



Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ
18th APRIL 2021: THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

The Origin of our Joy

'At the root of the human condition there is the joyful experience that we are not at the origin of our being, that we are not our own creator, that even before we existed we were wanted and loved'. I have recently come across this sentence by Cardinal Robert Sarah, reported in his book, *The Day Is Now Far Spent*. The experience of being wanted and loved is so fundamental to each of us, and especially for children, but not just for them. How many children have to face the painful situation of feeling they are not wanted and loved! And unfortunately, even many adults live the same situation. The Sacred Scripture speaks about this in our relationship with God, in a contrary way, 'The Lord called me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name' (Isaiah 49:1). Without this certitude, the certitude that love is at the origin of our existence, life becomes a nightmare. And for many people life is like a battle against everyone. When you are not conscious that your life is loved and wanted, you are condemned to create everything by your own efforts. You start to think that everyone is your enemy. And you are reduced to the state of nomad, wandering randomly through life.

Many people live like nomads. We Christians have received an amazing gift. We have been called by name. We are part of a people. I have recently celebrated a number of Baptisms. Every time I celebrate a Baptism it is amazing to think that the child there in front of me is the fruit of the love of his/her parents. And it is fascinating to think that he/she is becoming a member of a people, of a new house prepared by the Lord for him/her, a house much bigger and more comfortable than that of the parents.

Another sentence by Cardinal Sarah struck me, 'How sweet is to know that one is the heir of a human lineage in which children are born as the most beautiful fruit of their parents' love'. A lot of people live without a father and a mother. We Christians are called to remember to everyone that we have a father and a mother, that we are creatures. We are creatures connected with others. We are not a "I" isolated. We cannot live without true, physical connection with others. We are called to say Yes to others, not a suspicious No to them. Bonds of trust and love connect us to many people.

This experience brings joy and peace to our life. It is the origin of our freedom. If you accept that you are created by an act of love, you can experience true freedom. People in today's society often don't accept they are created by an act of love and consequently hate themselves and think they are the origin of their freedom. We Christians are called to remind everyone of the truth and the possibility to experience the joy to be wanted and loved.

Fr Marco

GEM OF THE WEEK



This week's GEM is Bishop Philip's homily on Easter Sunday, '**Easter, everything we hope for**', you can find this on our homepage. If anyone has suggestions for GEMs please contact website.sswp@gmail.com

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

LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday 18th April 2021: Year B - Year 1 - Psalter Week: 3

PSALM RESPONSE: LIFT UP THE LIGHT OF YOUR FAITH ON US, O LORD.

READINGS:

1st reading: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19 **Psalm:** 4 **2nd reading:** A reading from the 1st Letter of St John 2:1-5a

Gospel: Luke 24:35-48

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY 25TH APRIL:

1st reading: Acts 4:8-12 **Psalm:** 117 **2nd reading:** A reading from the 1st Letter of St John 3:1-2 **Gospel:** John 10:11-18

PARISH GROUPS



Stars of Abraham (school years 3, 4, 5 & 6)

Will meet in person from Tues 20th/Sat 24th April:

Tues, 4.00pm-5.30pm in St Edward's Cloister;

Tues, 4.15pm-5.45pm in St Andrew;

Sat 10.30am-Noon in Holy Cross Resource Centre.

To join and for more info please click the Stars of Abraham Icon on our homepage.

Grail Seekers (school years 7, 8, 9)

There will be **no meeting on Saturday 17th April**, meetings will then **resume in person from Saturday 24th April in Holy Cross Resource Centre 2-4pm**. To join and for more info please click the Grail Seekers Icon on our homepage.

Student Youth (school year 10 until sixth form)

Starting Friday 23rd April meetings will be weekly in person on a **Friday evening at 6.30pm in Holy Cross Resource Centre**. **If you would like to attend please book your place on our website** by clicking the Student Youth Icon on our homepage.

Communion & Liberation Groups

Fr Luca's Group meet every Wednesday, for more info please click the link on the homepage of our website.

Fr Raffaele's Group meet every Thursday at 8pm in St Edward's cloister.

Sacramental Preparation for Adults (RCIA)

If you would like to be baptised, confirmed or received into the Catholic Church (or know more about the Catholic faith) please email Deacon Paul Owen: powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or alternatively please speak to a priest.

Fellowship Group

There will be no Fellowship Group meetings over Easter. They will resume on **Wednesday 28th April, 7.30pm on Zoom**. If you would like to join us please contact Deacon Bob Birtles for the Zoom link: bbirtles@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

MESSAGES



OLQA New Mass Timetable

Dear friends, I am pleased to announce that we shall be returning to a more regular Mass timetable during the week and at weekends. Here is the new timetable which **begins on 25th April:**

- **Masses during the week**
Wednesday 7.30pm; Thursday 12 Noon;
Friday & Saturday 9.30am
- **Weekend Masses**
Vigil Mass 6pm; Sunday 9.30am
- **Confessions**
Saturday 10am

Fr Bruce

Second Collection

There will be a second collection **next weekend (24th/25th April)** for the Clergy Training Fund.

Offering

As you are aware there is no offeratory during Mass, however after Mass there is a basket available in each church where you can place your offering.

Parish Get2Gether - April Meeting now on Zoom

Sunday 25th April, 3.00-4.30pm

Due to recent changes in legislation (over the last week), and having discussed this with Pavillion on the Park, we have decided to move the April Get2Gether online. Hopefully we will be able to meet in person for the May Get2Gether.

This is an event for all the people of the parish with games, songs, activities for children and conversations for adults. Please go to our website for more details and how to join.

Upcoming Funerals

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Marjorie Gregory** and for her family. Marjorie's funeral will take place at **OLQA on Monday 19th April, 11am**.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Stefan Kaye** and for his family. Stefan's funeral will take place at **Southampton Crematorium on Friday 23rd April, 11.30am**.

MESSAGES CONTINUED



Proposed Parish Centre

Thank you to the very many parishioners who responded to our recent consultation on our future parish vision. The feedback has been enormously useful for us to understand your views. We are now going to take some time to properly consider all feedback received and to assess in further detail all options. We expect to come back to you soon with a list of options to meet the Parish Vision.

Recommended Reading

Two suggested books for the next few months are:

***Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley**

Is one of the most influential novels of the nineteenth century and is quite relevant today. What is the role of science and the scientific community? Does mankind have the right to manipulate nature? Have today's scientists developed a moral system to match their speculative knowledge? Or will they, like Victor Frankenstein, discover too late that they simply have an unhealthy, prideful curiosity? The questions posed by Mary Shelley still need to be addressed in contemporary society. We are the creatures, not the Creator. This must always be kept in mind if we are to avoid the mistakes made by Victor Frankenstein.

Frankenstein by Mary Shelley will be presented during the Cultural Friday on the 11th June.

***The Shadow of the Father* by Jan Dobraczyński**

Jan Dobraczyński tells the story of Saint Joseph's life in the form of a novel. He uses the evocative image of a shadow to define Joseph. In his relationship to Jesus, Joseph was the earthly shadow of the heavenly Father: he watched over him and protected him, never leaving him to go his own way. This book is an excellent way to live well this year dedicated to St Joseph.

Both books can be bought online, e.g. from Amazon.

Alton Day of Renewal

Saturday 24th April, 10am-3pm via Zoom

The theme for this spiritual mini-retreat is "Receiving God's Gift" - to receive new life you must turn away from those things which block your relationship with God and accept Jesus as your Lord. Guest speaker is Peter Hobbs. For more information and to register please go to: www.altonrenewal.com

'Easter Letter to Everyone' from Bishop Philip

To read and download it please go to our website.

LIVE STREAMED MASS, BOOKING SYSTEM & CONFESSION

Live Streamed Mass

All of the Masses from Holy Cross & OLQA are live streamed. To join please go to our parish website www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

For details of all of our Public Masses please see the timetable on the back page of the newsletter.

To reserve a seat at Mass in St Joseph & OLQA

St Joseph, Romsey:

- **Saturday Vigil Mass 6.00pm**

To reserve a seat for the Saturday Mass please contact Teresa Rayment from Wed through to Friday (Tel: 01794 513528 / teresarayment@tiscali.co.uk).

- **Sunday 11.00am**

To reserve a seat for the Sunday Mass please contact Joanna Russell from Wed through to Friday (Tel: 07917 802814 / joanna@silvasmiths.co.uk).

Our Lady Queen of Apostles, Bishop's Waltham:

- **Sunday at 9.30am**

To reserve a seat for the Sunday Mass please email: olqamassbook@gmail.com

CONFESSION

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Tuesdays:	6.30am-7.30pm	St Edward
Tuesdays:	10.30am	St Andrew
Saturdays:	10.00am	OLQA
	10.00am-10.30am	Holy Cross
	5.30pm-6.00pm	St Joseph
Sundays:	8.30am-9.00am	St Andrew

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesday:	St Edward's - after Mass (6.30-7.30pm)
Thursday:	Holy Cross - 10.00-11.00am
Thursday:	St Joseph's - before Mass (5.00-6.00pm)

TIMES A PRIEST WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MEET

Tuesdays:	Fr Raffaele, 3.30pm-5.30pm, Holy Cross Resource Centre (back of Holy Cross Church), Eastleigh
Wednesdays:	Fr Luca, 4.00pm-6.00pm, Holy Cross Resource Centre (back of Holy Cross Church), Eastleigh
Fridays:	Fr Raffaele, 11.30am-12.30pm, Parish Office (26 Abbey Water), Romsey
Saturdays:	Fr Marco, 9.30am-12.30pm, Parish Office (26 Abbey Water), Romsey

MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 17th April	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross (also Live Streamed) St Swithun Wells St Joseph St Edward	Maguire & Richard Family FM Maureen Boog RIP Rosemary Oxby RIP
Sunday 18th April Third Sunday of Easter	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 10.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLQA (also Live Streamed) St Edward St Joseph Holy Cross (also Live Streamed)	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Intentions of the Van Willigenburg family May & Gerry Flannery RIP For the People of the Parish Stanisława & Jozef Szczotka RIP
Mon 19th April <i>St Alphege</i>	9.30am	Holy Cross (also Live Streamed)	Holly Lund RIP Mary Quinn (Special Intention) Richard Layzell (Special Intention)
Tues 20th April	10.00am 6.00pm	St Andrew St Edward	Sebi Devassy RIP Mary Bain RIP
Wed 21st April	9.30am 10.00am	Holy Cross (also Live Streamed) St Edward	Alda Soares RIP Monica Giles RIP
Thurs 22nd April	9.30am 12.00 Noon 6.00pm	Holy Cross (also Live Streamed) OLQA (also Live Streamed) St Joseph	Cheryl Robinson RIP Rachel & Kelum Kanyawasam (Well-being)
Friday 23rd April <i>St George</i>	10.00am 10.00am	St Joseph St Edward	Margaret Martindale RIP Mrs Edward Christian FM
Sat 24th April	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross (also Live Streamed) St Swithun Wells St Joseph St Edward	Oswald Carr RIP FM For the People of the Parish Special Intention for Grandchildren's Well-being James Kerr RIP (1st Anniversary)
Sunday 25th April Fourth Sunday of Easter	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 10.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLQA (also Live Streamed) St Edward St Joseph Holy Cross (also Live Streamed)	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Anne & Sean Connolly RIP David Sandhu RIP and all the Sandhu Family

CLERGY & PARISH OFFICE

Fr Raffaele Cossa (Parish Priest)

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

Fr Luca Speziale (Assistant Priest)

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

Fr Marco Vignolo (Assistant Priest)

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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 Address:

Holy Cross Church
53 Leigh Road
Eastleigh
SO50 9DF

Telephone: 02380 273882

Holy Cross Resource Centre & Finance

Admin: Linda Roberts

Works full day Monday to Wednesday (9.30am-5.30pm, office closed on Monday & Tuesday for an hour over lunch), half day Thursday working from home
lroberts@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Secretary: Sarah Goodfellow

Works Wed to Friday from 9.30am until 2.30pm
stswparish@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Website Contact: website.sswp@gmail.com