



*Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ*

17th November 2019: **33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

## Apocalypse Now

Today's Gospel reading, along with parallels in Matthew and Mark, have often been called the "Little Apocalypse". The story portrays Jesus foretelling the destruction of the Temple and the signs of the end of time! Matthew and Luke were written after the actual destruction of the temple in 70 CE, but not Mark. So, what is Jesus telling his disciples and through them, us?

This is the third temple to be built in Jerusalem. This one, still not complete in Jesus' time and taking 40 years to build, was the creation of King Herod. Given the history of the other two and the state of play in Israel in the 1<sup>st</sup> century CE, it's not unlikely that it would be destroyed again.

The reading goes on to describe the events that precede the end of time and how Jesus' disciples will know the end is nigh.

Forty or more years ago, when Marion and I were studying in London, there was a man who would daily walk the length and breadth of Oxford Street with a placard which said: "The End is Nigh". We are still here. Many have foretold the end of the world and are still warning that, if nothing else, climate change will see the end of us all!

The point that Luke is making here, and has been for a number of weeks, is that although the "Parousia" – the Second Coming of Jesus – has not come for them as soon as they expected it, they must not lose faith or give up hope.

Jesus says they will suffer persecution for his name's sake before the end comes. This is happening in some parts of our world. In some people's eyes, the church does not have a good reputation. We do not get a good press. TV and radio commentators are sometimes cynical in the way they portray what we do.

Jesus says: "You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls."

I'm not saying that the signs of our times are the signs of the end times (some people are saying this incidentally) but it is definitely time to renew our faith in Jesus and respond to his call to make disciples of all nations.

Matthew and Mark name this time "the beginning of the birth pangs". Thy Kingdom come!

*Deacon Bob*

## GEM OF THE WEEK



This week's GEM is a video by Bishop Robert Barron entitled, "Priestly Celibacy". You can find the link on our homepage.

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

## LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



**Sunday Cycle: Year C - Weekday Cycle: Year 1 - Psalter Week: 1**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** THE LORD SAID: I THINK THOUGHTS OF PEACE AND NOT OF AFFLICTION. YOU WILL CALL UPON ME, AND I WILL ANSWER YOU, AND I WILL LEAD BACK YOUR CAPTIVES FROM EVERY PLACE.

**PSALM RESPONSE:** THE LORD COMES TO RULE THE PEOPLES WITH FAIRNESS.

**READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, 24TH NOVEMBER 2019:**

1<sup>st</sup> reading: 2 Samuel 5: 1-3 - Psalm: 121 - 2<sup>nd</sup> reading: Colossians 1:12-20 - Gospel: Luke 23:35-43

## 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, everyone is assured of a warm welcome. Contact June or Paul Wilson on 02380 616618. Or email: [pwilson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:pwilson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

### School of Community

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

### Sacramental Preparation for Adults (RCIA)

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](mailto:powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk). Preparation will be on Wednesday evenings fortnightly at **St Edward the Confessor Church, Chandlers Ford at 7.30pm.**

Journey in Faith with the Bible: Wednesday evenings fortnightly between 7.30pm and 9pm at **St Edward the Confessor Church, Chandlers Ford.** All Welcome. Dates until Christmas: **20th Nov; 4th & 18th Dec.** Further details from Anne Owen on 02380 254806.

### Lost Books of the Old Testament

This is the second of Deacon Bob's occasional series of talks and discussions for the "Year of the Word" on **Wednesday 20th November at 7.30pm, at St Swithun Wells Church.** The meeting is hosted by the Fellowship Group. Refreshments afterwards. All are welcome.

CAFE - the next meetings will be held on:  
**Mon 18th Nov, St Joseph's Parish Centre at 2pm;**  
**Tues 19th Nov, St Andrew's at 7.30pm.**  
Further details from Sheila on 01794 518071.

### Fryern Prayer Group (St Edward's) - Mon 25th

**Nov, from 2-3pm at the home of Sheila and Pauline O Neill, 19 Carthage Close, SO53 2BL . All Welcome! Theme: *The Bible & God's Plan.***

TOZ (for young people from school year 10) meet twice a month on Sunday. **Next Meeting Date: 17th November, 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](mailto: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.

### Afternoon Club

**St. Joseph's Parish Centre (26 Abbey Water),** first Tuesday in the month. Come and join us for tea, delicious scones and cakes, games and good fun. No qualifications required and you could win a prize in the free raffle! **Next Meeting: 2pm on 3rd December 2019.**

## CHANGES TO MASS & PARISH OFFICE OPENING



### OLQA

Please note there will be no Mass on the following dates:

**Tuesday 19th November;**  
**Thursday 28th November.**

## OFFERINGS & SECOND COLLECTIONS



### St Swithun Wells Parish Acknowledges with thanks

Last week's collections: £TBC;  
SO/DD for October '19: £12,952.59

## PARISH EVENTS

**Annual Mass for Parishioners who have died in the past year** - This will take place during weekend Masses on 23rd & 24th November at the following churches: St Andrew's, St Joseph's, Holy Cross, St Swithun Wells & St Edward's.

### **Blessing of Graves**

In November each year we remember in a special way those who have died and gone before us. One of our traditions is the Blessing of Graves in the cemeteries within our Parish. Details for this year are:

#### **Sunday 24th November**

Romsey Cemetery (Botley Rd) - 2pm

Woodley - 2.30pm

Bishopstoke Cemetery - 2pm

Eastleigh (Brookwood) Cemetery - 3pm

Fair Oak Cemetery - 3pm

Ramalley Cemetery - 3pm

#### **Tuesday 26th November**

North Baddesley St John's Churchyard— after the 10am Mass at St Andrew's.

**St Joseph's & St Andrew's Christmas Mini Fayre & Draw: 30th Nov, 10am-12.30pm, St Andrew's Church.** See Messages section for more details and help requested.

### **Good Companions Christmas Lunch**

The next lunch will be at 12 noon for 12.30pm start on **Wed 4th December 2019** at Keats Restaurant, Ampfield. All who live alone or are lonely are most welcome to join us for this Christmas special, with delicious food and pleasant company. Please contact Pauline on 023 80266617 / Susie on 023 80263436.

**Parish Advent Retreat - Sunday 8th December, 2.30pm-5pm, St Edward's.** There will be a talk by Fr Raffaele, some time for questions and personal prayer.

**Parish Christmas Party - Sunday 15th December, 1.00pm-4.30pm. St Swithun Wells Catholic School, Chandlers Ford.** Please keep the date in your diary, more details to follow.

## SCHOOL NOTICES

### **St Swithun Wells Catholic Primary School**

Is looking to recruit a full-time teacher and a part-time teacher, from January 2020. Please see church noticeboards for job adverts. Closing dates for applications is Noon on **Thursday 21st November 2019**. CES Application forms and further details are available from the school office:

adminoffice@st-swithunwells.hants.sch.uk or from [www.st-swithunwells.hants.sch.uk/staffvacancies](http://www.st-swithunwells.hants.sch.uk/staffvacancies).

## MESSAGES

### **Recommended Reading**

Two suggested books for parishioners until January:  
*Painted Veil* by W. Somerset Maugham;  
*Chiara Corbella Petrillo: A Witness to Joy*;  
It will be possible to buy the books after wk/end Mass.

### **Holy Cross Shop**

Take a look in the shop after Mass on Sundays, as we now have our Christmas stock: Advent calendars; Advent candles; calendars; diaries and gifts. Look forward to seeing you. *Pat & Angela*

### **St Joseph's and St Andrew's Christmas Mini-Fayre and Draw**

Donations of non perishable gifts urgently needed. Please leave items in boxes provided in St Joseph's & St Andrew's Churches.

There are still some raffle tickets left, so if you feel lucky and/or generous, please pick up another book of tickets as you leave Mass today. It would be fantastic if we could sell all the tickets and make this event really successful. The draw will take place at **St Andrew's Church, on the 30th November** and the proceeds given to Fryers House, Romsey.

The mini-fayre, from 10am- 12.30pm will include stalls and refreshments. Nearer the time, we hope parishioners will get baking for the event. The proceeds of the fayre will go towards St Andrew's children's liturgy resources and some new chairs for St Joseph's parish rooms.

### **Bring the Bible to life in 2020!**

Buy 'The Big Picture' (£10) - a CaFE DVD exploring 12 Bible themes. And/Or come to CaFE meetings showing this DVD throughout 2020, details from [sheila.keefe20@gmail.com](mailto:sheila.keefe20@gmail.com).

**CAFOD Christmas Cards** will be on sale at **Our Lady Queen of Apostles** on the following weekends: **16th/17th Nov; 23rd/24th Nov; 31st Nov/1st Dec.**

## OTHER EVENTS

### **Caritas Event "World Day of the Poor"**

**Sunday 17th November 2019, between 1pm and 5.30pm at St Peters, Winchester**

Caritas Portsmouth are holding an afternoon where we can all come together to share experiences and encourage new ideas around the issue of poverty. The event will include a short play by "Staging Faith" on the life of St. Vincent De Paul, and also some personal testimonies of people who have experienced life on the margins. There will be opportunities to network with others and to see what we can practically do to help those in need around us. Come along and let this event be the place where we begin to open our church doors to those in need and be a voice of the voiceless. For further information contact Kevin Gallagher from Caritas at [caritas@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:caritas@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) or call 07388 994057.

**Mass for Deceased Clergy - Tues 19th November at 12.15pm, St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth**

# MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 16th <i>St Edmund of Abingdon</i>  *Vigil Mass	9.30am	HC	Special Intention to Our Lady & St Joseph
	5.00pm*	SSW	Jackie Callow RIP
	6.00pm*	St J	Joseph Paulo & Elsy Joseph RIP
	6.00pm*	OLQA	
	6.30pm*	St Ed	Fe & Felipe Cagampang RIP
Sun 17th Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00am	HC	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i>
	9.00am	St Ed	Tim Layzell RIP
	9.00am	St A	Denis Keefe RIP (Anniversary)
	9.30am	OLQA	
	11.00am	St J	Private Intention
	11.00am	HC	Angela Maria Iarossi RIP
Mon 18th	10.00am	St Ed	Constance Brixey FM
Tues 19th	9.30am	HC	Special Intention to Our Lady & St Joseph
	10.00am	St A	Edward Rayment RIP (Anniversary)
	10.00am	OLQA	<b>No Mass</b>
Wed 20th	9.30am	HC	Stewart Russell (Sick)
	10.00am	St Ed	
	11.00am	HC	<b>Funeral Mass: Mariantonia Scappaticci RIP</b>
Thurs 21st <i>The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	9.30am	HC	Elias Yusef Francis RIP
	10.00am	OLQA	
	6.00pm	St J	
Fri 22nd <i>St Cecilia</i>	10.00am	St Ed	Patrick Burke FM
	10.00am	OLQA	
	10.00am	St J AH	
Sat 23rd  *Vigil Mass	9.30am	HC	V. P. Pappachan RIP
	5.00pm*	SSW	Joe & Lydia Fonseca RIP
	6.00pm*	St J	Monica Carrasco RIP (Anniversary)
	6.00pm*	OLQA	
	6.30pm*	St Ed	Deceased Members of the Baker & Hanrahan Families RIP
Sun 24th Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe	9.00am	HC	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i>
	9.00am	St Ed	
	9.00am	St A	
	9.30am	OLQA	
	11.00am	St J	
	11.00am	HC	Kathleen & Leslie Hammerton RIP

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**  
**Tues:** HC - First Tuesday of the Month (10am-1pm)  
**Thurs:** St Ed - Holy Hour 7-8pm  
**Thurs:** St J - from 4-6pm, Rosary and 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 in the Parish Office, Holy Cross, Eastleigh.  
**Weds:** Fr Luca, 4.30pm-6.30pm, Parish Office, Holy Cross, Eastleigh.  
**Fridays:** Fr Raffaele, 11.30am-12.30pm in the 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