



*Our Mission: Love God—Love Others—Make Disciples*

15th September 2019: **TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

## OUR VISION – PART 1

One year has passed since Fr Luca and I arrived at St Swithun Wells Parish last September. It has been a year full of joy, we have met many people and many friendships started. Obviously not everything was easy, our Parish is very big and complex, and it takes time to understand the history and the different situations.

During the past year Fr Luca and I have been more focused on the central part of the Parish (Holy Cross, St Edwards and St Swithun Wells), while Fr Wojciech has taken care of Romsey and North Baddesley. Last Tuesday Fr Wojciech left for a new mission and I want to thank him for what he has done. I am sure that many people will miss him. At the same time a new priest of our Fraternity joined our group: Fr Marco. With three priests we are now able to take care of St Andrew and St Joseph as well. I have been able sometime to go there, I know the community and for me it will be a joy to be more present. Our Lady Queen of Apostles is obviously not forgotten, even if I am not able to be there as often as I should, Canon Alan lives there, we speak frequently and we share the same vision.

It is about our vision that I would like to draw your attention to now. I think it is important to try to communicate this vision to all our parishioners. In this way we are sure that we are all going in the same direction. Obviously a vision is something that we can build together, communication is important and I would like to encourage everybody with opinions, questions and ideas to come to me.

What is our vision? What is the vision of our Parish? I would say that **our vision is not just a series of activities. Our vision is a Person, our vision is Jesus Christ.** This is very important for us Catholics. Everything we do, organise or change has its reason in Jesus Christ. **We want to help people and ourselves to be on a Christian journey, to know Christ more, to be on a personal path of conversion and to be part of the Christian community that is in our Parish.** This is our goal and the centre of the new evangelisation.

Obviously this vision has to be applied to our situation and transformed in activities, actions, proposals. In this front page, and the following two, I will address four areas where we would like to propose some changes, following our vision: 1) Sacramental preparation/Youth Groups, 2) Groups/Formation for adults, 3) Culture and 4) Charity.

### 1) Sacramental Preparation/Youth Groups

As you know we have decided to change the preparation to receive First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Rather than proposing programs or a course with a beginning and an end, we want to give children and teenagers an everlasting friendship with Jesus within his Body, the Church. That is why we are running two news groups for primary school children (**Stars of Abraham – from school year 3 to 6**) and for young people at secondary school (**Grail Seekers from school year 7 to 9**).

For those who will be in school year 3 and want to be prepared to receive First Holy Communion, they will have to come regularly to the Stars of Abraham. For those who will be in school year 8 and 9 and want to be prepared to receive Confirmation, they will have to join the Grails Seeker.

The focus is not on the sacrament but on Christian life. The sacrament is part of this never ending Christian life. For **teenagers from school year 10 we have TOZ.** This group has a long history in the Parish and will go on being our Christian proposal for them.

Following the same idea we want to change the **Marriage Preparation.** The couples who come to get married are all different from each other. But they arrive with a very open heart. It is the opportunity for us to evangelise. That is why we want to speak to them about Jesus, the Church and the Sacraments (in 8 meetings throughout the year) and help them to know our community better (we will invite them to the groups that we have for adults).

For **Baptism Preparation,** alongside the Essential Baptism Preparation Session, there will be the opportunity for the families to meet personally the priests (at lunch or dinner) and some adults of the Parish. They will also be invited to be part of the Community.

The **Sacramental Preparation for Adults (RCIA)** will follow the same logic.

To be continued next week.

*Fr Raffaele Cossa*

## GEM OF THE WEEK



This week's GEM is "Where mission begins" – a meditation on the meaning of Church's Mission by Emanuele Silanos. You can find it on our homepage.

Newsletter items should be received into the Parish Office by **Wednesday 12:00 Midday**

## LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



**Sunday Cycle: Year C - Weekday Cycle: Year 1 - Psalter Week: 4**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** GIVE PEACE, O LORD, TO THOSE WHO WAIT FOR YOU, THAT YOUR PROPHETS BE FOUND TRUE. HEAR THE PRAYERS OF YOUR SERVANT, AND OF YOUR PEOPLE ISRAEL.

**PSALM RESPONSE:** I WILL LEAVE THIS PLACE AND GO TO MY FATHER.

**READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, 22ND SEPTEMBER 2019:**

**1<sup>st</sup> reading:** Amos: 8:4-7 - **Psalm:** 112 - **2<sup>nd</sup> reading:** 1 Timothy 2:1-8- **Gospel:** Luke 16:1-13

## PARISH GROUPS



### Growing in Faith Together (GIFT)

**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. For more details contact June or Paul Wilson on 02380 616618. Or email: [pwilson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:pwilson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

### School of Community

The weekly catechesis of the catholic movement Communion and Liberation every **Wednesday at 8pm in the Holy Cross Resource Centre.**

**Fellowship Group - Restarts Wednesday 18th September, 7.45pm at St. Swithun Wells Church, Fair Oak.** At the first meeting we will be looking at women in the Old Testament, namely Sarah and Hagar, Esther, Ruth, Tamar and Rahab and Judith. Refreshments served at end of meeting. Everyone welcome. Queries to Peter Baggott or Dcn Bob Birtles.

**Candlelight Prayer - Wed 25th September at 7.30pm St Swithun Wells Church, Fair Oak.** Join us for an evening of prayer, readings, reflection and hymns around the Tabernacle, hosted by the Fellowship Group. Refreshments are served at the end of the evening. Contact Dcn Bob or Marion Birtles for details.

### Sacramental Preparation for Adults (RCIA)

If you would like to be baptised or received into the Catholic Church please speak to a priest or email Deacon Paul Owen at [powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk). Preparation will be on Wednesday evenings fortnightly at **St Edward the Confessor Church, Chandlers Ford starting on 2<sup>nd</sup> October at 7.30pm.**

**Journey in Faith with the Bible:** An opportunity for all to develop through prayer and reflection a better understanding of the readings for the following weekend's Sunday Mass. On Wednesday evenings fortnightly between 7.30pm and 9pm at **St Edward the Confessor Church, Chandlers Ford starting on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October.**

Dates up until Christmas: 9th, 23rd October; 6th, 20th November; 4th, 18th December. All are welcome to attend. Further details from Anne Owen on 02380 254806.

**CAFE** - new series of CaFE meetings:

**Mon 16th Sept, 2pm in St Joseph's;**

**Tues 17th Sept, 7.30pm in St Andrews.**

Further details from Sheila on 01794 518071.

### **Fryern Prayer Group- St Edwards:**

**Monday 16th September from 2-3pm** at the home of Sheila and Pauline O'Neill, 19 Carthage Close, Chandlers Ford. SO53 2BL. All are welcome.

### **St Edward's Prayer Group - Valley Park**

**Thursday 19th September at 10am**

There will be a Scripture Reading and Social Morning at the home of Helen Matteucci, 21 Velmore Road, Chandlers Ford, SO53 3HD. All are welcome.

**TOZ** (for young people from school year 10) *meet twice a month on Sunday in the Resource Centre in Eastleigh.* **Next Meeting Date: 22nd Sept at 7pm.** Contact: [toz.sswp@gmail.com](mailto:toz.sswp@gmail.com) or phone 07846 438224 (Cath Szymanski)

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

Starting in October 2019 there will be meetings every other week for school years 3-6.

*Tuesday, 5.30-7.00pm in St Edwards Cloister;*

*Saturday 10.30am-Noon in HC Resource Centre.*

Please complete the application form available on our website or from the Parish Office and give it to the Parish Secretary as soon as possible. There will be a meeting for all the parents interested (during which we will explain the activities of the group and few notices for those who want to receive First Holy Communion) on **Sunday 22nd September at 4.30pm in Holy Cross Church.**

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

Starting in September 2019 there will be weekly meetings for everyone in school years 7, 8 and 9 every Saturday from 2.30pm-4.30pm in Holy Cross Resource Centre. To join the group complete the application form (available on our website or from the Parish Office) and give it to the Parish Secretary as soon as possible. There will be a meeting for all young people and parents interested (during which we'll explain the activities of the group and few notices for those who want to be prepared for the Confirmation) on **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September at 4.30pm in Holy Cross Church.**

## CHANGES TO MASS & PARISH OFFICE OPENING



On Sunday 29th September Mass at OLQA will start at 11am instead of the usual 9.30am.

The Parish Office will be closed on: Tues 24th (for Staff Training) & Fri 27th September. We apologise for any inconvenience.

## OFFERINGS & SECOND COLLECTIONS



St Swithun Wells Parish Acknowledges with thanks  
Last week's collections: £1,389.89;  
SO/DD for August'19: £12,279.59.

Second Collection this weekend  
14th/15th September for Home Mission Sunday.

## PARISH EVENTS



### Coffee Morning

Margaret French will be holding her annual coffee morning to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Care in **St Andrew's meeting room on 21st September from 10.30am to 12.30pm** and would like as many people as possible to be there please. Thank you.

Parish Lunch: Monday 7th October 12.30pm at the Hunters Inn, Romsey. All are welcome. Menus are on the notice boards. Please let Rosemary (01794 522411) know your choice of meal by Sunday 29th September as we have to pre-order. Thank you.

## SCHOOL NOTICES



### St Swithun Wells Primary School

Is seeking Foundation Governors to join our vibrant and supportive Governing Body. No experience of working in education is necessary as the role of the Governors is to work with the head teacher, staff and other Governors to ensure the school continues to flourish. Closing Date for applications is Friday 11th October (see notice on Church noticeboards). For further information please contact the School directly (02380266210) or have a look on their website [www.st-swithunwells.hants.sch.uk/community](http://www.st-swithunwells.hants.sch.uk/community).

### St George's Catholic College

There is an Open Morning and Evening on **Thursday 3rd October** (9am-11am & 6pm-8pm), and Open Morning on **Thursday 10th October** (9am-11am). Go to [www.stgcc.co.uk](http://www.stgcc.co.uk) or phone 02380 322603.

## MESSAGES



### First Holy Communion (FHC)

The next FHC celebration will be in June 2020 for children in Year 3 (or older children who haven't yet received First Holy Communion). To be prepared we ask you to join the Stars of Abraham group and get involved regularly for one year with the activities (see the Parish Groups section). Please return the completed form to the Parish Office **by 30th Sept 2019**.

### Confirmation

The next confirmation celebration will be in April 2020 for anyone who will be in Year Eight or Nine next year (i.e. starting in September). To be prepared we ask you to join the Grail Seekers group and get involved regularly for one year with the activities (see the Parish Groups section). Please return the completed form to the Parish Office **by 30th Sept 2019**.

### Upcoming Safeguarding Training

#### Child Protection Training

St Edward's Church, **Saturday 21st September from 10.00am to 12.30pm**. People who wish to attend will need to register by emailing Soraya Ciccarone [soraya@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:soraya@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).

### OLQA Children's Liturgy - Sunday 29th Sept

Due to the Bishop's visit to OLQA to celebrate Mass on Sunday 29th Sept, there will be no Children's Liturgy that day; the next one will be on 6th October.

### Holy Hour at St Edward's: Every Thursday Evening

Restarts 19th September between 7-8pm.

A Massive Thank You to everyone who helped in any way or supported the "Afternoon Tea in aid of CAFOD". £365 was raised due to your generosity. As promised I will ask for a Mass to be said for you all in thanksgiving. *June Wilson*

We Need You! Volunteers welcome to help with cleaning St Edward's church. We work in teams of 3-4 and each team cleans once every 5-6 weeks. It is a simple yet essential way to help the parish and a nice way to meet some friends. No experience needed! If interested please contact Rachel on 07766223181 or [rachel.sipaul@me.com](mailto:rachel.sipaul@me.com). Thank you.

### Call for Youth Volunteers for the Coffee Morning on Saturday 21st September

Last year, a number of the members of the youth group came along to help and it would be greatly appreciated if we could have some of them again this year. They really did take the pressure off the adults!

### Rita Forster RIP

Sadly Rita died on 31<sup>st</sup> August after a long illness. Her funeral is on **Friday 20th September**, 11am at St Vincent de Paul, Cxford Rd, Lordswood, SO16 5ST. Afterward there will be a reception at the Best Western Chilworth Manor, Chilworth. Should you wish rather than sending flowers, please make a donation to Parkinson's UK.

# MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 14th <i>The Exaltation of the Holy Cross</i> *Vigil Mass	9.30am	HC	Mrs Edward Christian FM
	5.00pm*	SSW	
	6.00pm*	St J	
	6.00pm*	OLQA	
	6.30pm*	St Ed	
Sun 15th  Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00am	HC	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i>
	9.00am	St Ed	Deceased Members of the Atterbury & O'Grady Families RIP
	9.00am	St A	
	9.30am	OLQA	
	11.00am	St J	
	11.00am	HC	Vera Murfet RIP
Mon 16th <i>Ss Cornelius &amp; Cyprian</i>	10.00am	St Ed	John Paul Anthraper (Thanksgiving)
Tues 17th	9.30am	HC	Peter Byrne (RIP Anniversary)
	10.00am	St A	
	10.00am	OLQA	
	1.30pm	St J	<u>Funeral Service: Dee Chambers RIP</u>
Wed 18th	9.30am	HC	Friends of Suffering Souls RIP
	10.00am	St Ed	
Thurs 19th	9.30am	HC	Bruce & Iris Wiggins RIP
	10.00am	OLQA	
	6.00pm	St J	
Fri 20th <i>St Andrew Kim Tae-gon, St Paul Chong Hasang &amp; Companions</i>	10.00am	St Ed	Folco Scappaticci RIP
	10.00am	OLQA	
	10.00am	St J:AH	
	11.00am	St J	<u>Funeral Mass: Gail Patrick RIP</u>
Sat 21st <i>St Matthew</i>  *Vigil Mass	9.30am	HC	Regina Turl (Special Intention)
	5.00pm*	SSW	Marie Lewis RIP (2nd Anniversary)
	6.00pm*	St J	
	6.00pm*	OLQA	
	6.30pm*	St Ed	Skipton Leonard & Mary Marjorie Haslam RIP
Sun 22nd  Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00am	HC	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i>
	9.00am	St Ed	Ann Wood RIP
	9.00am	St A	
	9.30am	OLQA	
	11.00am	St J	
	11.00am	HC	Russell Speight (Special Intention)

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**  
 Tues: HC - First Tuesday of the Month (10am-1pm)  
 Thurs: St Ed - Holy Hour 7-8pm, restarts 19th Sept  
 Thurs: St J - from 4-6pm, Rosary and Benediction at 5.30pm

**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  
 12.00 Noon St Edward's  
 5.30pm OLQA  
 5.30pm St Joseph's  
**Sundays:** 8.30am St Andrew's

**TIMES A PRIEST WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MEET**

**Tuesdays:** Fr Raffaele, 4pm-6pm in the Parish Office, Holy Cross, Eastleigh.  
**Fridays:** Fr Raffaele, 11.30am-12.30pm in the Parish Office (23 Abbey Water), Romsey.  
**Saturdays:**  
 Fr Marco, 10am-Midday, Parish Office (23 Abbey Water), Romsey.  
 Fr Luca, 11am-1pm, Parish Office, Holy Cross, Eastleigh.

**Father Raffaele Cossa (Priest in Charge)**  
 Tel: 023 8061 2430; E: rcosa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Father Luca Speziale (Assistant Priest)**  
 Tel: 023 8061 2430; E: lspeziale@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Fr Marco Vignolo (Assistant Priest)**  
 Tel: 023 8061 2430

**Canon Alan Griffiths (Assistant Priest)**  
 Tel: 07760220346; E: frgriffiths@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Deacon Bob Birtles**  
 Tel: 023 8069 2416; E: bbirtles@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Deacon John di Meo**  
 Tel: 01794 515688; E: jdimeo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Deacon Paul Owen**  
 Tel: 023 80254806; E: powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Deacon Paul Wilson**  
 Tel: 02380 616618; E: 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 Contact:** 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

**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