

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 C
Weekday Cycle: Year 1
Psalter Week: 1

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

During this final Lenten Sunday before Palm Sunday Jesus looks at the woman caught in adultery. Her sins are obvious, undeniable. But with the famous answer: "Neither do I condemn you", Jesus forgives her and at the same time encourages her to change her life: "Go away, and do not sin any more".

This Gospel shows us in a bright way the beauty of the forgiveness of God and allows us to reflect on the Sacrament of Confession. As we know during Lent the Church invites us to go to confession and to reconcile us with God for Easter. The connection between Confession and Easter is evident: it is because of the death of Christ that we are forgiven, he took on himself all the sins of the world and paid for them.

The Sacrament of Confession is therefore the gift of Good Friday and we have to seriously think about going to confession.

In our parish we will have three Penitential services over the next week:

Thurs 11th April 7.30pm - Our Lady Queen of Apostles, Bishop's Waltham
Friday 12th April 7.30pm - St Andrew's, North Baddesley
Saturday 13th April 11am - Holy Cross, Eastleigh

As we know this sacrament is not very popular. I notice that the line to receive the Eucharist on Sunday is very long, but the line for confessions every week is almost non-existent. Why is this? Perhaps it maybe some people don't have a good memory of their past confessions and they think that the priest will judge them.

We have to rediscover the beauty of this sacrament. I would say that there are three good reasons to confess:

1. The sacrament is a real encounter with Jesus Christ. Many times we say that we would like to meet Jesus personally and that the people who met him in the Gospel were very lucky. Actually during Confession we can have the same experience of them. We are like the woman of this Sunday, like Peter, Matthew, Magdalene and many others who experienced the merciful presence of Jesus.
2. In our life we need to develop an attitude of openness with God. It is actually a desire that we have. We would like to have the possibility to open our life to other people and to God. Modern psychology says there is a benefit in expressing our sins and mistakes. The sacrament fulfils this desire because through the priest it is God who listens to us.
3. The forgiveness that we receive is for us the opportunity to restart our life. And the sacrament gives us the grace, the force to try again. Maybe not everything will change after one confession, but we are in a fresh position, ready to start again our battle.

Let us really consider seriously the possibility of confession during the Penitential Services. One of the greatest joys of my ministry is when someone comes to confession and says: "Father it is twenty years since my last confession".

Fr Raffaele Cossa

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

7th April 2019:

Entrance Antiphon:

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

Psalm Response: What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad..

**Readings for next Sunday 14th April 2019
Palm Sunday**

Gospel: Luke 22:14-23:56

1st reading: Isaiah 50:4-7

Psalm: 21

2nd reading: Philippians 2:6-11

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.** This coming Tuesday (9th April) we will focus on Palm Sunday Reflection.

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, Wednesday 10th April

Lenten Supper 7pm - Homemade soups and Bread and cheese followed at 7.45pm by Lenten Study Course "The Mystery of God". Everyone most welcome.

Week 5 - "The Mystery of Love and Sacrifice."

Queries to Peter Baggott or Deacon Bob Birtles.

Please note - There will be no meeting on 17th April during Holy Week. Meetings will resume after Easter.

Date TBA.

Youth Groups - Inspire and TOZ

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: 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: 28th April.

Knit & Natter - St Edward's, Mon 8th April, 2-4pm

Refreshments available and everyone most welcome!

Any queries please contact Maureen Stephenson on 02380 252104.

Knit for Peace - St Andrew's, Wed 10th Apr, 2-4pm

Donations of mens clothes and shoes for Two Saints welcome. Please contact Anne Harcourt on 02380 734710 with any queries.

Prayer Group (Fryern) - Monday 15th April, 2-3pm

Our next meeting will at the home of Sheila and Pauline O'Neill ,19 Carthage Close, Chandlers Ford, SO53 2BL. All are welcome.

Theme: The Way of The Cross.

Parish Groups Continued

60 Club - Will next meet on **Monday 8th April** at 2pm in the Holy Cross Resource Centre. Upcoming Dates: 29th April. Maureen (tel: 80692682).

Offerings & Collections

Second Collections

There will be a second collection next weekend (13th/14th April) for Easter flowers. Thank you in advance for your generous support in helping to make our churches beautiful with the floral arrangements. There will also be a second collection for Holy Places at all the Liturgies on Good Friday (19th April).

Easter Offerings 20th/21st April 2019

Traditionally, your Offering at Easter is for the personal use of the priests and in our diocese forms a major part of their annual income. Please be generous.

St Swithun Wells Parish Acknowledges with thanks

Last week's collections: £1,368.40

SO/DD for March'19: £12,774.09

Changes to Mass & Office Closure

There will be **no Mass** at:

St Edward's on Monday 22nd April.

Holy Cross on Tues 23rd, Wed 24th & Thurs 25th April.

The **Parish Office will be closed** from 22nd April and re-opens on Monday 29th April. There will be no Parish Newsletter produced for the weekend of 27th/28th April.

Parish Events

Welcome Bishop Philip

Please take the opportunity to meet with Bishop Philip at one of the Masses as previously advertised.

On Sunday 7th, the Bishop will be meeting with TOZ and young people from 13 up to 25 years old in the Resource Centre, Eastleigh from 3.30-4.15pm.

The visitation will finish with Eucharistic Adoration for all parishioners in Holy Cross from 4.30-5.30pm.

Stations of the Cross are being said during Lent at:

St Andrew's: Tuesdays at 9.15am (except during Holy Week);

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).

Parish Events Continued

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.

Cinema at Holy Cross - 14th April

The next film showing at Holy Cross Resource Centre will be **Gran Torino** (Cert. 15) on **Palm Sunday, 14th April**, at 7:00pm. This film's topic will help us to begin the Holy Week better. See posters on church notice boards for more info.

Father Wojciech's Celebration - Sunday 2nd June

Please remember to return your reply slips - closing dates for replies will be the weekend of April 13th & 14th.

School Notices

Message from St Swithun Wells Primary School

Outstanding judgement for our Parish Primary School - St Swithun Wells Catholic Primary School has recently been awarded the highest grade of "outstanding" for their recent RE Inspection. The Inspectors commented that "Pupils are outstanding ambassadors for the school and speak about their school with pride. One commented, 'Our school is all one family of Christ which is joyful and happy!'" Their outstanding behaviour and attitudes are underpinned by their knowledge and living out of the school's mission statement. The outstanding spiritual life of the school is very much at its heart. Pupils are provided with a wide range of spiritual opportunities which they value and embrace with enthusiasm. Older pupils are excellent role models to the younger children." Congratulations and well done to the children, staff, governors and parents.

Messages

Knights of St Columba (Celebrating 100 yrs in UK)

A celebratory Mass is arranged at Westminster Cathedral for **Saturday 6th July**. A coach will take Knights and friends to the Mass, and we currently have about 10 spare seats which we offer free to any parishioners. Departs C/Ford at 10:30am and leaves London at 6pm. The Mass is at 2pm. Please contact: Anthony Bradley on 023 8026 6818.

Divine Mercy Sunday - Holy Cross, 28th April, starting at 2.45pm.

Refreshments will be available afterwards in the Resource Centre. For more information please contact Roz on 07752 639593. Confessions will be available.

Prayer Link: The new Spring 2019 edition is available in all of our churches. **Marion** (02380 692416) marionbirtles@gmail.com

Messages Continued

Upcoming Marriage at St Edward's

The marriage of Holly Elizabeth Willmott to Paul Roger Goodenough will be taking place on **Saturday 13th April at 12:30 pm**. Friends and parishioners are very welcome to join us at St Edward's on this happy occasion.

Message of Thanks

Colin and Roz Pritchard would like to thank friends and parish family for all their best wishes, cards, flowers and presents and Father Luca for making their 50th Wedding Anniversary so special.

CAFOD Cyclone Idai Appeal

You will have seen on the news that Cyclone Idai has killed hundreds of people and affected an estimated 2.6 million people. CAFOD are already working around the clock in the most affected areas. We have also joined with the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) to launch an appeal. To provide hope to those most affected please donate online at Cafod.org.uk/cycloneidai or call on 0808 585 8885. If you have already given to our Lent appeal and are unable to donate to this emergency, please know that we truly appreciate your support. Please keep our partners and affected communities in your prayers. Thank you.

Elizabeth Bevan

Sadly Elizabeth Bevan died earlier this week, she was known to many parishioners at St Edward's. Details of her funeral will be posted after Easter.

Cathedral Chrism Mass Mini Buses (16th April)

For those booked on the:

Holy Cross mini bus please meet outside the front of the Church at 9.00am.

St Edward's mini bus please meet outside the front of St Edward's church at 9.00am.

Please arrive before the time specified as the buses will be leaving on time. We cannot wait for late comers.

Bishop Philip's FREE weekly e-Newsletter

Keep in touch with the latest news and forthcoming events around the diocese. Visit www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/enews to sign up.

Other Events

Eastleigh Street Pastors Annual General Meeting

takes place on Wednesday 10th April, 7.30pm at Junction Church. Please come and hear about our work - all welcome.

Passover Meal - Wisdom Centre in Romsey

The Wisdom Centre is hosting a traditional Passover meal, on Holy Thursday 19th April, 11am-1pm. Tickets £10, please book by Friday 13th April, tel: 01794 830206.

Walk of Witness - Good Friday, 10am

From St Peter's Anglican church, Bishop's Waltham. All are invited to join in with local church communities in a walk through Bishop's Waltham, with readings and hymns enroute. All are welcome!

Contact: Angus Somerville on 07929 867472

Mass Times for our Six Church Communities & Parish Contact Information

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION	
Sat 6th *Vigil Masses	9.30am	HC	Maximilian & Joanna Karnecki RIP	<p align="center">ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT</p> <p>Tuesday: HC - First Tuesday of the Month (10am-1pm) Thursday: St ED Thursdays 7-8pm Thursday: St J from Noon-6pm, Rosary and Benediction at 5.30pm (before Mass at 6pm)</p>
	5.00pm*	SSW	Tom & Mary Haren RIP	
	6.00pm*	St J		
	6.00pm*	OLQA		
	6.30pm*	St Ed	Rose Murray RIP (1st Anniversary of death)	
Sun 7th Fifth Sunday of Lent	9.00am	HC	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i>	<p align="center">ROSARY AND PRAYERS</p> <p>St Edward's 9.30am, Wednesday - The Holy Rosary St Joseph's 6.00pm, Wednesday - Evening Prayer</p>
	9.00am	St Ed	John Browne (Sick)	
	9.00am	St A		
	9.30am	OLQA		
	11.00am	St J		
	11.00am	HC	Bill Reynolds FM	<p align="center">CONFESSION (SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION)</p> <p>Saturdays: 10.00am Holy Cross Church 12 noon St Edward's 5.30pm OLQA 5.30pm St Joseph Sundays: 8.30am St Andrew</p>
Mon 8th	10.00am	St Ed	Mrs Edward Christian FM	
Tues 9th	9.30am	HC		
	10.00am	St A		
	10.00am	OLQA		
Wed 10th	9.30am	HC	Emily Ray RIP (Anniversary)	<p align="center">Clergy</p> <p>Father Raffaele Cossa (Priest in Charge) Tel: 023 8061 2430; Email: rcosa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk</p> <p>Father Luca Speziale (Assistant Priest) Tel: 023 8061 2430; Email: lspeziale@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk</p> <p>Fr Wojciech Paszko (Assistant Priest) Tel: 01794 522884; Email: wpaszko@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk</p> <p>Canon Alan Griffiths (Assistant Priest) Tel: 07760220346; Email: frgriffiths@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk</p> <p>Deacon Bob Birtles Tel: 023 8069 2416; Email: bbirtles@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk</p> <p>Deacon John di Meo Tel: 01794 515688; Email: jdimeo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk</p> <p>Deacon Paul Owen Tel: 023 80254806; Email: powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk</p> <p>Deacon Paul Wilson Tel: 02380 616618; Email: pwilson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk</p>
	10.00am	St Ed	The Sewell Family	
Thurs 11th	9.30am	HC	Thomas & Flora Kelly RIP	
	10.00am	OLQA		
	6.00pm	St J		
	7.30pm	OLQA	Penitential Service	
Fri 12th	10.00am	OLQA		
	10.00am	St J: AH		
	7.00pm	St Ed	The Browne Family (during a difficult time)	
	7.30pm	St A	Penitential Service	
Sat 13th *Vigil Masses	9.30am	HC	Regina Turl (Special Intention)	<p align="center">Parish Office</p> <p>Holy Cross Church, 53 Leigh Road, Eastleigh SO50 9DF Tel: 02380 273882 Office Hours: Monday–Wednesday 9.30am-5pm; Thursday & Friday 9.30am-2.30pm</p> <p>Holy Cross Resource Centre & Finance Admin: Linda Roberts lroberts@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk</p> <p>Parish Secretary: Sarah Goodfellow stswparish@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk</p> <p align="center">Website</p> <p>Webmaster: website.sswp@gmail.com</p>
	11.00am	HC	Penitential Service	
	5.00pm*	SSW	Joe & Lydia Fonseca RIP	
	6.00pm*	St J	Thanksgiving for returning to St Joseph's	
	6.00pm*	OLQA		
	6.30pm*	St Ed	Friends of Suffering Souls RIP	
Sun 14th Palm Sunday	9.00am	HC	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i>	
	9.00am	St Ed	George, Gertrude & MaryLawton (Anniversary)	
	9.00am	St A		
	9.30am	OLQA		
	11.00am	St J	Jesus Ocaya, Capistrana, Nestor, Flaviano RIP	
	11.00am	HC	Andrew & Maria Baniak RIP	

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.