



*Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ*

**15TH NOVEMBER 2020: THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

## The talents given to us

The parable that this Sunday's Gospel presents to us can be divided into two parts: the gesture of the master to entrust a certain sum of money to his servants, and the final account. Between the assignment and the account, a 'long time' passes.

The final account highlights the opposite behaviour of the first two servants and the third respectively: fidelity, industriousness and commitment on the one hand; wickedness and laziness on the other. The final decision of the master is clear. The first two are told, 'come and join in your master's happiness'; but the third, 'throw him out into the dark'.

What does Jesus mean? What does he want to teach us with this story?

Let's start with the gesture that is at the origin of the whole story, 'A man ... entrusted his property to them'. Even at the beginning of our life there is a gift. Each of us has been given life. Each of us is like 'capital' that can be put to good use. What is this 'capital' made of? It is the riches of our humanity. It is the richness of our intelligence; it is the richness of our capacity to love; it is the richness of our ability to work. We as Christians have been enriched in an infinitely superior way: the very life of God has been given to us. Each of us has a choice as to how we live our life: either as the first two servants who enhance the capital received or as the third servant who does not put anything to good use.

Let's try to apply this to the riches we are endowed with.

The talent of our intelligence. We put it to good use when we want to fully understand the meaning of our life; we bury it when we enslave ourselves to the opinion of the majority and we consider it of little interest to know how 'things really are'.

The talent of our ability to love. We put it to good use when we try to fulfil ourselves through the sincere gift of ourselves to others; we bury it when we confuse love and pleasure and reduce ourselves to being carried away by emotions and passions.

The sublime treasure of our life in Christ. It is Saint Paul who in the second reading teaches us how to put our life in Christ to good use. We have to stay awake and sober because we are all children of light and children of the day.

In making the precious capital of his humanity bear fruit, man is not alone. Christ gives him his own Spirit. It is the Holy Spirit who regenerates our humanity, who makes it bear fruit in every good work. The Holy Spirit that is given to us is the light that wants to keep our intelligence awake; it is strength that makes our will strong; He is, in a word, the One who gives true freedom. That is, the Holy Spirit gives us the ability to act and live according to conscious choices, moved by true convictions, and not by blind impulses or external forces or like sheep in the flock of the majority. Thanks to the Holy Spirit we can live a true and full life.

*Fr Marco*

## **GEM OF THE WEEK**



This week's GEM is "A Crisis is a Crossroads" by Cardinal Vincent Nichols - you can find this on our homepage. If anyone has suggestions for GEMs please contact [website.sswp@gmail.com](mailto:website.sswp@gmail.com)

Newsletter items should be received into the Parish Office by **Wednesday 9:30am**

## LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday 15th November 2020: Year A - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 1

PSALM RESPONSE: O BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO FEAR THE LORD.

1<sup>st</sup> reading: Proverbs 31:10-13. 19-20. 30-31 Psalm: 127 2<sup>nd</sup> reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

READINGS FOR SUNDAY 22ND NOVEMBER:

1<sup>st</sup> reading: Ezekiel 34:11-12 Psalm: 22 2<sup>nd</sup> reading: 1 Corinthians 15:20-26. 28 Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

## PARISH GROUPS



The following groups are continuing to meet through ZOOM:

- Stars of Abraham: weekly on Saturdays at 4pm
- Grail Seekers: weekly on Saturdays at 2pm
- Student Youth: weekly on Fridays at 8pm
- Communion & Liberation Group with Fr Luca: weekly on Wednesday at 8pm
- Communion & Liberation Group with Fr Raffaele: weekly on Thursday 8pm

The above 5 groups are meeting through Zoom please follow these instructions:

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 numbers:

0203 051 2874

0203 481 5237

Follow the instructions when asked enter the Meeting ID: 694 224 1055

Fellowship by Zoom

Wednesday 18th November at 7.30pm

Matteo (our Seminarian) will be talking to us about his faith journey. If you would like to join us please email [bbirtles@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:bbirtles@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) for the Zoom link.

Candlelight Prayer by Zoom

Monday 16th November, 7.30pm - 8.15pm

Like to attend for the first time? Email Marion for the link, [marionbirtles@gmail.com](mailto:marionbirtles@gmail.com) (it is easy - happy to explain how Zoom works if you email us).

Sacramental Preparation for Adults (RCIA)

If you would like to be baptised, confirmed or received into the Catholic Church please speak to a priest or email Deacon Paul Owen at [powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).

## MESSAGES



Carols by Zoom!

Sunday 13th December at 4.30pm

As congregational singing is not allowed at the moment we have had an idea! We shall have our "Advent to Christmas Carol Service" on Zoom. As far as the Christmas Carols go, there will be piano/organ music, everybody will be 'muted' so you can sing along to the carols at home, on your own, or in your family or "bubble" or just listen to both the music and readings if you prefer! We shall send the Zoom link nearer the time - email Marion if you would like to join us, [marionbirtles@gmail.com](mailto:marionbirtles@gmail.com)

Online Christmas Market - the Sisters from St Elisabeth Convent (Minsk, Belarus) are unable to be with us in person this year so have launched an Online Christmas Market to enable people to purchase Christmas presents/souvenirs made with love and continuous prayer. Each item purchased is a donation towards one of the Convent's ministries. Go to <https://catalog.obitel-minsk.com/christmas-market>

Day of Prayer & Fasting to End the COVID Crisis

Bishop Philip has called a Day of Prayer and Fasting for a Speedy End to the Pandemic - "24 Hours with the Lord" - on Friday 27th November 2020. He is inviting everyone across the Diocese, clergy, religious and laity, to join in. There will be a twenty-four hour long programme of Mass, prayer, Rosary and Eucharistic Adoration live-streamed from the Cathedral. Please join in as much as you can.

Help Feed the Hungry (Poitiers) - Any donations gratefully received. Please make your cheque payable to: POITIERS CARE and send to St Joseph's Centre, 8 Lyndhurst Road, Ashurst, SO40 7DU. If you require acknowledgment please include a note with your cheque.

A reminder for parishioners and visitors to St Joseph's Church - please do not park on Convent property even for short visits to the church. Thank you.

## MESSAGES CONTINUED



### Streamlining Parish Giving

#### Message from Fr Raffaele:

The parish needs to streamline the ways of giving, in order to match the needs of these Covid times, and to help the volunteers who handle all the tasks associated with parish giving - the envelopes, counting, claiming Gift Aid, etc.

I want to re-emphasise Standing Orders and, particularly, Direct Debits as being very efficient ways to give, requiring minimal admin by the parish. I especially wish to thank those who have changed from Planned Giving Envelopes to Standing Orders and Direct Debits this year. It has made a big difference to parish finances, and to the volunteers' jobs.

Planned Giving Envelopes need now to be ordered for the 2021-2022 financial year. I ask any parishioner who wants a new box of envelopes to let their Gift Aid Organiser know, within the next 2 weeks.

This may be the last year for Planned Giving envelopes in the parish. The tasks of organising, purchasing, supplying, counting, and recording all envelopes are well out of proportion to other means of giving. Accordingly, please consider moving away from envelopes now, rather than waiting. Your Gift Aid Organiser would be pleased to take you through the necessary steps for a new Standing Order or Direct Debit. Some parishioners will wish to donate cash in a plain envelope, and that's perfectly ok.

If you want to read more, please look here: <https://www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk/donate>

If you go to the end of that page you can download a comprehensive document about giving.

Your Planned Giving and Gift Aid Organisers are:

**St Joseph & St Andrew**     **David Martin**  
01794 511883; 2dmartin@gmail.com

**St Edward**     **Mike Greenslade**  
02380 262870; mikey5@ntlworld.com  
**Ian Fearon**  
02380 265248; fearon\_ian@hotmail.com

**Holy Cross, OLQA & St Swithun Wells**     **Pat Baggott**  
02380 694060; baggott.pm@gmail.com

### 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.

## ONLINE MASS, PRIVATE PRAYER & CONFESSION



### During Lockdown there will be no Public Masses

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.

### Our Lady Queen of Apostles, Bishop's Waltham

You will be able to follow Fr Bruce celebrating Mass via Zoom on:

Thursdays at 12.00 Midday

Sundays at 9.30am

To connect via Zoom, the login details are 655.161 0661, password 016150.

Please remember when connecting via Zoom to mute your microphone at the start, otherwise it interferes with the audio from the Mass.

### 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.

### Times the Churches are open for Private Prayer

(during those times a Priest will be available for Confession)

#### **St Edward the Confessor, Chandlers Ford:**

Tuesday     6.00pm-7.30pm  
Wednesday     10.30am-12.00 Midday  
Friday     10.30am-12.00 Midday  
Sunday     11.00am-12.30pm

#### **Holy Cross, Eastleigh:**

Wednesday     10.00am-12.00 Midday  
Thursday     10.00am-12.00 Midday  
Saturday     10.00am-12.00 Midday  
Sunday     11.00am-12.30pm

#### **St Andrew, North Baddesley:**

Tuesday     10.30am-12.00 Midday  
Sunday     11.00am-12.30pm

#### **St Joseph, Romsey:**

Thursday     5.00pm-6.30pm  
Friday     10.30am-12 Midday  
Saturday     5.30pm-7.00pm  
Sunday     11.00am-12.30pm

#### **St Swithun Wells, Fair Oak:**

Saturday     5.00pm-6.00pm

## MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 14th Nov	9.30am	Holy Cross - Live Stream	Cowling & Tierney Families FM Mary Quinn (Special Intention) John Foster RIP
Sun 15th Nov	9.30am	OLQA - Via Zoom	
<i>Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	10.00am	Holy Cross - Live Stream	Gill Williams RIP Tony Armshaw RIP Anniversary Zsuzsanna Pigniczki (Wellbeing)
Mon 16th Nov <i>St Edmund of Abingdon</i>	9.30am	Holy Cross - Live Stream	Deceased Gibbons Family Members RIP
Tues 17th Nov	9.30am	Holy Cross - Live Stream	Mark O'Donnell RIP
Wed 18th Nov	9.30am	Holy Cross - Live Stream	Constance Brixey FM Teresa Layzell (Special Intention)
Thurs 19th Nov	9.30am	Holy Cross - Live Stream	Pat Daniels RIP Intentions of Teresa Layzell
	12.00pm	OLQA - Via Zoom	
Fri 20th Nov	9.30am	Holy Cross - Live Stream	Maureen Carolan RIP
Sat 21st Nov <i>The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	9.30am	Holy Cross - Live Stream	Joseph Fonseca RIP The good estate of John Connolly Edward Rayment RIP Anniversary
Sun 22nd Nov	9.30am	OLQA - Via Zoom	
<i>Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe</i>	10.00am	Holy Cross - Live Stream	Harold Butcher RIP Patrick Burke FM Rosemary Oxby RIP

### CLERGY

**Father Raffaele Cossa (Parish Priest)**  
Tel: 023 8061 2430; E: rcosa@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

**Fr Bruce Barnes (Assistant Priest)**  
Tel: 01489 890947 (OLQA Office)

**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:

Monday-Wednesday: 9.30am-5.30pm (closed for an hour over lunchtime on Monday & Tuesday)

Thursday-Friday: 9.30am-2.30pm

**Holy Cross Resource Centre & Finance**

**Admin: Linda Roberts** (works full day Mon-Wed, half day Thursday but working from home)  
lroberts@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Parish Secretary: Sarah Goodfellow** (works Wed-Fri from 9.30am-2.30pm)  
stswparish@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Website Contact:** website.sswp@gmail.com