

Our Mission: LOVE GOD - LOVE OTHERS - MAKE DISCIPLES
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www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Registered Charity No. 246871

Sunday Cycle: Year B
Weekday Cycle: Year 2
Psalter Week: 3

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Love of God and our neighbour

In today's gospel Jesus speaks about love. He says that the two most important commandments are: to love the Lord and to love others. And in another gospel Jesus says: "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another". The world will recognize the disciples of Jesus by the way they love one another. So the love for others is one of the most important teachings of Jesus. Love, in other words, is the Christian's identity card, the only valid "document" identifying us as Christians. If this card expires and is not constantly renewed, we stop being witnesses of Christ.

But how is this love? How can we describe it? What are the characteristics of Christian love?

1. Love is real.

The true friends of Jesus stand out essentially by love put in practise, not just some romantic and emotional love. It is a concrete love that appears in their way of life. Love is always shown in real actions. Those who are not real and concrete and who speak about love are like characters in a soap opera, some fake love story.

Let us learn from Jesus, from his actions and miracles, always full of compassion.

2. Love is not possessive

Jesus teaches us how to make tenderness and affection more beautiful. He guides our hearts to "love without being possessive", to love others without trying to own them but letting them be free. Because love is free! There is no true love that is not free! There is always a temptation to let our affections be spoilt by an instinctive desire to possess what we find pleasing; this is selfishness. Our consumerist culture reinforces this tendency. Yet when we grab something too tightly, it fades, it dies, and then we feel confused, empty inside. The Lord, if we listen to his voice, will reveal to us the secret of love. It is caring for others, respecting them, protecting them and waiting for them.

How can we grow in love? The secret, once again, is the Lord: Jesus gives us himself in the Mass, he offers us forgiveness and peace in Confession. Throughout life we will fall many times, because we are sinners, we are weak; we make a lot of mistakes.

But, through confession, there is always the hand of God who picks us up. Jesus wants us to be up on our feet! There is a good phrase that goes like this: "In climbing, the important thing is not to not fall, but to not remain fallen". God wants us up on our feet.

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

Entrance Antiphon:

Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me!
Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong
salvation!

Psalm Response:

I love you, Lord, my strength.

Bamenda Sunday Special Collection This Weekend

Please remember our brothers and sisters in your prayers this weekend and be as generous as you can in your donation for the projects we support in our troubled twinned diocese in Cameroon. For an update please see your copy of the Bamenda Newsletter or visit our website www.bamendaandportsmouth.com.

**Readings for next Sunday 11th November 2018
Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Gospel: Mark 12: 38-44
1st reading: 1 Kings 17:10-16
Psalm: 145
2nd reading: Hebrews 9:24-28

**Annual Informal Service (OLQA Hosting)
Sunday 4th November 2018**

We are holding our Annual Informal Service at Bishop's Waltham House, Free Street, Bishop's Waltham. This consists of Hymns, Prayers and Readings. The service starts at 5.45pm and lasts for approximately half an hour. We meet outside about 5.30pm. Please bring a couple of hymn books with you. If you would like any more information or would like to read something please contact Angela Fairweather at 01489 895968 or e mail afairweather@postmaster.co.uk thank you Angela Fairweather.

Growing in Faith Together (GIFT) Group

Tuesdays (10-11.30am), Holy Cross Resource Centre. Any queries please contact Deacon Paul Wilson on 02380 616618; pwilson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

Journey in Faith - Wednesdays at St Edward's

Is for anyone enquiring about the Catholic faith and for people intending to become a Catholic. The sessions run **every Wednesday** from 7.30pm to 9pm. For further information please contact: Deacon Paul Owen (tel: 02380 254806) email: powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Remembrance of Parishioners who have died in the past year

The Remembrance will take place during weekend Masses at :
St Andrew's & St Joseph on **3rd & 4th November**;
Holy Cross, St Swithun Wells & St Edwards on **24th & 25th November**.

Blessing of 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. Details for this year are:

Sunday 4th November

Botley & Woodley Cemeteries - 2pm
Bishopstoke Cemetery - 2pm
Easteigh (Brookwood) Cemetery - 3pm
Fair Oak Cemetery - 3pm
Ramalley Cemetery - 3pm

Tuesday 6th November

North Baddesley St John's Churchyard— after the 10am Mass at St Andrew's.

St Charles Borromeo Feast Day

This Sunday (4th Nov) is St Charles Borromeo Feast Day. We would like to remember and pray for the Fraternity of St Charles which Father Raffaele, Father Luca and Dennis are part of. After Mass, if you wish, you can take home a leaflet detailing the historic background of the Fraternity.

Service to mark the Centenary of the End of the First World War - Wednesday 7th November

7.30pm in St. Swithun Wells Church, Fair Oak. We will remember those who died in that terrible conflict and those who have died in other conflicts since. We will pray for peace in our troubled world. This Service is for the whole Parish and everyone is very welcome.

Remembrance Sunday (11th November)**Change of Mass Times****St Joseph's**

Mass will be at **11.30am** following the commemoration in the park.

Holy Cross

Mass will start later at **11.30am**.

Wreath Laying, Fair Oak

Once again, St Swithun Wells Church will be laying a wreath at the War Memorial in Fair Oak Square during the 11am Service. It would be lovely to see many of our community at this service.

First Holy Communion Program 2018-19

The application process for our preparation program is now closed, and all spaces have been filled, hence we are unable to consider further applications. If you submitted your application before the deadline, you should have received an email from us confirming your child's place and informing you of the dates and details of the first meeting in the program.

If you have not received an email from us please contact the Parish Office to check whether we have the right email address for you. as all communication regarding the program will be sent to you via email.

Parish Altar Servers Day**Saturday 1st December, 10am to 3:30pm, OLQA**

All altar servers from all of our churches are invited to spend the day together: games, chatting, lunch and songs.

Invitations will be handed out this weekend. If you have any questions or would like more info please email: altarservers.sswp@gmail.com.

CaFE - Catholic Faith Exploration

Are meeting in November on the following dates:

Monday 5th November at 2.30pm in St Joseph's;
Tuesday 13th November at 7.30pm in St Andrew's.

Please contact Sheila Keefe on 01794 518071 or
s.keefe@btopenworld.com

St Swithun Wells Catholic Primary School

Welcomes you! We would like to invite parents, whose children are due to start school in September 2019, to visit and find out why our recent Ofsted inspection recognised that the school is built on " a clear set of values based on a strong Catholic ethos, enabling children to achieve well and to be the best they can be." There will be an open event on **Wed 7th Nov**, 9.30am -11am. (Open Morning with tours led by our Year 6 children). Parents are also invited to an **Information Evening on Wed 7th Nov 7-8.30pm** where parents can hear about the school's success from current parents, children and staff. The application process will be explained. If you who would like to visit the school please contact the School Office: Tel: 02380266210; Email: adminoffice@st-swithunwells.hants.sch.uk

St Mary's Independent School, Year R Open Week

St. Mary's is holding an open week for children who are planning on starting Year R in September 2019. Tours start at 9:30am every morning between **Monday 19th - 23rd November**. To book a tour please email: prep@stmiss.co.uk.

"Teaching in the early years is among the strongest in the school. Children flourish in their development and settle down to well-established routines from an early age." Ofsted 2018

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Wed 15th-22nd May 2019

In the footsteps of Jesus, visiting the Holy Sites in Jerusalem, Nazareth, the Dead Sea and more.
Only 50 places.

Cost: £1,360pp. Flights from Heathrow.

Deposit: £250pp.

Led by Canons John O'Shea & Michael Dennehy.
Apply to St James, Reading on 0118 957 4171 or email stjames@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

A trip of a lifetime - experience the land of the Old Testament and that of Jesus and his disciples.

Applications to be in ASAP. There will be an info evening on **Friday 16th November** at 7.30pm at St James, Abbey Ruins, Forbury Rd, Reading, RG1 3FD.

Parish Office Closures in November

The Office will be closed on Friday 9th November.

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.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE WITH THANKS

Last week's collections: £TBC; SO/SD for October '18: £TBC

Oasis - Parish Women's Group: Tues 13th Nov

7.30pm-9pm, St Edward's Cloister.

Women In Prison: We welcome Kate who works for the charity 'Women in Prison'. We'll discuss what circumstance cause so many women to be in prison, the impact this has on their families, and how we might respond. *All ladies warmly welcomed.*

Future Dates: 11th Dec; 15th Jan.

Youth Groups at Holy Cross Resource Centre

All young people from school year 4 up to and including 6th Form are welcome to come and join us once a month on Sunday evenings. We will be running age specific activities using different rooms at **Holy Cross Resource Centre 7pm-8.30pm**. For more info please contact: Marianne Wanstall on 07771 704600 [Inspire - school yrs 4-9];

Cath Szymanski on 07846 438224 [TOZ - school yrs 10, 11 & Sixth Form College]

Upcoming dates: 18th Nov; 9th Dec; 13th Jan; 10th Feb; 17th Mar.

Chandler's Ford Autumn Ecumenical Quizzes...brains required for charity!

Our usual quiz for **Christian Aid** at St Martin-in-the-Wood is on **10th November** at 7.30pm - tickets £8 (available from Paul Carmody), to include food but please bring your own drinks;

A new quiz for **Tear Fund** (a 50th Anniversary National Quiz) at Velmore Community Centre on **17th November** from 7-9pm - tickets £5 direct from Velmore Church, info@velmore.org or 02380 261139). See poster on Noticeboards.

[E: carmody16@btinternet.com or T: 02380 615373]

Christmas at Sea - Hearing and Doing the Word of God (Saturday 24th November)

10am to 3pm, St Peter's, Winchester, SO23 8RY.

It is a joint event with CARITAS. There will be a Bible study on the Incarnation in the morning, and in the afternoon, an opportunity to get together and wrap Christmas presents for the many seafarers who will be spending Christmas far from home and family, in hard conditions. This event is open to everyone in the diocese, as a preparation for Advent, spending a day to turn our attention to God who speaks to us in his Word and to our neighbours who could do with a simple gesture of love. If you wish to attend please book at <http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/sea>.

Thanksgiving Mass for the Canonisation of Archbishop Oscar Romero - Sat 24th November

Portsmouth Cathedral, 2pm; to be celebrated by Bishop Philip Egan. Mass will be followed by a keynote address in the Discovery Centre about the life and works of St Oscar Romero and provides an opportunity for us to thank God for the life and example of Saint Oscar Romero, who was canonised on Sunday 14th Oct '18 in Rome. St Romero is known as a modern saint who stood up for the oppressed and is still seen as a voice for the voice less. Please contact Mugeni Sumba for more information on 07843 514376 or by email on m.sumba@oaklandscatholicschool.org.

Mass Times for our Six Church Communities

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION	DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 3rd Nov Vigil Masses	5.00pm	St Sw	Sepala Family (Special Intention)	Thurs 8th	9.30am	HC	Paul Freeman FM
	6.00pm	St J	Sr Kathleen Huges RIP		10.00am	OLQA	
	6.00pm	OLQA			6.00pm	St J	
	6.30pm	St Ed					
Sun 4th 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta	Fri 9th	10.00am	St Ed	
	9.00am	St Ed	Mrs Edward Christian FM		10.00am	St J (AH)	
	9.00am	St A	Patricia Roydan RIP Anniversary				
	9.30am	OLQA					
	11.00am	St J					
	11.00am	HC	Beatrice & George White, Laura, David & Eduardo Fernandes FM				
Mon 5th	10.00am	St Ed		Sat 10th	9.30am	HC	Bill Reynolds FM
Tues 6th	9.30am	HC		Sat 10th Vigil Masses	5.00pm	St Sw	Joe & Lydia Fonseca RIP
	10.00am	St A			6.00pm	St J	Sr Kathleen Huges RIP (Anniversary)
	10.00am	OLQA			6.00pm	OLQA	
					6.30pm	St Ed	Rosemary Oxby RIP
Wed 7th	9.30am	HC		Sun 11th Nov 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta
	10.00am	St Ed			9.00am	St Ed	
	<u>11.00am</u>	<u>St Ed</u>	<u>Funeral Mass: Frances (Peggy) Rice RIP</u>		9.00am	St A	
					9.30am	OLQA	
					<u>Remembrance Sunday</u>	<u>11.30am</u>	<u>St J</u>
				<u>11.30am</u>	<u>HC</u>		

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesday HC Adoration 1st Tuesday of the month 10.00-1.00pm
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 9.30am Wednesday The Holy Rosary
St Joseph 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

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, 53, Leigh Road, Eastleigh. SO50 9DF
 St Sw St Swithun Wells, 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

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