

# NEWSLETTER Catholic Parish of St Swithun Wells

[www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk](http://www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk)  
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Registered Charity No. 1199568



*Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ*  
**5th MAY 2024: SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

## REMAIN IN MY LOVE

Today's Gospel is all about two words: Love and Friendship. Jesus says, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love," and "This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you." Jesus then says, "You are my friends, if you do what I command you. (...) I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father."

But what are love and friendship? They are very difficult words to explain and it is definitely easier to see them at work. Think of your spouse and your parents, think of a friend of yours. Think of them forgiving you, being with you when you need them, sharing their time with you, making many sacrifices for you. This is a beautiful aspect of love, to think more of the good of the other person than of yourself.

To love is also the commandment that Jesus gives us. We often think of commandments as a set of rules to be followed. In truth, all the commandments Jesus gives us boil down to loving the people around us. The fact is that it is not always easy to love, especially people we do not like. But Jesus asks us to love them too. So how do we do this? The secret is to try to love our friends, our family and our community as much as we can, and by learning to love them we can learn to love everyone else. Let me give you an example to understand this better: have you ever tried to throw a stone into a lake? Have you seen what happens? First it makes a little circle and then it grows and grows and grows. Starting from a small spot, it makes a big circle. We have to do something similar: start with a few people in order to love them all. A sermon by St John Henry Newman says the same thing, "The best preparation for loving the world at large, and loving it duly and wisely, is to cultivate our intimate friendship and affection towards those who are immediately about us," and, "The real love of man must depend on practice, and therefore, must begin by exercising itself on our friends around us, otherwise it will have no existence. By trying to love our relations and friends, by submitting to their wishes, though contrary to our own, by bearing with their infirmities, by overcoming their occasional waywardness by kindness, thus it is that we form in our hearts that root of charity, which, though small at first, may, like the mustard seed, at last even overshadow the earth."

Jesus says in today's Gospel, "A man can have no greater love than to give his life for his friends." We immediately think of Good Friday, Jesus died for us on the cross, he gave his life for us. This means that he loved us with the greatest possible love because we are his friends. So in addition to loving the people around us, we must learn to love Jesus. But how do we love Jesus? One way to learn to love Jesus is to try to know him better, especially through prayer. Think of your friends: does your friendship grow if you never talk to each other? No, on the contrary, it risks diminishing. It is the same with Jesus: to grow in friendship with him, to love him more, we have to talk to him, therefore we have to pray.

*Fr Raffaele*

## GEM OF THE WEEK



This week's GEM is the Vatican Declaration on Human Dignity "Infinite Dignity" - you can find this on our homepage. If anyone has suggestions for GEMs please contact [website.sswp@gmail.com](mailto:website.sswp@gmail.com)

For the next Newsletter, items should be received into the parish office by **10am on Wednesday 8th May**, please email your messages/notices to: [office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk](mailto:office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk)

If you wish to make a donation to our parish please go to: <https://www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk/financesdonations>

# LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



**Sunday 5th May 2024:** Year B - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 2

**PSALM RESPONSE:** THE LORD HAS SHOWN HIS SALVATION TO THE NATIONS.

**1<sup>st</sup> reading** Acts 10:25-26,34-35,44-48 **Psalm 97** **2<sup>nd</sup> reading** 1 St John 4:7-10 **Gospel** John 15:9-17

**Sunday 12th May 2024:** Year B - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 3

**PSALM RESPONSE:** THE LORD HAS SET HIS SWAY IN HEAVEN.

**1<sup>st</sup> reading** Acts 1:15-17,20a,20c-26 **Psalm 102** **2<sup>nd</sup> reading** 1 St John 4:11-16 **Gospel** John 17:11b-19

## PARISH GROUPS



### 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!

### Learn to Pray with the Weekly Scripture Readings

**Wednesdays at 11am in St Joseph's Parish Centre, 26A Abbey Water, Romsey;**

**Thursdays at 10am in St Edward the Confessor Church, Chandler's Ford.**

Please come along if you would like to grow in your life of prayer by praying with the following Sunday's Mass readings. All are welcome.

### Belong & Believe at OLOA

Exploring Celtic spirituality through CaFE – Catholic Faith Exploration – as we watch an inspirational DVD taking us to the beautiful locations of the saints whose spreading of the gospel influenced our lands. We will explore and discuss what these seemingly ordinary men and women might teach us about living more lovingly and more creatively in our fragmented world of

today. Wednesdays: refreshments from 7pm for a 7.30pm start - May 8th, 15th, 22nd. It's not too late to come and join us - contact Sue Thomson on 07393 917202 [sue.thomson.st@gmail.com](mailto:sue.thomson.st@gmail.com)

Fellowship Group - Wednesday 8th May, 7pm at St Swithun Wells Church, Fair Oak. This week Dcn Bob Birtles will be giving a talk on the Bible - Jude and Hebrews. Everyone is most welcome. If you want to join by Zoom please contact Peter Baggott on [peterbaggott@aol.com](mailto:peterbaggott@aol.com).

### Growing In Faith Together Group

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

Afternoon Club - St. Joseph's Parish Centre, 26A Abbey Water, Romsey. There will be **no meeting on Tues 7th May** as many parishioners will be attending the funeral of Janet Cooke, who was well known and greatly respected in the St Joseph's community. **Our next meeting will be at 2pm on Tues 4th June.** Come and join us for tea, games and good fun.

## MESSAGES



### What is the Fraternity of St Charles?

On **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May at 3pm in St Edward's**, Fr Paolo Sottopietra, General Superior of the Fraternity of St Charles, the Society the priests of our parish belong to, will held a meeting for all the parish where he will describe what the Fraternity of St Charles is. There will also be time for questions.

### Mass in Cantonese 廣東話彌撒

Fr. Bruno Lepeu, MEP, who served in Hong Kong for many years will come to celebrate Mass and hear Confessions in Cantonese. Welcome all faithfuls and friends from nearby areas!

在香港服務多年的巴黎外方傳教會龐樂培神父 將會在 Eastleigh 為大家以廣東話舉行感恩祭及辦修和，歡迎在附近地區的兄弟姊妹及朋友參加，同頌主恩！

Date 日期：**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

星期一 (Bank Holiday 英國假期)

Place 地點：**Holy Cross RC Church (53 Leigh Road, Eastleigh SO50 9DF).** Time 時間：

**2.00pm** Confessions 修和 - 請報名

**3.00pm** Mass 感恩祭

**4.00-6.00pm** Tea & Coffee 茶聚

Please enrol through the google form below. 請填寫以下表格，於2024年5月5日晚上6時前報名。

<https://forms.gle/gvObZkjNt775aXPY7>

The Rosary will be prayed in Holy Cross every Thursday at 9.00am (before Mass) during May.

Holy Day of Obligation - Masses celebrating

**The Ascension of the Lord** will be taking place across our parish on **Thursday 9th May**. For details see the back page of the newsletter.

Canon Peter Wilkie's Funeral, a Requiem Mass, will be at **11am on Friday 17th May** at Our Lady of Sorrows, Fordingbridge. Canon Peter will be buried in the cemetery at Our Lady of Sorrows. Following the Requiem Mass and burial, there will be refreshments provided in the marquee. If you are driving, it is advised that you park in the town centre car park.

CAFOD Coffee morning - **Wed 22nd May, 10.30am-12 Noon at St Edward's**. Cakes, produce and plants on sale. There will also be a raffle. Donations of cakes & produce gratefully accepted. All proceeds to CAFOD's Humanitarian Appeal for Sudan.

Cultural Friday is on a Saturday! - We have arranged a guided tour of Winchester Cathedral on **Saturday 18th May**. The tour will last about 1 hour and will cost £11 per person - **you will need to pay cash on the day**. We will meet at the front of the Cathedral at 1.45pm. As we are limited to 30 places, if you wish to go you must phone or email Patricia to book (01962 849425 or [aaustinnippy@gmail.com](mailto:aaustinnippy@gmail.com)). Winchester has a number of car parks and Park & Ride and details and costs can be found at [www.winchester.gov.uk/parking](http://www.winchester.gov.uk/parking)

## MESSAGES CONTINUED



**Parish Get2Gether - Sunday 12th May, 1pm-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, the topic will be again 'Relationships with Technology in the Family'. This time there will be **two guest speakers to address this topic and help our families:**

**Dr Giovanna Moretto** who is a Clinical Psychologist in Liverpool and works for the Child Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS), and, **Gisele Mendonca** who is a Child and Adolescent Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist in Oxford and works for various Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services. 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. We would be grateful if you could please write down the main ingredients and allergens on a piece of paper so people can make an informed decision as to whether the food is suitable for them. Please can you bring your own cups/plates/cutlery. To book your place please go to our parish website and use the link you find on the "Next Main Parish Events" section.

*Next Get2Gether date for your diary: Saturday 15th June (this will be a walk instead).*

### Upcoming Second Collections

#### **World Communications Day - 11th/12th May**

Pope Francis' message for World Communications Day 2024 follows the theme 'Artificial Intelligence and the Wisdom of the Heart: Towards a Fully Human Communication'. He asks how we can remain fully human and guide this cultural transformation to serve a good purpose? You can read the full message here: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wcd24-papal-message/>  
The Second Collection for World Communications Day assists the Church to support the theme of and to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with people throughout the world. Please do not use the yellow gift aid envelopes for this collection.

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/world-communications-day-second-collection-2024>

### Upcoming Funerals

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Janet Cooke and for her family. Janet's Funeral Mass takes place on **Tuesday 7th May at 11.30am in St Joseph's Church.**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Alberto Marucci and for his family. Alberto's Funeral Mass takes place on **Wednesday 8th May at 11.30am in Holy Cross Church.**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Dolores Barfield and for her family. Dolores' Funeral Mass takes place on **Tuesday 14th May at 11.30am in St Joseph's Church.**

### CONFESSION (SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION)

Tuesday:	6.30pm-7.30pm (after Mass)	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
	1.30pm-2.30pm & 5.30pm-6pm	St Joseph
Sunday:	8.30am-9.00am (before Mass)	St Edward
	8.30am-9.00am (before Mass)	St Andrew

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Anne Wellington and for her family. Anne's Funeral Service takes place on **Wednesday 22nd May at 12 Noon in St Edward's Church.**

### Come & See Summer Half Term Club (for children 7yrs-14yrs) at St Edward the Confessor Church Tuesday 28th May to Friday 31st May

Registrations are now open. For more information including costs, times, the Club extension and to register please go to: <https://www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk/comeandsee>

**The Happy Monday Club** - The 60s Club at Holy Cross is changing it's name. It will still meet on a Monday at 1pm, either fortnightly or monthly, **in the Holy Cross Resource Centre** and will primarily be aimed at seniors, but adults of all ages are welcome.

We are looking to introduce some new activities such as film afternoons, bingo, outings (including mystery tours), guest speakers, themed food afternoons (Italian, French, Spanish, Irish etc), meals out, basket meals, fish & chips, Christmas lunches, beetle drives, quizzes, Generation Show type demonstrations and many more. We are open to suggestions.

We are looking for new members, not just from Holy Cross Church but ALL six churches in our parish.

**Our first event will be on Monday 20th May at 1pm** and will be a film afternoon. The film, "The Miracle Club" is a moving drama and follows a group of women from Dublin on a pilgrimage to Lourdes.

Suggested donation is £2 and ice cream will be served during the film. Please join us and have a fun afternoon! Please feel free to contact us with any questions or for more information. *Karen, Peter and Angela*

07809 596831 or email: [jakeman1966@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jakeman1966@hotmail.co.uk)

**Referees Required** - We are looking to arrange a St Swithun Wells parish football tournament for children (up to 18yrs old) in the Summer. If you have experience of refereeing children's football matches and would like to help please contact Fr Raffaele as soon as possible: [rcossa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:rcossa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

## SCHOOL NOTICES

### St Swithun Wells Primary School - Vacancies

**Site Manager** - 5 days a week, 52 weeks a year.

**Minibus Driver** - Term time only, 12hrs per week.

For more information please see posters on church noticeboards or go to:

<https://www.stswithunwells.org.uk/vacancies/>

Email: [adminoffice@st-swithunwells.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@st-swithunwells.hants.sch.uk)

**Closing date for both applications is**

**Wednesday 15th May 2024.**

### TIMES A PRIEST WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MEET

**Tuesdays:** Fr Raffaele not 7th May, 3.30pm-5.30pm, Holy Cross Resource Centre, Eastleigh

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

**Saturdays:** Fr Mario, 2.30pm-4.30pm, Romsey Parish Office (26A Abbey Water)

# MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Saturday 4th May <i>Morning Mass: The English Martyrs</i>	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross St Swithun Wells OLQA St Joseph St Edward	The Pritchard Family (Wellbeing)  Peter Penrose (Wellbeing) Pauline Wilson RIP 2nd Anniversary
Sunday 5th May <i>Sixth Sunday of Easter</i>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLQA Holy Cross (also livestreamed) St Joseph	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Jan & Helena Gaca RIP  Doris Briddon RIP People of the Parish
Monday 6th May	9.30am <u>3.00pm</u>	Holy Cross <u>Holy Cross</u>	Fraternity of St Charles <u>Mass in Cantonese (with Confessions at 2.00pm)</u>
Tuesday 7th May	10.00am <u>11.30am</u> 6.00pm	St Andrew <u>St Joseph</u> St Edward	Ian Birtwistle RIP <u>Funeral Mass: Janet Cooke RIP</u> Janet Lamb RIP
Wed 8th May	9.30am 9.30am 10.00am <u>11.30am</u>	Holy Cross OLQA St Edward <u>Holy Cross</u>	Jacob Pane-Agua (Wellbeing)  Kathleen Mary Boaden FM <u>Funeral Mass: Alberto Marucci RIP</u>
Thursday 9th May <i>The Ascension of the Lord</i>	<u>9.30am</u> <u>10.00am</u> <u>12 Noon</u> <u>2.00pm</u> <u>7.00pm</u> <u>7.00pm</u>	<u>Holy Cross</u> <u>St Joseph</u> <u>OLQA</u> <u>SSW Primary School</u> <u>St Andrew</u> <u>St Edward</u>	Siobhan Waters RIP The Pond Children   Anne Rosemary Wellington RIP
Friday 10th May	9.30am 10.00am 10.00am	OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Tracy Hubbard RIP Richard & Rachel Deane (Golden Wedding Anniversary)
Saturday 11th May	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross St Swithun Wells OLQA St Joseph St Edward	People of the Parish The Wheeler Family (Wellbeing)  Special Intention for Dian Ossie Carr RIP FM
Sunday 12th May <i>Seventh Sunday of Easter</i>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLQA Holy Cross (also livestreamed) St Joseph	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Eric & Roslyn Lasker and Family RIP Anniversary  Children of Palestine Janet Cooke RIP

Fr Raffaele Cossa (Parish Priest)

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Fr Bruce Barnes (Assistant Priest)

Tel: 01489 890947 (OLQA Office)

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Deacon Matteo Pagani

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Deacon Paul Wilson

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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