



Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ 28th May 2023: PENTECOST SUNDAY

The Church's Birthday

The Feast of Pentecost which derives its name, in Greek, from the 50 days after the Resurrection, is rightly called "The Church's Birthday". Most people like a party on a Birthday. It is a joyful occasion when we receive not just the best wishes and love from friends and family but also the outward signs of their affection in the presents they give. In the First Reading for this Feast we see before us a group of rather closeted individuals praying for something to happen. It is about to take place but not necessarily as they were expecting. Yes, there would be joy and the ability to do things which the Spirit will bring but there is a twist in the story which can so easily be missed. Let me explain.

Imagine that you were given for your Birthday the car of your dreams; it may be a sports car, a limousine, or a classic or vintage Rolls! It will be delivered to your door all ready for you BUT you will have to do a couple of important things before it will be ready for use. You will have to put some type of fuel in the tank be it liquid or electric but it will need one other important thing before it is ready to go, YOU will have to switch on the ignition through which YOU will have provided the spark to make the engine roar into action. This I feel is a good example of the Pentecost experience. God has given us the Church as his great gift. It is made up of those first Apostles including Mary and the other women gathered in the upper room. Here is the vehicle for action in the world; here is the vehicle for Mission and Evangelisation. It is to be driven by the individual and will need fuel. It is provided in the gift of the Holy Spirit to provide the everlasting fuel for the journey. We receive this at Baptism BUT...we have to switch it on for it to work; we have to have the Faith and the Commitment to live as Jesus taught us. We have to ignite the engine before it will go. Turn on the ignition. We have the present, we have the fuel and we have started the engine. We even have the road-map set out for us in the words of Jesus. All we have to do is have the confidence to put our foot on the pedal of Mission and Evangelisation and away we go! Believe it or not we are all going the same way and there is never a traffic jam. Happy travelling ...you even have a travelling companion The Lord Jesus. I hope to see you at our destination.

Fr Bruce

GEM OF THE WEEK



This week's GEM is "The Forgiveness of a Mother" - 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 31st May 2023**, please email your messages/notices to: office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday 28th May 2023: Year A - Year 1 - Psalter Week: Office Proper

PSALM RESPONSE: SEND FORTH YOUR SPIRIT, O LORD, AND RENEW THE FACE OF THE EARTH.

READINGS: 1st reading Acts 2:1-11 Psalm 103 2nd reading 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7,12-13 Gospel John 20:19-23

Sunday 4th June 2023: Year A - Year 1 - Psalter Week: Office Proper

PSALM RESPONSE: (52B) TO YOU GLORY AND PRAISE FOR EVERMORE.

READINGS: 1st reading Exodus 34:4b-6, 8-9 Psalm Dn 3 2nd reading 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 Gospel John 3:16-18

PARISH GROUPS



Youth Groups (including First Holy Communion & Confirmation)

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

Tuesdays, 4pm-5.30pm in St Edward's Cloister;

Wednesdays, 4.15pm-5.45pm in St Andrew;

Saturdays, 10.30am-Noon in Holy Cross R/Centre.

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

Student Youth (school year 10 until sixth form)

Usually Fridays 6.30pm-8.30pm in Holy Cross R/Centre.

Please check the parish website for the calendar of meetings, times and venues.

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!

Growing In Faith Together Group

Tuesdays 10.15am to approx. 11.45am in the Holy Cross Resource Centre. On 30th May we will be exploring the Sycamore Course 7th Session, "Faith." All are welcome!

Fellowship Group - St Swithun Wells Church, Fair Oak. We will not be meeting during the month of May. Meetings will resume on Wednesday 7th June at 7.30pm.

Romsey Prayer Group - Every Wednesday

morning at 11am in the St Joseph's Parish Centre, 26A Abbey Water. All will be made very welcome.

The Little Flowers Baby & Toddler Groups

Holy Cross Group meet on Wednesdays from 10am in the Resource Centre, Eastleigh;

St Joseph's Group meet on Thursdays from 10.30am -12 Noon in the Hall (26 Abbey Water, Romsey).

The groups are for 0-4 years and their families. More information is on the website or you can email: littleflowers.sswp@gmail.com

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

Afternoon Club - St. Joseph's Parish Centre

(26 Abbey Water), first Tuesday in the month at 2pm. Come and join us for tea, games and good fun. All are welcome!

60 Club

We meet every fortnight on a Monday from 2pm-4pm at Holy Cross Resource Centre. Our next meeting is on Monday 5th June. All are welcome!

MESSAGES



Pentecost

Bishop Philip writes,

This coming Sunday is the great Solemnity of Pentecost, 50 days after Easter when the Holy Spirit descended upon Our Lady, St. Peter and the Apostles and the great mission of the Church began. Pentecost is the Church's birthday. This Sunday, and all of this week, let us thank God that we belong to Christ's one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. The Church exists across space-time as a Sacrament, that is, a sign and an instrument to gather the world into unity, to give people the gifts of eternal life and to send them out to serve the poor and needy. Let us pray for the Holy Father, for all bishops, priests and deacons, for the religious, for all the faithful of the Church and for the unity of all Christians in doctrine, life and worship.

Let us also ask the Holy Spirit to renew the face of the earth and to ask Him to refill the whole Church with His gifts and to renew our hearts, to pour into them His living water and to set us on fire with love.

Confirmation

On Sunday 4th June, we will have great joy of having some of our children confirmed by Bishop Philip in the Cathedral in Portsmouth. Let us pray for: Aiden, Alessandra, Athena, Caleb, Carmella, Dian, Elle & Mika, and for their families on this special occasion.

Sacramental Preparation for Adults (RCIA)

If you, or someone 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 or alternatively please speak to a priest.

CAFOD Message from Clare Lasker

Thanks to everyone who supported the cake sale last Wednesday at St Edward's, £225 was raised for CAFOD.

MESSAGES CONTINUED



Parish Get2Gether Walk and Picnic

Saturday 3rd June, 10.30am – 3.30pm

An event outdoors (hoping for good weather!) for all of the Parish, in particular families.

Our Get2Gether will begin at 10.30am in the Forest of Bere (Wickham), at the following address:

6 Hundred Acres Rd, Wickham, Fareham PO17 6JB
(approx. 25mins from our Parish).

You can leave your car in the large forest car park (parking charge: £5 - you can pay with coins or card).

Event programme:

10.30am Arrival at the Forest of Bere car park (6 Hundred Acres Rd, Wickham);

11am Circular walk in the forest. The walk lasts one hour, it is a moderate waymarked trail on gravel that takes us through the west walk part of the forest. It returns to the start in a loop. The walk is suitable for adults and children. Please bring suitable shoes and clothes, hat, a bottle of water, rucksack.

There is the option of an easier walk of 30mins suitable for pushchairs;

12 Noon Picnic in the field close to the car park, please bring your food/beverage/plates/blanket. You will have to take your litter home, there are no rubbish bins in the park. Toilets are available.

Free time for the children to play in the playground and among themselves;

1.30pm Music and games for everyone;

3pm Visit of St Peter church in Soberton with explanation of the life of St Wilfrid and the first evangelization of the Meon Valley. The church is 10mins by car from the Forest of Bere, a large free car park is available;

3.30pm End (free Ice Cream for everyone).

To book your place please go to our parish website and click the link. There you will find a map, more information and some photos.

Mass for the Sick & Housebound

Sunday 18th June at 3pm 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.

Parish Lunch at the Hunters Inn, Romsey,

12.30pm, Wednesday 21st June. Menus are on the church notice boards. All are welcome. Please let Rosemary (01794 522411) know your choice of meal by Monday 12th June as we have to pre-order. Thank you.

Parish Office - On Friday 2nd June neither Fiona nor Sarah will be in the office. One of our kind volunteers will be in to answer the phones from 10am to 2.30pm.

Upcoming Funerals

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Fr Brian Croughan who recently died in our parish. Fr. Brian's Requiem Mass will take place at **Sacred Heart, Waterlooville on Friday 2nd June at 2.30pm.**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Sr Shirley Martin. Sr. Shirley's Funeral Mass will take place at **St Joseph's on Tuesday 13th June at 2.00pm.**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Ian Roache and for his family. Ian's Funeral Mass will take place at **Holy Cross on Friday 16th June at 11.00am.**

It is with great sadness to let you know that Robert (John) McGhee passed away last week. John regularly attended Mass at Holy Cross and St Edward's and will be well known to numerous parishioners. We have no details as yet regarding his funeral.

Safeguarding Training

Every volunteer working with children or vulnerable adults has to complete safeguarding training every two years. For those who cannot, or prefer not to use the online training, there is an opportunity to attend face to face training instead. The training is open to all those in recruitment for, or currently working in roles with children and/or adults at risk. You will receive a certificate on completion of this training. Anyone working or volunteering in a relevant role across the Diocese is most welcome.

Saturday 3rd June 2023

Venue: St Vincent De Paul, Alder Moor Close, off Coxford Road, Southampton, SO16 5ST.

Morning Session - Child Protection, 10am to 12 Noon

Afternoon Session - Working with Adults at Risk, 1pm to 3pm.

To book your place on this course/or a session please email: safeguarding@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Message regarding John Williams - John was a very active parishioner in our parish. After an operation he went to recuperate with his family in Brighton and has stayed there ever since. Last week he moved on again, this time to a nursing home called Dean Wood. John does not use his mobile anymore, so cards and letters are most welcome...he would also love friends to drop by if they are in town. John's new address is: Julie Mullen, Resident Experience Manager, Dean Wood Care Home, Bupa UK/Care Services, Warren Road, Woodingdean, Brighton, BN2 6DX
Tel: 01273 648100 ext.1250

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
	10am or by appointment	OLQA
	5.30pm-6.00pm	St Joseph
Sunday:	8.30am-9.00am	St Edward
	8.30am-9.00am	St Andrew

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

Frs Raffaele, Luca and Marco will not be able to meet during half term (27th May to 4th June).

MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 27th May <i>Morning Mass: St Augustine of Canterbury</i>	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross St Swithun Wells OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Oswald Carr RIP FM Thomas Carr (Birthday Intention) Kathleen, Ivor & Susan Stroud RIP
Sunday 28th May <i>Pentecost Sunday</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> People of the Parish Clare Fisher RIP Anniversary Nabiha Akoury RIP Sr Gina Cardosi (Diamond Jubilee)
Mon 29th May <i>Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church</i>	9.30am	Holy Cross	
Tues 30th May	10.00am 6.00pm	St Andrew St Edward	Marilyn Ghouti (Wellbeing)
Wed 31st May <i>The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	9.30am 9.30am 10.00am	Holy Cross OLQA St Edward	
Thurs 1st June <i>Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest</i>	9.30am 12 Noon 6.00pm	Holy Cross OLQA St Joseph	The Intentions of Joyce Whitlock Sr Grainne Hilton (Diamond Jubilee)
Fri 2nd June	9.30am 10.00am 10.00am	OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Sr Ancilla Leahy (Diamond Jubilee)
Sat 3rd June <i>Morning Mass: St Charles Lwanga & Companions</i>	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross St Swithun Wells OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Arthur Mason RIP FM People of the Parish Muriel Matthias (Wellbeing) Fr Peter Wilkie (on the Occasion of his 70th Anniversary of Ordination)
Sunday 4th June <i>The Most Holy Trinity</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> Agnes & John Walker RIP FM Kate Mason RIP FM Hugh & Bridie Roddy RIP FM

CLERGY & PARISH OFFICE

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

Fr Luca Speziale (Assistant Priest)
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Fr Bruce Barnes (Assistant Priest)
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Deacon Paul Wilson
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Deacon Andrew Lee
Tel: 023 8061 2430; E: alee@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)