

Our Mission: LOVE GOD - LOVE OTHERS - MAKE DISCIPLES



www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Registered Charity No. 246871

Sunday Cycle: Year C
Weekday Cycle: Year 1
Psalter Week: 4

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Today's Gospel can be summarised by its last sentence: "For a man's words flow from out of what fills his heart". It tells us that normally there is a correspondence between inner attitudes and outer expression, between heart and word. Our behaviour reveals our inner soul. Just as a tree is known by the fruit it bears, so the heart of a man is known by his entire conduct.

At the same time this Gospel challenges us. Our actions reveal our heart, so if we really want to change our life, we have to begin by changing our heart. This week I had the opportunity to watch the film *The Green Book* that won this year's Oscar. At some point one of the two main characters says to the other: "Because genius is not enough. It takes courage to change people's hearts". It is true, it takes courage to change others' hearts, but I would say that it takes more courage to change our own heart.

This Wednesday we start the new season of Lent; this gives us the opportunity to change our heart. In other words we can say that Lent is the time for our conversion.

If we look at our heart there are many things that we have to change. I don't want to make a list of bad thoughts or feelings, each of us knows our own defects and the points on which we have to work. At the same time there is one thing that is common to all of us, I think. We all lose many times the sense of God's presence and activity in our life. Definitely we are called to change this if we want to live with more enthusiasm.

Last year I read a novel called *The Moviegoer* by Walker Percy. It is a fascinating novel about a man who launches himself on a journey in search of God. At some point the protagonist describes the true enemy of this search in this way:

(...) when I awake, I awake in the grip of everydayness. Everydayness is the enemy. No search is possible. Perhaps there was a time when everydayness was not too strong and one could break its grip by brute strength. Now nothing breaks it—but disaster. Only once in my life was the grip of everydayness broken: when I lay bleeding in a ditch. (...) (The everydayness is everywhere now, having begun in the cities and seeking out the remotest nooks and corners of the countryside, even the swamps.)

I don't want to spoil the novel revealing if everydayness was overcome or not, I can only say that everydayness is our enemy as well: nothing strikes us, we lose the sense of the divine in our life, we become superficial and the routine prevails.

May this Lent help us to overcome our everydayness, especially through prayer and the help of our community.

Father Raffaele

Parish Office: Holy Cross Church, 53 Leigh Road, Eastleigh, SO50 9DF

Tel: 023 8027 3882. Email: stswparish@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

Office hours: Monday–Wednesday 9.30am–5pm; Thursday & Friday 9.30–2.30pm Newsletter items should be received by Wednesday 12:00 noon

3rd March 2019:

Entrance Antiphon:

The Lord became my protector. He brought me out to a place of freedom; he saved me because he delighted in me.

Psalm Response:

It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.

**Readings for next Sunday 10th March 2019
First Sunday of Lent**

Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

1st reading: Deuteronomy 26:4-10

Psalm: 90

2nd reading: Romans 10:8-13

Parish Groups

Growing in Faith Together (GIFT) Group

Tuesdays between 10.15-11.30am (after Mass) in the Holy Cross Resource Centre. **It is a time of simple sharing, come and join us, we start with tea and biscuits, and everyone is assured of a warm welcome.** The next talk (5th March) is on St Ignatius Spirituality and the following week (12th March) is on Modern Day Saints with our Seminarian Dennis.

Journey in Faith - Every Wednesday at St Edward's

It is for anyone enquiring about the Catholic faith and for people intending to become a Catholic. The sessions run from 7.30pm to 9pm.

For further information please contact Deacon Paul Owen - tel: 02380 254806; email: powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

Fellowship Group: St Swithun Wells Church, Fair Oak. There will be no meeting on Wednesday 6th March as it is Ash Wednesday.

During Lent starting on 13th March, we will be having a Lenten Supper of Homemade Soups, bread and cheese every Wednesday. The Supper starts at 7pm and is followed at 7.45pm by a Lenten Study Course. This year we are using the Churches Together Lenten Study "The Mystery of God". Everyone most welcome even if you can only come to the supper or Study Course. Queries to Peter Baggott or Deacon Bob Birtles.

Youth Groups - News for Inspire and TOZ

Fr Raffaele and Fr Luca have decided, together with the team of leaders of Inspire and TOZ, to make some changes to our meetings. These changes will enable the groups to continue to grow, allow the young people to meet together more regularly and meet at times most suitable for different age groups. New times as follows:

Inspire (for children from school year 4 to 8) **will meet twice a month on Saturday from 2.30pm to 4.30pm in St Edward's cloister in Chandlers Ford.**

Upcoming Dates: 2nd & 16th March; 6th & 27th April

TOZ (for young people from school year 9) **will also meet twice a month on Sunday at the usual time 7pm-8.30pm in the Resource Centre in Eastleigh.**

Upcoming Dates: 17th & 31st March, 28th April.

CaFE

Monday **11th March**, 2.30pm in St Joseph's;
Tuesday **12th March**, 7.30pm in St Andrew's.
Further details from Sheila Keefe, 01794 518071 or s.keefe@btopenworld.com.

Parish Groups Continued

Our Lady Queen of Apostles - Children's Liturgy

The planned Sunday dates until Easter are:

3rd, 17th & 31st March; 14th April. All are welcome.

The sessions are during 9.30am Sunday Mass.

Joanna Somerville (joannasomerville1@hotmail.com)

60 Club - Will next meet on **Monday 4th March** at 2pm in the Holy Cross Resource Centre. Maureen on 80692682

Oasis Women's Group - Tuesday 12th March

The Life and Times of Luke the Evangelist.

Deacon Bob Birtles will join us to share a deeper understanding of Luke's Gospel. Who was Luke, what are the priorities of his Gospel...? Come along for more enlightenment! 7:30pm, St Edward's Cloister, finish at 9pm. *All Ladies Warmly Welcomed.*

Future Dates: 2nd Apr, 14th May, 11th Jun, 9th Jul.

Offerings & Collections

St Swithun Wells Parish Acknowledges with thanks

Last week's collections: £TBC

SO/DD for Feb'19: £TBC

Parish Events

Essential Baptism Preparation Session

If you wish to have your child baptised, please contact the Parish Office for an application form or alternatively print off the form from the Parish Website (www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk/parishlife; go to Sacraments and then click the 'Baptism Form'), and return the completed form to the Office. Then we look forward to welcoming parents for an essential Preparation Session on **Sunday 3rd March (4.30-6pm)** at Holy Cross Resource Centre. It would be very helpful if you could arrive a little early, refreshments available from 4.15pm. If you want you can attend the preparation session in advance of your baby's birth.

Rules for Ash Wednesday and Lent

Roman Catholics must **abstain from meat** on all Fridays during Lent.

On **Ash Wednesday** Roman Catholics must **fast and abstain from meat**. Fasting means that they may eat one full meal, and they may eat two small meals as well. The two smaller meals must not equal one full meal.

There are exceptions to these rules. Those from ages 18-59 must fast. If you are younger than 18 or older than 59, you do not have to fast. Women who are pregnant or nursing also do not have to fast.

Furthermore, if you have a health problem that makes fasting unhealthy for you, you do not have to fast.

Parish Events Continued

Stations of the Cross

Are being said during Lent at the following churches:
St Andrew's: Tuesdays at 9.15am (except 16th April as there is the 11am Cathedral Chrism Mass);
St Swithun Wells: Tuesdays at 10am; followed by tea/coffee;
OLQA: Wednesdays at 7pm;
Holy Cross: Thursdays at 9am;
St Joseph's: Fridays at 9.15am (excluding Good Friday);
St Edward's: Fridays at 6.30pm (excluding Good Friday).

St Edward's - Friday Mass Time Change & CAFOD Lenten Supper

Please note that during Fridays in Lent, St Edward's Mass **will be at 7pm and not 10am**. Mass will be preceded by Stations of the Cross at 6.30pm and followed by the usual soup and bread and cheese suppers (at £5 a head). All proceeds to CAFOD.

Lent Teaching Evenings at OLQA

There are 4 teaching evenings, all start at 7.30pm:
Tues 12th March: 'Mystagogia' Praying the Liturgy, learning from the Liturgical action;
Tues 19th March: 'Year of the Penitent' - The Lectionary for the Sundays of Lent, Year 'C';
Tues 26th March: The Sacrament of Penance (repeated from Advent 2018) Part 1;
Tuesday 2nd April: The Sacrament of Penance (repeated from Advent 2018) Part 2.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Pope Francis has requested that Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament should take place for 24hrs during Lent in all Parishes throughout the world. In response to this, Eucharistic Adoration will take place at St Joseph's church for the whole Parish of St Swithun Wells on **Friday 29th March at 6pm**. The Blessed Sacrament will remain exposed until Sat 30th March concluding with Rosary and Benediction from 5.20pm prior to Saturday Vigil Mass at 6pm.

Bishop Philip's Parish Visit

During the weekend of 6th & 7th April, Bishop Philip will visit our Parish of St Swithun Wells. The pastoral visit is one of the ways through which the Bishop maintains personal contact with the clergy and with other members of the People of God.

It is an occasion to rejuvenate the energies of those engaged in evangelization, to praise, encourage and reassure them. It is also an opportunity to invite the faithful to a renewal of Christian life and to an ever more intense apostolic activity.

We are looking forward to meeting Bishop Philip and let us prepare for this visit especially through prayer.

Cinema at Holy Cross - Sat 9th March, 7pm

The next film showing at Holy Cross Resource Centre will be **The Devil wears Prada** (Cert. PG). See posters on church notice boards for more information.

Parish Events Continued

A Day for Special Ministers at St Joseph's - 9th March:

Starts with Mass at 10am.

Parish Lunch - Tuesday 26th March, 12.30pm

The Hunters Inn, Romsey. All are welcome. Menus will be on the notice boards. Please let Rosemary (01794 522411) know your choice of meal **before Monday 18th March** as we have to pre-order. Thank you.

Father Wojciech's Celebration

This year Father Wojciech will celebrate 25 years as a Priest. He has invited us, his Parish Family, to share this happy occasion with him on **Sunday 2nd June**. Refreshments will be served at 12.30pm in Wisdom House, Romsey, SO51 8EL. The invitations will be available in all churches within the next two weeks. Please fill out the return slip and post it into the silver covered box marked celebration.

School Notices

St Mary's Independent School Open Events

St Mary's Independent School is delighted to be the top performing school in Southampton for GCSE results 2018. St Mary's is Southampton's only Catholic all-through co-educational school. They educate girls and boys from 3 to 16 years old.

Senior Department open evening: Tuesday 5th March 4 - 7:30pm

Senior department open morning: Thursday 7th March 9:30am - 12:00pm

Nursery and Year R tours: Wednesday 25th April 9:30 - 11:30am

No appointment necessary, more details can be found by visiting: www.stmarysindependentschool.co.uk

Messages

I Belong First Holy Communion Programme 2018/2019

Just a reminder to all, that the next meeting for parents and children, is on **Tuesday 5th March 2019** at 6.25pm in St Swithun Wells School.

Primary Catholic Partnership – Teacher Training

Would you like to train as a primary teacher with an Ofsted Outstanding Catholic partnership? Come along to find out more on **Monday 4th March**. You can attend an afternoon taster session from 12-2 or an evening information session 5-7pm. If you have an honours degree and you're keen to teach primary children, we would like to meet you. You can learn more by calling 023 8077 9753 or at www.pcp-scitt.org.uk.

CAFOD Lent Family Fast Day Friday 15th March

CAFOD Lent family fast day is an opportunity to support our brothers and sisters overseas who are in need. On Friday 15th March can you eat a simple meal so that others can simply eat? Through CAFOD's global network your support can reach to the ends of the earth so please collect your fast day envelope from church and give whatever you can or you can donate online at <https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Fast-Day>.

Mass Times for our Six Church Communities & Parish Contact Information

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 2nd *Vigil Masses	9.30am	HC	Regina Turl (Special Intention)
	5.00pm*	SSW	Andrew Bates RIP (Birthday)
	6.00pm*	St J	Fr Clement Marshall (60th Anniversary of Ordination)
	6.00pm*	OLQA	
	6.30pm*	St Ed	Baker Family RIP
Sun 3rd Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00am	HC	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i>
	9.00am	St Ed	Kelly & Magee Families FM
	9.00am	St A	
	9.30am	OLQA	
	11.00am	St J	John Crowther RIP
	11.00am	HC	Patrick Lee (84th Birthday)
Mon 4th	10.00am	St Ed	Mrs Edward Christian FM
Tues 5th Shrove Tuesday	9.30am	HC	Shafika Hamoud RIP
	10.00am	St A	Patrick McNally RIP Anniversary
	10.00am	OLQA	
	11.00am	HC	Funeral Mass: Robert Van Alpha RIP
Wed 6th Ash Wednesday	9.30am	HC	Collette Reynolds FM
	10.00am	St J	
	2.15pm	School	Mass at St SW Primary School
	7.00pm	St A	
	7.00pm	St Ed	Charles Egan RIP
Thurs 7th	9.30am	HC	Antonio Cicu FM
	10.00am	OLQA	
	6.00pm	St J	
Fri 8th	10.00am	St J: AH	
	7.00pm	St Ed	Special Intention to St Joseph
Sat 9th *Vigil Masses	9.30am	HC	Lillian Rachael Gardiner FM
	5.00pm*	SSW	Jim Russell RIP
	6.00pm*	St J	Vivien Brooks RIP
	6.00pm*	OLQA	
	6.30pm*	St Ed	Friends of Suffering Souls RIP
Sun 10th First Sunday of Lent	9.00am	HC	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i>
	9.00am	St Ed	Ann Wood RIP
	9.00am	St A	
	9.30am	OLQA	
	11.00am	St J	
	11.00am	HC	Emily Ray RIP

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesday: HC - **No Adoration in March**

Thursday: St ED Holy Hour (7-8pm)

Thursday: St J from Noon-6pm, Rosary and Benediction at 5.30pm (before Mass at 6pm)

ROSARY AND PRAYERS

St Edward's 9.30am, Wednesday - The Holy Rosary
St Joseph's 6.00pm, Wednesday - Evening Prayer

CONFESSION (SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION)

Saturdays: 10.00am Holy Cross Church

12 noon St Edward's

5.30pm OLQA

5.30pm St Joseph

Sundays: 8.30am St Andrew

Clergy

Father Raffaele Cossa (Priest in Charge)

Tel: 023 8061 2430; Email: rcosa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Father Luca Speziale (Assistant Priest)

Tel: 023 8061 2430; Email: lspeziale@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Fr Wojciech Paszko (Assistant Priest)

Tel: 01794 522884; Email: wpaszko@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Canon Alan Griffiths (Assistant Priest)

Tel: 07760220346; Email: frgriffiths@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Deacon Bob Birtles

Tel: 023 8069 2416; Email: bbirtles@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Deacon John di Meo

Tel: 01794 515688; Email: jdimeo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Deacon Paul Owen

Tel: 023 80254806; Email: powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Deacon Paul Wilson

Tel: 02380 616618; Email: pwilson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Office

Holy Cross Church, 53 Leigh Road, Eastleigh SO50 9DF

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Office Hours: Monday-Wednesday 9.30am-5pm;

Thursday & Friday 9.30am-2.30pm

Holy Cross Resource Centre & Finance

Admin: Linda Roberts

lroberts@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Secretary: Sarah Goodfellow

stswparish@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Website

Webmaster: website.sswp@gmail.com

CHURCH ADDRESSES

St Ed **St Edward's**, 191-193, Winchester Rd, Chandlers Ford, SO53 2DU
OLQA Our Lady Queen of Apostles, Martin Street, Bishops Waltham, SO32 1DN
HC Holy Cross Church, 53, Leigh Road, Eastleigh, SO50 9DF
SSW St Swithun Wells Church, Allington Lane, Fair Oak, SO50 7DB
St A **St Andrew's**, Fleming Avenue, North, Baddesley, SO52 9EP
St J **St Joseph's Church**, Abbey House Drive, Romsey, SO51 8YB

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

St Swithun Wells Primary School 023 80266210;
St George Catholic V.A. College 023 8032 2603;
St Anne's Catholic School 023 80328200;
Charlton House 023 8067 7575;
St Mary's Independent School 023 8067 1267.