



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

**18th OCTOBER 2020: TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

## We belong exclusively to God

Today's Gospel wants to teach us how we Christians have to consider political society, the State, and what our duties are towards it.

The Lord therefore says, 'Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God.' Caesar represents every legitimate political authority. The Lord's words are best identified by placing them in the context of a serious problem that troubled the conscience of many of Jesus' fellow citizens. The fact that even the Jews, as citizens of the Roman Empire, had to recognise the power of Rome by paying taxes to the imperial tax authorities, did not fail to arouse perplexity and resistance. For the Jews, by recognising the ruling emperor, it challenged their fundamental belief that the Lord is the only ruler of Israel. Let's not forget - which is difficult for us to understand today - that the attribution of divine characters to the king, to the emperor, made recognition by the Jews even more difficult.

So how does Jesus place himself in this situation? He doesn't teach, 'don't pay taxes; don't recognise human political power.' On the contrary. For Jesus, political power performs a service; it has a function, and it ensures good things we can enjoy. It is therefore right that it should be fully recognised.

But Jesus' answer is not limited to this. It makes an addition of decisive importance, '(Repay) to God what belongs to God.' What is God's and what must be returned to Him? Ourselves. The human person belongs exclusively to his Creator. Jesus in another context had said that the first commandment is, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your strength.'

If we now consider Jesus' answer as a whole, we understand that on the one hand Jesus reminds us of the duties we have as citizens of a State, first of all to pay taxes. But on the other hand, from these words of Jesus political power comes out radically reduced. It loses any connotation of absolute sovereignty: only God is our absolute sovereign. Political power is not the ultimate referent of human life. God alone is the ultimate goal of our life.

These words constitute a turning point in the history of our Western society that it is no exaggeration to describe as revolutionary. Before Jesus, it was always thought among all peoples that the laws of the State derive directly from God himself.

The Christian community has a positive impact on the civil community, according to the teaching given to us by Jesus in the Gospel. Our citizenship is in the Heaven, of course; however, this does not suppress our duties towards the earthly city.

*Father Marco*

## **GEM OF THE WEEK**



This week's GEM is "Fratelli tutti": a short summary of the last Encyclical of Pope Francis - you can find this on our homepage. If anyone has suggestions for GEMs please contact [website.sswp@gmail.com](mailto:website.sswp@gmail.com)

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

# LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



**Sunday 18th October 2020:**

Year A - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 1

**PSALM RESPONSE:** GIVE THE LORD GLORY AND POWER.

**1<sup>st</sup> reading:** Isaiah 45:1.4-6 **Psalm:** 95 **2<sup>nd</sup> reading:** 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5 **Gospel:** Matthew 22:15-21

**READINGS FOR SUNDAY 25TH OCTOBER:**

**1<sup>st</sup> reading:** Exodus 22:20-26 **Psalm:** 17 **2<sup>nd</sup> reading:** 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10 **Gospel:** Matthew 22:34-40

## PARISH GROUPS



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

Meet weekly:

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

Tues, 4.00pm-5.30pm in St Andrew;

Sat 10.30am-Noon in Holy Cross Resource Centre.

To join Stars of Abraham please click the link on our website.

Grail Seekers (school years 7, 8, 9) - meet weekly every Saturday from 2.00pm-4.00pm in Holy Cross Resource Centre. To join the group please click the link on our website.

Student Youth (school year 10 until sixth form) meet weekly on a Friday evening in Holy Cross Resource Centre. To join the group please click the link on our website.

### Communion & Liberation Group (with

Fr Luca) is meeting every Wednesday, for more information please click the link on the homepage of our website.

### Communion & Liberation Group (with Fr Raffaele)

is meeting every Thursday at 8pm in St Edward's cloister.

### Fellowship Group (Zoom Meeting)

**Wednesday 21st Oct, 7.30pm**

The theme for this week is "Food Poverty in the UK and an update on the work of Eastleigh Basics Bank". If you would like to join us please contact Deacon Bob Birtles on: [bbirtles@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:bbirtles@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk). Please note due to half term there will be no meeting on 28th October.

## MESSAGES



### Sacramental Preparation for Adults (RCIA)

If you would like to be baptized, 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 restart Wed 28th October, 8pm**

### Blessing of the 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 1st November**

Romsey Cemetery (Botley Rd) - 2pm

Woodley - 2.30pm

Bishopstoke Cemetery - 2pm

Eastleigh (Brookwood) Cemetery - 3pm

Fair Oak Cemetery - 3pm

Ramalley Cemetery - 3pm

#### **Tuesday 3rd November**

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

### Prayers for parishioners who have died in the past year -

This will take place during weekend Masses on **31st October/1st November** at the following churches:

**St Andrew's, St Joseph's, Holy Cross, St Swithun Wells & St Edward's.**

Additional Mass at St Edward's - As of 23rd October we will resume the Friday 10am Mass.

Upcoming Funerals - Please pray for the repose of the soul of Jennifer Luckhurst and for her family. Mrs Luckhurst's Requiem Mass will take place at St Joseph's on 22nd October at 11am.

"One Horton Heath" - At the next meeting of Churches Together in Bishopstoke, Fair Oak and Horton Heath (CtIBiFOH), one of the items on the agenda will be "One Horton Heath", an extensive housing development off Allington Lane in Fair Oak. In their website, Eastleigh Borough Council say they are "delivering a different approach to development, focussing on community, innovation and sustainability". They have asked the local Church communities to get involved to ensure that faith principles are enshrined in the project. **On Wednesday, 28th October** there will be a Zoom meeting (morning/lunchtime - time to be confirmed), Hosted by Churches Together, to which anyone interested is invited. If you would like to get the Zoom link and take part, email me (Dcn Bob) at [bbirtles@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:bbirtles@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).

St Swithun Wells Car Park - Apologies to everyone who came last Saturday that the car park was inaccessible. This has been taken up with the builders and we have been assured that the access will be available this Saturday.

## MESSAGES CONTINUED



### Sunday 18 October 2020 – World Mission Sunday

World Mission Sunday supports missionaries who work alongside communities that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. By supporting Missio, the Pope's charity for world mission, you will help missionaries like Sr Nilcéia share the love of Christ with those most in need. Please pray for the mission of the Church throughout the world and give what you can to this very important collection which will sustain the future of our Church. Please call 020 7821 9755 (office hours) or visit Missio's website to give a single gift, set up a Direct Debit and Gift Aid your donation, if possible: [missio.org.uk](http://missio.org.uk)  
*Thank you*

**Parish Office** - Due to staff holidays the office will be closed on Monday 19th & Tuesday 20th October (Linda Roberts is away that week) and Thursday 29th & Friday 30th October (Sarah Goodfellow is away that week).

### Parish Get2Together

**Sunday 25th October, 1-4pm**

Pavillion on the Park, 1 Kingfisher Road, SO50 9LH Eastleigh

An event for all the parish. We begin at 1pm, sharing a meal together, in tables of six and then we'll have some entertainment until 4pm (games and activities for all the families).

Cost: We ask you to give a contribution of £10 per table to be paid on the day to cover expenses.

Please bring your own food, beverage, cups/plates/cutlery (it is like a picnic), and remember to wear a mask (except when you are at your table).

To book a table please go to our parish website and click the link you will need to give the 6 names filling the table. There are a maximum of 15 tables.

### Clock Change - Daylight Saving

Please note the clocks go back by one hour on **Sunday 25th October**.

## MASS (STREAMING & BOOKING SYSTEM) & CONFESSION



### Live Streamed Mass

Mass at Holy Cross on Thursday, 9.30am and Sunday, 11am is streamed. To join please go to our parish website [www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk](http://www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk)

### To reserve a seat at Mass in St Joseph's & OLQA St Joseph's, Romsey:

- **Thursday 6.00pm** (the church will close after Mass). To reserve a seat for the Mass please contact Teresa Rayment from Monday through to Wednesday (Tel: 01794 513528 / [teresarayment@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:teresarayment@tiscali.co.uk)).
- **Friday 10am** (no booking required)
- **Saturday Vigil Mass 6.00pm** (the church will close after Mass). To reserve a seat for the Mass please contact Joanna Russell from Wednesday through to Friday (Tel: 07917 802814 / [joanna@silvasmiths.co.uk](mailto:joanna@silvasmiths.co.uk)).
- **Sunday 11.00am** (the church will close after Mass). To reserve a seat for the Mass please contact Charles Crampin from Wednesday through to Friday (Tel: 02380 410595 / [sancha@virginmedia.com](mailto:sancha@virginmedia.com)).

### Our Lady Queen of Apostles, Bishop's Waltham:

- **Sunday 9.30am** (the church will close after Mass). To reserve a seat please email: [olqamassbook@gmail.com](mailto:olqamassbook@gmail.com)

### St Swithun Wells Church, Fair Oak

5pm Vigil Mass on Saturdays. Doors open at 4.30pm. Please wear a mask before entering the church. A Steward will direct you to a designated seat. In order to keep the church open, we need cleaners. If you are able to volunteer a couple of hours to help, please contact Pat Baggott on [baggott.pm@gmail.com](mailto:baggott.pm@gmail.com) or telephone 02380694060.

**Private Prayer** - The following churches will remain open **after Mass until 11.30am** for private prayer (see back page for Mass times):

**Tuesday:** St Andrew's  
**Wednesday:** St Edward's  
**Thursday:** Holy Cross

### CONFESSION (SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION)

<b>Tuesdays:</b>	6.30-7.30pm	St Edward's
<b>Saturdays:</b>	10.00-10.30am	Holy Cross
	5.30-6.00pm	St Joseph's
<b>Sundays:</b>	8.30-9.00am	St Andrew's

### TIMES A PRIEST WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MEET

<b>Tuesdays:</b>	Fr Raffaele, 3.30pm-5.30pm, Parish Office, Holy Cross, Eastleigh.
<b>Wednesdays:</b>	Fr Luca, 4.30pm-6.30pm, Parish Office, Holy Cross, Eastleigh.
<b>Fridays:</b>	Fr Raffaele, 11.30am-12.30pm, Parish Office (26 Abbey Water), Romsey
<b>Saturdays:</b>	Fr Marco, 9.30am-12.30pm, Parish Office (26 Abbey Water) Romsey

### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

**Tuesdays:** St Edward's - after Mass (6.30-7.30pm)  
**Thursday:** St Joseph's - before Mass (5.00-6.00pm)

## MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 17th Oct <i>St Ignatius of Antioch</i> *Vigil Masses	9.30am	Holy Cross	Jackie Callow RIP (10th Anniversary) Mary & John McCaffrey RIP (Anniversaries) Pauline & Tony Wilson (In Thanksgiving)
	5.00pm*	St Swithun Wells	
	6.00pm*	St Joseph	
	6.30pm*	St Edward	
Sun 18th Oct  <i>Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary time</i>	8.30am	Holy Cross	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Ian Warwick FM  Mrs Edward Christian FM Michael Lane FM Zsuzsanna Pigniczki (Wellbeing)
	9.00am	St Edward	
	9.00am	St Andrew	
	9.30am	OLQA	
	10.30am	St Edward	
	11.00am	Holy Cross (Also Streamed)	
11.00am	St Joseph		
Mon 19th Oct	9.30am	Holy Cross	Assad Bshara Hayek RIP
Tues 20th Oct	10.00am	St Andrew	Sebi Devassy RIP Kathleen Lordan RIP
	6.00pm	St Edward	
Wed 21st Oct	9.30am	Holy Cross	Maureen Carolan RIP Jim & Evelyn Bonetti RIP
	10.00am	St Edward	
Thurs 22nd Oct	9.30am	Holy Cross (Also Streamed)	Iris Cassar RIP
	12.00pm	OLQA	
	6.00pm	St Joseph	
Fri 23rd Oct	10.00am	St Joseph (Church not AH)	Clare Lasker (Special Intention 80th Birthday)
	<u>10.00am</u>	<u>St Edward</u>	
Sat 24th Oct  *Vigil Masses	9.30am	Holy Cross	Patrick Godfrey RIP Ivy & Charles Charleston RIP  Arthur & Winifred Wilson RIP
	5.00pm*	St Swithun Wells	
	6.00pm*	St Joseph	
	6.30pm*	St Edward	
Sun 25th Oct  <i>Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary time</i>	8.30am	Holy Cross	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Private Intention Monica Carrasco RIP Anniversary  George Quigley RIP
	9.00am	St Edward	
	9.00am	St Andrew	
	9.30am	OLQA	
	10.30am	St Edward	
	11.00am	Holy Cross (Also Streamed)	
11.00am	St Joseph		

### CLERGY

**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

**Fr Bruce Barnes (Assistant Priest)**  
E: brucebarnes01@gmail.com

**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-5.30pm (closed for an hour over lunchtime on Monday & Tuesday)  
Thursday-Friday: 9.30am-2.30pm

**Holy Cross Resource Centre & Finance**  
**Admin: Linda Roberts** (works full day Mon-Wed, half day Thursday but working from home)  
lroberts@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Parish Secretary: Sarah Goodfellow** (works Wed-Fri from 9.30am-2.30pm)  
stswparish@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Website Contact:** website.sswp@gmail.com