



Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ

26th April 2020: **THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**

NOT VAGABONDS BUT PILGRIMS

The episode about the disciples at Emmaus narrated in the Gospel this Sunday is so beautiful, so evocative because it expresses our life, the life of each of us.

The story begins as follows: "Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way". We too are on the road, also our life is a journey. But this journey may be the path of the pilgrim, or the path of a vagabond. The fundamental difference between the pilgrim and the vagabond is the following: the first has a goal to reach, therefore a hope; the second has no goal, he is hopeless.

The two disciples told Jesus: "Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free". In these words there is all the drama of our lives. We are constantly in danger of losing hope. I don't mean the little hopes, which in the end we can manage without. I mean the really important hopes: that of living in a society where justice and peace are victorious, that of being able to live a love that is faithful to the end with the woman or man we have chosen to be our bride or groom. But above all, I mean the great hope: the hope of being freed from the slavery of sin and death.

Why had the two characters of the Gospel lost hope? Because they thought that the Presence had disappeared once and for all from the earth: the presence of Jesus. Why did Jesus' disappearance result in the loss of hope for liberation? Because in Him the Presence of God among men and women had been fulfilled. We all need a Presence: the Presence of God himself to be our companion on the journey.

Easter is precisely this: the celebration of the Presence of God among us in the risen Christ. Jesus did not remain in the tomb, but "God raised him to life" as St Peter announces the day of Pentecost. How and where can we meet Him? Let us listen to the Gospel: "While he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing, then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him". We can meet the risen Lord in the Eucharist. Here, dear friends, is what transforms the journey of our life from a wandering, without a goal, to a pilgrimage: the encounter with the risen Lord in the Eucharist. And this encounter with the living God generates in us the hope that our life, often full of tribulations, is not in vain. Even in this difficult period due to the Coronavirus we can experience how the risen Lord gives us hope and does not make us fall into despair. Today, unfortunately, it is not possible to receive sacramental Communion, but you can pray to obtain the spiritual presence of the Lord in your heart, and also remember Jesus' words: "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Mt;18, 20). Let us have this awareness of His presence when we attend the Holy Mass from our homes.

Father Marco

GEM OF THE WEEK

This week's GEM is a video of St Mother Teresa: 'Let's bring prayer in our families'. You can find the link on our homepage. If anyone has suggestions for GEMs please contact the Webmaster on website.sswp@gmail.com.



LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday 26th April 2020:

Year A - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 3

PSALM RESPONSE: SHOW US, LORD, THE PATH OF LIFE.

READINGS & HYMNS FOR THIS SUNDAY, 26TH APRIL 2020:

1st reading: Acts 2:14. 22-33 **Psalm:** 15 **2nd reading:** 1 Peter 1:17-21 **Gospel:** Luke 24:13-35

MESSAGES



Offerings for our Parish

Due to the current lockdown for public health and safety, parish finances need to be considered.

If you normally give using Planned Giving Envelopes, or in the plate, you obviously will not be able to give that way for the foreseeable future. Please consider making your offerings by direct Bank Transfer, Direct Debit or Standing Order. You may wish to pay into the bank account of the church you normally attend. We have listed the bank account details and the contact details of the Gift Aid Co-ordinators if you are a tax payer and wish to increase your donation by adding the gift aid element. The Coordinators are happy to advise you on setting up direct debit/standing orders and have the necessary documentation for your use. Thanks for your generosity.

Romsey: St Andrew, North Baddesley and St Joseph
Bank Account: sort code 30-93-04

Account number: 00886557

Gift Aid Co-ordinator: David Martin: 01794 511883

Chandlers Ford: St Edward the Confessor

Bank Account: sort code 30-93-04

Account number: 00876187

Gift Aid Co-ordinator: Mike Greenslade: 02380

262870 or Ian Fearon: 02380 265248

Eastleigh Holy Cross & Fair Oak: St Swithun Wells,

Bank Account: sort code 30-93-04

Account number: 00877299

Gift Aid Co-ordinator: Patricia Baggot: 02380 694060

Bishops Waltham: Our Lady Queen of the Apostles

Bank Account: sort code 30-93-04

Account number: 00874648

Gift Aid Co-ordinator: Patricia Baggot: 02380 694060

Book of Prayers

You may have noticed in front of the altar during Mass there is a book where we write prayer intentions. If you would like to send us your prayers for something or someone please let us know and we will be happy to write them in the book.

Hospital Chaplaincy

Bishop Philip writes...

In our Diocese of Portsmouth, we have a number of major hospitals. It is crucially important that when a Catholic is admitted to hospital, the family ensure that the Catholic Chaplaincy is contacted so that appropriate support can be given. As access to the hospital may be restricted, especially at this time during the coronavirus emergency, one suggestion is that the patient carries a note to give to hospital staff on admission notifying staff that they are Catholic and that they would really appreciate the Catholic chaplaincy service. This could be followed up by a telephone call from the family to the ward making the request. Our hospitals at this time are doing a fantastic job in enabling our chaplains to operate and to offer support to patients. Let us pray for all the medical staff who are caring for the sick – and also for our magnificent chaplains in their irreplaceable work.

Phone Contact

If you are a single person or a couple living alone and have no phone contact with anyone else in the parish, please ring us if you would like to be put in touch with someone. Parish Office: 02380 273882.

Funerals

We would like to keep you informed about funerals we are having so that you can keep them in your prayers:

Brian Campbell on Tuesday 5th May.

Eastleigh Basics Bank

Demand for the food bank services is currently at unprecedented levels because of the pandemic. We are looking to increase the number of days that we operate. We can only achieve this aim with the support of additional volunteers. Tasks include sorting donations, picking food for our clients and in some instances delivering food parcels for those that cannot travel to our shop in Eastleigh town centre. We do work as a team, therefore our volunteers need to be fit and well and not classed as 'vulnerable' to Covid-19 or living with a vulnerable person. For more information please email:

daniel.brain@eastleighbasicsbank.co.uk

ONLINE MASS TIMES & PRAYING OF THE ROSARY



Churches in our Parish

All our churches are now closed for the time being.

Mass will be live streamed from Holy Cross Church

Sundays at 10.00am

Mon to Sat at 9.30am

Please go to our website

<https://www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk/> where you will be able to watch and join in Mass being celebrated live from Holy Cross Church.

Communal Praying of the Rosary with Meditations from the Holy Cross Presbytery

Monday to Friday at 7.00pm

Please follow the guidelines for the Zoom meetings.

You will be able to listen to a meditation given by one of our priests and then join in the Rosary being prayed.

How to join our ZOOM meetings

Via internet:

Go to <https://zoom.us/j/6942241055>

If you don't have the "zoom" app, it will be automatically downloaded.

Click "join a meeting"

Enter the Meeting ID: 694 224 1055

Via phone:

Dial one of these four numbers

0203 051 2874

0203 481 5237

0203 481 5240

0131 460 1196

Follow the instructions

When asked enter the Meeting ID:

694 224 1055

CHANGES TO PARISH OFFICE OPENING & MASS INTENTIONS



Main Parish Office/Priest Availability

The Parish Office is closed to visitors however the office telephone will be manned either by the Parish Secretary or by one of our Priests from Tuesday to Friday 10.00am-6.00pm.

If you want to speak to one of our Priests, for personal support or spiritual direction, please call this number during these times.

Parish Office telephone number: 02380 273882.

Outside of these times or if the matter is urgent please phone the emergency number below.

Emergency Number Tel: 02380 612430

If you urgently need to speak to one of our Priests please use this number. If no-one is around to immediately answer your call please leave a message and someone will call you back as soon as possible.

Mass Intentions: Everyday 3 Priests will celebrate Mass, that means 3 Intentions can be offered. There are open spaces in the following weeks. If you want to book an intention please send an email or call the office.

There are two options if you want to make an offering for your Mass intention.

(1) You can send to the office a cheque made payable to **PRCDTR St Swithun Wells** (specifying on the back that it is a Mass intention and including the name of the person and the date of the Mass), or if you want you can send a cash offering.

(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**

indicating the Mass intention and date.

PARISH GROUPS



The following groups are continuing to meet through ZOOM:

- **Stars of Abraham** (Live meeting) 7.00pm Tuesdays (from 24th March)
- **Grail Seekers** (Live meeting) 4.00pm Saturdays (from 28th March)
- **TOZ** (Live meeting) 7.00pm Sundays (from 29th March)

- **School of Community** (Live meeting) 8.00pm Wednesdays

Please follow the ZOOM meeting instructions to connect to the group.

MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Saturday 25th April	9.30am	Holy Cross Live Stream	Oswald Carr (FM) Hellen Altman (Wellbeing) Rosemary Oxby (RIP)
Sunday 26th April Third Sunday of Easter	10.00am	Holy Cross Live Stream	Geoffrey Lanham (Wellbeing) Peter Finucane (RIP) For the local police officers and staff in Romsey and Eastleigh
Mon 27th April	9.30am	Holy Cross Live Stream	Peter Bonetti (RIP) Tony Walker (RIP) Sylvia Bolt (RIP)
Tues 28st April	9.30am	Holy Cross Live Stream	John Quinn (RIP) Cecilia Taylor (RIP) In thanksgiving for our priests offering the Mass for us in our homes
Wed 29st April	9.30am	Holy Cross Live Stream	Sean O Donnell (RIP) Eilleen Murphy (Special Intention) George and Ann Sandhu and family (Special Intention)
Thurs 30rd April	9.30am	Holy Cross Live Stream	Florrie Kieran (Special Intention) John Harrison (RIP) Sheila Hillary (RIP)
Fri 1st May	9.30am	Holy Cross Live Stream	Christina O'Neill (RIP) Felino Cagampang (Wellbeing)
Sat 2nd May	9.30am	Holy Cross Live Stream	
Sun 3rd May Fourth Sunday of Easter	10.00am	Holy Cross Live Stream	Jim Kerr (RIP) Rev Francis Keenan S.J. (RIP) Mrs Edward Christian (FM)

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: Tuesday-Friday: 10.00am-6pm

Holy Cross Resource Centre & Finance
Admin: Linda Roberts
lroberts@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Secretary: Philip Stokman
stswparish@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Website Contact: website.sswp@gmail.com