

Our Mission: LOVE GOD - LOVE OTHERS - MAKE DISCIPLES



www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Registered Charity No. 246871

Sunday Cycle: Year C
Weekday Cycle: Year 1
Psalter Week: 2

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

The Experience of God in Prayer (Luke 9:28-36)

One of the significant and unique details of the Transfiguration story in Luke is that it occurs in the context of prayer. Neither Mt nor Mk specifically mention that Jesus had gone up the mountain to pray (verse 28), and neither mentions that Jesus was praying when the transfiguration occurs (verse 29). Prayer is a significant theme throughout Luke's writings. He tells us of Jesus praying on other momentous occasions:

- Following his baptism, the Holy Spirit descends on Jesus while he is praying (3:21-22).
- Jesus' selection of the twelve apostles occurs after spending an entire night in prayer (6:12-16).
- Peter's confession of Jesus as the Messiah occurs in the context of Jesus praying (9:18-20).
- On the cross (23:34, 36), Jesus says "Father, forgive them..." Mt and Mk do not.

In a slightly different nuance, in the garden before his arrest (22:39-46), Mt and Mk say "Sit here whilst I pray" Lk says "Pray that **you** may not come into the time of trial".

In the transfiguration account, prayer for Jesus involved a dramatic encounter of God's presence. Prayer was not merely speaking words to God, but was a truly spiritual experience of God. Lest we think that such a possibility of divine encounter is limited to Jesus, we see the same thing with a variety of characters in Acts, Luke's second volume. To give just a few of many examples:

- The gathered early church experienced a dramatic divine response to their communal prayer (4:23-31).
- The centurion Cornelius' prayers result in an angel being sent to him and in him being chosen by God as the first Gentile Christian (10:1-8).
- Paul and Silas are freed from prison by God while praying (16:25-34).
- Paul has an encounter with the risen Christ while praying (22:17-21).

While we cannot expect to have experiences like that of Jesus in the transfiguration on a regular basis in prayer, the transfiguration and these other scenes should challenge us to seek something higher in prayer **than speaking mere words in the hope that God might possibly somehow listen to us and, with a bit of luck, respond!**

Just "be" with God, tell him about your day. Then wait and see what happens. We should also remember, with the disciples in the transfiguration scene, that dramatic experiences of Christ's glory come with the call to listen and to follow.

May Lent this year be for us a breakthrough with God in prayer.

Deacon Bob

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

17th March 2019:

Entrance Antiphon:

Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

Psalm Response:

The Lord is my light and my help.

**Readings for next Sunday 24th March 2019
Third Sunday of Lent**

Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

1st reading: Exodus 3:1-8. 13-15

Psalm: 102

2nd reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-6. 10-12.

Parish Groups

Growing in Faith Together (GIFT) Group

Tuesdays between 10.15-11.30am (after Mass) in the Holy Cross Resource Centre. **It is a time of simple sharing, come and join us, we start with tea and biscuits, and everyone is assured of a warm welcome.** The next talk (19th March) is on The Prodigal Son.

Journey in Faith - Every Wednesday at St Edward's

It is for anyone enquiring about the Catholic faith and for people intending to become a Catholic. The sessions run from 7.30pm to 9pm.

For further information please contact Deacon Paul Owen - tel: 02380 254806;

email: powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

Fellowship Group - St Swithun Wells Church, Fair Oak, Wednesday 20th March

Lenten Supper 7pm - Homemade soups and Bread and cheese followed at 7.45pm by Lenten Study Course "The Mystery of God". Everyone most welcome.

Week 2 (20th Mar) - "The Mystery of God's Glory"

Queries to Peter Baggott or Deacon Bob Birtles.

Youth Groups - Inspire and TOZ

Inspire (for children from school year 4 to 8) **will meet twice a month on Saturday from 2.30pm to 4.30pm in St Edward's cloister in Chandlers Ford.**

Upcoming Dates: 6th & 27th April

TOZ (for young people from school year 9) **will also meet twice a month on Sunday at the usual time 7pm-8.30pm in the Resource Centre in Eastleigh.**

Upcoming Dates: 17th & 31st March, 28th April.

St Edward's Prayer Group - Valley Park

There will be a Scripture Reading and Social Morning at the home of Irene James, 10 Sir Lancelot Close, Chandlers Ford, SO53 4HJ on **Thursday 21st March** at 10am. All are welcome.

Prayer Group Fryern - Monday 18th March, 2-3pm

At the home of Sheila & Pauline O'Neill, 19 Carthage Close, Chandlers Ford. Theme: Lenten Prayer.

60 Club - Will next meet on **Monday 18th March** at 2pm in the Holy Cross Resource Centre.

Maureen (tel: 80692682).

Our Lady Queen of Apostles - Children's Liturgy

The planned Sunday dates until Easter are:

17th & 31st March; 14th April. All are welcome. The sessions are during 9.30am Sunday Mass. **Joanna**

Offerings & Collections

Second Collection - Sunday 17th March

The second collection is for CAFOD Lent Day.

St Swithun Wells Parish Acknowledges with thanks

Last week's collections: £1,621.89

SO/DD for Feb'19: £12,530.59

Parish Events

Stations of the Cross

Are being said during Lent at the following churches:
St Andrew's: Tuesdays at 9.15am (except during Holy Week);

St Swithun Wells: Tuesdays at 10am; followed by tea/coffee;

OLQA: Wednesdays at 7pm;

Holy Cross: Thursdays at 9am;

St Joseph's: Fridays at 9.15am (excluding Good Friday);

St Edward's: Fridays at 6.30pm (excluding Good Friday).

Lent Teaching Evenings at OLQA (7.30pm start)

Tues 19th March: 'Year of the Penitent' - The Lectionary for the Sundays of Lent, Year 'C';

Tues 26th March: The Sacrament of Penance (repeated from Advent 2018) Part 1;

Tuesday 2nd April: The Sacrament of Penance (repeated from Advent 2018) Part 2.

St Edward's - Friday Mass Time Change & CAFOD

Lenten Supper: Please note that during Fridays in Lent, St Edward's Mass **will be at 7pm and not 10am.**

Mass will be preceded by Stations of the Cross at 6.30pm and followed by the usual soup and bread and cheese suppers (at £5 a head). All proceeds to CAFOD.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Pope Francis has requested that Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament should take place for 24hrs during Lent in all Parishes throughout the world. In response to this, Eucharistic Adoration will take place at St Joseph's church for the whole Parish of St Swithun Wells on **Friday 29th March at 6pm.** The Blessed Sacrament will remain exposed until Sat 30th March concluding with Rosary and Benediction from 5.20pm prior to Saturday Vigil Mass at 6pm.

Eucharistic Adoration, (30th March, 10am to 5pm)

As part of the 100 day Eucharistic Adoration campaign by Jesus Youth UK, Holy Cross is hosting Eucharistic Adoration. It would be a wonderful opportunity to spend more time in prayer this lent. There would be a rota in the Church if you would like to sign up, but please feel free to pop in at any time.

Parish Events Continued

Communion and Liberation (CL) meets the Parish Saturday 30th March at 7.45pm

In the Cloister at St Edward's Church, Chandlers Ford. Parishioners from CL will describe how this Catholic movement was born and has spread over the world. Sharing their stories they will tell how being part of CL has made their encounter with Christ possible and has strengthened their faith.

Lent Lunch In Romsey

The Catholic community in Romsey is hosting one of a series of Lent Lunches on **Friday 22nd March** in the Abbey Rooms (rear of Romsey Abbey), 12 noon to 1.30pm. Please support us by coming along to enjoy a bowl of home-made soup, bread and cheese. All profit is for Christian Aid's work throughout the developing countries worldwide. We will be welcoming a special visitor, Joanna Tom-Kargbo from Sierra Leone.

Parish Lunch - Tuesday 26th March, 12.30pm

The Hunters Inn, Romsey. All are welcome. Menus will be on the notice boards. Please let Rosemary (01794 522411) know your choice of meal before Monday 18th March as we have to pre-order. Thank you.

Good Companions - Wednesday 3rd April, 12.30pm

Our next lunch will be at Keats Restaurant, Ampfield. Why not join us for excellent food and pleasant company. Please ring Pauline on 023 80266617 or Susie on 023 80263436 by Friday 29th March.

Bishop Philip's Parish Visit - 6th & 7th April

We are looking forward to meeting Bishop Philip during the weekend of 6th & 7th April; let us prepare for this visit especially through prayer.

Father Wojciech's Celebration

This year Father Wojciech will celebrate 25 years as a Priest. He has invited us, his Parish Family, to share this happy occasion with him on **Sunday 2nd June**. Refreshments will be served at 12.30pm in Wisdom House, Romsey, SO51 8EL. The invitations are available in all churches. Please fill out the return slip and post it into the silver covered box marked celebration.

Messages

Lenten Lunch

The Valley Park ladies at St Edward's who usually host/organise the Lenten Lunch have decided that due to other commitments, they will not be able to host a Lenten Lunch this year. If there are other parishioners who would like to organise and host a Lenten Lunch, they are welcome to contact Susan Johnston, tel 02380 269049 for details.

The Funeral Mass of Canon Dermot MacDermot-Roe RIP will take place at St Boniface Church in Shirley on **Tuesday 19th March** at 12 noon.

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

Messages Continued

Correction to Lent & Easter 2019 Handout

Please note the Lent Penitential Service with Confession on Sat 13th April (11am) is **at Holy Cross and not St Edward's** as previously advertised.

I Belong First Holy Communion Programme 2018/19

Just a reminder to all, that the next meeting for parents and children, is on **Tuesday 19th March** at 6.25pm in St Swithun Wells School. This is the final meeting before the children make the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturday 23rd March. Please can you ensure your child brings their I Belong book to the meeting.

Planned Giving Weekly Envelope Boxes

The last envelope in current boxes is dated 31st March. So for Easter and the next 12 months, users of Planned Giving envelopes need a new box of envelopes. These will be available during March in our Churches.

Look out for your local organiser at weekend Masses during March and collect yours. If you want to stop or start using Planned Giving envelopes, please contact your organiser:

Pat Baggott (023 8069 4060) for Holy Cross, and St Swithun Wells;

The Parish Office (023 8027 3882) for Our Lady Queen of Apostles;

Ian Fearon (023 8026 5248) & Mike Greenslade (023 8026 2870) for St Edward's;

David Martin (01794 511883) for St Andrew's and St Joseph's.

Mass of the Oils - Tuesday 16th April, St John's

Cathedral: If you would like to go to the Chrism Mass please let the Parish Office know. We are hoping to run two minibuses but at present we only have one qualified driver. So places will be on a first come first served basis.

Chrism Mass: Appeal for Singers and Musicians

Can you sing? Are you a musician? Would you be willing to help at the Chrism Mass (11am in the Cathedral on **Tues 16th April**). Chris Olding is the Director of Music for this year's celebration, and is finalising the schedule of music, but is appealing for singers and musicians willing to assist. He intends to arrange a practice one evening a couple of weeks before the Mass, probably in the Eastleigh area. If you would be willing to help or want further info, please email Martin Ryan (mryan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) who is helping with registration.

Other Events

Wednesday Prayer Evenings During Lent at St Peters, Winchester (between 8pm and 9pm):

20th March Adoration: How and why we Adore the Lord?

27th March Contrition: Exploring the Love and Mercy of God.

3rd April Thanksgiving: How can we praise God for all he has done for us?

10th April Supplication: Intercessory Prayer. Praying for others. Does it work?

Mass Times for our Six Church Communities & Parish Contact Information

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 16th *Vigil Masses	9.30am	HC	Maria Farrugia RIP
	5.00pm*	SSW	James Haren RIP
	6.00pm*	St J	Robert Harris RIP
	6.00pm*	OLQA	
	6.30pm*	St Ed	Anna Gualano RIP
Sun 17th Second Sunday of Lent	9.00am	HC	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i>
	9.00am	St Ed	Patricia Bradley FM
	9.00am	St A	Anna Barrett RIP Anniversary
	9.30am	OLQA	
	11.00am	St J	The Pintos Well-Being
	11.00am	HC	Allan Baxter RIP (26th Anniversary of Death)
Mon 18th	10.00am	St Ed	Mary Uphill RIP FM
Tues 19th	9.30am	HC	Charles Joseph Reynolds FM
	10.00am	St A	
	10.00am	OLQA	No Mass
Wed 20th	9.30am	HC	Zaki Hanna Hayek RIP
	10.00am	St Ed	Shiela Tighe RIP
	10.00am	OLQA	
	10.30am	HC	Funeral Mass: Reginald Robinson RIP
Thurs 21st	9.30am	HC	Phyllis Altman RIP
	11.00am	OLQA	Funeral Mass: Anne Hardwick RIP
	6.00pm	St J	
Fri 22nd	10.00am	OLQA	
	10.00am	St J: AH	
	7.00pm	St Ed	Edel Altman (Sick - successful recovery from surgery)
Sat 23rd *Vigil Masses	9.30am	HC	Mary Bain RIP
	5.00pm*	SSW	Shane Tarrant (Exam Success)
	6.00pm*	St J	Carolyne & Family
	6.00pm*	OLQA	
	6.30pm*	St Ed	Ann Sandhu RIP
Sun 24th Third Sunday of Lent	9.00am	HC	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i>
	9.00am	St Ed	Janet Gilda Wilson RIP
	9.00am	St A	Una Akers RIP
	9.30am	OLQA	
	11.00am	St J	Dian Sebi (birthday)
	11.00am	HC	Mary Nixon RIP

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesday: HC - **No Adoration in March**

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's 9.30am, Wednesday - The Holy Rosary
St Joseph's 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

Clergy

Father Raffaele Cossa (Priest in Charge)

Tel: 023 8061 2430; Email: rcosa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Father Luca Speziale (Assistant Priest)

Tel: 023 8061 2430; Email: lspeziale@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Fr Wojciech Paszko (Assistant Priest)

Tel: 01794 522884; Email: wpaszko@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Canon Alan Griffiths (Assistant Priest)

Tel: 07760220346; Email: frgriffiths@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Deacon Bob Birtles

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

Deacon John di Meo

Tel: 01794 515688; Email: jdimeo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Deacon Paul Owen

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

Deacon Paul Wilson

Tel: 02380 616618; Email: pwilson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Office

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

Tel: 02380 273882

Office Hours: Monday-Wednesday 9.30am-5pm;

Thursday & Friday 9.30am-2.30pm

Holy Cross Resource Centre & Finance

Admin: Linda Roberts

lroberts@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Secretary: Sarah Goodfellow

stswparish@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Website

Webmaster: website.sswp@gmail.com

CHURCH ADDRESSES

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 Church, 53, Leigh Road, Eastleigh, SO50 9DF
SSW St Swithun Wells Church, 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

CATHOLIC 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.