

Our Mission: LOVE GOD - LOVE OTHERS - MAKE DISCIPLES
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www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk
 Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Registered Charity No. 246871

Sunday Cycle: Year B
 Weekday Cycle: Year 2
 Psalter Week: 2

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Your task will be that of *wasting your time* with these two children: Vinicio and Lucas”. Those were the words that in the summer of 2004 a nun, called Rosetta, told me when I arrived in Belo Horizonte (Brazil) for spending twenty days with my friends from Italy. At that time, I was in my second year of university, in Pavia, studying Electronic Engineering. I chose that subject because just two things were in my mind, when I thought about my future: finding a job quickly and easily and making money. No better choice than that of being an engineer!

But the more I studied and imagined myself as a rich and lucky man, the more a sense of emptiness invaded my heart. Something was wrong, but I didn't know what, and especially what I had to do to fulfil myself.

At the beginning of that remarkable summer of 2004, a friend of mine asked me: “what are your plans for this coming summer?” I had no idea, so I replied: “nothing in particular... why?”. “I'm going to visit a sister, who works in the favelas of Belo Horizonte. She runs a big kindergarten. Come and see”. I welcomed his invitation, because, I thought, I had nothing better to do.

The day after our arrival that particular task was assigned to me: *wasting my time with two children*. I had to wash them, clean their nappies and feed them... eight hours a day for twenty days. I was a sort of fussy person and at the beginning that proposal left me speechless. But I thought: “I am here, and I have nothing to lose. Let's try”. Every morning, around 8 o'clock, for twenty days, the mother of Lucas and Vinicio stood at the front door of the kindergarten. She gave us her children, because she had to go to work and then came back late in the afternoon.

The more the days passed the more something strange happened in me; that sense of emptiness time after time disappeared, giving way to a new sense of happiness. Actually that was the first time that I felt myself really and deeply happy. I realised that there is more joy in giving than receiving. Until then I believed that I could have filled my emptiness just *having* more and more things: money, success, girls... But after those days I realised that no matter what you have, what your skills or talents are, what you are able to achieve or not... what matters is just finding a way of giving your life, till the end.

Therefore I decided to become priest. But this is another story...

Fr Luca

Parish Office: Holy Cross Church, 53 Leigh Road, Eastleigh, SO50 9DF

Tel: 023 8027 3882. Email: stswparish@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

Office hours: Monday–Wednesday 9.30am–5pm; Thursday & Friday 9.30–2.30pm Newsletter items should be received by Wednesday 12:00 noon

Entrance Antiphon: All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

Psalm Response: The precepts of the Lord gladden the heart.

**Readings for next Sunday 7th October 2018
Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Gospel: Mark 10:2-16
1st reading: Genesis 2:18-24
Psalm: 127
2nd reading: Hebrews 2:9-11

Journey in Faith

Is for anyone enquiring about the Catholic faith and for people intending to become a Catholic. If you know of anyone interested then please bring them along. The sessions run **every Wednesday** from 7.30pm to 9pm at St Edward the Confessor Church, Chandlers Ford. For further information please contact: Deacon Paul Owen (tel: 02380 254806) email: powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Preparation for Baptism

If you wish to have your child baptised, please contact the Parish Office for an application form, and return the completed form to the Office. Then we look forward to welcoming parents for an essential Preparation Session on **Sunday 30th September 2018** at Holy Cross Resource Centre. The meeting begins at **4.30pm** and ends at 6.00pm. It would be very helpful if you could arrive a little early, refreshments available from 4.15pm. If you want you can attend the preparation session in advance of your baby's birth.

First Holy Communion Preparation

Our program for First Holy Communion starts in November, with a schedule of preparation sessions running through until June 2019. Sessions typically run at regular intervals on Tuesday evenings 6.15-7.45pm, some sessions are at St Swithun Wells Primary School in Chandler's Ford, and some at your individual churches. Registration forms will not be available in school or elsewhere this year, but must be collected from your priest at any of the weekend Masses, from Sat 15th Sept to Sunday 14th October. A full list of session dates are attached to the registration forms.

Parents and children are invited to introduce themselves to their priest as wanting to take part in the program this year, and request a form. **Completed forms must be returned to the Parish Office, along with a photocopy of your child's baptismal certificate, by Monday 15th October.** Due to limited numbers of catechists this year we may be required to limit the number of children joining the program, so please request and complete your forms as soon as possible. There will be an introductory meeting for parents in early November.

Second Collection

Please note there will be a second collection next weekend for CAFOD's Harvest Appeal.

Rosary at Holy Cross

Every Thursday in October at 9.10am.

Fellowship Group - Wednesday 3rd October

We will be visiting Fair Oak Family Church who meet in the old Convent. Please meet at St Swithun Wells Church at 7.30pm. Everyone welcome. Queries to Peter Baggott 02380 694060 or Deacon Bob Birtles.

Growing in Faith Together (GIFT) Group

Tuesdays (10-11.30am), Holy Cross Resource Centre. Any queries please contact Paul on 02380 616618; pwilson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

CaFE - Catholic Faith Exploration

A new series of monthly meetings begins on: Monday October 8th at 2.30pm in St Joseph's social centre; Tuesday October 9th at 7.30pm in St Andrew's. Please contact Sheila Keefe on 01794 518071 or s.keefe@btopenworld.com

CAFOD Harvest Family Fast Day - Friday 5th Oct

On Family Fast day CAFOD invites us to eat a simple meal or give up a meal to help our brothers and sisters overseas who do not have enough to eat or clean water to drink. Please put your donation in the fast day envelope provided and don't forget to gift aid your donation if you are a UK tax payer. Many thanks for your generous support.

Saturday 20th October 2018 - Day for Adults who help with Children's Liturgy, First Communion, Confirmation, Baptism, RCIA (10am-4pm)

Portsmouth Cathedral

Everyone involved or interested in catechesis and children's Liturgy is welcome. To book please go to: <http://portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/catechists> or phone the Dominican Sisters on 01590 681874.

Science - Or - Religion? A Diocesan Symposium

Date: Saturday 3rd November 2018, 10am-4pm

Location: The Discovery Centre in Winchester (opp. St. Peter's church).

Two leading scientists will ask whether recent research on the Universe suggests the existence of a Creator. There will also be a series of workshops led by experts on such topics as Christianity and Extra Terrestrial Life, the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence and whether human consciousness is immortal. The Symposium is open to all, whether religious or not. See the diocesan e-News for more info. Places are limited and bookings are now open at <https://portsmouthdiocese.eventbrite.co.uk>.

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

St Edward's Church Shop

Open before and after all weekend Masses.

Safeguarding Training - Sat 13th October at St Edward's, Chandlers Ford.

'Child Protection Training' at 10am-12.30pm & 'Creating a Safe Environment Training' at 1.30pm-4pm. **The Child Protection training session is a compulsory requirement** aimed at anyone in any ministry involving the young of our Parish. Even if you have attended before, your training may now be out of date – please check with your Safeguarding Rep.

The 'Creating a Safe Environment Training' session is **only** aimed at Leaders of groups, rather than just helpers. Please check with your safeguarding rep (list as follows), if you are uncertain as to whether you should attend the session:

Joan Leith (Holy Cross & St Swithun Wells Churches);
Ann Richards (St Edwards);

Pat Taylor & Carol Loran (OLQA);

Malcolm Foster (St Andrew's & St Joseph's).

To book either contact your Safeguarding Rep or directly with the Safeguarding Office in Portsmouth (T: 02392 836511; E: soraya@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).

Youth Groups at Holy Cross Resource Centre

All young people from school year 4 up to and including 6th Form are welcome to come and join us once a month on Sunday evenings. We will be running age specific activities using different rooms at Holy Cross Resource Centre 7pm-8.30pm. Join us for games, quizzes, creative activities, discussions, the all important snacks & much more! For more info please contact: Marianne Wanstall on 07771 704600 [Inspire - school yrs 4-9];

Cath Szymanski on 07846 438224 [TOZ - school yrs 10, 11 & Sixth Form College]

Upcoming dates: 14th Oct; 18th Nov; 9th Dec; 13th Jan; 10th Feb; 17th Mar.

Flame - 2nd March 2019

The Diocese is pleased to announce that they are taking a Diocesan group to Flame 2019. This is a highlight national event for young Catholics. Last year 350 people attended from Portsmouth Diocese, with around 8000 in the arena. We will be taking a group from the Parish and are lucky to have subsidised ticket prices available thanks to the generosity of the Knights of St Columba. This is for young people age 14+ and will be a fantastic day of great music, drama, dance and inspirational speakers. Please contact Cath Szymanski for further details and to book your place.

Annual Day for Altar Servers: Sat 13th Oct (10-4.30)

Location: Christ The King Church, Reading, RG2 8NR.
Cost: £5.50, please bring a packed lunch and servers robes. To book go to: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/diocese-of-portsmouth-catholic-youth-17511710867>.

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.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE WITH THANKS

Last week's collections: £1,144.00; SO/SD for August'18: £12,804.09

Christians Against Poverty (CAP) - Eastleigh Money

Course: To help people to manage their money better and learn to budget, save and spend well, so avoiding getting into debt. This is a free course and will **be held over three evenings on 16th, 23rd and 30th October** from 7.30pm– 9.30pm at the Junction Church, High St, Eastleigh. If you are interested there is a poster in the welcoming area of Holy Cross and St. Swithun Wells churches plus postcards and leaflets explaining the course and how to book. If you have any queries please contact our CAP representative - Pat Baggott on 02380 694060.

Good Companions Lunch

Wednesday 3rd October

The next lunch will be at Keats Restaurant in Ampfield, please arrive from 12noon for 12.30pm start. Please ring Pauline Wilson on 023 80266617 or Susie Warwick on 023 80263436 if you would like to join us for good company and excellent food.

Harvest Fast Day - Friday 5th October

There will be a Fast Day Soup lunch at St Edward's from 12-1.30pm. £3 per person.

Come along and support CAFOD's Harvest Appeal.

Bring & Buy Plant Sale (OLQA - Sun 7th Oct)

Time for division—for your plants! There is a Bring and Buy Plant Sale after Sunday Mass at OLQA. Please label and price your plants.

Oasis - Parish Women's Group: Tuesday 9th Oct

7.30pm-9pm, St Edward's Cloister.

Meet our new priest: Welcome back for our first meeting this term. Fr. Luca is going to come along: a great opportunity to get to know more about him; his faith journey and his order.

All ladies warmly welcomed.

Future Dates: 13th Nov, 11th Dec, 15th Jan

Message from The Knights of St Columba

The Knights would very much like to welcome any parishioner who could assist at an event at Royal Victoria Country Park on Saturday 13th October. KSC is organising parking for the event (Pumpkin Festival) and about 16 people will be involved. This raises money for KSC works. For more information please contact David Martin on 01794 511883.

St Anne's Welcomes you!

St Anne's Catholic School would like to invite parents to visit and find out why we have been judged as 'Outstanding' by both Ofsted and Portsmouth Diocese and why every year, over 96% of our parents would recommend us to other parents. If you would like to find out how your daughter (or son in the Sixth Form) could join St Anne's, there are open events on **10th October for Years 4, 5 and 6 for entry into Year 7, and 17th October for Years 9, 10 and 11 for entry into the Sixth Form.** Families with daughters in other year groups are also welcome as limited places are available in some year groups. Posters on noticeboards, or see www.st-annes.uk.com

Mass Times for our Six Church Communities

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION	DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 29th Sept Vigil Masses	5.00pm	St Sw	Thomas Carr (For Good Recovery after Stroke)	Thurs 4th	9.30am	HC	Robert Brockway FM
	6.00pm	St J	Damian Doherty (60th Birthday Anniversary)		10.00am	OLQA	
	6.00pm	OLQA			6.00pm	St J	
	6.30pm	St Ed	Mrs Edward Christian FM				
Sun 30th 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta	Fri 5th	10.00am	St Ed	Keith Small RIP
	9.00am	St Ed	Holy Souls in Purgatory RIP		10.00am	St J (AH)	
	9.00am	St A	Sr Melissa Chatata RIP				
	9.30am	OLQA					
	11.00am	St J	Slevin, Kelly, Fox Deceased Family Members				
	11.00am	HC	Sarah Jose (Special Intention)				
Mon 1st Oct	10.00am	St Ed		Sat 6th	9.30am	HC	Regina Turl (Special Intention)
Tues 2nd	9.30am	HC	Florence Bohan FM	Sat 6th Vigil Masses	5.00pm	St Sw	Maria Jacobs RIP (5th Anniversary) Elisabeth Gair's Intention
	10.00am	St A			6.00pm	St J	
	10.00am	OLQA			6.00pm	OLQA	
Wed 3rd	9.30am	HC	Antonio Cicu FM		Sun 7th Oct 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00am	
	10.00am	St Ed		9.00am		St Ed	
			9.00am	St A			
			9.30am	OLQA			
			11.00am	St J			
			11.00am	HC			

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesday	HC	Adoration 1st Tuesday of the month	10.00	1.00pm
Tuesday	St A	Adoration will restart in the Autumn.		
Thursday	St ED	Holy Hour (7-8pm)		
Thursday	St J	from Noon-6pm, Rosary and Benediction at 5.30pm (before Mass at 6pm)		

Rosary And Prayers	St Edward	9.30am	Wednesday	The Holy Rosary
	St Joseph	6.00pm	Wednesday	Evening Prayer

CONFESSION (SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION)

Saturdays:	10.00am	Holy Cross Church
	12 noon	St Edward's
	5.30pm	OLQA
	5.30pm	St Joseph
Sundays:	8.30am	St Andrew

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, 53, Leigh Road, Eastleigh. SO50 9DF
 St Sw St Swithun Wells, 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

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