



Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ
10th AUGUST 2025: NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
This Newsletter Also Covers Sundays 17th & 24th AUGUST 2025

SEEKING REASONS TO BELIEVE IS NOT A WASTE OF TIME

Is reasoning truly necessary for belief? Doesn't it overcomplicate something - faith - that ought to be simple and accessible to everyone? Rather than spending time thinking, understanding, and reflecting on our existence, wouldn't it be better to act and focus on changing the world?

On 31st July 2025, the Holy See announced that John Henry Newman - one of the greatest saints of our time, born, lived, and died in our land - will soon be named a Doctor of the Universal Church, a prestigious title given to saints whose teaching and wisdom continue to inspire us today. Newman dedicated much of his writing to showing that Christian faith is reasonable.

Finding reasons to believe in God is not a waste of time or a futile exercise, as many might think. When we lack reasons for our faith, it weakens. It doesn't truly become our own. This may help explain why some young people leave the Church: they come because they've been told to, but they lack a personal foundation for belief, a place that can help them find reasons to stay. Faith without reasons risks becoming a routine of simply 'doing things', without shaping our mindset or transforming our lives. In such cases, we can easily be swept up by the latest trends or ideologies, rather than holding firm to the truth.

Finding reasons for our faith is more than a mere intellectual exercise, as the following text about Newman explains:

[Newman] argued that faith is the reward of a longing heart earnestly searching for truth. Our hearts are stirred to faith "through the imagination, by means of direct impressions, by the testimony of facts and events, by history, by description. Persons influence us, voices melt us, looks subdue us, deeds inflame us". For Newman, it is the entire life of the Christian - worship, charitable deeds, study of scripture and tradition, and dialogue - which features converging probabilities. Such aspects of our lives might be individually inconclusive, but collectively result in certitude, the way a reliable rope is comprised of many strands.

(from the Bishop's Conference of England and Wales website).

To find reasons to believe, you need a place where different experiences come together. A place where your mind is challenged by deep thinking, your heart is touched by beauty, your ears hear witnesses of hope, and your hands can put into practice what you've heard. This is the kind of place our Parish - and the various groups within it - strives to be. A place for everyone.

Fr Luca

GEM OF THE WEEK



This week's GEM is Pope Leo - Jubilee Vigil for Young People. 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 **10am on Wednesday 20th August 2025**, please email your messages/notices to: office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

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

LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday 10th August 2025: Year C - Year 1 - PSALTER WEEK 3

PSALM RESPONSE: BLESSED THE PEOPLE THE LORD HAS CHOSEN AS HIS HERITAGE.

1st reading Wisdom 18:6-9 Psalm 33 (32) 2nd reading Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19 Gospel Luke 12:32-48

Sunday 17th August 2025: Year C - Year 1 - PSALTER WEEK 4

PSALM RESPONSE: LORD, MAKE HASTE TO HELP ME!

1st reading Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10 Psalm 40 (39) 2nd reading Hebrews 12:1-4 Gospel Luke: 12:49-53

Sunday 24th August 2025: Year C - Year 1 - PSALTER WEEK 1

PSALM RESPONSE: GO INTO ALL THE WORLD AND PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS.

1st reading Isaiah 66:18-21 Psalm 117 (116) 2nd reading Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13 Gospel Luke 13:22-30

MESSAGES



Upcoming funerals - Please pray for the repose of the soul of Wilson (Bill) Murphy. Wilson's Funeral Mass takes place at 11.30am on Thursday 21st August at St Edward The Confessor.

Flower Mass 2025 - The yearly Mass for the flower arrangers in the parish will be offered on Friday 22nd August at OLQA at 12 noon. All members of the parish who are involved with the flowers at our churches are invited to join us beforehand at 10.30am for morning coffee and biscuits in the hall. For any enquiries please contact: paulinestmargaret@gmail.com

St Andrew's 50th Anniversary Celebration - will be held on Sunday 17th August at St Andrew's church. The Celebration will start with Mass at 9.00am, followed by talks, songs and games, ending with a BBQ at 12.15pm. To order food, please complete the form on the parish website by Thursday 14th August. Cost £5 for adults and £2 for children; pay by cash or card on the day.

Message from The CAFOD group and the Knights of St Columba - we invite you to a parish barbeque at St Edwards on Saturday 23rd August, from 1pm. Tickets cost £12 and will include food (with dessert) and a first free drink. Children under 12 are FREE. BBQ, dessert, and raffle contributions all gratefully accepted and there will be a CAFOD produce stall. Enquiries to Neil Hendricks 023 8026 6324. Tickets on sale after all Masses 9th/10th August. Places are limited, so don't delay!

St John Henry Newman - Pope Leo XIV will officially declare St John Henry Newman, the 38th Doctor of the Church for the abiding impact of his teaching on the universal Church. Cardinal Newman is only the second Englishman to be afforded this title, after St Bede the Venerable.

Message of Thanks - With heartfelt gratitude, I thank each of you sincerely for your unwavering support before and during my ordination. Your prayers and the generous gift you contributed are truly appreciated. I pray you continue to be blessed abundantly. Please keep praying that I remain steadfast and faithful to God's call as I serve you as a Deacon. God bless you all. *Emmanuel*

The Assumption - on Friday 15th August it is the solemnity of The Assumption. It is a Holy Day of Obligation. Please see Mass times on back page.

Youth Groups (including First Holy Communion & Confirmation)

Stars of Abraham (school years 3, 4, 5 & 6) *Holy Cross Saturdays 10.30am to 12 noon; St Edward Tuesdays 4pm to 5.30pm; St Andrews Fridays 4.30pm to 6pm*

Grail Seekers (school years 7, 8, 9) *New time: Sundays 6.30pm to 8.30pm*

Student Youth (school year 10 until sixth form) *Fridays 6.30pm to 8.30pm*

Our Youth Groups for children in primary school and young people in secondary school will restart at the end of September 2025. They are also the path we propose to those who want to be prepared to receive First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Registrations for the year 2025/2026 are now open on our website:

www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk (scroll down to Youth Groups).

We would like to remind you that 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 9) we will ask them to come regularly to one of the three groups according to their age. They will receive First Holy Communion or Confirmation when they are ready (usually after one year).

There will be a meeting on Saturday 20th September 2025 at 11am in St Edward's cloister for all the parents and guardians where we will present the 2025/2026 Stars of Abraham programme.

Another meeting to present the Stars of Abraham programme in the Romsey & North Baddesley area will be held at St Andrew's Church, North Baddesley on Friday 26th September at 5pm.

The first event of Grail Seekers and Student Youth will be a weekend away from Friday 19th September to Sunday 21st September at St Cassian's Centre, Kintbury. For more information about the weekend and to register please go to our website.

Hanns Way, Eastleigh - will be closed on Friday 8th August from 9.30am to 4.30pm.

MESSAGES CONTINUED

Invitation from Communion & Liberation Groups - to join their 'Beginning of The Year Pilgrimage' on **Sunday 14th September**. The day will start at **10.30am** in **St Peter's Parish Hall in Marlow** and will include a meditation led by Fr Luca, a pilgrimage walk, a talk by the parish priest about the history of St Peter's church, confessions and Mass. The walk will include praying the Rosary, singing and quiet meditation. Please bring your own packed lunch. We expect to **finish by 4.30pm**. For more details and to register please go to the parish website.

Message of Thanks - St George Catholic College sincerely thanks all parishioners who generously supported their appeal for picnic benches. Thanks to your kindness, the new benches are now in place for the children to enjoy.

Marriage Help - Retrouvaille helps couples find hope and healing for their marriage. Next date: **17th-19th October**. www.retrouvaille.org.uk Tel: 0788 7296983

Pilgrims' Progress Trek to Rome - Julia Bray, a Winchester parishioner, is undertaking this walk in the Autumn to raise funds for Life, a charity which supports pregnant women and new mums. If you wish to support you can donate via www.justgiving.com/page/julia-bray-1

Times to Meet a Priest - our priests will not be holding their regular sessions until September, but remain available to meet you. Please see them after Mass.

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.

Wanting to get married? - if you are recently engaged or planning to get married, please contact one of our priests and we will be happy to support and help you. The Sacrament of Marriage is a wonderful gift and a joyful vocation. If you are already living in a committed relationship we can also help you to receive the Sacrament of Marriage. Please speak with a priest.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesday: St Edward - after Mass (6.30pm-7.30pm)

Wednesday: Holy Cross - after Mass (10am-11am)

Thursday: OLQA - after Mass (12.30pm-1pm)

Thursday: St Joseph - before Mass (5pm-6pm)

CONFESSION (SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION)

Tues: 9.30am-10.00am (before Mass) St Andrew

Tues: 6.30pm-7.30pm (after Mass) St Edward

Saturday: 10.00am-10.30am (after Mass) Holy Cross

5.30pm-6.00pm (before Mass) OLQA

5.30pm-6.00pm (before Mass) St Joseph

Sunday: 8.30am-9.00am (before Mass) St Edward

8.30am-9.00am (before Mass) St Andrew

MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Saturday 9th August <i>St Teresa</i> <i>Benedicta of The Cross</i>	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross St Swithun Wells OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Special Intention to Our Lady, St Joseph & St Padre Pio James Smith RIP People of The Parish Brenda & Paul (Golden Wedding Anniversary)
Sunday 10th August <i>Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 5.30pm	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLQA Holy Cross (& livestreamed) St Joseph Holy Cross	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Eric & Clare Lasker (60th Wedding Anniversary) Alan French RIP Anniversary Living & deceased Members of the Davis & Lengyel Families FM John Gare RIP Anniversary Mike Walsh RIP 5th Anniversary
Mon 11th August <i>St Clare</i>	9.30am	Holy Cross	
Tues 12th August	10.00am 6.00pm	St Andrew St Edward	Living & Deceased Members of The Johns Family FM

MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES (CONTINUED)

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Wed 13th August	9.30am 10.00am	Holy Cross St Edward	Special Intention to Our Lady, St Joseph & St Padre Pio Mary Marjorie Haslam RIP
Thurs 14th August <i>St Maximilian Maria Kolbe</i>	9.30am 12 Noon 6.00pm	Holy Cross OLQA St Joseph (Vigil of The Assumption)	Skipton Leonard & Mary Marjorie Haslam RIP
Fri 15th August <i>The Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	10.00am 10.00am <u>7.00pm</u> <u>7.00pm</u> <u>7.00pm</u>	St Joseph St Edward <u>OLQA</u> <u>St Andrew</u> <u>Holy Cross</u>	Janet Cooke RIP Special Intention Angelique Lowe RIP Anniversary
Saturday 16th August	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross St Swithun Wells OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Rev Paul Beaumont RIP FM Wilson (Bill) Murphy RIP People of The Parish
Sunday 17th August <i>Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 5.30pm	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLQA Holy Cross (& livestreamed) St Joseph Holy Cross	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Michael Egan RIP Christine Woodman RIP Jackie Monk RIP Michael Lane RIP FM
Mon 18th August	9.30am	Holy Cross	Special Intention to Our Lady, St Joseph & St Padre Pio
Tues 19th August	10.00am 6.00pm	St Andrew St Edward	Intentions of The Layzell Family
Wed 20th August <i>St Bernard</i>	9.30am 10.00am	Holy Cross St Edward	Kathleen Bernadette Reynolds FM Mrs Edward Christian FM
Thurs 21st August <i>St Pius X</i>	9.30am <u>11.30am</u> 12 Noon 6.00pm	Holy Cross <u>St Edward</u> OLQA St Joseph	<u>Funeral Mass for Wilson (Bill) Murphy</u> Samantha Harris 50th Birthday
Fri 22nd August <i>The Queenship of Mary</i>	10.00am 10.00am 12 Noon	St Joseph St Edward OLQA	Living & Deceased Members of the Harry & Cavanagh Families FM
Saturday 23rd August	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross St Swithun Wells OLQA St Joseph St Edward	People of The Parish Delsa Llosa (Birthday Thanksgiving)
Sunday 24th August <i>Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 5.30pm	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLQA Holy Cross (& livestreamed) St Joseph Holy Cross	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Denis McCormack RIP Ramon & Nelita Hechanova RIP Raymond Kelly RIP 4th Anniversary John Marlow RIP Anniversary Frederick John Johnson FM