



Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ

13th NOVEMBER 2022: THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

What I Had Been Waiting For In My Life Existed!

Some weeks ago I joined members of Communion and Liberation, a catholic movement, from across the world for an audience with Pope Francis.

St Peter's square was very crowded. There were sixty thousand people! Before the thought provoking words of the Pope, some people from the movement shared their stories. One of them was Hassina Houari. Here is her testimony:

Your Holiness, The first time I went to Portofranco, a free study aid centre for students – established in Milan and now spread to 40 cities throughout Italy – I was 15 years old and needed help in English. The first thing that struck me was doing the interview alone, having to tell strangers who I was. But what put me at peace, though, was to see the picture of John Paul II hanging there, kissing an old man. I even said to myself, "How good these people are who have a picture of the Pope kissing an old man on the head!" This image relaxed me, because I was fond of the Pope who had been to Morocco, my mother's country of origin, and who was a person who represented peace to me.

After the interview, I started going to Portofranco and before long I was spending every afternoon there. I had found friends to talk to about everything and who had the same questions that I had about life.

Then one day they invited me to a vacation in the mountains. On that vacation, I realized for the first time in my life that I had not been abandoned, despite the fact that my father had left us when I was 7 years old. After a hike, Fr. Giorgio Pontiggia, who was leading the vacation, asked us, "How was the hike?" and we replied, "Beautiful!"; and he asked, "Why was it beautiful?" No one could answer.

At a certain point, Fr. Giorgio said, "Not even if you all joined together would you be able to make a single pebble out of that mountain, not even a little flower growing out of the rock... the only one who can do that is God." When he said "God" like that, I thought, "So does he really exist?" At that moment I felt my heart burst, and I said "God" with all my heart. It seemed logical to me that it was Him. As if what I had been waiting for in my life existed; He seemed so fatherly and so present! Not someone to be afraid of, judging my evil and my limitations, but Someone who had made that flower growing out of the rock for me too. I will never forget that day; it was June 2009.

Since then a journey to get to know God, that is, the Father, and to get to know myself has begun. In college, I enrolled in Languages and International Relations. I majored in English and Arabic. English was the very subject I had gone to Portofranco for; and I did not speak Arabic even though I was Arab. As a friend told me, it is really true that "when you encounter God He makes you embrace your story." As I grew up, I discovered that that little old man whom John Paul II had kissed on the forehead was Fr. Giussani.

His charism has accompanied me and is accompanying me on the journey of life. It is a great gift; although I never met him in person, he has been God's instrument in my life because he is allowing me to flourish! Thank you.

Fr Luca

GEM OF THE WEEK



This week's GEM is "Disarm the Heart" by Pope Francis - 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 16th November**, please email your messages/notices to: office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday 13th November 2022: Year C - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 1

PSALM RESPONSE: THE LORD COMES TO RULE THE PEOPLES WITH FAIRNESS.

READINGS: 1st reading Malachi 3:19-20a Psalm 97 2nd reading 2 Thessalonians 3:7-12 Gospel Luke 21:5-19

Sunday 20th November 2022: Year C - Year 2 - Psalter Week: Office Proper

PSALM RESPONSE: I REJOICED WHEN I HEARD THEM SAY: "LET US GO TO GOD'S HOUSE."

READINGS: 1st reading 2 Samuel 5:1-3 Psalm 121 2nd reading Colossians 1:12-20 Gospel Luke 23:35-43

PARISH GROUPS



Please go to our parish website (www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk) for more information on the following groups:

- Youth Groups
- Little Flowers Baby & Toddler Groups
- Ark of Fellowship (group for learning disabilities or learning difficulties)
- Communion & Liberation groups
- Afternoon Club in Romsey

Fellowship Group - Wed 16th November, 7.30pm at St Swithun Wells Church, Fair Oak. Deacon Bob will be giving a talk on 'Advent People And Places', looking at the Characters who appear only in Advent and the places our Scriptures refer to at that time. Join us at St Swithun Wells Church or by Zoom. To join us on Zoom, please contact peterbaggott@aol.com for the link.

Growing In Faith Together (GIFT) Group
Tuesdays at 10.15am to approx. 11.30am in the Holy Cross Resource Centre. All are welcome!

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

Going Deeper - a meeting for Catholics wanting to grow spiritually. **Third Saturday in the month from 10.30am to 3pm in the St Joseph's Parish Centre, 26A Abbey Water.** Contact Samantha Harris on 01794 503716 for details.

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!

OASIS Women's Group - All ladies are welcome to join us for our next meeting: **Mon 14th November at 7:30pm in St Edward the Confessor.** Our speaker who was due to give a talk has unfortunately had to postpone this to 2023. The topic will now be **Remembering our Loved Ones.** All ladies warmly welcomed!

60 Club - Meets fortnightly in Holy Cross Resource Centre from 2pm to 4pm. All are welcome!
Next Meeting: Monday 14th November.

Remembrance Sunday (13th Nov)

Sunday, 13th November is Remembrance Sunday when we commemorate the contribution of British and Commonwealth military and civilian servicemen and women in the two World Wars and since.

Holy Cross - Mass will start at 11.30am following the civil commemoration in the park.

St Joseph's - Mass will be at 11.30am following the civil commemoration in the park.

Fair Oak - We ask as many of the community of St. Swithun Wells church to come along at 11am to the Square in Fair Oak where we will join in the service and lay a wreath.

Blessing of the Graves - In November each year we remember in a special way those who have died and gone before us. One of our traditions is the Blessing of Graves in the cemeteries within our Parish.

13th November (Remembrance Sunday)

Romsey Cemetery 2pm

Woodley 2.30pm

Bishopstoke Cemetery 2pm

Eastleigh Cemetery 3pm

Fair Oak Cemetery 2pm

Ramalley Cemetery 3pm

15th November - North Baddesley 10.30am

MESSAGES



Sunday 20th November

OLQA church after Sunday Mass

Bishop's Waltham West Hoe Cemetery - 3pm

St Joseph Church Opening Times

Thursdays: 10am-6.30pm Saturdays: 10am-7pm

Fridays: 9.30am-10.30am Sundays: 10am-12 Noon

Upcoming Second Collections

19th/20th November for Missions of the Fraternity of St Charles. This second collection is to help our missionary work in seventeen countries especially the poorest ones, in Siberia & Kenya.

3rd/4th December for Christmas Flowers

Upcoming Funerals

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Effie Sargent and for her family. Effie's Funeral Service takes place at **Holy Cross on Tuesday 15th November at 2pm.**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Adeline Vivian and for her family. Adeline's Funeral Mass takes place at **Holy Cross on Friday 18th November at 2.30pm.**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Fr Robin Sanders, previous Parish Priest of St Edward the Confessor Parish, who died very recently. Fr. Robin's funeral will take place in private with his family.

MESSAGES CONTINUED

AS ONE event in Fair Oak

You may have seen the 'As One' banners around with the message 'Fill your street with friendliness'. The As One campaign has teamed up locally with Fair Oak & Horton Heath Parish Council, Fair Oak Family Church, St Swithun Wells RC Church and King's School for an event in Fair Oak. The As One 'brunch' event will happen at **10.30am-12 Noon on Sat 12th Nov in the main hall at King's School, Allington Lane, Fair Oak**. Bacon rolls, tea and coffee and more - absolutely free. Everyone is invited.

Cultural Friday - 18th Nov, 7pm at St Edward

We will be watching the film 'The Mule' directed by Clint Eastwood (film rated 15yrs and older). Clint Eastwood stars as Earl Stone, a man who is ninety years old, broke, alone, and facing foreclosure of his business when he is offered a job that simply requires him to drive...

An amazing film about change, forgiveness and redemption at any stage of your life.

7pm - Cheese and wine (suggested donation £1),
7.30pm - Film starts.

The CL Portsmouth Diocese day, where CL communities from the diocese come together for half a day of sharing, fun and prayer, will take place on **Sunday 20th November at St Edward's**. We will meet at 12:30pm and have lunch, songs and games, a conversation for adults with a children's programme running at the same time, and finishing with Holy Mass. If you want to join, please email: portsmouthdiocesecl@gmail.com and we will send you details to register.

Parish Advent Retreat

We will hold a Parish Retreat for Advent on **Sunday 27th November, 2.30pm-4.30pm at St Edward**. Open to everyone. There will be a talk about Advent, some time for private prayer in the church and a time for questions and sharing thoughts.

Looking At Revelation In Advent: An Ecumenical Course From Christians Together in Bishop's Waltham - A series of talks given by the Clergy and Ministers of the Churches in Bishop's Waltham. **Beginning Wed 30th November at 7.30pm in OLQA**. Fr Bruce will talk about 'Who is Jesus Now? Who will bring peace? How will it all End? For more information please see the poster on church noticeboards.

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

Tuesday: 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)

Christmas Lunch at the Hunters Inn, Romsey

Tuesday 13th December at 12.30pm

Menus are on church noticeboards. All are Welcome! Please let Rosemary (01794 522411) know your choice of main course and dessert before Monday 5th December as we have to pre-order.

Parish Pilgrimage to Walsingham 2023

We are planning a pilgrimage to Walsingham from **Friday 30th June to Sunday 2nd July 2023**.

Cost: £250 per person, Full Board (pilgrimage accommodation at Dowry House & Elmham House, transport and food)

Number of places: 50 maximum

There will be a meeting to explain the programme and to answer all of your questions on Friday 2nd December, 7pm in St Edward. If you would like to go on the pilgrimage please go to our website and complete a form and answer a few questions. The deadline for payment is the end of December.

St Edward's Repository

We have a large collection of beautiful cards at very reasonable prices, including Mass cards, Baptism, Wedding anniversary, Ordination etc. At present there are also Advent calendars and sets of nativity figures available. The repository is open before and after Masses at 6.30pm on Saturdays and 9am on Sundays.

Christmas Cards - Please support the Knights of St Columba in the parish by purchasing their Christmas cards, expected to be available at Masses on 19th/20th Nov and 26th/27th Nov. Profits will be donated to the parish, school and charities supported by the Knights. Packs of 10 for £3.50, half of the amount that you might spend on the stamps. Cash only please.

St Swithun Wells Parish Online Giving

If you would like to give directly online please use your phone to scan in this QR code which will take you to our online giving page.



Car Parking Spaces for Business Users at Holy Cross Church Eastleigh

The Car Park at Holy Cross has some spaces available for weekly parking. The fee is £90.00 per month for parking from Monday to Friday. If you, your family, friends, or colleagues would be interested please phone the parish office on 02380 273882 or email accounts@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

CAFOD World Gifts - You can buy CAFOD's World Gifts for family and friends this Christmas online at <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/> or pick up a catalogue in church.

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
Fridays: Fr Raffaele, 10.30am-11.30am, Romsey Parish Office (26 Abbey Water), Romsey
Saturdays: **Fr Marco is not available on Sat 19th Nov** 9.30am-12.30pm, Romsey Parish Office (26 Abbey Water), Romsey

MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 12th Nov <i>Morning Mass: St Josaphat</i>	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross St Swithun Wells OLOA St Joseph St Edward	Florence Bohan FM Helen Sanders (Thanksgiving) Tony Armshaw RIP Anniversary Rosemary Oxby RIP Anniversary
Sun 13th Nov <i>Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am <u>11.30am</u> <u>11.30am</u>	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLOA (also live streamed) <u>Holy Cross (also live streamed)</u> <u>St Joseph</u>	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> People of the Parish Margaret Martindale RIP <u>Angela Trakas RIP</u> <u>Jane Palmer RIP</u>
Mon 14th Nov	9.30am	Holy Cross	Cowling & Tierney Families RIP FM Mr Pappachan RIP
Tues 15th Nov	10.00am <u>2.00pm</u> 6.00pm	St Andrew <u>Holy Cross</u> St Edward	<u>Funeral Service: Effie Sargent RIP</u> Danny Connolly RIP
Wed 16th <i>St Edmund of Abingdon</i>	9.30am 9.30am 10.00am	Holy Cross OLOA St Edward	Philip Reavey RIP Angie Cagampang (Thanksgiving)
Thurs 17th	9.30am 12 Noon 6.00pm	Holy Cross OLOA St Joseph	Mr Hero Roy Mary Heenan RIP
Fri 18th	9.30am 10.00am 10.00am <u>2.30pm</u>	OLOA St Joseph St Edward <u>Holy Cross</u>	Margaret Martindale RIP Constance Brixey FM <u>Funeral Mass: Adeline Vivian RIP</u>
Sat 19th Nov	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross St Swithun Wells OLOA St Joseph St Edward	Phyllis & Emmanuel Altman RIP Nan Doing RIP People of the Parish
Sunday 20th Nov <i>Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe</i>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLOA (also live streamed) Holy Cross (also live streamed) St Joseph	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Angela Thompson RIP Birthday Anniversary Denis Keefe RIP Anniversary Lesley Cummins & Deceased Family Members RIP Nigel Tait RIP

CLERGY & PARISH OFFICE

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

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Deacon Paul Wilson
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Deacon Andrew Lee
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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)