



Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ 22nd MAY 2022: SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

ALLALOUIA ALLELUIA HALLELUYAH

I have to admit to having some trouble with my Alleluias! You may have noticed the different spellings of this Eastertide word. It appears in different texts of Scripture and it appears in the text of the Hymns that we tend to sing during this Easter Season. It is rather confusing especially when you come to write the word as to know which one to use. Well, panic not. All of them are correct! (Hurray, or do I mean Hurrah!!) The first comes from the Greek, the second from Latin and the third from Hebrew. You will find the first in the Greek, Septuagint translations of the Scriptures, the second in the Western Latin translation (Vulgate version of St Jerome) and the third in the Hebrew Scriptures.

Whether you choose a particular tradition to spell your A/H Word the meaning it conveys is the same - **GOD BE PRAISED**. This beautiful and deeply spiritual acclamation may be uttered quietly or with a loud shout. May I share with you two little stories of how this word came to make me smile.

The first was to do with a person who every Lent used to follow me about after Mass asking the same question - *Why can't we have Alleluias during Lent as it's such a miserable time!? It needs cheering up!* My antidote was to suggest that he used the word as part of his Lenten prayers but in the English translation - *God be Praised*. I also gave him the charge to live out the translation of the word by trying to find ways in which God may be Praised in his actions. It seemed to work and he became less vocal as he inculcated the word into his life. His pestering of me became less. (Unfortunately, he was then troubled by another question and followed me around after each Christmas Mass wanting to know when the Star of Bethlehem would appear again? Sometimes you can't win). Some churches make this action into a Liturgical practice by writing the A word on a large piece of paper and then at the beginning of Mass on the 1st Sunday of Lent folding it up and placing it in a box under the altar ready to appear on Easter Sunday morning to the shout of **Alleluia**.

The second Alleluia experience was in the days when people used to come to the altar and kneel at the altar-rail to receive Holy Communion. It was at the time when there were Afro/Caribbean people coming to England and a lovely African lady, new to the church, was waiting along the altar-rail for her Communion at the quiet 8am Mass. When I gave her the Body of Christ she shouted in a loud voice **Alleluia!!** Well, the effect made at least three people fall off the altar-rail and all heads turned to her, and I have to admit that I nearly dropped the ciborium. However, on reflection, what a wonderful acclamation to receiving the Body of Christ - God be Praised!

I am grateful for the two people mentioned above for helping me to realize that we really are an Easter people with Alleluia at our heart. As we approach the last Sunday of Easter, liturgically, may we continue to praise God in our soul and take the Easter Alleluia with us, throughout the year. Let's make it our special prayer of Thanksgiving - **GOD BE PRAISED** for all He has done for us.

Fr Bruce

GEM OF THE WEEK

This week's GEM is, "Returning to Mass At Pentecost" by the Catholic Bishop's Conference - 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 25th May**, please email your messages/notices to: office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday 22nd May 2022: Year C - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 2

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

READINGS: 1st reading Acts 15:1-2,22-29 Psalm 66 2nd reading Apocalypse 21:10-14,22-23 Gospel John 14:23-29

Sunday 29th May 2022: Year C - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 3

READINGS: 1st reading Acts 7:55-60 Psalm 96 2nd reading Apocalypse 22:12-14,16-17,20 Gospel John 17:20-26

PARISH GROUPS



Youth Groups

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

Grail Seekers (school years 7, 8, 9)

Student Youth (school year 10 until sixth form)

For more details and how to join please go to the parish website www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

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!

Sacramental Preparation for Adults (RCIA)

If you or anyone you know 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

Fellowship Group - Wednesday 25th May & 1st June

There will be no Fellowship Group meetings on these dates, meetings resume on Wednesday 8th June.

Growing In Faith Together (GIFT) Group

Tuesday 24th May at 10.15am to approx. 11.30am in the Holy Cross Resource Centre. We will be having a closer look at our faith. All are welcome!

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!

The Little Flowers Baby & Toddler Group

Wednesdays at 10am in the Holy Cross Resource Centre. The group is for 0-4 years and their families. More information is on the website or you can email: littleflowers.sswp@gmail.com

Afternoon Club - St Joseph's Parish Centre, 26 Abbey Water, Romsey. Our next games afternoon will be on Tuesday 7th June at 2pm when we will be celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Bingo, prizes and a free raffle will be enjoyed; plus the obligatory scones and cakes! Please contact Elizabeth Gare on 01794 515265 if you are intending to come along, as soon as possible please, as space will be limited to 40, or for more information.

Ark of Fellowship - Group for learning disabilities or learning difficulties, their families and friends

Thursdays at 6.30pm in the Holy Cross Resource Centre. Interested in volunteering or know some young adults who would like to join the group? If yes, please contact Fr Luca at: arkoffellowship.sswp@gmail.com

CaFE

The latest CaFE course is The Gift, a Life in the Holy Spirit. This is an inspiring series aimed at people of all ages to help them encounter the Holy Spirit and empower them to share their faith.

Our meetings will be as usual at 2pm in the Parish Centre Romsey, repeated at 7.30pm in St. Andrew's N. Baddesley, on the second and fourth Tuesdays in each month, finishing on 26th July.

For more information please call/email Ann Heslop: 02380 734429 ann.heslop@virginmedia.com

MESSAGES



Confirmation & FHC

Please pray for our young people who are making their Confirmations on Sunday 29th May in the Cathedral. Please also pray for our children who will be making their First Holy Communion on Sunday 19th June.

Rosary at Holy Cross during May

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

Ascension of the Lord (Thursday 26th May)

Masses will be held across the Parish, for more details please see the back-page of the newsletter.

Upcoming Funeral

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Pauline Wilson and for her family. Pauline's Funeral Mass takes place at St Edward's on Wednesday 25th May at 11am.

Closer to Christ Campaign

Please read the Bishop's letter to our Parish regarding a new fundraising initiative entitled the Closer to Christ Campaign. Copies are available in all of our churches.

Upcoming Second Collection (28th/29th May)

For the Catholic Communications Network.

MESSAGES CONTINUED



Sunday Obligation

At the Bishops' Conference in Cardiff last week, the Bishops voted unanimously to reinstate the obligation on Catholics to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days. **This will take effect on Pentecost Sunday.**

Come and See Clubs & Camp

Registrations are open for our Summer Half Term Club, Summer Club and for our Summer Camp. For more information, cost and registration please click on the "Come and See" section on our website homepage.

St Andrew's - Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebration

Sunday 5th June, after 9am Mass at St Andrew's Church, North Baddesley. We are celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. All are welcome. If you would like to come please put your name down at the entrance hall table.

Parish Lunch at the Hunters Inn, Romsey, on **Wed 15th June at 12.30pm.** All are welcome! Please let Rosemary (01794 522411) know your choice of meal no later than Monday 6th June as we have to pre-order.

Churches Together in Romsey

Service of Songs of Praise: **Sunday 29th May, 10.30am**
The Romsey Abbey United Reform Church.
All are welcome.

Message of thanks - David and family would like to extend their very sincere thanks to Fr Raffaele, Fr Shaun, and all those who attended the Funeral Mass for Christine. In a day of mixed emotions this was an uplifting Celebration of Christine's life with so many of her friends present. The Readings, the Hymns and the Bidding Prayers were a true reflection of Christine's Faith. Sincere thanks are due to the Musicians and the Singers for their loving support. Thank you also for the very many beautiful cards of sympathy we have received full of love and wonderful sentiments and moving words about Christine.

Significant Wedding Anniversaries Mass

In 2022 are you celebrating a 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th anniversary, or an anniversary of over 60 years? If so, Bishop Philip would like to invite you to a Mass of celebration taking place at St Bede's church in Basingstoke on **Saturday 2nd July 2022 at 11am.** If you would like to come, please send an email to Liz Murphy at anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk. If you know a couple who qualifies and does not have access to the internet, please contact St Bede's Parish Office and they will provide you with the form (tel: 01256 465214 E: stbedes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk). To help celebrate the occasion please could you provide a copy of your wedding photograph. Those without access to the internet can post a copy along with the completed form to St Bede's Parish Office, Popley Way, Basingstoke, RG24 9DX (*Please mark the envelope Significant Wedding Mass*).

Missio (Red Boxes) is the Pope's charity for World Mission. Thank you for your generosity over the past months. The founder of this missionary network, Pauline Jaricot, will be beatified on the 22nd May 2022. To celebrate, all are invited to a Mass of Thanksgiving. There are two in our diocese:

St Edmund Champion Church, SL6 4PY - Tues 7th June at 6pm.

St Colman's Church, PO6 2JJ - Sunday 12th June at 3pm.

CAP (Christians Against Poverty) Money Course

A free, short course that makes managing your money simple. **Tuesday 7th, 14th & 21st June at 7.30pm.**

Junction Church, 2nd Floor, 41-47 High Street, Eastleigh. To register please email: office@junctionchurch.org.uk or phone 07734 965202.

SCHOOL MESSAGES



St Swithun Wells Catholic Primary School

Invitation to Parishioners to Celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with us!

The children would like to serve you afternoon tea and celebrate this momentous event with you!

Friday 27th May, 2.15pm-3.15pm

Please see the invite on the church noticeboards.

Please RSVP to the School Office at: adminoffice@st-swithunwells.hants.sch.uk or contact us on 023 8026 6210

We hope you can join us!

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, 4.30pm-6.30pm, Holy Cross Resource Centre (back of Holy Cross Church, 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

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 - before Mass (5.00pm-6.00pm)

CONFESSION

(SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION)

Tuesday:	6.30pm-7.30pm	St Edward
Tuesday:	9.30am-10.00am	St Andrew
Saturday:	10.00am-10.30am	Holy Cross
	5.30pm-6.00pm	OLQA
	5.30pm-6.00pm	St Joseph
Sunday:	8.30am-9.00am	St Andrew
	9.00am-9.30am	OLQA

MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Saturday 21st May	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross (also live streamed) St Swithun Wells OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Bryan Hobbs RIP FM People of the Parish Peggy Carmody (Birthday) Margaret Martindale RIP
Sunday 22nd 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 (also live streamed) Holy Cross (also live streamed) St Joseph	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Rev Deacon Iain MacFirbhisigh RIP For Thomas Doherty in Thanksgiving for the Celebration of his 99th Birthday John Hooley - For Recovery
Mon 23rd	9.30am	Holy Cross (also live streamed)	Kathleen Bernadette Reynolds FM
Tuesday 24th May	10.00am 6.00pm	St Andrew St Edward	Pauline Wilson RIP
Wed 25th May <i>St Bede the Venerable</i> <i>Vigil Mass</i>	9.30am 9.30am 10.00am <u>11.00am</u> <u>7.00pm</u>	Holy Cross (also live streamed) OLQA St Edward <u>St Edward</u> OLQA	Ellen Lane RIP FM Pauline Wilson RIP <u>Funeral Mass: Pauline Wilson RIP</u> <u>Ascension of the Lord</u>
Thursday 26th May <i>The Ascension of the Lord</i>	9.30am 10.00am 12 Noon <u>2.00pm</u> 7.00pm 7.00pm	Holy Cross (also live streamed) St Joseph OLQA <u>SSW School</u> St Andrew St Edward	Christine Watson RIP Margaret Martindale RIP Pauline Wilson RIP
Fri 27th <i>St Augustine of Canterbury</i>	9.30am 10.00am 10.00am	OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Fe & Felipe Cagampang RIP
Saturday 28th May	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross (also live streamed) St Swithun Wells OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Oswald Carr RIP FM People of the Parish Bridget Baker RIP Anniversary
Sunday 29th 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 (also live streamed) Holy Cross (also live streamed) St Joseph	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> John & Bridie Peckham RIP Claire Fisher RIP Anniversary Christopher Hales RIP 1st Anniversary Frank Peduzzi RIP

CLERGY & PARISH OFFICE

Fr Raffaele Cossa (Parish Priest)

Tel: 023 8061 2430; E: rcosa@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