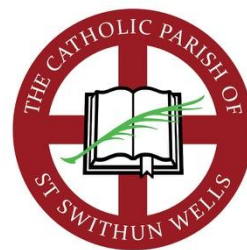


NEWSLETTER



31st May 2026: HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Registered Charity N. 1199568

Love, Jesus, Salvation and Eternal Life

This is the central message of today's Gospel. Perhaps uniquely, the first and second readings, in context, say the same thing.

Exodus reads: "The Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness."

Whilst 2 Corinthians has a reading which is also well known in other Christian communities: "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all." This is known as 'The Grace'.

At first glance John does not seem to have any hope for what we might call 'non-Christians'. The clue, however, is in his use of the word 'world'. The 'world', for John, represents humanity in its fallen and sinful condition. God's love is therefore universal and undeserved. The verse does not say God loved only the righteous, the holy, or Israel alone, but the whole world, *all* of humanity. At the end of Mathew's gospel we read: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit".

John's Gospel presents Christianity's central claim that God's love for humanity is revealed through the gift of his Son. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son". The reading moves from divine love to human response, offering eternal life through faith in Christ whilst warning against rejecting him: "Whoever does not believe is condemned already!" Its enduring power lies in its simplicity and depth: God loves, God gives, God always takes the initiative and humanity is invited to believe and live in Him.

Many writers over the years, such as Julian of Norwich have spoken on the image of God. She says in her book 'Revelations of Divine Knowledge': "As truly as God is our Father, so truly is God our Mother." She portrayed the triune nature of God as divine relationship, creativity, and intimacy. A more feminine image of God. But, clearly, no *words* can *fully* capture the nature of God.

However, what can we draw from today's feast 'The Most Holy Trinity'? God's love for each one of us, whatever we might think of ourselves, is a challenge to somehow accept and return that love, in whatever we do or say. The second reading says: "Brothers and sisters... comfort one another, agree with one another, live in peace".

Dcn Bob



GEM OF THE WEEK

Pope Leo's First Encyclical Magnifica Humanitas
read on our website

For the next Newsletter, items should be received into the Parish Office by 10am on Tuesday
2nd June 2026, please email your messages/notices to: office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

If you wish to make a donation to our parish please go to: stswithunwellsparish.org.uk/financesdonations

LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday 31st May 2026 YEAR A - YEAR 2 - PSALTER WEEK Office Proper

PSALM RESPONSE: TO BE PRAISED AND HIGHLY EXALTED FOR EVER!

1st Reading Exodus 34:4b-6, 8-9 **Psalm** (Dn3) **2nd Reading** 2nd Corinth 13:11-13 **Gospel** John 3:16-18

Sunday 7th June 2026 YEAR A - YEAR 2 - PSALTER WEEK Office Proper

PSALM RESPONSE: O JERUSALEM, GLORIFY THE LORD!

1st Reading Deuter 8:2-3,14b-16a **Psalm** 147 **2nd Reading** 1st Corinth 10:16-17 **Gospel** John 6:51-58

PARISH GROUPS



Voice of Praise - Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group

Join us every **Thursday evening, 7.45pm, at the Holy Cross Church** for an hour of lively prayer, music, Scripture, and fellowship. Our charism is evangelisation: sharing the joy of the Gospel and the power of the Holy Spirit. Whether you are new or experienced in charismatic prayer, all are warmly welcome! On

Thursday 4th June at 7.45pm, we will lead a charismatic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, held on the first Thursday of every month. You are all warmly invited! For info please email:

voiceofpraise.sswp@gmail.com

Youth Groups (including First Holy Communion & Confirmation)

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

Holy Cross Saturdays 10.30am to 12 noon; St Edward Tuesdays 4pm to 5.30pm; St Andrews Fridays 4.30pm to 6pm

Grail Seekers (school years 7, 8, 9) *Sundays 6.30pm to 8.30pm in Holy Cross Resource Centre.*

Student Youth (school year 10 until sixth form)

Fridays 6.30pm to 8.30pm Holy Cross Resource Centre. For more information about the groups please go to our website:

<https://www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk/our-groups>

Knitting Group – Next meeting **Tuesday 16th June**

2pm to 4pm in the **Resource Centre**. We knit hats and scarves for the homeless. Everyone welcome.

Growing In Faith Together Group (GIFT) - every Tuesday at 10.15am in the **H/Cross Resource Centre**.

Communion & Liberation Groups

School of Community meet weekly at:

Holy Cross every Wednesday at 8pm;

St Edward's every Thursday at 8pm.

For more information please click the link on the homepage of our website. All are welcome!

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

Thursdays at 6.30pm in **Holy Cross Resource Centre**.

Interested in volunteering or know some young adults who would like to join the group?

Contact: arkoffellowship.sswp@gmail.com

The Little Flowers Baby & Toddler Group

Meet on **Wednesdays** during term time from **10am in Holy Cross Resource Centre**. The group is for 0-4 years and their grown ups are welcome.

School of Christianity in Bishop's Waltham - A course about the basis of the faith using the Catechism of the Catholic Church. **Every 2nd and 4th Friday** of each month at **6pm** in the hall of **Our Lady Queen of Apostles church**.

Awake My Soul - A group for young adults (aged 18-25) in the parish. We meet every other **Wednesday from 7pm to 9.30pm in Holy Cross Resource Centre**.

We start with dinner together, followed by a discussion on how our faith relates to our daily lives. Next meeting: **Wednesday 3rd June**. If you would like to participate, please email Fr Matteo:

mpagani@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

MESSAGES



Stewardship Campaign - A massive thank you to everyone who has supported and contributed to our 'Renewing Our Parish Commitment' campaign over the last few weeks. Your contributions make a real and lasting difference to our parish and we are so grateful. If you have not yet returned your pledge, please do so as soon as possible.

Fr Raffaele, Fr Luca, Fr Matteo, Fr Pietro, Fr Mario

Upcoming Funeral – Please pray for the repose of the soul of Carolyn Phaire and for her family. Funeral Mass takes place on **Wednesday 3rd June at 10am** at **St Joseph Church**.

St Swithun Wells School Summer Fayre

13th June, from 11am to 3pm. Everyone is welcome! Please come along to support our school.

New Gift Aid Coordinator for Holy Cross & OLQA

Pat Baggott, after 25 years of service as a Gift Aid Coordinator for this Parish has stepped down from her role. We would like to say thank you for the amazing work she has done for our Parish and wish her the best. If you have any queries regarding Gift Aid, Direct Debits and Standing Orders, please contact the following:

Eastleigh Holy Cross - Joseph Bright - email:

giftaid.hc@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

OLQA Bishops Waltham - Patricia Mitchell - email:

giftaid.olqa@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

OLQA Welcome new comers! – **Saturday 6th June & Sunday 7th June**. After each Mass, please join us for drinks and nibbles.



Confirmation and First Holy Communion - On **Sunday 31st May** there will be Confirmations at **3pm** at **Holy Cross Church**, everyone is welcome! Bishop Phillip will preside over the celebration and confirm our teenagers. **(For this reason there will be no Mass at 5.30pm on that day).** While on **Sunday 7th June**, there will be First Holy Communions in the morning at **St Edward, Holy Cross & St Andrew**.

Please pray for our teenagers who are going to be confirmed, and their families:

Aaron Michael, Alexander Chilczuk, Alexein Silang, Andrew Paulose, Asher Ronad, Clarence Junior Dinamling, Curtis Tarrant, Dennis Ziolkowski, Francesca Marie Lara, Georgina Louise Lumasag, John Lucas Lugares, Juci Rappini, Maegan Pereira, Maryvonne Victoria Dingle, Michael West, Mikhaela Villaver, Rei Andrea Gamana, Sarah Jamolin, Sebastián Niampira, Shawn Carlo, Victor Bednarz, Xander Lumasag, Zack Lumasag, Adimora Anakwenze, Alastair Casey, Amelia Hinton, Ania Heaton-Kostek, Daniel Simpson, Delali Atsutse, Elvis Okpala, Francesco Squicciarini, Gabriella Heaton-Kostek, Isabel Sebastian, Marcel Mroczek, Marika Bandur and Max Mroczek. Please also pray for Giulio and Lorenzo Scarponi who were recently confirmed in Italy.

CAFOD Coffee morning and Cake Sale - Wednesday June 17th after Mass at St Edward. There will also be a raffle and new unwanted gifts for sale. All proceeds will go to support CAFOD in the poorest areas of the world. Please come along and support. For more info. Please contact Clare Lasker on 02380252138

Teenagers Weekend Away - We will conclude the Student Youth and Grail Seekers sessions with a Weekend Away. It will take place at **St Joseph's Centre in Ashurst** from **Friday 26th June to Sunday 28th June**. If you would like your child to attend, please register them on our website by Sunday 21st June. The cost is £110 for the first child and £90 for each additional sibling. Bursaries are available if the cost is an issue.

OLQA Family social evening - Saturday 27th June from **6.15pm**. Magician Nikki and Charles comedy act. Followed by ukulele group. £8 a ticket, under 12's free, includes a drink. Bring your own nibbles. All welcome! For more information contact Marie Kemp 07760809640.

Upcoming Parish Festival - Sunday 5th July at Pavillion on the Park. If you know anyone with children's entertainment experience or equipment such as bouncy castle, please email Faye at events@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk If you wish to donate towards the raffle, or know of local businesses willing to contribute prizes, please also contact Faye. Any support, big or small, would be hugely appreciated.

Parish Registration - Please make sure that you register yourself and your children to our Parish using the online form that you can find on our website.

Volunteer Property Manager(s) Needed

Our parish is seeking volunteers who may be interested in serving as a Property Manager for one of our churches. This important role involves helping to oversee the care and maintenance of church buildings and grounds, liaising with contractors where necessary, and ensuring that our properties are kept safe and well maintained. If you are interested please speak to Fr Raffaele or contact the parish office: office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

Chair of Property Managers Committee Needed

Our parish is seeking a volunteer to serve as Chair of the Property Managers Committee. This important role involves coordinating and supporting the work of the Property Managers of the different churches, helping to ensure good communication, shared planning, and the careful stewardship of our parish properties. If you are interested please speak to Fr Raffaele or contact the parish office: office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

We are looking for photos - from events, groups and activities connected to the parish, to share on our website and social media. If you have any photos, send them to events@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk or whatsapp them to 07356318616, with a brief explanation of the photo. Please ask permission to share online from those in the photos, and do not send any photos of children.

Are you celebrating a 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th or more Wedding Anniversary? If so, Bishop Philip would like to invite you to a Mass of celebration. This will take place at **St Bede's church in Basingstoke** on **Saturday 20th June at 11am**. This will be followed by a buffet lunch. Please contact the office if you would like to attend and they will send you a form for you to complete and return to Kirsten McGuire kmcguire@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Sacramental Preparation for Adults (RCIA)

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

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tues:	6.30pm - 7.30pm (after Mass)	St Edward
Wed:	10am - 11am (after Mass)	Holy Cross
Thurs:	12.30pm - 1pm (after Mass)	OLQA
Thurs:	5pm - 6pm (before Mass)	St Joseph

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

Tuesdays:	9.30am-10.00am (before Mass)	St Andrew
Tuesdays:	6.30pm-7.30pm (after Mass)	St Edward
Saturdays:	10.00am-10.30am (after Mass)	Holy Cross
	4.30pm-5.00pm (before Mass)	OLQA
	5.30pm-6.00pm (before Mass)	St Joseph
Sundays:	8.30am-9.00am (before Mass)	St Edward
	8.30am-9.00am (before Mass)	St Andrew

MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

* **Livestreamed**

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 30th May	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Wakuh Family (Special Intention) People of the Parish Margaret Paes and Fabian de Souza RIP John Smee (Wellbeing)
Sun 31st May The Most Holy Trinity	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 3.00pm	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLQA Holy Cross * St Joseph Holy Cross	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Marie Whitty (Special Intention) For the Charlton family (Special Intention) Mark Masterman RIP Monica Dunne RIP Ann and John (Wedding Anniversary) Confirmations
Mon 1st June St Justin	9.30am	Holy Cross	Arthur Mason RIP FM
Tue 2nd June	10.00am 6.00pm	St Andrew St Edward	
Wed 3rd June St Charles Lwanga & Companions	9.30am 10.00am 10.00am	Holy Cross St Edward St Joseph	Kate Mason RIP FM Funeral Mass for Carolyn Phaure RIP
Thur 4th June	9.30am 12 Noon 6.00pm	Holy Cross OLQA St Joseph	Deceased members of the Charleston, Foster & Catt Families FM Rosa Lee RIP (10 th Anniversary) Hugh & Bridie Roddy RIP FM
Fri 5th June St Boniface	10.00am 10.00am 12 Noon	St Joseph St Edward OLQA	Sr Sheila Mary Whelan RIP Agnes & John Walker RIP FM
Sat 6th June	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Grace Donny (special Intention) People of the Parish Patrick Slavin RIP
Sun 7th June Corpus Christi	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 5.30pm	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLQA Holy Cross * St Joseph Holy Cross	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Gregg Collins RIP Carmela Campese FM For Unborn Babies Protection William & Esther Dwyer RIP Anniversary

CLERGY & PARISH OFFICE

Fr Raffaele Cossa (Parish Priest)

Tel: 023 8061 2430; rcossa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Fr Luca Speziale (Assistant Priest)

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

Fr Mario Toma (Assistant Priest)

Tel: 023 8061 2430; mtoma@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Fr Matteo Pagani (Assistant Priest)

Tel: 023 8061 2430; mpagani@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Fr Pietro Piusco (Assistant Priest)

Tel: 023 8061 2430; ppiusco@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Deacon Bob Birtles

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

Deacon John di Meo

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

Deacon Paul Owen

Tel: 023 8025 4806; powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Deacon Paul Wilson

Tel: 023 8061 6618; pwilson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Deacon Emmanuel Chituh

Tel: 07915 379686; echituh@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Office Holy Cross Church, 53 Leigh Road, Eastleigh
SO50 9DF Tel: 02380 273882

Open on: Mon, Tue, Thu & Fri 9.30am - 5.30pm
Wed 9.30am-2.30pm

Parish Administrator: Sabrina Gardner

office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

Finance Administrator: Dexter De Couto

accounts@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

Events & Communications Coordinator: Faye Harris

events@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

Website Contact: website.sswp@gmail.com

Parish Safeguarding: please see Safeguarding posters in each of our churches for details of the Parish Safeguarding Reps.

Diocesan Safeguarding: rattfield@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk