



Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ

21st AUGUST 2022: TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

This Newsletter Covers Sunday 21st August & Sunday 28th August

The Narrow Doorway

Today's Gospel passage presents Jesus teaching in towns and villages, on his way to Jerusalem where he knows he will die on the Cross for the salvation of us all. In this context, a man asks a question, who addresses him saying: "Lord, will those who are saved be few?" The question had been a source of debate at that time - how many will be saved, how many not... - and there were several ways to interpret Scriptures on the issue, depending on the texts chosen. Jesus, however, reverses the question - which stresses quantity, that is: "Are they few?..." - and instead places the question in the context of responsibility, inviting us to make good use of the present. Indeed, he says: "Strive to enter by the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able."

With these words, Jesus makes it clear that it is not a matter of numbers, there is no "limited number" in Paradise! Rather, it is a case of taking the right way from now, and this right way is *for everyone, but it is narrow*. This is the problem. Jesus does not want to give us false hopes by saying: "Yes, do not worry, it is easy, there is a beautiful highway with a large gate at the end..." He does not say this. He tells us things as they truly are: the doorway is narrow. In what sense? In the sense that, in order to save oneself, one has to love God and neighbour, and this is uncomfortable! It is a **"narrow doorway" because it is demanding. Love is always demanding**. It requires commitment, indeed, "effort", that is, a determined and persevering willingness to live according to the Gospel. Saint Paul calls it "the good fight of the faith" (1 Tim 6:12). It takes a daily, all-day effort to love God and neighbour.

And in order to explain himself better, Jesus tells a parable. There is a householder who represents the Lord. His house symbolizes eternal life, thus salvation. And here the image of the *door* returns. Jesus says: "When once the householder has risen up and shut the door, you will begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying: 'Lord, open to us.' He will answer you, 'I do not know where you come from'." These people will then attempt to claim his acquaintance, reminding the householder: "I ate and drank with you...I listened to your advice, to your public teaching..."; "I was there when you held that talk...". But the Lord will repeat that he does not know them and he calls them "workers of iniquity". Here is the problem! The Lord will not recognize us for our claims - "But look, Lord, I used to belong to that association, I was friends with this monsignor, this cardinal, this priest..." No, claims do not count, they do not count. The Lord will recognize us only for our humble life and a good life, a life of faith that resulted in good works.

And for us Christians, this means that we are called to establish a true communion with Jesus, praying, going to Church, drawing near to the Sacraments and nourishing ourselves of his Word. This keeps us in the faith, nourishes our hope, rekindles our charity. And thus, with God's grace, we can and must live our lives for the good of our brothers and sisters, fighting against every kind of evil and injustice.

May the Virgin Mary help us in this. She went through the narrow door that is Jesus. She welcomed him with all her heart and she followed him every day of her life, even when she did not understand, even when a sword pierced her soul. This is why we invoke her as "Mary Gate of Heaven", a gate that traces the form of Jesus precisely: the door to God's heart, a demanding heart, but one that is open to us all.

Pope Francis

GEM OF THE WEEK



This week's GEM is, "Bishop Prays For Archie Battersbee" - you can find this on our homepage. If anyone has suggestions for GEMs please contact website.sswp@gmail.com

For the next Newsletter, items should be received into the Parish Office by **9.30am on Wednesday 31st August**, please email your messages/notices to: office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday 21st August 2022: Year C - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 1

PSALM RESPONSE: GO OUT TO THE WHOLE WORLD AND PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS.

READINGS: 1st reading Isaiah 66:18-21 Psalm 116 2nd reading Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13 Gospel Luke 13:22-30

Sunday 28th August 2022: Year C - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 2

PSALM RESPONSE: IN YOUR GOODNESS, O GOD, YOU PREPARED A HOME FOR THE POOR.

READINGS: 1st reading Ecclesiasticus 3:17-18, 20, 28-29 Psalm 67 2nd reading Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a Gospel Luke 14:1, 7-14

Sunday 4th September 2022: Year C - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 3

PSALM RESPONSE: O LORD, YOU HAVE BEEN OUR REFUGE FROM ONE GENERATION TO THE NEXT.

READINGS: 1st reading Wisdom 9:13-18 Psalm 89 2nd reading Philemon 9-10, 12-17 Gospel Luke 14:25-33

PARISH GROUPS



Youth Groups (including First Holy Communion & Confirmation)

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

Grail Seekers (school years 7, 8, 9)

Student Youth (school year 10 until sixth form)

Stars of Abraham also prepares the children for First Holy Communion usually in school year 3. Grail Seekers also prepares the children for Confirmation usually in school year 9. For more details and to join please go to the parish website www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

Communion & Liberation Groups

School of Community are currently on their summer break. For more information please click the link on the homepage of our website.

Sacramental Preparation for Adults (RCIA)

Starts on Wed 5th October 8pm in St Edward's

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 - there will be no meeting during the holidays, return date to be announced.

Growing In Faith Together (GIFT) Group

Tuesdays at 10.15am to approx. 11.30am in the Holy Cross Resource Centre. In August we will be meeting informally for coffee & prayer.

The Little Flowers Baby & Toddler Groups

Holy Cross Group: Are currently on their Summer break (they normally meet on Wednesdays at 10am in the Resource Centre).

New group at St Joseph's: Will meet on Thursdays from 10.30am-12 Noon in the Parish Hall (26 Abbey Water, Romsey) starting from 8th September.

The groups are for 0-4 years and their families. More information is on the website or you can email: littleflowers.sswp@gmail.com

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

Are currently on their Summer break (they normally meet on Thursdays at 6.30pm in the Holy Cross Resource Centre). Interested in volunteering or know some young adults who would like to join the group? If yes, please contact Fr Luca at: arkoffellowship.sswp@gmail.com

Afternoon Club - St. Joseph's Parish Centre (26A Abbey Water), first Tuesday in the month at 2pm. Come and join us for tea, games and good fun.

Knitting Club - Third Tuesday of the month, from 2pm-4pm in the Holy Cross Resource Centre. If you would like to join us for a knit and cup of tea please come along, all levels of knitting ability welcome!

MESSAGES



Parish Office - Summer Holidays

The Office will be closed on Fridays 19th & 26th Aug. Fiona will be away on Wed 31st Aug & Thurs 1st Sept therefore the office will close at 2.30pm on those days.

Upcoming Funerals

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Barbara Cowhig and for her family. Barbara's Funeral Service takes place at St Edward's on Wednesday 24th August at 11.30am.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Julie Palmer and for her family. Julie's Funeral Service takes place at Wessex Vale Crematorium on Friday 2nd September.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Joan Paul and for her family. Joan's Funeral Mass takes place at St Joseph's on Monday 5th September at 1pm.

Invitation to the CAFOD Group & Knight of St Columba BBQ

The CAFOD group and the Knights of St Columba invite you to a parish barbeque at St Edward's on Saturday 20th August, from 1pm. Food including desserts and a first free drink with each £10 ticket. Children under 12 are FREE. BBQ and raffle contributions gratefully accepted and there will be a CAFOD produce stall.

Enquiries to Neil Hendricks (023 8026 6324); tickets on sale after Masses during the first two weeks of August. Numbers will be limited to about 80.

St Andrew's & St Joseph's BBQ

Following the success of last years BBQ in St Andrew, even in the rain, the event is being repeated on **Sunday 21st August at 12 Noon**. The venue is St Andrew's, North Baddesley. Participation is by ticket only and announcements will be made at weekend Masses at both St Andrew's and St Joseph's. Contact Tennyson Scaria or Roger Lillie after Mass.

Flower Arrangers Annual Get Together - Tuesday 23rd August (St Rose of Lima), 10am at St Andrew's
The St Andrew's Flower Team would like to invite all St Swithun Wells flower arrangers to celebrate Mass together on this date; this will be followed by refreshments in the adjacent hall. Also, any parishioners, neighbours or friends, who may be interested in joining one of the church flower teams, would be most welcome to this informal occasion to find out more details. Please contact Anna Moody so we can have an idea of numbers attending:
annamoody49@gmail.com or 07837 340090.

Parish Lunch at the Hunters Inn, Romsey, 12.30pm on Thursday 8th September. All are welcome. Menus on the churches notice boards. Please let Rosemary (01794 522411) know your choice of meal before Wednesday 31st August as we have to pre-order.

Good Companions - An afternoon tea has been arranged for those who live alone or are lonely at **3pm on Friday 9th September in the Cloister of St Edward's Church**. No charge but donations to CAFOD will be welcome. If you would like to join us, please ring Tony Wilson on 023 80266617 for catering purposes. We look forward to seeing you.

Communion & Liberation Day
On **Sunday 11th September** the Communion and Liberation (CL) groups of our Parish and the diocese of Portsmouth will meet to begin this new social year together. The event is open to everyone (kids, parents, adults...), and those who are interested to know more about this group. We will meet at **1pm at St Joseph's House** (8 Lyndhurst Rd - SO40 7DU), share a lunch together, sing some songs and have some activities, followed by a conversation. We'll finish our day celebrating Mass. For more information and to register for the event please contact the welcoming team at: soc.sswp@gmail.com

MESSAGES CONTINUED



Holy Cross Shop - The shop will be closed for the whole of August and will re-open on Thurs 1st Sept. If you need anything from the shop during this time, please phone Lynette on 02380 618542.

Message from Bishop Philip on his 10 year plan
Over the last three years, after various consultations and discussions with clergy and with the laity, I am happy to present to you the draft version of our 10-year mission plan, called *You will be my Witnesses*. You can read it and download a copy from the diocesan website:
<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/our-mission/planning/ten-year-plan/>
In September, the planning team will provide a shorter version of the Mission Plan in printed form.

Visit of the Relics of St Bernadette of Lourdes to Portsmouth Diocese - 8th/9th September 2022
The relics of St Bernadette of Lourdes will be touring the UK this autumn. More info can be found at: www.portsmouthcatholiccathedral.org.uk by clicking on the relic tour logo on the home page, alternatively please see the posters in our churches.

CONFESSION (SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION)

| | | |
|-----------|-----------------|------------|
| Tuesday: | 6.30pm-7.30pm | St Edward |
| Tuesday: | 9.30am-10.00am | St Andrew |
| Saturday: | 10.00am-10.30am | Holy Cross |
| | 5.30pm-6.00pm | OLQA |
| | 5.30pm-6.00pm | St Joseph |
| Sunday: | 8.30am-9.00am | St Andrew |
| | 9.00am-9.30am | OLQA |

TIMES A PRIEST WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MEET

| | |
|-------------|--|
| Tuesdays: | Fr Raffaele is not available on 30th Aug & 6th Sept, 3.30pm-5.30pm, Holy Cross Resource Centre, Eastleigh |
| Wednesdays: | Fr Luca is not available on 24th Aug 4.30pm-6.30pm, Holy Cross Resource Centre, Eastleigh |
| Fridays: | Fr Raffaele is not available on 2nd & 9th Sept, 10.30am-11.30am, Romsey Parish Office (26 Abbey Water), Romsey |
| Saturdays: | Fr Marco, 9.30am-12.30pm, Romsey Parish Office (26 Abbey Water), Romsey |

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

| | |
|------------|---|
| Tuesday: | St Edward's - after Mass (6.30pm-7.30pm) |
| Wednesday: | Holy Cross - after Mass (10.00am-11.00am) |
| Thursday: | St Joseph - before Mass (5.00pm-6.00pm) |

CLERGY & PARISH OFFICE

Fr Raffaele Cossa (Parish Priest)
Tel: 023 8061 2430; E: rcosa@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
Tel: 01794 515688; E: jdimeo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Deacon Paul Owen
Tel: 023 8025 4806; E: powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Deacon Paul Wilson
Tel: 023 8061 6618; E: pwilson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Office Holy Cross Church, 53 Leigh Road, Eastleigh, SO50 9DF
Tel: 02380 273882
Opening Times: Mon-Thurs 9.30am-5.30pm; Fri 9.30am-2.30pm (see newsletter for changes).

Holy Cross Resource Centre & Finance Admin: Fiona Mooney
Email: accounts@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

Parish Secretary: Sarah Goodfellow
Email: office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

Website Contact: website.sswp@gmail.com

MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

| DATE | TIME | CHURCH | MASS INTENTION | DATE | TIME | CHURCH | INTENTION |
|---|---------|--------|--|--|---------------|---|--|
| Sat 20th Aug <i>Morning Mass: St Bernard</i> | 9.30am | HC | Kathleen Bernadette Reynolds FM | Mon 29th <i>The Passion of St John the Baptist</i> | 9.30am | HC | Thanksgiving |
| | 5.00pm | SSW | Andrew Bates RIP Anniv | | Tues 30th Aug | 10.00am | St A |
| | 6.00pm | OLQA | People of the Parish For Vocations to Priesthood, Diaconate & Religious Life | 6.00pm | | St Ed | |
| | 6.00pm | St J | | | Wed 31st Aug | 9.30am | HC |
| 6.30pm | St Ed | | 9.30am | OLQA | | | |
| Sunday 21st Aug <i>Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> | 8.30am | HC | <i>Polska Msza Święta</i> | Thurs 1st Sept | 9.30am | HC | Rev Mgr Canon Patrick O'Mahony FM |
| | 9.00am | St Ed | Denis McCormack (90th Birthday) | | 12 Noon | OLQA | |
| | 9.00am | St A | Kathleen & Albert Harrison (RIP Anniversary) | 6.00pm | St J | | |
| | 9.30am | OLQA* | Peg McDonnell RIP Sr May RIP | Fri 2nd Sept | 9.30am | OLQA | For a Grandson (Sp Int) Tim Layzell RIP |
| 11.00am | HC* | | | | 10.00am | St J | |
| 11.00am | St J | | | 10.00am | St Ed | | |
| Mon 22nd <i>The Queenship of Mary</i> | 9.30am | HC | | Sat 3rd Sept <i>Morning Mass: St Gregory The Great</i> | 9.30am | HC | Seamus Doyle RIP |
| Tues 23rd | 10.00am | St A | Timmy Fung RIP Living & Deceased Members of the Harry & Cavanagh Families FM | | 5.00pm | SSW | |
| | 6.00pm | St Ed | | | 6.00pm | OLQA | |
| Wed 24th Aug <i>St Bartholomew</i> | 9.30am | HC | Frederick John Johnson FM | 6.00pm | St J | Nelita Hechanova RIP Anniversary Felino Cagampang (Thanksgiving) | |
| | 9.30am | OLQA | Denis McCormack (90th Birthday) | 6.30pm | St Ed | | |
| | 10.00am | St Ed | | | | | |
| | 11.30am | St Ed | <u>Funeral Service: Barbara Cowhig RIP</u> | | | | |
| Thurs 25th Aug | 9.30am | HC | Raymond Kelly RIP (1st Anniversary) | Sunday 4th Sept <i>Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> | 8.30am | HC | <i>Polska Msza Święta</i> |
| | 12Noon | OLQA | Joan Paul RIP | | 9.00am | St Ed | Geoffrey Bird RIP |
| 6.00pm | St J | | | | 9.00am | St A | Margaret Martindale RIP |
| | | | | | 9.30am | OLQA* | Emilia Tuppein RIP People of the Parish |
| Fri 26th Aug | 9.30am | OLQA | Frances & Lucy (Sp Int) Margaret Martindale RIP | 11.00am | HC* | | |
| | 10.00am | St J | | | 11.00am | St J | |
| 10.00am | St Ed | | | | | | |
| Sat 27th Aug <i>Morning Mass: St Monica</i> | 9.30am | HC | Ron & Collette Reynolds FM | | | | |
| | 5.00pm | SSW | Maureen Slevin RIP | | | | |
| | 6.00pm | OLQA | Deceased Members of the Hinguillo, Aggalot, Padilla & Vicencio Families RIP Marie Duggan (Birthday) | | | | |
| | 6.00pm | St J | | | | | |
| | 6.30pm | St Ed | | | | | |
| Sunday 28th Aug <i>Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> | 8.30am | HC | <i>Polska Msza Święta</i> | | | | |
| | 9.00am | St Ed | People of the Parish | | | | |
| | 9.00am | St A | Susan Butcher RIP Anniv | | | | |
| | 9.30am | OLQA* | Thomas Charles Robinson FM | | | | |
| | 11.00am | HC* | | | | | |
| | 11.00am | St J | John Marlow RIP (Birthday Anniversary) | | | | |

* Denotes Live Streamed Masses - these can be viewed via the Parish Website

OUR CHURCHES

St Ed - St Edward the Confessor
191-193, Winchester Rd, Chandlers Ford, SO53 2DU

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

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

SSW - St Swithun Wells
Allington Lane, Fair Oak SO50 7DB

St A - St Andrew
Fleming Avenue, North, Baddesley SO52 9EP

St J - St Joseph
Abbey House Drive, Romsey, SO51 8YB