



Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ

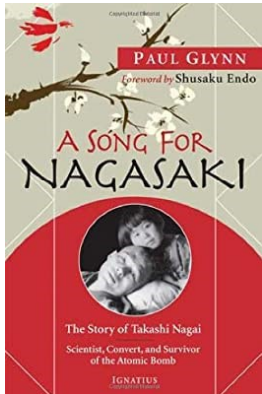
12th JANUARY 2020: **THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

New Recommended Books

After the success of the past two books, we want to propose two new readings for the next 3 months. The first is a spiritual book and the second a novel. They both force us to think and nourish our soul.

I, Fr Raffaele, will introduce and talk about the book on **Friday 17th January at 8.00pm in St Edwards Church**. It will be possible to buy the books after Mass from the next weekend in all the Churches.

A Song for Nagasaki: The Story of Takashi Nagai by Fr. Paul Glynn



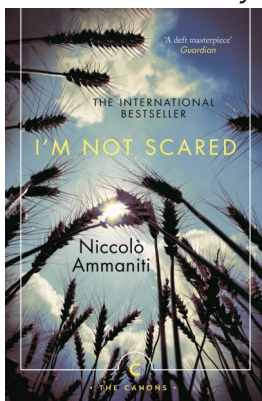
Takashi Nagai is born in southern Japan. The two major cities nearby are Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Raised in a household based on filial beliefs of Confucius, young Takashi is loath to challenge traditional Japanese society. But European science is sweeping across Japan and upon graduating high school, he enrolls in Nagasaki University. He studies intently and becomes a physician specializing in radiology.

As the Sino/Japanese War erupts, Nagai is called to the war front. There he is forced to confront the meaning of life and the political purposes of Japan's military leaders. He has no religious faith and loses himself. On leave from the war, Nagai meets a Christian woman in Nagasaki, named Midori Moriyama. Takashi is moved by her sincere faith and joyful life. After reading the French philosopher, Blaise Pascal, he realizes that his atheism and belief in scientific progress cannot fill the huge hole he feels in his heart.

With the help of the beautiful Midori, Nagai converts to Catholicism. They are soon happily married. But Japan's evil military leaders soon launch a second war with a surprise attack on Pearl Harbor. Dr. Nagai warns the students at Nagasaki University of the terrible sufferings that will be inflicted upon Japan during WWII. They are shocked and stunned at his "disloyal" statements. Throughout the war, Nagai continues to improve X-ray techniques in Nagasaki and develops radiation treatments for those suffering from tuberculosis.

At the same time he continues to grow in grace and holiness. Then on Aug. 9, 1945, while at work in his hospital, the atomic bomb explodes, destroying most of Nagasaki and killing thousands. Over the next five years, until his death from radiation sickness, Takashi Nagai will become a symbol of light conquering darkness throughout Japan and the world. What did Dr. Nagai do to accomplish this? How does his entire life become one with Jesus on Calvary? Why in the midst of all the evil that enveloped the world in 1945 does his life so brilliantly give an example of authentic love? What role does the Blessed Virgin have in his work? How does grace transform Takashi Nagai? To find out the answers to these questions we have to read this marvellous book that will edify and enlighten readers.

I'm Not Scared by Niccolò Ammaniti



It is the heatwave summer of 1978, still remembered in Italy for its ferocity and duration. While the dozen adults in Aqua Traverse - a cluster of houses lost somewhere in the south of the peninsula - spend most of the day prostrate indoors, the children set off on their bikes to explore the countryside. To spare the fat girl who tags along a humiliating forfeit, nine-year-old Michele volunteers to explore an abandoned farmhouse in a remote location at the very edge of the gang's territory. There he makes a mysterious and terrifying discovery that he instinctively decides to keep to himself. He later tries to tell his father, but he doesn't want to know. Indeed, the adults in this isolated community all seem to be unusually preoccupied and tense. Then, without any explanation, a sinister and powerful stranger comes to stay. The long, stuffy nights are punctuated by loud quarrels among the grown-ups downstairs. Before long, the reader has unravelled the meaning of Michele's discovery, but he himself never does, although he must and does take full responsibility for it.

The success of the novel lies in a very well-crafted narration, with increasing dramatic tension, and a sensational setting in the warm Italian summer. But his fascination comes from two very suggestive aspects: the friendship between children and the desire to overcome evil with good.

Father Raffaele

GEM OF THE WEEK



This week's GEM is "Acclaimed Atheist Poet Becomes Catholic: My Tears Just Stopped" an article by Mark Judge on CSN - you can find the link on our homepage. If anyone has suggestions for GEMs please contact the Webmaster on website.sswp@gmail.com.

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

LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday 12th January 2020:

Year A - Year 2 - Psalter Week: Office Proper

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: AFTER THE LORD WAS BAPTISED, THE HEAVENS WERE OPENED, AND THE SPIRIT DESCENDED UPON HIM LIKE A DOVE, AND THE VOICE OF THE FATHER THUNDERED: THIS IS MY BELOVED SON, WITH WHOM I AM WELL PLEASED.

PSALM RESPONSE: THE LORD WILL BLESS HIS PEOPLE WITH PEACE.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, 19TH JANUARY 2020:

1st reading: Isaiah 49:3. 5-6 - **Psalm:** 39 - **2nd reading:** 1 Corinthians 1:1-3 - **Gospel:** John 1:29-34

PARISH GROUPS



Growing in Faith Together (GIFT)

Tuesdays between 10.15-11.30am (after Mass) in 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.

Sacramental Preparation for Adults (RCIA)

Preparation will be on Wednesday evenings fortnightly at St Edward the Confessor Church, Chandlers Ford at 7.30pm. 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. Upcoming dates: 22nd Jan, 5th Feb, 19th Feb

Journey in Faith with the Bible

Wednesday evenings fortnightly between 7.30pm and 9pm at St Edward's Church, Chandlers Ford. All Welcome. Upcoming dates: 15th Jan, 29th Jan, 12th Feb. See poster on Church Noticeboards or contact Anne Owen on 02380 254806 for more information.

Fellowship Group - Wednesday 15th January, 7.30pm, St Swithun Wells Church, Fair Oak.

We will be visiting our friends at the Family Church. Meet at SSW Church at 7.30pm. All welcome! Queries to Peter Baggott or Deacon Bob Birtles.

School of Community

The weekly catechesis of the catholic movement Communion and Liberation every Wednesday at 8pm in the Holy Cross Resource Centre.

CaFE: The Year of the Bible!

CaFE invites you to join us exploring 12 Bible themes beginning:

Mon 27th January, 2.30pm in Romsey Parish Office (26 Abbey Water);

Tues 28th January, 7.30pm in St Andrew's Social Centre.

The DVD and accompanying book (£10) is available. Contact sheila.keefe20@gmail.com.

TOZ (for young people from school year 10)

meet twice a month on Sunday. Next Meeting Date: 12th January, from 2pm to 4.30pm where we will be visiting Fryars House in Romsey. The mini bus will leave at 2pm from Holy Cross. Contact: toz.sswp@gmail.com or phone 07846 438224 (Cath Szymanski).

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

For everyone in school years 3-6, we meet every other week:

Tuesday, 5.30-7.00pm in St Edwards Cloister; Saturday 10.30am-Noon in HC Resource Centre. To join the group complete the application form (available on our website or from the Parish Office) and give it to the Parish Secretary.

Grail Seekers (school years 7,8,9) - For everyone in school years 7, 8 and 9 we meet weekly every Saturday from 2.30pm-4.30pm in Holy Cross Resource Centre. To join the group complete the application form (available on our website or from the Parish Office) and give it to the Parish Secretary.

Oasis Women's Group – Tuesday 14th January

Life as a nurse: A chance to reflect on what the differences that nurses make to our life and to give thanks for their vocations. We're delighted that June Wilson is coming along to share her experience as a nurse in the army.

7:30pm, St Edward's Cloister, finish at 9 pm.

All ladies warmly welcomed - See you there!

Future Dates: 11th Feb; 10th Mar; 31st Mar; 12th May; 9th Jun; 14th Jul.

OFFERINGS & SECOND COLLECTIONS



St Swithun Wells Parish Acknowledges with thanks

Last week's collections: £TBC;
SO/DD for December '19: £12,672.09

Second Collection (change of date)

Please note the next second collection will now be on 24th/25th January for Portsmouth Cathedral.

PARISH EVENTS



Come & See - 3 Days for Young People in School Years 7-9, Fri 14th - Sun 16th February 2020, St Joseph's Centre in Ashurst. Cost: £90 covering the 3 days. For more info & an application form go to www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk.
Registrations close on 19th January 2020.

Parish Quiz

Beat the January blues by coming along with your brain matter and an essential sense of humour to a Parish Quiz being held at **St Swithun Wells Church, Fair Oak on Friday 24th January at 7.30pm**. Bring and share some food & drink. Enjoy a raffle. Mingle with your fellow parishioners.
Tickets are £5 each which includes 2 strips of raffle tickets (available at each church from Jan 11th/12th). Children are free but will need to be included in the numbers (so should have a ticket). All proceeds in aid of CAFOD. Maximum number is 60.
Contact Joanna on 07437 440299 or the Parish Office for more information.

Book Talk

Two new books will be introduced on **Friday 17th January, 8pm at St Edward's**. From next weekend after Mass (18th/19th Jan) at all of our churches you will have the opportunity to order the books - I'm Not Scared £8; Song for Nagasaki £12.

Confirmation of our children will be on **Sunday 24th May 2020, 3pm at Portsmouth Cathedral**. Further details will be announced closer to the event.

SCHOOL NOTICES



St Swithun Wells PTA is holding a family race night on **Friday 7th February**. Doors open at 6.30pm with first race at 7.15pm. Tickets must be purchased in advanced: Adults £2, Children £1. Bets will be 50p. Food (chilli or pasta) and licensed bar available to buy on the night. For tickets please contact Susanna.rayner@yahoo.com / 07793821853.

MESSAGES



St Swithun Wells Parish requires a Part Time Housekeeper for the clergy in Eastleigh

The position will be based in Eastleigh, and involves housekeeping support to the parish clergy; dealing with house cleaning, laundry for the clergy and house; grocery shopping and cooking of some meals. We require an enthusiastic, discreet and self-motivated person sympathetic to the ministry and mission of the Catholic Church. Good communication skills are a must and a flexible and positive attitude is required. The role promises a varied and interesting workload. The job is part-time (7 hours per week to be worked Tuesday 09.30am to 12.30pm and Thursday/Friday 9.30am to 1.30pm) with a salary of £3,535.30 per annum (FTE £17,672.20). For more details and an application form please see the parish website www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk or contact the Parish Office (stswparish@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk; tel: 02380 273882).

Closing date for applications is 12 noon on Friday 24th January 2020.
Interviews will be held on Tuesday 28th January 2020.

Messages of Thanks

Thank you to all who offered prayers and good wishes for me when I had my recent spinal surgery. I am pleased to say I am recovering well. A thanksgiving Mass will be offered at a later date. *Clare Lasker*

Thank you to all who gave generously to the Christmas Gifts appeal for Two Saints and Poitier. All parcels were gratefully received.

CAFOD at St Edward's - Thank you to all who supported the recent fundraising. The Fayre and raffle raised **£352.26** for our Hands On Colombia project; World Gifts raised £200 which means we were able to buy 5 "Change a Woman's World" gifts.

Prayer For the Renewal of our Diocese

Prayer cards will be available in our churches this weekend. Please take one home and pray for this intention.

Holy Cross & St Edward's Planned Fire Evacuation.

There will be a fire evacuation drill at both of these churches on **19th January 2020** - please listen closely to the announcements that will be made on that day.

Week of prayer for Christian Unity (19-26th Jan)

Churches Together in Chandlers Ford are holding their annual 'exchanges' on **Sunday 19th January**, and this year we are invited to celebrate at **St Martin in the Wood at 9.15am**. Our visitors to St Edward's will be from St Francis church in Valley Park, and so if anyone would like to either help host them here or visit St Martins then please contact me before then. The shared service for Christian Unity will be the following Sunday at 4.00pm at St Martins, all are welcome at this service. During this week parishioners may also enjoy 'prayer walks' between the various churches in Chandlers Ford. CTCF have written a set of possible walks with some ideas on how to use them and I will be happy to share these with anyone who is interested. Paul Carmody on 02380 615373.

Churches Together in Eastleigh are holding their Unity Service on **19th January, 6.30pm at All Saints Church, Eastleigh**. All are welcome to attend.

Street Pastors - Volunteers Needed for Eastleigh & Fair Oak. Could you spare one Friday night a month to listen, care and help make our community a kinder and more caring place to live in? Please see the volunteer appeal notice on the Holy Cross & St Swithun Wells Church noticeboards. It details the training programme and gives Spring & Autumn training dates.

MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 11th Jan	9.30am	HC	Michael Lane FM
	5.00pm*	SSW	Sam & Sheila Sanders
	6.00pm*	St J	Special Intention
	6.00pm*	OLQA	
	6.30pm*	St Ed	Carmen & Alejandro Macalino Jr RIP
Sun 12th	9.00am	HC	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i>
	9.00am	St Ed	
	9.00am	St A	Sheila & George Marshall RIP
	9.30am	OLQA	
	11.00am	St J	Maureen Meyfarth RIP
	11.00am	HC	Christine Watson (Special Intention)
Mon 13th	10.00am	St Ed	
Tues 14th	9.30am	HC	Gualteri Smyth FM
	10.00am	St A	
	10.00am	OLQA	
Wed 15th	9.30am	HC	Emmanuel Altman RIP (23rd Anniversary)
	10.00am	St Ed	Margaret Egan RIP
Thurs 16th	9.30am	HC	Catherine Mary Robinson FM
	10.00am	OLQA	
	11.00am	HC	Funeral Mass: Robert McDonnell RIP
6.00pm		St J	Maureen Taylor (Well being)
	10.00am	St Ed	Deceased Members of FOSS
	10.00am	St J:AH	Sylvestre & Ann Casanova RIP
Fri 17th <i>St Anthony of Egypt</i>	10.00am	St Ed	
	10.00am	St J:AH	
	10.00am	OLQA	
Sat 18th	9.30am	HC	Deceased Members of FOSS
	5.00pm*	SSW	Rocio Bates (Thanksgiving)
	6.00pm*	St J	Muriel Matthias (Well being)
	6.00pm*	OLQA	
	6.30pm*	St Ed	
Sun 19th Jan	9.00am	HC	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i>
	9.00am	St Ed	John Gallagher RIP
	9.00am	St A	
	9.30am	OLQA	
	11.00am	St J	Fr Louis Catterall RIP
	11.00am	HC	Hazel Freda Jurd FM

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
Tues: HC - First Tuesday of the Month (10am-1pm)
Thurs: St Ed - Holy Hour 7-8pm
Thurs: St J - 4-6pm, Rosary & Benediction at 5.30pm

ROSARY AND PRAYERS
St Edward's 9.30am, Wednesday - The Holy Rosary
St Joseph's 6.00pm, Wednesday - Evening Prayer

CONFESSION (SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION)
Saturdays: 10.00am Holy Cross
5.30pm OLQA
5.30pm St Joseph's
Sundays: 8.30am St Edward's
8.30am St Andrew's

TIMES A PRIEST WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MEET
Tues: Fr Raffaele, 4.30pm-6.30pm, Parish Office, Holy Cross, Eastleigh.
Weds: Fr Luca, 4.30pm-6.30pm, Parish Office, Holy Cross, Eastleigh.
Fridays: Fr Raffaele, 11.30am-12.30pm, Parish Office (26 Abbey Water), Romsey.
Saturdays: Fr Marco, 10am-Midday, Parish Office (26 Abbey Water), Romsey.

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
Canon Alan Griffiths (Assistant Priest)
Tel: 07760220346; E: frgriffiths@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
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-5pm
Thursday & Friday: 9.30am-2.30pm

Holy Cross Resource Centre & Finance
Admin: Linda Roberts
(lroberts@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Parish Secretary: Sarah Goodfellow
stswparish@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Website Contact: website.sswp@gmail.com

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

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