



Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ
25th APRIL 2021: FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

TO BE A SHEPHERD

The overpowering love of God has been shown to us during these last few weeks as we have celebrated the death and resurrection of Jesus. One of the things which must have passed through the minds of those whose hearts have been touched by that love must have been the question, "*What can I do in return for such love for me?*" The answer, I perceive, is two-fold. First, to accept the great gift of love which Jesus offers us. Secondly, to realize that with it you can face anything, and do anything for God; by His loving presence in your heart, you effect change anywhere in the world. This is the love which tugs at us to do great things for God and which says, no one is incapable of becoming a particular disciple for God. I say "particular" because on this Sunday we are asking that young men and women consider a life dedicated to God either through the Priesthood or the Religious Life. Like all Ministry within the Church it is a gift of God and it starts with a desire to give something back to God. This desire turns into a realization that is a call from God. It cannot be ignored and it asks us to be single-minded in its purpose. The priesthood is that place where this particular gift can be satisfied and where the call from God can be answered.

In my own life I received the desire (call it vocation if you like) to serve God when quite young through meeting good and holy priests (yes there are some!!) who made an impact on me to the extent that I wanted to be like them; they were men who offered their intelligence, their sporting ability, wealth and worldly success and the possibility of marrying and having children, for the higher purpose of satisfying the desire to love God and bring that love to others. As a person who has been in Ordained Ministry now for 45 years I can honestly say that I have never regretted for a moment that response I made towards God's love for me. There have been terribly difficult times; I have worked in tough and extremely deprived areas; I have been to West Africa and Rome; and no two days have been alike but it has been a great adventure and my heart still burns for love of the Lord.

The Priesthood was in my youth often described as the Heroic Life. There were role models such as Fr Damien, Mother Teresa, Helder Camara and Oscar Romero, Pope John Paul II, and missionaries of all kinds working in health care, education, justice and peace. These people overturned the way people thought about politics and the poor and upheld the dignity of human life, often to the point of sacrificing their own life for the good of others. However, they were first and foremost driven by the love of God. We can be like them if we place our hands into the hands of Jesus. For some there is the special anointing of the hands for God's work as a Priest.

If you feel that God is calling you to do something for him speak to one of the Priests in the Parish and they will advise you what to do about it. Without shepherds we cannot celebrate the Eucharist and the world will be the poorer.

Fr Bruce

GEM OF THE WEEK



This week's GEM is Bishop Philip's homily on Easter Sunday, '**Easter, everything we hope for**', you can find this on our homepage. If anyone has suggestions for GEMs please contact website.sswp@gmail.com

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

LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday 25th April 2021: Year B - Year 1 - Psalter Week: 4

PSALM RESPONSE: THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED HAS BECOME THE CORNERSTONE.

READINGS:

1st reading: Acts 4:8-12 **Psalm:** 117 **2nd reading:** A reading from the 1st Letter of St John 3:1-2 **Gospel:** John 10:11-18

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY 2ND MAY:

1st reading: Acts 9:26-31 **Psalm:** 21 **2nd reading:** A reading from the 1st Letter of St John 3:18-24 **Gospel:** John 15:1-8

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)

Meetings resume in person from **Saturday 24th April in 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 info 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

Meetings resume on **Wednesday 28th April, 7.30pm on Zoom.** If you would like to join us please contact Deacon Bob Birtles for the Zoom link: bbirtles@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

MESSAGES



OLQA New Mass Timetable

Dear friends, I am pleased to announce that we shall be returning to a more regular Mass timetable during the week and at weekends. Here is the new timetable which **begins on 25th April:**

- **Masses during the week**
Wednesday 7.30pm; Thursday 12 Noon;
Friday & Saturday 9.30am
- **Weekend Masses (Booking no longer required)**
Vigil Mass 6pm; Sunday 9.30am
- **Confessions**
Saturday 10am

Fr Bruce

Parish Get2Gether - April Meeting now on Zoom

Sunday 25th April, 3.00-4.30pm

Due to recent changes in legislation and having discussed this with Pavillion on the Park, we have decided to move the April Get2Gether online.

Hopefully we will be able to meet in person for the May Get2Gether.

This is an event for all the people of the parish with games, songs, activities for children and conversations for adults. Please go to our website for more details and how to join.

Second Collection - this weekend (24th/25th April)

for the Clergy Training Fund. This fund supports the diocesan seminarians through their training for the priesthood. The diocese is blessed with 12 seminarians currently in training, two of whom are due to be ordained later this year. It takes 7 years to train for the priesthood, and costs £27,000 per year for each seminarian. Investing in the future generation of priests is a great privilege and responsibility for our Diocese; they rely on the generous support of their faithful community. In addition to the second collection basket available at our churches, you can give online by going to: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/clergy-training-fund>

Keeping In Touch - As we move through the Government's phased approach to reopening society more of you (around half of our congregation pre-Covid) have returned to celebrate Mass in our churches. We appreciate that every person's circumstances are different and only they know when is the right time for them to return to Mass, however we just wanted to say to those parishioners who are yet to return, you are in our prayers and we think of you often - please do keep in touch and if you need something phone the Parish office on 02380 273882. For those attending Mass, if you are aware of friends missing from church please try and reach out to keep in touch with them.

MESSAGES CONTINUED



Recommended Reading

Two suggested books for the next few months are:

***Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley**

Is one of the most influential novels of the nineteenth century and is quite relevant today. What is the role of science and the scientific community? Does mankind have the right to manipulate nature? Have today's scientists developed a moral system to match their speculative knowledge? The questions posed by Mary Shelley still need to be addressed in contemporary society. We are the creatures, not the Creator. This must always be kept in mind.

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

***The Shadow of the Father* by Jan Dobraczyński**

Jan Dobraczyński tells the story of Saint Joseph's life in the form of a novel. He uses the evocative image of a shadow to define Joseph. In his relationship to Jesus, Joseph was the earthly shadow of the heavenly Father: he watched over him and protected him, never leaving him to go his own way. This book is an excellent way to live well this year dedicated to St Joseph.

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

Fellowship Lenten Suppers

A big thank you to those who took part in our virtual Zoom Lenten Suppers and Bible Study. Through your generosity we raised **£818**, including Gift Aid for CAFOD and Fledge.

Prince Philip

On behalf of our Parish we want to express our heartfelt sympathy to Her Majesty the Queen and the Royal Family following the passing of the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Philip. We are grateful for all the Royal Family does for our country and will keep them in our prayers.

Message from Bishop Philip

This Sunday is Good Shepherd Sunday, the World Day of Prayer for Vocations for the Sacred Priesthood diaconate and religious life. Please pray especially for more priests for our diocese and from your own parish; for all who are discerning vocation at this time; for our seminarians and all those responsible for their formation; for our Vocations Director, Vocations Promoter and Director of the Diaconate; for our Vicar for Religious; for "can do" people of faith and action and, finally for yourself too, that you may respond to what God is calling you to be in the life and service of the Church to help in *bringing people closer to Jesus Christ through His Church* in our wonderful diocese.

LIVE STREAMED MASS, BOOKING SYSTEM & CONFESSION

Live Streamed Mass

All of the Masses from Holy Cross & the Sunday Mass at OLQA are live streamed. To join please go to our parish website 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

St Joseph, Romsey:

- **Saturday Vigil Mass 6.00pm**

To reserve a seat for the Saturday Mass please contact Teresa Rayment from Wed through to Friday (Tel: 01794 513528 / 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).

CONFESSION

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Tuesdays:	6.30am-7.30pm	St Edward
Tuesdays:	10.30am	St Andrew
Saturdays:	10.00am	OLQA
	10.00am-10.30am	Holy Cross
	5.30pm-6.00pm	St Joseph
Sundays:	8.30am-9.00am	St Andrew

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)

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, 4.00pm-6.00pm, Holy Cross Resource Centre (back of Holy Cross Church), Eastleigh
Fridays:	Fr Raffaele, 11.30am-12.30pm, Parish Office (26 Abbey Water), Romsey
Saturdays:	Fr Marco, 9.30am-12.30pm, Parish Office (26 Abbey Water), Romsey

MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 24th April	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross (also Live Streamed) St Swithun Wells St Joseph St Edward	Oswald Carr RIP FM For the People of the Parish James Kerr RIP (1st Anniversary)
Sunday 25th April Fourth Sunday of Easter	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> Anne & Sean Connolly RIP David Sandhu RIP and all the Sandhu Family Special Intention for Grandchildren's Well-being Regina Turl (Special Intention)
Mon 26th April	9.30am	Holy Cross (also Live Streamed)	John Quinn RIP FM
Tues 27th April	10.00am 6.00pm	St Andrew St Edward	
Wed 28th April	9.30am 10.00am 7.30pm	Holy Cross (also Live Streamed) St Edward OLQA	Teresa Manueia De Deus RIP Margaret Martindale RIP
Thurs 29th Apr <i>St Catherine of Siena</i>	9.30am 12.00 Noon 6.00pm	Holy Cross (also Live Streamed) OLQA St Joseph	Cheryl Robinson RIP
Friday 30th April	9.30am 10.00am 10.00am	OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Patrick Slavin RIP
Sat 1st May	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	Cristina & Alessandro (Special Intention - Wedding) Molly Gibson RIP
Sunday 2nd May Fifth Sunday of Easter	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 the People of the Parish Keith Small RIP Special Intention for Frances & Ruth Lucien Boucher RIP

CLERGY & PARISH OFFICE

Fr Raffaele Cossa (Parish Priest)

Tel: 023 8061 2430; E: rcoffa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Fr 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)

Tel: 01489 890947 (OLQA Office)

Deacon Bob Birtles

Tel: 023 8069 2416; E: bbirtles@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Deacon John di Meo

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Deacon Paul Owen

Tel: 023 80254806; E: powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Deacon Paul Wilson

Tel: 02380 616618; E: 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 Monday to Wednesday (9.30am-5.30pm, office closed on Monday & Tuesday for an hour over lunch), half day Thursday working from home
lroberts@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Secretary: Sarah Goodfellow

Works Wed to Friday from 9.30am until 2.30pm
stswparish@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Website Contact: website.sswp@gmail.com