



*Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ*  
**9<sup>th</sup> MAY 2021: SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**PRAY THE ROSARY FOR THE END OF THE PANDEMIC**

We are in the month of May, a month traditionally dedicated to the Virgin Mary and the praying of the rosary. This year Pope Francis is encouraging Catholics across the globe to pray the Rosary for an end to the pandemic during May.

We can take this opportunity to deepen our understanding about the importance of praying the rosary. I would like to stress three points.

### **Why do we pray the mysteries?**

The prayers that compose the Rosary are arranged in sets of ten "Hail Marys", called decades. Each decade is preceded by one "Our Father" and traditionally followed by one "Glory Be". During recitation of each set, thought is given to one of the Mysteries of the Rosary, which recall events in the lives of Jesus and of Mary.

We are called to meditate these mysteries because in those stories we can find our story. Let's take the first joyful mystery, where we meditate on the annunciation. The angel Gabriel brought to Mary the good news, that God would become flesh through her "yes". Isn't it also our story? Yes, it is. God today can become flesh through our "yes", like he did 2000 years ago. In all the 20 mysteries that we are asked to meditate we can find our story and the stories of those we love: stories of pain, glory, joy and light. When we reflect on the four sets of mysteries (sorrowful, joyful, glorious and luminous), we don't reflect just on a past event, but on an event that happened, is happening and will happen to us as well.

### **Why "through" Mary?**

When we pray the Rosary, we pray fifty times the "Hail Mary". Why do we have to go through Mary, if we want to reach God? Wouldn't be better to pray God directly? The answer is simple and it comes from the central point of our faith: the incarnation. We believe in a God that from the day of the first Christmas makes himself visible through human beings. Therefore if we want to reach him we can't avoid flesh and bones, we have to respect his way of communicating himself: through a human face. We need, in a word, "intercessors". Saints, and especially Mary, Queen of the Saints, is the best intercessor God has given to us.

### **Why is it so repetitive?**

Finally, why are the prayers of the rosary always the same? Why don't we change and pray with different words every time? I would answer this question with a quote of an Italian poet, Cesare Pavese, "The surest, and the quickest, way for us to arouse the sense of wonder is to stare, unafraid, at a single object. Suddenly—miraculously—it will look like something we have never seen before".

*Fr Luca*

## **GEM OF THE WEEK**



This week's GEM is "Offer It Up" a short video by Fr James Brent, 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 9th May 2021:** Year B - Year 1 - Psalter Week: 2

**PSALM RESPONSE:** THE LORD HAS SHOWN HIS SALVATION TO THE NATIONS.

**READINGS:** 1<sup>st</sup> reading: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48 **Psalms:** 97 2<sup>nd</sup> reading: A reading from the 1st Letter of St John 4:7-10 **Gospel:** John 15:9-17

**READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY 16TH MAY:**

1<sup>st</sup> reading: Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26 **Psalms:** 102 2<sup>nd</sup> reading: A reading from the 1st Letter of St John 4:11-16  
**Gospel:** John 15:9-17

## PARISH GROUPS



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

Meet in person:

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

Tues, 4.15pm-5.45pm in St Andrew;

Sat, 10.30am-Noon in Holy Cross Resource Centre.

To join and for more info please click the Stars of Abraham Icon on our homepage.

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

Meet in person on Saturdays in the Holy Cross Resource Centre, 2-4pm. To join and for more info please click the Grail Seekers Icon on our homepage.

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

Meet in person on Friday evenings at 6.30pm in Holy Cross Resource Centre. If you would like to attend please book your place on our website by clicking the Student Youth Icon on our homepage.

### Communion & Liberation Groups

Fr Luca's Group meet every Wednesday, for more information please click the link on the homepage of our website.

Fr Raffaele's Group meet every Thursday at 8pm in St Edward's cloister.

### 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 or alternatively please speak to a priest.

### Fellowship Group - Wednesday 12th May, 7.30pm

our bible study continues on Jonah who has a lot to teach us about our relationship with God and others. *Week 2: Jonah - In My Distress I Called to The Lord.* If you would like to join us please contact Deacon Bob Birtles for the Zoom link: bbirtles@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

## MESSAGES



### Cultural Friday - 14th May, 8pm on Zoom (link on our website)

In this year dedicated to St Joseph we want to reflect on the meaning of being a father. On this Cultural Friday three guests will tell us their experiences as fathers:

**Bishop Philip** will speak about being a spiritual father of our diocese.

**David Walford**, Chaplain of St George's College, will speak about being a spiritual father of many students.

**Joseph Anthraper**, one of our parishioners, will speak about being a Christian father of three children and one on the way.

We invite everyone to prepare for the meeting by reading Bishop Philip's 'Letter to Everyone', you can find this on our website.

### Recommended Reading

Two suggested books for the next few months are:

*Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley

*The Shadow of the Father* by Jan Dobraczyński

Both books can be bought online, e.g. from Amazon.

*Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley will be presented during the Cultural Friday on the 11th June.

### Parish Get2Together (subject to no changes in the Government's roadmap to recovery)

#### **Sunday 30th May, 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. The maximum number of people at this event is 90.

### Holy Cross Shop

Will be reopening on Thursday 13th May after Mass. Lynette is willing to open the shop by appointment during office hours - please ring 02380 618542.

We are looking forward to seeing you.

Angela & Lynette

## MESSAGES CONTINUED



### Ascension of the Lord

Thursday 13th May

There will be additional Masses celebrated across the Parish. Please see the back page of the newsletter for details, Mass at St Joseph's will be celebrated at 10am, instead of the usual 6pm.

### Upcoming Second Collections

Please note there will be a second collection for the **Catholic Communications Network** during the weekend of the 15th/16th May.

## SCHOOL NOTICES



### St Swithun Wells Catholic Primary School

We currently have places for September in the Reception class and in other year groups.

We can offer:

- A Christian education open to all families
- High Standards
- Excellence in all that we do
- Very good behaviour

Please contact the school office for further information.

Tel: 02380 266210

Email: [adminoffice@st-swithunwells.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@st-swithunwells.hants.sch.uk)

Web: [www.st-swithunwells.hants.sch.uk](http://www.st-swithunwells.hants.sch.uk)

## LIVE STREAMED MASS, BOOKING SYSTEM & CONFESSION

### Live Streamed Mass

All of the Masses from Holy Cross & the Sunday Mass at OLOA are live streamed. To join please go to our parish website [www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk](http://www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk) For details of all of our Public Masses please see the timetable on the back page of the newsletter.

### To reserve a seat at Mass in St Joseph, Romsey

- **Saturday Vigil Mass 6.00pm**  
To reserve a seat for the Saturday Mass please contact Teresa Rayment from Wed to Friday (Tel: 01794 513528 / [teresarayment@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:teresarayment@tiscali.co.uk)).
- **Sunday 11.00am**  
To reserve a seat for the Sunday Mass please contact Joanna Russell from Wed through to Friday (Tel: 07917 802814 / [joanna@silvasmiths.co.uk](mailto:joanna@silvasmiths.co.uk)).

### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

**Tuesday:** St Edward's - after Mass (6.30-7.30pm)

**Thursday:** Holy Cross - 10.00-11.00am

**Thursday:** St Joseph's - before Mass (5.00-6.00pm)

### CONFESSION

#### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

### TIMES A PRIEST WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MEET

<b>Tuesdays:</b>	<b><u>Unfortunately Fr Raffaele will not be able to meet on Tuesday 11th May</u></b>
<b>Wednesdays:</b>	Fr Luca, 4.00pm-6.00pm, Holy Cross Resource Centre (back of Holy Cross Church), 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

## 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: [m vignolo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:m vignolo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

### **Fr Bruce Barnes (Assistant Priest)**

Tel: 01489 890947 (OLOA 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 80254806; E: [powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

### **Deacon Paul Wilson**

Tel: 02380 616618; E: [pwilson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:pwilson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

### Parish Office Address

Holy Cross Church  
53 Leigh Road  
Eastleigh  
SO50 9DF  
Telephone: 02380 273882

### Holy Cross Resource Centre & Finance

**Admin: Linda Roberts**

Works full day Mon to Wed (9.30am-5.30pm, office closed on Mon & Tues for an hour over lunch); half day Thursday working from home.

[lroberts@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lroberts@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

### Parish Secretary: Sarah Goodfellow

Works Wed to Friday from 9.30am until 2.30pm  
[stswparish@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:stswparish@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

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

## MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
<b>Sat 8th May</b>	9.30am 9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross (also Live Streamed) OLQA St Swithun Wells St Joseph OLQA St Edward	Regina Turl (Special Intention)  Freddie Lovatt RIP  Kathleen Mary Boaden FM
<b>Sunday 9th May</b>  <b>Sixth Sunday of Easter</b>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 10.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLQA (also Live Streamed) St Edward St Joseph Holy Cross (also Live Streamed)	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Marchesi Family Intentions For the People of the Parish  Eric & Roslyn Lasker & Family Val Kirk RIP Allan Barltrop (Special Intention)
<b>Mon 10th May</b>	9.30am	Holy Cross (also Live Streamed)	Margaret Martindale RIP For Ursula on the Occasion of her Birthday
<b>Tues 11th May</b>	10.00am 6.00pm	St Andrew St Edward	Doris Bonello RIP (Anniversary) Ossie Carr RIP FM
<b>Wed 12th May</b>	9.30am 10.00am 7.30pm	Holy Cross (also Live Streamed) St Edward OLQA	Estephan John Badawi RIP Intentions of the Layzell Family
<b>Thurs 13th May</b> <i>Ascension of the Lord</i>	9.30am <u>10.00am</u> 12.00 Noon <u>7.00pm</u> <u>7.00pm</u>	Holy Cross (also Live Streamed) <u>St Joseph</u> OLQA (also Live Streamed) <u>St Edward</u> <u>St Andrew</u>	Sheila Starrs RIP FM Josephine O'Grady (Well-being)
<b>Friday 14th May</b> <i>St Matthias</i>	9.30am 10.00am 10.00am	OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Paddy & Phyllis Boyle (Well-being) Thomas William Mason RIP FM
<b>Sat 15th May</b>	9.30am 9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross (also Live Streamed) OLQA St Swithun Wells St Joseph OLQA St Edward	Carol Johnson RIP  For the People of the Parish  Phyllis & Georg Roman RIP FM
<b>Sunday 16th May</b>  <b>Seventh Sunday of Easter</b>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 10.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLQA (also Live Streamed) St Edward St Joseph Holy Cross (also Live Streamed)	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> For Tina on the Occasion of her Birthday Margaret French & Ann Heslop (In Thanksgiving)  Kathie McGinn (Sick)

## CHURCH ADDRESSES

### Eastleigh & Fair Oak

Holy Cross Church  
53 Leigh Road, Eastleigh, SO50 9DF

### St Swithun Wells Church

Allington Lane, Fair Oak, SO50 7DB

### Bishop's Waltham

Our Lady Queen of Apostles (OLQA) Church  
Martin Street, Bishop's Waltham, SO32 1DN

### Chandler's Ford

St Edward the Confessor Church  
191-193, Winchester Rd, Chandler's Ford, SO53 2DU

### North Baddesley & Romsey

St Andrew's Church  
Fleming Avenue, North, Baddesley, SO52 9EP

### St Joseph's Church

Abbey House Drive, Romsey, SO51 8YB