. Thank you to Pat & Pete Baggott, and Trish & Tony Cassidy for helping. The winning team was from OLQA going home with the new St Swithun Wells Parish Quiz Trophy (the smallest trophy in the world).

Lent Course in Chandlers Ford

The Ecumenical course this year builds on the wide appeal of two Narnia films: 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' and 'Prince Caspian', together with 'Shadowlands', the moving film of C. S. Lewis's later life. Film clips, linked to a saying of Jesus or a Bible passage, will be shown in each session to stimulate discussion on a specific topic. (It is not necessary to have read any of C. S. Lewis's books or seen the films used.)

Five separate groups will be running on two mornings, one afternoon and two evenings. **Sign-up sheets are now in the cloister at St Edward's, along with timing and location details of the groups.**

Everyone is welcome to take part in this enjoyable and worthwhile preparation for Easter. **The forms will be collected after Mass on 16th February.** For further details, please contact Richard Avery (richavery@gmail.com).

MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION	
Sat 1st Feb	9.30am	HC	The Armstrong Family (Special Int)	
	5.00pm*	SSW	Sr Kathleen Breen (Special Int)	
	6.00pm*	St J	Fr Dominic & Mario (for missionary work)	
	Vigil Mass	6.00pm	OLQA	
	6.30pm*	St Ed	Paul Serellis RIP	
Sun 2nd Feb	9.00am	HC	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i>	
	9.00am	St Ed	Mrs Edward Christian FM	
	9.00am	St A	Calvin Nel RIP Anniversary	
	The Presentation of the Lord	9.30am	OLQA	
	11.00am	St J	Deceased Montfortian Fathers	
	11.00am	HC	Alma Mary Mead RIP	
Mon 3rd	10.00am	St Ed	Deceased Members of the Wyman & Uphill Families FM	
Tues 4th	9.30am	HC	Mr & Mrs J John RIP	
	10.00am	St A		
	10.00am	OLQA		
Wed 5th <i>St Agatha</i>	9.30am	HC	William & Isabella Regan FM	
	10.00am	St Ed	Angela Frances Adams FM	
Thurs 6th <i>St Paul Miki & Companions</i>	9.30am	HC	Albert & Violet Harrington FM	
	10.00am	OLQA		
	6.00pm	St J		
Fri 7th	10.00am	St Ed	Keith Small RIP	
	10.00am	St J:AH		
	10.00am	OLQA		
Sat 8th Feb	9.30am	HC	Oliver Armstrong RIP	
	5.00pm*	SSW	Agnes Carter RIP	
	6.00pm*	St J	John Gare RIP	
	Vigil Mass	6.00pm	OLQA	
	6.30pm*	St Ed		
Sun 9th Feb	9.00am	HC	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i>	
	9.00am	St Ed	Harrison Family (Special Intention)	
	9.00am	St A		
	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.30am	OLQA	
	11.00am	St J	Joe Brennan RIP	
	11.00am	HC	Mr Pappachan RIP	

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT	
Tues: HC - First Tuesday of the Month (10am-1pm)	
Thurs: St Ed - Holy Hour 7-8pm	
Thurs: St J - 4-6pm, Rosary & Benediction at 5.30pm	
ROSARY AND PRAYERS	
St Edward's	9.30am, Wednesday - The Holy Rosary
St Joseph's	6.00pm, Wednesday - Evening Prayer
CONFESSION (SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION)	
Saturdays:	10.00am Holy Cross
	5.30pm OLQA
	5.30pm St Joseph's
Sundays:	8.30am St Edward's
	8.30am St Andrew's
TIMES A PRIEST WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MEET	
Tues: Fr Raffaele, 4.30pm-6.30pm, Parish Office, Holy Cross, Eastleigh.	
Weds: 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: <i>Fr Marco is unavailable to meet on 8th & 15th Feb, meetings restart on 22nd February.</i>	

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

Father Luca Speziale (Assistant Priest)
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Fr Marco Vignolo (Assistant Priest)
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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-5pm
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

CHURCH ADDRESSES

St Ed St Edward's, 191-193, Winchester Rd, Chandlers Ford, SO53 2DU
OLQA Our Lady Queen of Apostles, Martin Street, Bishops Waltham SO32 1DN

HC Holy Cross Church, 53, Leigh Road, Eastleigh, SO50 9DF
SSW St Swithun Wells Church, Allington Lane, Fair Oak, SO50 7DB
St A St Andrew's, Fleming Avenue, North, Baddesley, SO52 9EP
St J St Joseph's Church, Abbey House Drive, Romsey, SO51 8YB

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES:

St Swithun Wells Primary School 023 80266210
St George Catholic V.A. College 023 8032 2603
St Anne's Catholic School 023 80328200
Charlton House 023 8067 7575
St Mary's Independent School 023 8067 1267