



*Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ*

**13th SEPTEMBER 2020: TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

## WHAT WE HAVE LEARNT

Having to condense in a single sentence what the Spirit has taught us priests in recent months, we would say "it has taught us to be what we are meant to be". In other words, the Spirit educated us to the essential, namely, to be aware of our whole vocation: we are people called and sent by God. We would like to highlight three aspects of our life that we have rediscovered.

### **1. Priestly life: intercessory prayer, Holy Mass and the afterlife**

The lockdown forced us to discover aspects of priestly life that perhaps we took for granted. Three above all: the prayer of intercession, the centrality of the Mass and the discovery of the afterlife. We began to pray every morning the chaplet of mercy for those who were dying and suffering during the pandemic. One of us also suggested to write down the names of the people to pray for in a small book that we then put in front of the altar during the celebration of Mass. Through these little gestures, the Spirit taught us that prayer is a space of communion, not simply my being alone before God. We have also learned that prayer is part of our job, it is already a mission, that our "job" does not begin after having prayed, but with prayer.

Then we also rediscovered the beauty of celebrating Mass: we all remember the emotion with which we lived the Easter Triduum, the care with which we prepared the songs and the liturgy, the sobriety with which we celebrated Mass and the seriousness with which we prepared the homilies. It has been also an opportunity for us to study more and deepen our love for Sacred Scripture.

Finally, finding ourselves faced with the death of some people, especially in recent weeks, put us in front of the need to find words of hope for the people who asked us. In doing so God has given us the opportunity to rediscover that Heaven must be the horizon of our actions and that life here on earth is understood by what lies at the end of it. If the image we have of the afterlife is static (as the so popular Eastern religions suggest to us, with the image of a drop that is lost in the indefinite ocean) our life here on earth will also be affected. If, on the other hand, the image we have of it is dynamic, that is, the heavenly Jerusalem, then one understands the centrality of the experience of communion and dynamism here on earth.

### **2. Fraternal life**

Right from the start, during the months of the lockdown, we deepened something that had actually already been given to us in the previous months, since our presence in Eastleigh began: a constant work of mutual and brotherly openness and collaboration. We were given times when we were "forced" to work together more closely, such as when we prepared the recitals of some Bible episodes for primary school children on the Tuesday night or the very fact that we celebrated Mass together. We remember that more than one person decided to participate in our streaming Mass because unlike others there was not a single priest to celebrate it and this made them feel part of something bigger. We have therefore learned that being together in front of people by its nature communicates something that a speech by just one, perhaps brilliant or even well prepared, cannot express with the same effectiveness. It is the experience of unity, perhaps the thing that this world in which we live, so fragmented and divided, needs the most.

### **3. Mission: a necessity before a duty**

We remember that as soon as the lockdown began, we sat around a table and immediately told ourselves that this time could not be experienced as a break from our mission. The joy with which we have lived these past months, obviously within a tiredness that came above all from an exaggerated (and forced, we could not do otherwise) use of technologies, has confirmed to us that first of all it is for our good to have the building of the Kingdom of God as our life's horizon. Mission rather than a duty has been experienced by us as a necessity, the opportunity to become ourselves, in the image of Christ, the one who was sent by the Father into this world.

*Father Raffaele, Father Luca & Father Marco*

## **GEM OF THE WEEK**



This week's GEM is Bishop Philip's pastoral letter 'COME BACK TO ME' SAYS THE LORD - you can find this on our homepage. If anyone has suggestions for GEMs please contact [website.sswp@gmail.com](mailto:website.sswp@gmail.com)

## LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday 13th September 2020:

Year A - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 4

PSALM RESPONSE: THE LORD IS CLOSE TO ALL WHO CALL HIM.

1<sup>st</sup> reading: Ecclesiasticus 27:30-28:7 Psalm: 102 2<sup>nd</sup> reading: Romans 14:7-9 Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

READINGS FOR SUNDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER:

1<sup>st</sup> reading: Isaiah 55:6-9 Psalm: 144 2<sup>nd</sup> reading: Philippians 1:20-24. 27 Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

## PARISH GROUPS



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

Meet every other week:

Tues, 4.00pm-5.30pm in St Edwards Cloister;

Tues, 4.00pm-5.30pm in St Andrew's;

Sat 10.30am-Noon in Holy Cross Resource Centre.

To join Stars of Abraham please click the link on our website.

There will be a meeting for the parents in October:

Sat 10th October, 10.30am at St Edward's for the St Edward's & Holy Cross groups.

Tues 6th October, 6pm at St Andrew's for the St Andrew's group.

Grail Seekers (school years 7, 8, 9) - meet weekly every Saturday from 2.00pm-4.00pm in Holy Cross Resource Centre. To join the group please click the link on our website. **There will be a meeting with the parents on 3rd October at 2pm in Holy Cross church.**

### Student Youth (school year 10 until sixth form)

meet weekly on a Friday. **First meeting date: Friday**

**2nd October at 6.30pm in Holy Cross Resource**

**Centre.** To join the group please click the link on our website.

### Oasis (Zoom Meeting) : Tuesday 15th Sept, 8pm.

We have been missing our monthly meetings of the Oasis women's group. As we cannot yet meet in person, we are going to host a Zoom meeting. We have many email addresses already but if you are new and would like to join in please email Jessie Woolgar at: [jessie.woolgar@gmail.com](mailto:jessie.woolgar@gmail.com)

### Fellowship Group (Zoom Meeting): Wed 16th Sep-

tember at 7.30pm. "Meet the Woman at the Well"

- A short bible study by Bob and a meditation led by Marion. All welcome, please email Bob for the link: [bbirtles@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:bbirtles@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

### **IMPORTANT NOTE:**

*Due to the recent Government change in rules our three Youth Groups may need to meet online instead of in person, more details to follow next week.*

## MESSAGES



### First Holy Communion & Confirmation

In the Parish we run three age-based youth groups (see Parish Groups section above). The aim of these groups is to learn how to live as Christians.

Regarding the preparation to receive First Holy Communion and Confirmation, we believe that rather than proposing programs or a course with a beginning and an end, it is important to give children and teenagers the opportunity to be involved in something wider: an everlasting friendship with Jesus within his Body and the Church.

That is why if a child or a teenager wants to be prepared to receive First Holy Communion (and is at least in school year 3) or Confirmation (and is at least in school year 8) we will ask them to participate in one of the three groups according to their age. They will receive the First Holy Communion when they are ready (usually after one year). The focus is not on the sacrament but on Christian life. The sacrament is part of this never ending Christian life. Please click on the links on our website to join one of these groups:

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

### Additional Masses - As of this week more

weekday Masses will be celebrated at St Edward's & Holy Cross (see Mass Times section).

**RCIA Mass** - On Sunday 13th September, 3pm at St Edward's there will be a special celebration with those adults from our community who have journeyed through baptism, confirmation and reception. We keep them in our prayers—congratulations!

**First Holy Communion** - On the weekend, 19th/20th September our children will be making their First Confession and First Holy Communion - we wish them all the very best!

**The funeral service for Pat Daniels** will take place at Wessex Vale Crematorium on **Tuesday 15th September at 11.30am**. Please join us in prayer for Pat and her family. The service will be live webcast, go to <https://www.obitus.com/>  
Username: Vizu1761 Password: 345864  
You can login at anytime to view a test connection (this is recommended) but you'll only be able to view the live webcast approx 5 mins before the service start time.

## MESSAGES CONTINUED



### Guidelines For Public Masses

- 1) Please remember to keep your masks on throughout Mass, except when receiving Holy Communion.
- 2) Please remain in your seats at the end of Mass and do not leave until asked to do so by a steward.
- 3) Please make sure you arrive at least 10 minutes before the start of Mass.

### Sacramental Preparation for Adults (RCIA)

If you would like to be baptised or received into the Catholic Church please speak to a priest or email Deacon Paul Owen at:  
powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk  
Preparation will restart in October.

## MASS (STREAMING & BOOKING SYSTEM) & CONFESSION



### Live Streamed Mass

Mass at Holy Cross on Thursday, 9.30am and Sunday, 11am will be streamed. To join please go to our parish website [www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk](http://www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk)

### To reserve a seat at Mass in St Joseph's & OLQA St Joseph's, Romsey:

- **Thursday 6.00pm** (the church will close after Mass). To reserve a seat for the Mass please contact Teresa Rayment from Monday through to Wednesday (Tel: 01794 513528 / [teresarayment@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:teresarayment@tiscali.co.uk)).
- **Saturday Vigil Mass 6.00pm** (the church will close after Mass). To reserve a seat for the Mass please contact Joanna Russell from Wednesday through to Friday (Tel: 07917 802814 / [joanna@silvasmiths.co.uk](mailto:joanna@silvasmiths.co.uk)).
- **Sunday 11.00am** (the church will close after Mass). To reserve a seat for the Mass please contact Charles Crampin from Wednesday through to Friday (Tel: 02380 410595 / [sancha@virginmedia.com](mailto:sancha@virginmedia.com)).

### Our Lady Queen of Apostles, Bishop's Waltham:

- **Sunday 9.30am** (the church will close after Mass). To reserve a seat please email: [olqamassbook@gmail.com](mailto:olqamassbook@gmail.com)

### Outdoor Mass

#### Swithun Wells Primary School Field:

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

### Private Prayer

The following churches will remain open after Mass until 11.30am for private prayer (see back page for Mass times):

Tuesday: St Andrew's

Wednesday: St Edward's

Thursday: Holy Cross

### CONFESSION

#### (SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION)

Tuesdays:	6.30-7.30pm	St Edward's
Saturdays:	10.00-10.30am	Holy Cross
	5.30-6.00pm	St Joseph's
Sundays:	8.30-9.00am	St Andrew's

### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesdays: St Edward's - after Mass (6.30-7.30pm)

### TIMES A PRIEST WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MEET

Tuesdays: Fr Raffaele, 3.30pm-5.30pm, Parish Office, Holy Cross, Eastleigh.  
Wednesdays: Fr Luca, 4.30pm-6.30pm, Parish Office, Holy Cross, Eastleigh.

## PARISH OFFICE & MASS INTENTIONS

### Main Parish Office

The Office is open Monday to Wed 9.30am-5.30pm, Thursday & Friday 9.30am-2.30pm.

Parish Office telephone number: 02380 273882.

If you need to speak to a member of staff please knock, step back and wait.

### Mass Intentions

For St Andrew's & St Joseph's please book these through Deacon John Di Meo.

For all other churches please send an email or call/email the Parish Office.

To make an offering:

(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). Alternatively you could hand your offering to a priest, deacon or the office when it is open.

For those who are still isolating:

- (2) 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.

### Please note:

On Fridays, Mass will be private however our Priests will offer the Mass according to the requested intentions (up to a maximum of 2 intentions).

Only 1 Mass intention will be offered at each public Mass celebrated in our churches.

# MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 12th Sept	6.00pm 6.30pm	St Joseph St Edward	Shina & Dian Mike McCarthy (Special Intention)
Sun 13th Sept <i>Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary time</i>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 4.30pm	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLOA Holy Cross (Also Streamed) St Joseph SSW Primary School	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Intentions of the Layzell Family Vincent Clancy RIP  Marjorie Harris FM P.V.E. Ginevra FM
Mon 14th Sept <i>The Exaltation of the Holy Cross</i>	<u>9.30am</u>	<u>Holy Cross</u>	Pat Daniels RIP
Tues 15th Sept <i>Our Lady of Sorrows</i>	10.00am <u>6.00pm</u>	St Andrew <u>St Edward</u>	Deidre Jennings RIP Peter Burnett (Special Intention)
Wed 16th Sept <i>Ss Cornelius &amp; Cyprian</i>	<u>9.30am</u> 10.00am	<u>Holy Cross</u> St Edward	Vera Murfet RIP Mrs Edward Christian FM
Thurs 17th Sept	9.30am 6.00pm	Holy Cross (Also Streamed) St Joseph	Mike Walsh RIP Maureen Boog RIP
Fri 18th Sept		Private Mass	Patricia Wilson RIP Deidre Jennings RIP
Sat 19th Sept	<u>9.30am</u> 6.00pm 6.30pm	<u>Holy Cross</u> St Joseph St Edward	Bruce & Iris Wiggins RIP Annie Carville RIP Anniversary Jim Shine RIP
Sun 20th Sept <i>Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary time</i>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 4.30pm	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLOA Holy Cross (Also Streamed) St Joseph SSW Primary School	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Dave & Barbara Layzell (Special Intention) Deidre Jennings RIP  Maria Szczepnikowicz RIP Anniversary Barbara Crowther (Special Intentions)

## 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:  
Monday-Wednesday: 9.30am-5.30pm (closed for an hour over lunchtime on Monday & Tuesday)  
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**