



Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ

4th AUGUST 2024: EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

From the Gift to the Giver

This Sunday the Reading of Chapter Six of the Gospel according to John continues. After the multiplication of the loaves, the people went in search of Jesus and finally found him near Capernaum. He was well aware of the motive for their great enthusiasm in seeking him and he made this clear to them: "you seek me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves" (Jn 6:26). In fact, those people followed him for the material bread which had placated their hunger the previous day, when Jesus had performed the multiplication of the loaves; they had not understood that that bread, broken for so many, for the multitude, was *the expression of the love* of Jesus himself. They had given more meaning to that bread than to its giver. Before this spiritual blindness, Jesus emphasizes the necessity of going beyond the gift, to discover, come to know the giver. God himself is both the gift and the giver. Thus from that bread, from that gesture, the people can find the One who gives it, who is God. He invites them to open up to a perspective which is not only that of the daily need to eat, dress, achieve success, build a career. Jesus speaks of another food. He speaks of a food which is incorruptible and which is good to seek and gather. He exhorts: "Do not labour for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to eternal life, which the Son of man will give to you" (v. 27). That is to say, seek salvation, the encounter with God.

With these words, he seeks to make us understand that, in addition to physical hunger man carries within him another hunger — all of us have this hunger — a more important hunger, which cannot be satisfied with ordinary food. It is a hunger for life, a hunger for eternity which He alone can satisfy, as he is "the bread of life" (v. 35). Jesus does not eliminate the concern and search for daily food. No, he does not remove the concern for all that can make life more progressive. But Jesus reminds us that the true meaning of our earthly existence lies at the end, in eternity, it lies in the encounter with Him, who is gift and giver. He also reminds us that human history with its suffering and joy must be seen in a *horizon of eternity*, that is, in that horizon of the definitive encounter with Him. And this encounter illuminates all the days of our life. If we think of this encounter, of this great gift, the small gifts of life, even the suffering, the worries will be illuminated by the hope of this encounter. "I am the bread of life; he who comes to me shall not hunger, and he who believes in me shall never thirst" (v. 35). This refers to the Eucharist, the greatest gift that satisfies the soul and the body. Meeting and welcoming within us Jesus, "Bread of Life", gives meaning and hope to the often winding journey of life. This "Bread of Life" is given to us with a task, namely, that we in our turn satisfy the spiritual and material hunger of our brothers, proclaiming the Gospel the world over. With the witness of our brotherly and solidary attitude toward our neighbour, we render Christ and his love present amid mankind.

Pope Francis

For the next Newsletter, items should be received into the parish office by **10am on Wednesday 7th August**, please email your messages/notices to: office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

If you wish to make a donation to our parish please go to: <https://www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk/financesdonations>

LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday 4th August 2024: Year B - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 2

PSALM RESPONSE: THE LORD GAVE THEM BREAD FROM HEAVEN.

1st reading Exodus 16:2-4,12-15 Psalm 77 2nd reading Ephesians 4:17,20-24 Gospel John 6:24-35

Sunday 11th August 2024: Year B - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 3

PSALM RESPONSE: TASTE AND SEE THAT THE LORD IS GOOD.

1st reading Kings 19:4-8 Psalm 33 2nd reading Ephesians 4:30-5:2 Gospel John 6:41-51

PARISH GROUPS



Youth Groups (including First Holy Communion & Confirmation)

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

Grail Seekers (school years 7, 8, 9) &

Student Youth (school year 10 until sixth form)

Our Youth Groups have now come to the end of their meetings for this 2023/24 pastoral year. Registrations for the next year, 2024/25 will open shortly on our website.

Growing In Faith Together Group

Tuesdays 10.15am to approx. 11.45am in the Holy Cross Resource Centre. All are welcome!

Learn to Pray with the Weekly Scripture Readings

Wednesdays at 11am in St Joseph's Parish Centre,

26A Abbey Water, Romsey;

The group in St Edward's Church, Chandler's Ford (who normally meet on Thursdays) are now on a summer break and will restart in September.

Please come along if you would like to grow in your life of prayer by praying with the following Sunday's Mass readings. All are welcome.

Knitting Club - third Tuesday of the month, from 2pm-4pm in the Holy Cross Resource Centre. If you would like to join us for a knit and cup of tea please come along, all levels of knitting ability welcome!

Afternoon Club - St. Joseph's Parish Centre, 26A Abbey Water. Come and join us for tea, games and good fun. Please note the next games afternoon will be held on Tuesday 1st October at 2pm.

MESSAGES



The Parish Office will be closed on **Monday 5th August, Bank Holiday Monday (26th August), Tuesday 27th August and the following Fridays during August: 9th, 16th & 23rd.**

Parish Barbeque - The Knights of St Columba and the CAFOD group invite you to a Parish barbecue at St Edward's on **Saturday 17th August from 1pm.**

Food including desserts and a free first drink all for £12. **Children under 12 are free.**

BBQ, dessert and raffle contributions gratefully received and there will be a CAFOD produce stall. Enquiries to Neil Hendricks (02380 266324).

Tickets on sale after weekend Masses. Places are limited so don't delay!

The Annual BBQ for St Joseph's and St Andrew's churches will be held at **12.30pm on Sunday 25th August at St Andrew's church, N. Baddesley.** Tickets will be £7.50 and as last year there will be a choice of fish or meat, along with salads etc and a dessert. Children are welcome. Tickets will be on sale outside St Joseph & St Andrew's churches on the weekends from 10th/11th August.

Invitation from St Joseph's Flower Arranging team to all church flower arrangers and those interested in arranging flowers within our parish, to attend the Celebration of The Feast Day of St Rosa of Lima in **Romsey on Friday 23rd August.**

We will commence the morning with Mass at 10am in St Joseph's Church, followed by refreshments in the Romsey Parish Centre (26A Abbey Water). At 12 Noon there will be an interactive talk for those interested to learn more about church flower arranging and/or are

interested in considering being part of our churches flower arranging teams. Please contact Jean Viola (jeanviola@yahoo.co.uk) or Elizabeth Gare on 01794 515265 for more details. If you are intending to join us on the day we would be most grateful if you could let one of us know, just so we have an idea of numbers.

Pilgrimage to Douai Abbey - Sunday 8th Sept 2024 The Catholic Movement of Communion and Liberation is organizing a Pilgrimage to Douai Abbey to offer to God the beginning of this social year. Programme for the day:

11.30am we meet at the Upper Bucklebury Memorial Hall, 57 Broad Ln, Upper Bucklebury, Reading RG7 6QH.

We will have a picnic (please bring your own food and drink), and we will then walk to the Abbey together. The walk is approximately 5 Km/3 miles long and, while suitable for sturdy pushchairs we recommend child carriers instead. It is mainly on flat terrain, and good walking shoes are advised.

Once we get to the Abbey, we will celebrate Mass and then one of the monks will give us a talk about their community and life together.

At the end of the pilgrimage, we will either drive you (or who drives your car) back to the hall by minibus, or you are welcome to walk back if you prefer.

We estimate the pilgrimage to **end by 5pm.**

On the day, please remember to bring some cash to pay for the hall hire and for the monastic community. If you intend to come please sign up using the form on our parish website.

MESSAGES CONTINUED



Upcoming Funeral

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Petrina Hodges and for her family. Petrina's Funeral Service takes place on **Thursday 8th August at 11am in St Edward's**.

Holy Cross Coffee Stop - please note the last Coffee Stop will be on **Thursday 22nd August** and will not be reopening until the works have been completed in the Resource Centre.

Sacramental Preparation for Adults (RCIA)

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

A reminder about the upcoming refurbishment of the Holy Cross Resource Centre

It has been agreed, to use some of the funds we hold in parish reserves, to reconfigure and refurbish the Resource Centre at Holy Cross. The changes will include dividing the upper office and loft into three separate offices, upgrading the kitchen and toilets as well as renewing the floors, main door, rendering and plastering the walls and decorating throughout. The Resource Centre is our most popular community space, and we hope that internal parish groups, external groups and individuals hosting private functions will be encouraged to hire/use it more and more often. The refurbishment has been agreed by the Parish Finance Committee and approved by the Diocese as part of the St Swithun Wells Parish Mission. **The work is due to start on Monday 9th September 2024.**

New to the Parish? - A very warm welcome to our Parish; we are delighted that you have joined us. If you are looking to regularly attend one of our churches and join our vibrant community please complete one of the 'New to the Parish Registration Forms' available on our parish website: www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk. All families are welcome at **ALL** Masses, however we have specific Children's Liturgies on Sundays. Please ask one of the Welcomers for details of the times at your Church.

Street Pastors - Could you spare one Friday night a month to care, listen and help in practical ways, to share the love of God in the streets of Eastleigh or Fair Oak? We have a choice of shifts from around 8pm to Midnight, or from 11pm to around 3am. Night time drinkers are pleased to see us, some have said, we have helped them to changes their lives.

We have comprehensive training over three weekends to equip us for all eventualities, starting in October: Friday evening 4th, Sat 5th & Sun 6th October 2024. Fri evening 18th, Sat 19th & Sun 20th October 2024. Fri evening 1st, Sat 2nd and Sun 3rd Nov 2024. For more information please go to the website: <http://www.eastleigh.streetpastors.org.uk/> Or email: eastleigh@streetpastors.org.uk (Eric Hyom, 07736 967921)

Financial Requests

In order to save time and postage the office would like to request the following:

1.If you wish to make a Mass Offering, please could you hand in your donation in advance of the Mass taking place. This is important as the donation is paid directly to the priest who celebrates the Mass. In the case of a supply priest, we send their supply fee, expenses, and Mass offerings as soon as possible after the Mass is celebrated. However, late donations mean often this must be done in two separate payments, which costs extra time and postage.

2.We are happy to support CAFOD through various fundraising activities and make larger payments at certain intervals in the church year. However, if you wish to donate to CAFOD regularly by personal cheque, please could you send your donation directly (the address is below,) as it now costs the parish 85p for every cheque we must forward and we feel obliged to send cheques on, as soon as possible.

CAFOD address: CAFOD, Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7JB
Many thanks Fiona & Sarah

Message from Right to Life - Please ask your MP to protect life in the new Parliament. We are likely to face threats in the new Parliament on both beginning and end-of-life fronts. Ask your local MP to protect the most vulnerable. Please email your MP today by visiting: righttolife.org.uk/newparliament

CONFESSION (SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION)

Tuesday:	9.30am-10.00am (before Mass)	St Andrew
Tuesday:	6.30pm-7.30pm (after Mass)	St Edward
Saturday:	10.00am-10.30am (after Mass)	Holy Cross
	5.30pm-6.00pm	St Joseph
Sunday:	8.30am-9.00am (before Mass)	St Edward
	8.30am-9.00am (before Mass)	St Andrew

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tues:	St Edward - after Mass (6.30pm-7.30pm)
Wednesday:	Holy Cross - after Mass (10am-11am)
Thursday:	St Joseph - before Mass (5pm-6pm)

TIMES A PRIEST WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MEET DURING AUGUST

If you need to arrange a time to speak to one of our priests during the month of August please either send them an email (their email addresses are on the back page of the newsletter) or catch them after Mass.

OUR CHURCHES

St Ed - St Edward the Confessor
191-193, Winchester Rd, Chandlers Ford, SO53 2DU

OLQA - Our Lady Queen of Apostles
Martin Street, Bishop's Waltham, SO32 1DN

HC - Holy Cross Church
53 Leigh Road, Eastleigh, SO50 9DF

SSW - St Swithun Wells
Allington Lane, Fair Oak SO50 7DB

St A - St Andrew
Fleming Avenue, North, Baddesley SO52 9EP

St J - St Joseph
Abbey House Drive, Romsey, SO51 8YB

MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Saturday 3rd Aug	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross St Swithun Wells OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Maureen Francis RIP People of the Parish Milda Vaidakeričienė RIP Herbert Howie RIP Anniversary The Living & Deceased Members of the Wood and Bowering Families
Sunday 4th August <i>Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLQA Holy Cross (also livestreamed) St Joseph	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Mary McCormack RIP Alfredo & Angela Pantanella RIP Matthew Thomson RIP Zaid Bahoo RIP John Gare RIP Anniversary
Monday 5th Aug	9.30am	Holy Cross	Fraternity of St Charles Patricia Cowling RIP FM
Tuesday 6th Aug <i>The Transfiguration of the Lord</i>	10.00am 6.00pm	St Andrew St Edward	Living and Deceased Members of the Layzell Family FM
Wed 7th August	9.30am 10.00am	Holy Cross St Edward	Holy Souls in Purgatory RIP Keith Small RIP
Thurs 8th August <i>St Dominic</i>	9.30am 6.00pm 11.00am	Holy Cross St Joseph St Edward	John Whitter RIP <u>Funeral Service: Petrina Hodges RIP</u>
Friday 9th August <i>St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross</i>	9.30am 10.00am 10.00am	OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Sr Joseph 70th Jubilee of Profession Shanika & Alix (Health & Wellbeing)
Saturday 10th Aug <i>Morning Mass: St Laurence</i>	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross St Swithun Wells OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Living & Deceased Members of the Davis & Lengyel Families FM Kathleen & Ivor Stroud RIP Ed & Mary Vokes (In Thanksgiving for Silver Wedding Anniversary)
Sunday 11th Aug <i>Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLQA Holy Cross (also livestreamed) St Joseph	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Living & Deceased Members of the Johns Family FM Alan French RIP Anniversary People of the Parish Crispina Fuentes & Audie Ariola RIP

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 Mario Toma (Assistant Priest)
Tel: 023 8061 2430; E: mtoma@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Fr Matteo Pagani (Assistant Priest)
Tel: 023 8061 2430; E: mpagani@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Fr Bruce Barnes (Assistant Priest)
Tel: 02380 273882 (Parish 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 8025 4806; E: powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Deacon Paul Wilson
Tel: 023 8061 6618; E: pwilson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Office Holy Cross Church, 53 Leigh Road, Eastleigh, SO50 9DF Tel: 02380 273882
Opening Times: Mon-Thurs 9.30am-5.30pm;
Fri 9.30am-2.30pm (see newsletter for changes).

Holy Cross Resource Centre & Finance Admin: Fiona Mooney
Email: accounts@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

Parish Secretary: Sarah Goodfellow
Email: office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

Website Contact: website.sswp@gmail.com

Safeguarding: Please see Safeguarding posters in each of our churches for details of the Parish Safeguarding Reps. Diocesan Safeguarding: Ruth Attfield rattfield@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk