



Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ 14th APRIL 2024: THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

On Monday 8th April, the Vatican Dicastery of the Doctrine of Faith released an important document about human dignity. Here is a brief summary written by Andrea Torielli, Head of Vatican Communications Office

Three chapters offer the foundations for the fourth, which is dedicated to "some grave violations of human dignity". That's the structure of the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith's new Declaration *Dignitas infinita*, which commemorates the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and reaffirms "the indispensable nature of the dignity of the human person in Christian anthropology".

The main novelty of the document, which is the fruit of five years' work, is the inclusion of a number of key themes from the recent papal magisterium that accompany the bioethical ones. In the 'non-exhaustive' list that is offered, abortion, euthanasia and surrogate motherhood are listed as violations of human dignity alongside war, poverty and human trafficking.

The new text thus contributes to overcoming the dichotomy that exists between those who focus exclusively on beginning-and-end-of-life issues, while forgetting so many other attacks against human dignity and, conversely, those who focus only on defending the poor and migrants while forgetting that life must be defended from conception to its natural conclusion.

Fundamental Principles

The first three parts of the Declaration recall fundamental principles.

"In the light of Revelation, the Church resolutely reiterates and confirms" the "ontological dignity of the human person, created in the image and likeness of God and redeemed in Jesus Christ".

This is an "inalienable dignity", corresponding to "human nature apart from all cultural change". It is a "gift" and therefore present in "an unborn child, an unconscious person, or an older person in distress".

"The Church proclaims the equal dignity of all people, regardless of their living conditions or qualities", and she does so on the basis of biblical revelation: women and men are created in the image of God.

Christ, by becoming incarnate, "confirmed the dignity of the body and soul", and, in His rising, revealed to us that man's dignity rests "above all on the fact that he is called to communion with God".

The Dignity of Every Person

The document highlights the misunderstandings of those who prefer the expression "personal dignity" to "human dignity", "since they understand a person to be only 'one who is capable of reasoning'".

Thus, according to them, "the unborn child would not have personal dignity, nor would the older person who is dependent upon others, nor would an individual with mental disabilities. On the contrary, the Church insists that the dignity of every human person, precisely because it is intrinsic, remains in all circumstances".

Furthermore, the document stresses that "the concept of human dignity is also occasionally misused to justify an arbitrary proliferation of new rights ... as if the ability to express and realize every individual preference or subjective desire should be guaranteed".

The List of Violations

The Declaration then presents the list of "some grave violations of human dignity".

This includes "all offences against life itself, such as murder, genocide, abortion, euthanasia, and wilful suicide". These must be recognized as contrary to human dignity, but also "all violations of the integrity of the human person, such as mutilation, physical and mental torture, undue psychological pressures".

And, finally, it includes "all offences against human dignity, such as subhuman living conditions, arbitrary imprisonment, deportation, slavery, prostitution, the selling of women and children, degrading working conditions where individuals are treated as mere tools for profit rather than free and responsible persons".

The death penalty is also cited, since it "violates the inalienable dignity of every person, regardless of the circumstances". The document criticises also gender theory, which is "extremely dangerous since it cancels differences in its claim to make everyone equal". Sex change is also judged negatively since it "risks threatening the unique dignity the person has received from the moment of conception".

GEM OF THE WEEK



This week's GEM is the Easter Videoposter by Communion and Liberation - 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 17th April**, please email your messages/notices to: 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 14th April 2024: Year B - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 3

PSALM RESPONSE: LIFT UP THE LIGHT OF YOUR FACE ON US, O LORD.

1st reading Acts 3:13-15,17-19 Psalm 4 2nd reading 1 John 2:1-5a Gospel Luke 24:35-48

Sunday 21st April 2024: Year B - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 4

PSALM RESPONSE: THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED HAS BECOME THE CORNERSTONE.

1st reading Acts 4:8-12 Psalm 117 2nd reading 1 John 3:1-2 Gospel John 10:11-18

PARISH GROUPS



Youth Groups (including First Holy Communion & Confirmation)

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

Grail Seekers (school years 7, 8, 9) &

Student Youth (school year 10 until sixth form)

Please check the parish website for the calendar of meetings, times and venues. To register for these groups please go to our website:

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

Fellowship Group - Wednesday 17th April, 7pm at St Swithun Wells Church, Fair Oak. This week we are looking at our favourite hymns and why they speak to us. Everyone is most welcome. If you want to join by Zoom please contact Peter Baggott on peterbaggott@aol.com.

Growing In Faith Together Group

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

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!

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!

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.

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: arkoffellowship.sswp@gmail.com

The Little Flowers Baby & Toddler Group

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

MESSAGES



Upcoming Second Collections

Clergy Training Fund (20th/21st April) - if you are able to gift aid please use the yellow gift aid envelopes for this collection. A Give As You Live Donation Page has been set-up: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/clergy-training-fund-second-collection-2024>

Cultural Friday - 26th April, 7pm at St Edward's

We will be watching the film **Sound of Freedom** (15+) directed by Alejandro Monteverde, produced by Eduardo Verástegui and starring Jim Caviezel (all three Catholics). Recently Pope Francis has spoken a lot about human trafficking and how it violates human dignity. Sound of Freedom addresses precisely this urgent issue and is based on an incredible true story. After rescuing a young boy from ruthless child traffickers, a federal agent learns that the boy's sister is still captive and decides to embark on a dangerous mission to save her...

Cheese and wine at 7pm, suggested donation of £1.

The film starts at 7.30pm.

Upcoming Wedding - Please pray for Kevin & Jessica who will celebrate their wedding on Saturday 20th April at 2pm in Holy Cross Church. Congratulations!

Divine Mercy Chaplet

Starting Wednesday 17th April and then every 3rd Wednesday of the month at Holy Cross Church, the Divine Mercy Chaplet will be said at the start of Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament after the 9.30am Mass. Enquiries to Roz Monaghan or Fr Raffaele.

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 - April 24th, May 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd. Please book your place via Sue Thomson on 07393 917202 or email: sue.thomson.st@gmail.com

MESSAGES CONTINUED



Mass for the Sick & Housebound

Saturday 27th April at 2pm in St Edward's Church

There will be a special Mass in which we will pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish. During the Mass it will be possible to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. All who are sick, elderly, facing surgery, or seeking the gift of God's healing are welcome to participate. The whole Parish will be invited to join in prayer for those who are sick and for their caregivers.

Upcoming Funerals

Please pray for the repose of the soul of John Boog and for his family. John's Funeral Service takes place on **Wednesday 17th April at 12 Noon in Test Valley Crematorium.**

Canon Peter Wilkie RIP - Please pray for the repose of the soul of Canon Peter Wilkie who died on Easter Monday, 1st April, aged 94. Canon Peter was a former parish priest at St Edward the Confessor in Chandler's Ford. He was also the Diocese' longest living priest, ordained in 1953. May the Lord grant him eternal rest.

Irish Music night at Our Lady Queen of Apostles - Charity Fundraiser

Come and join us at OLQA on **Friday April 26th at 7pm** for a fun night of music and food, all in a good cause! Local folk band Shantyhead will be playing and you can enjoy a buffet of hot soup and tasty snacks - you are welcome to bring your own wine/beer! Tickets are just £10 per person and all funds raised will be supporting a local group travelling to Lourdes in June with the charity Across (www.across.org.uk). Across provides travel for people with disabilities and life-limiting illness, supported by volunteer helpers. For tickets, and for more details on the trip to Lourdes (volunteers still needed!) please contact Marianne Wanstall at mwanstall@btinternet.com.

Carmelite Group - Would you like to 'Go Deeper' in your faith, grow in prayer and develop your spiritual life? Why not join our Carmelite group that meets on the third Saturday monthly for mutual support in spiritual growth. We have times of liturgical prayer and silent prayer, discussion of a Carmelite text and social time. **We meet from 10.30am to 3pm at the St Joseph's Catholic Church Parish Centre, 26A Abbey Water, Romsey, Hampshire.** For more information contact Samantha Harris on 07840 756078 or email: samanthaharris218@gmail.com.

St George Catholic College Alumni Reunion

Sunday 28th April 2024 from 3pm-5pm

Did you attend or work at St George Catholic College in the 1960s, 70s or 80s? To celebrate the school's

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
	5.30pm-6.00pm	St Joseph
Sunday:	8.30am-9.00am (before Mass)	St Edward
	8.30am-9.00am (before Mass)	St Andrew

recent outstanding Ofsted report, we are inviting past pupils and staff in the 60s, 70s or 80s to join us for a reunion afternoon tea and cakes and a tour of the school. Please spread the word and save the date! Email Jeanine Bonavia at jbnavia@stgcc.co.uk or call 023 8067 0104 to book a place by **Friday, 26th April.**

Our Father In Heaven Retreat

In this year which Pope Francis has asked we keep as a Year of Prayer in preparation for the Jubilee Year 2025, Fr Mark Hogan invites us all to a FREE Year of Prayer Retreat - Our Father in Heaven on **Friday 4th May (evening) and Saturday 5th May (all day)** at St Peter's Church Pastoral Centre in Winchester.

Allegra Mutanda leads us in a time of prayer and recollection, helping us to explore what it means to pray 'Our Father in heaven'. All our missionary efforts are dependent upon this intimate relationship between us and 'Abba', who wishes to bless and heal all His beloved sons and daughters. All are welcome. Once you have registered, you will receive further details nearer to the date of the event. Please confirm your attendance by **Monday 29th April** latest by registering here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/year-of-prayer-our-father-in-heaven-retreat-days-fri-3-pm-and-sat-4-may-tickets-877957062207?aff=oddtcreator>

Churches Together in Chandler's Ford - Fryern

Funtasia (6th May 2024) - We have a stand at the Fryern Funtasia and are in urgent need of volunteers from our church congregations to help staff this on the day. We will have a couple of summer fete style games for children, a prayer tree and will give out goody bags with some sweets and fliers about our activities. The Funtasia runs from 12.00-4.30pm. If anyone can help even for an hour or two during that time, or alternatively with the set up earlier in the morning please contact Mike Greenslade (our Parish Contact) on 01962 715894.

Bible Exhibition - From 25th to 28th April, 10am-4pm, there will be an exhibition at **Sarum College, (in Salisbury Cathedral Close)**, of a new copy of the NRSV version of the Bible, comprising all books of the O.T. and N.T. in 7 large volumes. It is the first illuminated and handwritten Bible to be commissioned by a Benedictine monastery in more than 500 years. The original, housed in Minnesota, has been written with quill pens on vellum, and illustrated using traditional materials. The College has the copy given to the C of E Diocese of Salisbury. The illustrations, in varied styles, are amazing. No need to book and no charge to view.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tues: St Edward - after Mass (6.30pm-7.30pm)
Wednesday: Holy Cross - after Mass (10.00am-11.00am)
Thursday: St Joseph - before Mass (5.00pm-6.00pm)

TIMES A PRIEST WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MEET

Tuesdays: Fr Raffaele, 3.30pm-5.30pm, Holy Cross Resource Centre, Eastleigh
Wednesdays: Fr Luca, 3.30pm-5.30pm, Holy Cross Resource Centre, Eastleigh
Saturdays: **Fr Mario not 13th Apr**, 2.30pm-4.30pm, Romsey Parish Office (26A Abbey Water)

MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Saturday 13th April	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross St Swithun Wells OLQA St Joseph St Edward	In Grateful Thanksgiving To St Joseph Joe & Lydia Fonseca RIP Joyce Austin RIP Felino & Angie Cagampang (In Thanksgiving)
Sunday 14th April <i>Third 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> Dr Teresa Layzell (In Thanksgiving for 30yrs repository efforts) Doris Bonello RIP Anniversary Ann Brockway RIP FM Tony Perry RIP Anniversary
Monday 15th April	9.30am	Holy Cross	Scaria & George Punnamchira RIP
Tuesday 16th April	10.00am 6.00pm	St Andrew St Edward	Julian Phillips RIP Peter Ashcroft RIP FM
Wed 17th April	9.30am 9.30am 10.00am	Holy Cross OLQA St Edward	Maguire & Richard Family FM Tom Holder RIP
Thurs 18th April	9.30am 12 Noon 6.00pm	Holy Cross OLQA St Joseph	Mal & Helen Altman RIP Muriel Matthias (Wellbeing)
Friday 19th April	9.30am 10.00am 10.00am	OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Holly Lund RIP In Grateful Thanksgiving to St Joseph
Saturday 20th April	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross St Swithun Wells OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Siobhan Waters RIP Sebi Devassy RIP Anniversary Freya Linsdell (Wellbeing)
Sunday 21st April <i>Fourth 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> Mark Herbich RIP People of the Parish Jon Davies RIP Elvira Golez & Hilario Ceballos RIP

CLERGY & PARISH OFFICE

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

Fr Luca Speziale (Assistant Priest)
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Fr Mario Toma (Assistant Priest)
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Fr Bruce Barnes (Assistant Priest)
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Deacon Matteo Pagani
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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

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