



Our Mission: Love God—Love Others—Make Disciples

27th October 2019: **30th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

My Call to the Priesthood

The decisive point in my life was to know my professor of Religion. When I was fourteen years old, during one of his first lessons he invited me to a meeting of students after school. The meeting was called "The Ray". It was the first contact with a company of friends that involved me and helped me to ask the most important questions I carried in my heart, to express them, and, led by a senior person, an attempt to answer.

After a few months there were the first Easter exercises, the "Student Youth Triduum" in Rimini: I connected profoundly with the words of Father Giorgio. I never left the company again. Among the six thousand we were, I had the distinct feeling that this priest was speaking directly to me.

Looking back on high school years, I can only thank the Lord for giving me the opportunity to meet real people who loved me and still to this day love me more than I know how to love myself. The charity on Saturday, "The Ray", the "School of Community", the Mass, became fixed appointments in my life. With the help of these people I was able to reveal the questions I held in my heart: what will happen to me? What will be my destiny?

At the university, as a law student, a similar situation (as when I was 14 years old) happened again. Many friends involved me in their lives. From the morning praises to the study together to passing the exams, from university politics to the banquets that welcomed the freshers, from the student newspaper to the relations with professors, we experienced together the multiple attempts to affirm a Presence in our lives. Thanks to these friends, I was constantly reminded not to take for granted what was between us, the reason for our unity: Jesus Christ. With them I was called to answer a question that changed me over the years: what sustains your life? What is your fulfilment? Over time, an intuition started to grow in me: to give all my life to that meeting done as a teenager.

For me it was a decisive experience when I was elected as a student representative in the council at University. I had to give myself the profound reasons for the effort to reconcile commitments as a representative and those related to study. I discovered that I wanted to live all the relationships in truth, in fullness. So, during the last year of university I decided to enter the seminary of my diocese.

It was a fundamental time because it allowed me to deepen my vocation. Friendship relationships with fellow travelers, the gaze of superiors, the paternity of my bishop, helped me to understand that I was called to a priestly life in fraternity and mission. So I arrived in Rome, at the seminary of the Priestly Fraternity of Missionaries of Saint Charles Borromeo.

The rest is recent history: priestly ordination, the first two years as Bishop's secretary in Reggio Emilia and now my new English adventure. I ask you to pray for me so that I can offer with gratitude the many gifts I have received to the people I will meet.

Fr Marco

GEM OF THE WEEK



This week's GEM is a video by Bishop Barron entitled, "Catholicism: The Pivotal Players" where you can learn about the Church's newest saint, St John Henry Newman. 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: 2

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: LET THE HEARTS THAT SEEK THE LORD REJOICE; TURN TO THE LORD AND HIS STRENGTH; CONSTANTLY SEEK HIS FACE.

PSALM RESPONSE: THIS POOR MAN CALLED; THE LORD HEARD HIM.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, 3RD NOVEMBER 2019:

1st reading: Wisdom 11:22-12:2 - Psalm: 144 - 2nd reading: 2 Thessalonians 1:11-2:2 - Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

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

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. Preparation will be on Wednesday evenings fortnightly at St Edward the Confessor Church, Chandlers Ford at 7.30pm.

Journey in Faith with the Bible: An opportunity for all to develop through prayer and reflection a better understanding of the readings for the following weekend's Sunday Mass. On Wednesday evenings fortnightly between 7.30pm and 9pm at St Edward the Confessor Church, Chandlers Ford. All Welcome. Dates until Christmas: 6th, 20th Nov; 4th & 18th Dec. Further details from Anne Owen on 02380 254806.

CAFE - the next meetings will be held on:
Monday 18th November In St Joseph's at 2pm;
Tuesday 19th November in St Andrew's at 7.30pm.

Further details from Sheila on 01794 518071.

Fellowship Group - St. Swithun Wells Church,

Fair Oak. There will be no meeting on the 30th October as it is half term. Meetings recommence on 6th November. Queries to Peter Baggott or Deacon Bob Birtles.

TOZ (for young people from school year 10) meet twice a month on Sunday. Next Meeting Date: 3rd November from 7pm to 8.30pm in Holy Cross Resource Centre. 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.

Holy Cross 60 Club

Our next meeting is on Monday 28th October from 2-4pm in the Resource Centre (behind Holy Cross Church). Hope to see you there!
Maureen on 80692682.

CHANGES TO MASS & PARISH OFFICE OPENING



OLQA, Bishop's Waltham

There will be no Mass on Tuesday 29th October.

All Saints Day

On Friday 1st November there will be changes to Mass - please see the back of the Newsletter for details.

Remembrance Sunday (10th November)

Holy Cross - Mass will start at 11.30am.
St Joseph's - Mass will be at 11.30am following the civil commemoration in the park.

OFFERINGS & SECOND COLLECTIONS



St Swithun Wells Parish Acknowledges with thanks

Last week's collections: £TBC;
SO/DD for September'19: £12,423.09

Second Collection - 2nd/3rd November

Bamenda Sunday next weekend. Every year we have a special collection to support the projects driven by our friends in our twinned Diocese of Bamenda, Cameroon. Please ensure you see a copy of the Bamenda Newsletter (copies will be made available next weekend) to understand the mutual benefits of our twinned relationship and how much your help is needed in these troubled times.

PARISH EVENTS



Get 2Gether Family Afternoon – Sun 3rd Nov
From 2.30pm to 4.30pm in St Edward's Church (Cloister). It is an event for all the families of the Parish: parents, children, grandparents... It will be an opportunity to have some time together, with fun and friendship. If you want to bring a cake or some juice, it will be much appreciated, at the end we finish with some refreshments.

Parish Lunch - Tuesday 12th November, 12.30pm
At the Luzborough, Romsey. All welcome. Menus on the notice boards. Apologies for the short notice but please let Rosemary (01794 522411) know your choice of meal by Monday 4th November as we have to pre-order. Thank you.

Classical Music Evening - Friday 15th November
8.00pm-9.00pm at St Edward's Church.
All are welcome!

OTHER EVENTS

Bishop's Waltham

There will be an Informal Service at Bishop's Waltham House, Free Street, Bishop's Waltham at 5.45pm on 3rd November. All welcome, please come along and support us, meet at 5.30pm. For more information please contact Angela Fairweather on 01489 895968.

ALTON Day of Renewal

23rd November, 11am - 4pm

Alton School, Anstey Lane, Alton, GU34 2NG.

This month's talk is on "Praying Scripture with Lectio Divina" by Rt. Rev. Richard Moth (Bishop of Arundel & Brighton Diocese). There will be a shared lunch (please bring finger food to share) at 1pm.

No need to book in advance and it's completely free but we do invite donations on the day, for those who can afford it to cover expenses.

For more information please visit:

www.altonrenewal.com.

MESSAGES



For the Month of October to deepen our relationship with Our Lady we want to invite everyone to pray the **Rosary**:

- Every **Thursday at 9am** in Holy Cross;
- **Half an hour before weekend Masses** in St Joseph & St Andrew.
- Also during October every **Thursday (7-8pm)** we will be praying the Rosary for Vocations at St Edward's.

Christmas Cards on Sale at St Edward's

CAFOD Christmas cards will be on sale this weekend (26th & 27th) at both Masses.

Charity Christmas Cards (Aid to the Church in Need and Catholic Children's Society) are now available to purchase from the repository after weekend Masses.

Christmas Cards: The Knights of St Columba have produced Christmas cards in association with St Swithun Wells school. Please support the Knights' charities and the school by buying cards on sale at Masses on **2nd/3rd Nov and 9th/10th November**.

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.

St Swithun Wells Prayer Link

Please contact me if you have any requests, queries or comments. **Marion**
marionbirtles@gmail.com (02380 692416).

Poitiers Care Food Bank

The above Catholic charity, founded and organised by Father Des Connolly, supports local families in great need. *Urgently required are tea, coffee, sugar, packet soups, tins of meat, fish, fruit and vegetables, and all other non-perishable food.* These may be left in the boxes provided at St. Joseph's, St. Andrew's and St. Edward's churches.

If you would prefer to support the charity by giving a monetary donation by Standing Order, or an occasional donation, please contact Vincent Clemas, 'Cornerways House', School Lane, Ringwood, Hampshire, BH24 1LG. We would welcome more volunteers. If you would like to help, either on a regular basis, or just occasionally to give our volunteers a short break, please contact Brian Arthur on 07796161047 or 023 8029 2692. Thank you for your generous contributions in the past and for your continuing prayers and support.

Would you be interested in becoming a CAFOD School Volunteer?

Schools Volunteers are a vital part of our work bringing Catholic social teaching to the next generation – but there is a shortage in this area and we need your help. By becoming a CAFOD School Volunteer you will have the opportunity to be part of a global movement building a fairer world, inspiring young people to get involved. It only takes a few hours a week to visit schools, and with that time, you can help make an impact on future generations. If you would like to find out more please contact Jo Lewry on 01252 329385 or email portsmouth@cafod.org.uk.

MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 26th *Vigil Mass	9.30am	HC	Amarant Ferreria RIP
	5.00pm*	SSW	Anne Monahan (Special Intention)
	6.00pm*	St J	Michael Baker RIP
	6.00pm*	OLQA	
	6.30pm*	St Ed	Jessie Regan (Anniversary)
Sun 27th Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00am	HC	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i>
	9.00am	St Ed	Lake & Hill Families (Special Intention)
	9.00am	St A	Kathleen & Albert Harrison RIP (Anniversary)
	9.30am	OLQA	
	11.00am	St J	
	11.00am	HC	Antonio Martone RIP
Mon 28th <i>Ss Simon & Jude</i>	10.00am	St Ed	Elaine Gaunt RIP
Tues 29th	9.30am	HC	Special Intention to Our Lady & St Joseph
	10.00am	St A	
	10.00am	OLQA	No Mass
Wed 30th <i>Blessed Winchester Martyrs</i>	9.30am	HC	Gerard Carr FM
	10.00am	St Ed	Alexander Hill (Special Intention)
Thurs 31st *Vigil Mass ALL SAINTS	9.30am	HC	James McElhinney
	10.00am	OLQA	
	6.00pm*	St J*	Roy Russell-Smith RIP
Fri 1st Nov ALL SAINTS	<u>9.30am</u>	HC	<u>Keith Clark RIP</u>
	10.00am	OLQA	
	<u>10.00am</u>	St J	
	<u>7.00pm</u>	SSW	
	<u>7.00pm</u>	St A	<u>Alfred & Alice Harcourt RIP (Annv)</u>
	<u>7.30pm</u>	St Ed	<u>Mrs Edward Christian FM</u>
Sat 2nd Nov <i>All Souls</i> *Vigil Mass	9.30am	HC	Audrey & Denis Queen FM
	<u>10.00am</u>	St J	
	5.00pm*	SSW	Marion Lloyd (Special Intention)
	6.00pm*	St J	
	6.00pm*	OLQA	
Sun 3rd Nov Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00am	HC	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i>
	9.00am	St Ed	The Deceased members of the Griffin & O'Connell Families RIP
	9.00am	St A	Patricia Roydon RIP (Anniversary)
	9.30am	OLQA	
	11.00am	St J	
	11.00am	HC	Beatrice & George White; Laura, David & Eduardo Fernandes 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 - 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