



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

## 14<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2022: THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

### The Dogma of the Assumption of Mary

This Sunday we'll celebrate the solemnity of the Assumption of Mary, a dogma who was defined by Pope Pius XII in 1950. Dogmas are truths about our faith. One good question could be: why did it take so long (1900 years!) for the church to say with absolute certainty that Mary, the mother of Jesus, was taken up body and soul into Heaven when her earthly life ended?

To answer this question we should make three points. First, we believe that **the Church is not an organization but an organism**. An organism grows and needs time to become aware of itself. Let's take an example: when we were babies, we had a certain self-awareness, but we knew very little about how our body and our soul worked. It took time for each one of us to answer the question: "Who am I?" And to be honest, we all know that the job is not yet fulfilled. It is the same for the Church. It takes time to discover all the gems that are in the treasure that has been entrusted to her.

And here we come to the second point. What treasure has been given to the Church? The Truth. It is a treasure both accessible and unfathomable. We can catch a glimpse of it but never say that we have totally comprehended it. Since this treasure belongs to God and has been entrusted to us, **you can understand Truth only if you are "in tune" with its creator**, namely if you ask the Spirit to inspire you and to illumine your intelligence.

Third point. How do we know that some truths are actually coming from the Spirit and not from human imagination? For this reason Jesus decided to give to his Church a hierarchy (Pope and Bishops), whose task is to help the faithful to discern the voice of God among different voices. For this reason dogmas are determined by the Pope.

The solemnity of the Assumption, teaches us something very beautiful. **Mary is the role model for every faithful**, and when we look at her, we see that after her earthly life, she was taken up into Heaven both in body and soul. It means that Heaven is not just a place for "spirits", but a place where we will all meet in the flesh, in "presence" and not virtually. We will be able to shake hands, to use our five senses, to run and sing...

Does it mean that we just need to wait the hour of our death to be happy and rejoice with Mary? Not really. We can see an anticipation of Heaven already here on earth, whenever we ask the Spirit to open our hearts and allow us to see within the Church witnesses of Heaven's beauty, of Mary's beauty, the one who is *tota pulchra* (all beauty).

Fr Luca

### GEM OF THE WEEK

This week's GEM is, "Bishop Prays For Archie Battersbee" - you can find this on our homepage. If anyone has suggestions for GEMs please contact [website.sswp@gmail.com](mailto:website.sswp@gmail.com)



For the next Newsletter, items should be received into the Parish Office by **9.30am on Wednesday 17th August**, please email your messages/notices to: [office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk](mailto:office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk)

## LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



**Sunday 14th August 2022:** Year C - Year 2 - Psalter Week: Office Proper

**PSALM RESPONSE:** ON YOUR RIGHT STANDS THE QUEEN, IN GARMENTS OF GOLD.

**READINGS:** 1<sup>st</sup> reading Revelation 11:19a;12:1-6a,10ab Psalm 44 2<sup>nd</sup> reading 1 Corinthians 15:20-27

**Gospel** Luke 1:39-56

**Sunday 21st August 2022:** Year C - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 1

**PSALM RESPONSE:** GO OUT TO THE WHOLE WORLD AND PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS.

**READINGS:** 1<sup>st</sup> reading Isaiah 66:18-21 Psalm 116 2<sup>nd</sup> reading Hebrews 12:5-7,11-13 **Gospel** Luke 13:22-30

## PARISH GROUPS



### Youth Groups

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

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

**Student Youth** (school year 10 until sixth form)

Stars of Abraham also prepares the children for First Holy Communion usually in school year 3. Grail Seekers also prepares the children for Confirmation usually in school year 9. For more details and to join please go to the parish website [www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk](http://www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk)

### Communion & Liberation Groups

School of Community are currently on their summer break. For more information please click the link on the homepage of our website.

### Sacramental Preparation for Adults (RCIA)

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

**Fellowship Group** - there will be no meeting during the holidays, return date to be announced.

### Growing In Faith Together (GIFT) Group

Tuesdays at 10.15am to approx. 11.30am in the Holy Cross Resource Centre. In August we will be meeting informally for coffee & prayer.

### The Little Flowers Baby & Toddler Groups

**Holy Cross Group:** Are currently on their Summer break (they normally meet on Wednesdays at 10am in the Resource Centre).

**New group at St Joseph's:** Will meet on Thursdays from 10.30am–12 Noon in the Parish Hall (26 Abbey Water, Romsey) starting from 8<sup>th</sup> September.

The groups are for 0-4 years and their families. More information is on the website or you can email: [littleflowers.sswp@gmail.com](mailto:littleflowers.sswp@gmail.com)

### Ark of Fellowship - Group for learning disabilities or learning difficulties, their families and friends

Are currently on their Summer break (they normally meet on Thursdays at 6.30pm in the Holy Cross Resource Centre). Interested in volunteering or know some young adults who would like to join the group? If yes, please contact Fr Luca at: [arkoffellowship.sswp@gmail.com](mailto:arkoffellowship.sswp@gmail.com)

**Afternoon Club** - St. Joseph's Parish Centre (26A Abbey Water), first Tuesday in the month at 2pm. Come and join us for tea, games and good fun.

**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!

## MESSAGES



### Holy Cross Church Closed from Monday 15th to Friday 19th August

Due to the upgrade of the lighting in Holy Cross Church, Masses will be celebrated in the Holy Cross Resource Centre instead during these dates. There will also be no Eucharistic Adoration on Wed 17th August and no Coffee Stop on Thursday 18th August.

### Upcoming Funerals

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Eileen Joyce and for her family. Eileen's Funeral Mass takes place at **St Andrew on Tuesday 16th August at 10am.**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Barbara Cowhig and for her family. Barbara's Funeral Service takes place at **St Edward's on Wednesday 24th August at 11.30am.**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Joan Paul and for her family. Joan's Funeral Mass takes place at **St Joseph's on Monday 5th September at 1pm.**

### Parish Office - Summer Holidays

The Office will be closed on Fridays during the school holidays. A double newsletter will be produced for Sunday 21st August. Fiona will be away on Wed 31st Aug & Thurs 1st September therefore the office will close at 2.30pm on those days.

### Invitation to the CAFOD Group & Knight of St Columba BBQ

The CAFOD group and the Knights of St Columba invite you to a parish barbeque at **St Edward's on Saturday 20th August, from 1pm.** Food including desserts and a first free drink with each £10 ticket. Children under 12 are FREE. BBQ and raffle contributions gratefully accepted and there will be a CAFOD produce stall.

Enquiries to Neil Hendricks (023 8026 6324); tickets on sale after Masses during the first two weeks of August. Numbers will be limited to about 80.

## St Andrew's & St Joseph's BBQ

## MESSAGES CONTINUED



Following the success of last years BBQ in St Andrew, even in the rain, the event is being repeated on **Sunday 21st August at 12 Noon**. The venue is St Andrew's, North Baddesley. Participation is by ticket only and announcements will be made at weekend Masses at both St Andrew's and St Joseph's. Contact Tennyson Scaria or Roger Lillie after Mass.

### Come and See Summer Camp (11yrs-18yrs)

**Monday 22nd to Friday 26th August 2022**

St Joseph's House, 8 Lyndhurst Rd, SO40 7DU

We will sleep in St Joseph's House (not in tents!). £150 all inclusive (board and lodging and activities). Spaces are limited! Part bursaries may be available on application. To register please speak to Fr Luca.

### Flower Arrangers Annual Get Together - Tuesday 23rd August (St Rose of Lima), 10am at St Andrew's

The St Andrew's Flower Team would like to invite all St Swithun Wells flower arrangers to celebrate Mass together on this date; this will be followed by refreshments in the adjacent hall. Also, any parishioners, neighbours or friends, who may be interested in joining one of the church flower teams, would be most welcome to this informal occasion to find out more details. Please contact Anna Moody so we can have an idea of numbers attending: [annamoody49@gmail.com](mailto:annamoody49@gmail.com) or 07837 340090.

**Parish Lunch at the Hunters Inn, Romsey, 12.30pm on Thursday 8th September.** All are welcome. Menus on the churches notice boards. Please let Rosemary (01794 522411) know your choice of meal before Wednesday 31st August as we have to pre-order.

### Holy Cross Shop

The shop will be closed for the whole of August and will re-open on Thurs 1st Sept. If you need anything from the shop during this time, please phone Lynette on 02380 618542.  
*Lynette & Angela*

### Message from Bishop Philip on his 10 year plan

Over the last three years, after various consultations and discussions with clergy and with the laity, I am happy to present to you the draft version of our 10-year mission plan, called *You will be my Witnesses*. You can read it and download a copy from the diocesan website:

<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/our-mission/planning/ten-year-plan/>

If you spot anything that needs correcting, improving or developing, you can email the planning team at: [missionplan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:missionplan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Over the next weeks and months, I have asked our clergy to discuss widely the plan with the parish community. There also need to be discussions at Pastoral Area level too. In September, the planning team will provide for easy distribution a shorter version of the Mission Plan in printed form. The temptation will be to focus on the last section, which is about structural change, but we need to bear in mind that without the structural change we will not have the resources, energy or capacity to undertake the mission! The key message of *You will be My Witnesses* is the need for personal conversion and holiness of life.

**Viva Voce Summer 2022 edition** is available in our churches from this weekend. Please take a copy.

### CONFESSION (SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION)

Tuesday:	6.30pm-7.30pm	St Edward
Tuesday:	9.30am-10.00am	St Andrew
Saturday:	10.00am-10.30am	Holy Cross
	5.30pm-6.00pm	OLQA
	5.30pm-6.00pm	St Joseph
Sunday:	8.30am-9.00am	St Andrew
	9.00am-9.30am	OLQA

### TIMES A PRIEST WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MEET

Tuesdays:	Fr Raffaele, 3.30pm-5.30pm, Holy Cross Resource Centre (back of Holy Cross Church, Eastleigh)
Wednesdays:	Fr Luca, 4.30pm-6.30pm, Holy Cross Resource Centre (back of Holy Cross Church, Eastleigh)
Fridays:	Fr Raffaele, 10.30am-11.30am, Romsey Parish Office (26 Abbey Water), Romsey
Saturdays:	Fr Marco, 9.30am-12.30pm, Romsey Parish Office (26 Abbey Water), Romsey

### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesday:	St Edward's - after Mass (6.30pm-7.30pm)
Wednesday:	Holy Cross - after Mass ( <b>Not on 17th Aug</b> )
Thursday:	St Joseph - before Mass (5.00pm-6.00pm)

## CLERGY & PARISH OFFICE

Fr Raffaele Cossa (Parish Priest)

Tel: 023 8061 2430; E: [rcossa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:rcossa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Fr Luca Speziale (Assistant Priest)

Tel: 023 8061 2430; E: [lspeziale@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lspeziale@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Fr Marco Vignolo (Assistant Priest)

Tel: 023 8061 2430; E: [mvignolo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:mvignolo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Fr Bruce Barnes (Assistant Priest)

Tel: 01489 890947 (OLQA Office)

Deacon Bob Birtles

Tel: 023 8069 2416; E: [bbirtles@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:bbirtles@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Deacon John di Meo

Tel: 01794 515688; E: [jdimeo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:jdimeo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Deacon Paul Owen

Tel: 023 8025 4806; E: [powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Deacon Paul Wilson

Tel: 023 8061 6618; E: [pwilson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:accounts@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk)

**Parish Secretary: Sarah Goodfellow**

Email: [office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk](mailto:office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk)

**Website Contact:** [website.sswp@gmail.com](mailto:website.sswp@gmail.com)

## MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION	DATE	TIME	CHURCH	INTENTION
Sat 13th Aug	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	HC SSW OLOA St J St Ed	Margaret Martindale RIP People of the Parish  Sr May RIP Mary Marjorie Haslam RIP	Mon 22nd Aug	9.30am	HC	<i>The Queenship of Mary</i>
Sunday 14th Aug	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	HC St Ed  St A  OLOQA* HC* St J	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Skipton Leonard & Mary Marjorie Haslam RIP Alan French RIP Anniversary  Layzell Family Intentions John Butler RIP	Tues 23rd	10.00am 6.00pm	St A St Ed	Timmy Fung RIP Living & Deceased Members of the Harry & Cavanagh Families FM
Monday 15th Aug	9.30am	HC <u>Resource Centre (HCRC)</u>	Reverend Paul Beaumont RIP FM	Wed 24th Aug	9.30am 9.30am 10.00am 11.30am	HC OLOA St Ed <u>St Ed</u>	Frederick John Johnson FM  Denis McCormack (90th Birthday) <b>Funeral Service: Barbara Cowhig RIP</b>
Tuesday 16th Aug	<u>10.00am</u> 6.00pm	<u>St A</u> St Ed	<u>Funeral Mass: Eileen Joyce RIP</u>	Thurs 25th Aug	9.30am 12 Noon 6.00pm	HC OLOA St J	Raymond Kelly RIP (1st Anniversary)  Joan Paul RIP
Wed 17th Aug	<u>9.30am</u> 9.30am 10.00am	<u>HCRC</u> OLOA St Ed	Michael Lane RIP FM  Mrs Edward Christian FM	Fri 26th Aug	9.30am 10.00am 10.00am	OLOA St J St Ed	Frances & Lucy (Sp Int) Margaret Martindale RIP
Thurs 18th	<u>9.30am</u> 12 Noon 6.00pm	<u>HCRC</u> OLOA St J	John Butler RIP	Sat 27th Aug	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm	HC SSW OLOA St J	Ron & Collette Reynolds FM Maureen Slevin RIP  Deceased Members of the Hinguillo, Aggalot, Padilla & Vicencio Families RIP Marie Duggan (Birthday)
Fri 19th Aug	9.30am 10.00am 10.00am	OLOA St J St Ed	Margaret Martindale RIP Layzell Family Intentions	Sunday 28th Aug	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	HC St Ed St A OLOQA* HC* St J	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> People of the Parish Susan Butcher RIP Anniv  Thomas Charles Robinson FM John Marlow RIP (Birthday Anniversary)
Sat 20th Aug	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	HC SSW OLOA St J St Ed	Kathleen Bernadette Reynolds FM Andrew Bates RIP Anniv  People of the Parish For Vocations to Priesthood, Diaconate & Religious Life	<i>Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>			
Sunday 21st Aug	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	HC St Ed St A OLOQA* HC* St J	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Denis McCormack (90th Birthday) Kathleen & Albert Harrison (RIP Anniversary)  Peg McDonnell RIP Sr May RIP  * Also Live Streamed				

### OUR CHURCHES

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

OLOA - 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