



Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ

31st May 2020: PENTECOST SUNDAY

Solemnity of Pentecost

The Feast of Pentecost commemorates the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles gathered in the Upper Room. Like Easter, this event took place on a pre-existing Jewish feast and ended with a surprise. The Acts of the Apostles describes the signs and fruits of that extraordinary outpouring: the strong wind and tongues of fire; fear disappeared, leaving courage in its place; tongues melted and everyone understood the message. Wherever the Spirit of God reaches, everything is reborn and transfigured. Pentecost is the event that signals the birth of the Church and her public manifestation; and two features strike us: the Church *astounds* and *confuses*.

A fundamental element of Pentecost is *astonishment*. Our God is a God of *astonishment*, this we know. No one expected anything more from the disciples: after Jesus' death they were a small, insignificant group of defeated orphans of their Master. There occurred instead an unexpected event that astounded: the people were astonished because each of them heard the disciples speaking in their own tongues, telling of the great works of God (cf. Acts 2:6-7, 11). The Church born at Pentecost is an astounding community because, with the force of her arrival from God, a new message is proclaimed — the Resurrection of Christ — with a new language — the universal one of love. A new proclamation: Christ lives, he is risen; a new language: the language of love. The disciples are adorned with power from above and speak with courage — only minutes before they all were cowardly, but now they speak with courage and candour, with the freedom of the Holy Spirit.

Thus the Church is called into being forever: capable of astounding while proclaiming to all that Jesus Christ has conquered death, that God's arms are always open, that his patience is always there awaiting us in order to heal us, to forgive us. The risen Jesus bestowed his Spirit on the Church for this very mission.

Take note: if the Church is alive, she must always surprise. It is incumbent upon the living Church to astound. A Church which is unable to astound is a Church that is weak, sick, dying, and that needs admission to the intensive care unit as soon as possible!

Some in Jerusalem would have liked for Jesus' disciples, frozen in fear, to remain locked inside so as not to create *confusion*. Even today, many would like this from the Christians. Instead, the risen Lord pushes them into the world: "As the Father has sent me, even so I send you" (Jn 20:21). The Church of the Pentecost is a Church that won't submit to being powerless, too "distilled". No, she doesn't submit to this! She doesn't want to be a decoration. She is a Church that doesn't hesitate to go out, meet the people, proclaim the message that's been entrusted to her, even if that message disturbs or unsettles the conscience, even if that message perhaps brings problems and sometimes leads to martyrdom. She is born one and universal, with a distinct identity, but open, a Church that embraces the world but doesn't seize it; she sets it free, but embraces it like the colonnade in this Square: two arms that open to receive, but that don't close to detain. We Christians are free, and the Church wants us free!

We turn to the Virgin Mary, who in that Pentecost morning was in the Upper Room, the Mother with her children. In her, the force of the Holy Spirit truly accomplished "great things" (Lk 1:49). She herself said so. May she, the Mother of the Redeemer and Mother of the Church, obtain through her intercession a renewed outpouring of God's Spirit upon the Church and upon the world.

Pope Francis

GEM OF THE WEEK

This week's GEM is the recording of Fr Michele Benetti speaking to our parish about administering the sacraments in the hospitals in Boston, USA. You can find the link on our homepage. If anyone has suggestions for GEMs please contact the Webmaster on website.sswp@gmail.com.



LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday 31st May 2020:

Year A - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 4

PSALM RESPONSE: SEND FORTH YOUR SPIRIT, O LORD, AND RENEW THE FACE OF THE EARTH.

READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY, 31ST MAY 2020:

1st reading: Acts 2:1-11 **Psalm:** 103 **2nd reading:** 1 Corinthians 12:3-7. 12-13 **Gospel:** John 20:19-23

MESSAGES



Offerings for our Parish

Due to the current lockdown for public health and safety, parish finances need to be considered. We have expanded our donation section on the website. There is now a document with a comprehensive guide found at the bottom of the donation section.

If you normally give using Planned Giving Envelopes, or in the plate, you obviously will not be able to give that way for the foreseeable future. Please consider making your offerings by direct Bank Transfer, Direct Debit or Standing Order. We have listed the bank account details and the contact details of the Gift Aid Co-ordinators if you are a tax payer and wish to increase your donation by adding the gift aid element. The Coordinators are happy to advise you on setting up direct debit/standing orders and have the necessary documentation for your use.

Romsey: St Andrew, North Baddesley and St Joseph
Bank Account: sort code 30-93-04
Account number: 00886557
Gift Aid Co-ordinator: David Martin: 01794 511883

Chandlers Ford: St Edward the Confessor
Bank Account: sort code 30-93-04
Account number: 00876187
Gift Aid Co-ordinator: Mike Greenslade: 02380 262870 or Ian Fearon: 02380 265248

Eastleigh Holy Cross & Fair Oak: St Swithun Wells,
Bank Account: sort code 30-93-04
Account number: 00877299
Gift Aid Co-ordinator: Patricia Baggot: 02380 694060

Bishops Waltham: Our Lady Queen of the Apostles
Bank Account: sort code 30-93-04
Account number: 00874648
Gift Aid Co-ordinator: Patricia Baggot: 02380 694060

Scamming during lockdown

Unfortunately, during this time there are many scams happening via email and phone. In other parts of England there have been emails going around that ask for donations to care homes and the NHS with the name of the parish priest but these are scams. Please be cautious about any such emails or calls.

Lockdown Quiz

On **Sunday 7th June at 5.00pm** there will be a quiz for all the parishioners. If you want to play as a family, couple, or individual join us! The first three winners will receive special prizes. During the quiz be prepared for surprises and entertainment.

You can join the quiz through our Zoom connection found on the next page of the newsletter.

Good Companions

It is with great sadness that there will be no further lunches, as Helen and Daverio are no longer at Keats. The lunches have been running for many, many years and we have enjoyed delicious meals, friendship and fun. We wish Helen and Daverio all the joy and happiness in their retirement, grateful for what they and their amazing staff have given to us, especially those living alone or lonely.
Pauline & Susie

Tea and Coffee with your church

Do you want to have Tea and Coffee with your church community and priests after Mass? why not! You can join the *Zoom* connection following the instructions on the next page of the newsletter.

-St Edward church community
Every Tuesdays at 10.15am

-Our Lady Queen of the Apostles community
Every Wednesday at 10.15am

-Holy Cross & St Swithun Wells communities
Every Thursday at 10.15am

-St Andrew and St Joseph communities
Every Saturday at 10.15am

Funerals

We would like to keep you informed about funerals we are having so that you can keep them in your prayers:
Margaret Martindale on Friday 29th May.
Mary Frances Preston on Thursday 4th June.
Mary (Pat) McDonald on Monday 8th June.
Geraldine Margaret Austen Wednesday 10th June.

ONLINE MASS TIMES & PRAYING OF THE ROSARY



Churches in our Parish

All our churches are now **closed** for the time being.

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.

Communal Praying of the Rosary with Meditations from the Holy Cross Presbytery

Monday to Friday at 7.00pm

Please follow the guidelines for the Zoom meetings. You will be able to listen to a meditation given by one of our priests and then join in the Rosary being prayed.

How to join our ZOOM meetings

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 four numbers

0203 051 2874

0203 481 5237

0203 481 5240

0131 460 1196

Follow the instructions

When asked enter the Meeting ID:

CHANGES TO PARISH OFFICE OPENING & MASS INTENTIONS



Main Parish Office/Priest Availability

The Parish Office is closed to visitors however **the office telephone will be manned either by the Parish Secretary or by one of our Priests from Tuesday to Friday 10.00am-6.00pm.**

If you want to speak to one of our Priests, for personal support or spiritual direction, please call this number during these times.

Parish Office telephone number: 02380 273882.

Outside of these times or if the matter is urgent please phone the emergency number below.

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.

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.

PARISH GROUPS



The following groups are continuing to meet through ZOOM:

Stars of Abraham

(Live meeting) 7.00pm Tuesdays (from 24th March).

Grail Seekers

(Live meeting) 4.00pm Saturdays (from 28th March).

On Wednesday evening, be sure to take a look at the upcoming input we will discuss together on Saturday. You can find the weekly input at www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk/grailseekers

TOZ

(Live meeting) 7.00pm Sundays (from 29th March).

On Wednesday evening you can see the question of the week at www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk/toz

School of Community

(Live meeting) 8.00pm Wednesdays.

This coming **Wednesday 3rd June**, there will be a talk about the life of Saint Hermann of Reichenau (the Cripple).

Please follow the ZOOM meeting instructions to connect to the group.

MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 30th May	9.30am	Holy Cross Stream Live	Rebecca Cole and Jamie Cooper (Special Intention) Intentions of Mary Johnston
Sun 31st May <i>Pentecost Sunday</i>	10.00am	Holy Cross Stream Live	Mr Pappachan (RIP) Mrs Morton (FM) David Hanbury (Wellbeing)
Mon 1st June <i>The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church</i>	9.30am	Holy Cross Stream Live	Laurence Flach (RIP)
Tues 2nd June	9.30am	Holy Cross Stream Live	Arthur Mason (FM) Tony and Pauline (64th wedding anniversary)
Wed 3rd June <i>St Charles Lwanga & Companions</i>	9.30am	Holy Cross Stream Live	Kate Mason (FM) Keith Small (RIP) Andrew (Special Intention)
Thurs 4th June <i>Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest</i>	9.30am	Holy Cross Stream Live	Deceased members of the Charleston, Foster and Catt families (FM) Bridie Roddy (RIP) Grahame (RIP)
Fri 5th June	9.30am	Holy Cross Stream Live	Agnes and John Walker (FM)
Sat 6th June	9.30am	Holy Cross Stream Live	Margaret Foster
Sun 7th June <i>The Most Holy Trinity</i>	10.00am	Holy Cross Stream Live	Carmela Campese (FM) Winchester Catenians annual Mass for vocations to the religious life Allan Westwood (RIP)

CLERGY

Father Raffaele Cossa (Parish Priest)

Tel: 023 8061 2430; E: rcossa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Father Luca Speziale (Assistant Priest)

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Fr Marco Vignolo (Assistant Priest)

Tel: 023 8061 2430; E: mvignolo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Canon Alan Griffiths (Assistant Priest)

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Deacon Bob Birtles

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Deacon John di Meo

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Deacon Paul Owen

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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: Tuesday-Friday: 10.00am-6pm

Holy Cross Resource Centre & Finance

Admin: Linda Roberts

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Parish Secretary: Philip Stokman

stswparish@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Website Contact: website.sswp@gmail.com