



*Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ*

**19<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2023: THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

## Indi Gregory

Indi Gregory was a severely-ill child who was being treated in an NHS hospital in England with a condition that involved brain damage. Her condition triggered a legal battle between her parents and the NHS, which has been very painful especially for the former, Dean and Claire. You can find more details about this story by reading the "Anscombe Statement" which is available on our website as Gem of the Week.

We think it might be useful to share the statement of the Bishop's Conference of England and Wales that was released following the death of Indi on 13<sup>th</sup> November.

*"With deep sadness we express our condolences to Dean and Claire, parents of Indi Gregory, who died earlier today. We assure them of our prayers and those of all the Catholic Community, including Pope Francis, at this sad time.*

*"As a baptised child of God, we believe that she will now share in the joy of heaven after her short life which brought deep joy to her parents who loved and protected her as a precious gift of God.*

*"We thank all who worked so tirelessly to care for her at the Queen's Medical Centre, Nottingham and at the hospice where she died.*

*"The legal battle between the NHS Trust and her parents shows again the need for greater weight to be given to the parental voice in these complex and sensitive cases. A simple way to begin to remedy this would be to amend the Health and Care Act 2022 by reintroducing Baroness Ilora Finlay's amendment on 'Dispute resolution in children's palliative care' formulated after the death of Charlie Gard.*

*"We will continue to contribute to wider discussions on questions of when treatment becomes disproportionate to any possible benefit and the duty of the continuation of basic care, including assisted nutrition and hydration, to protect the good of every child."*

It is difficult to establish with absolute certainty the boundary between euthanasia and therapeutic obstinacy, especially if one is not a medical professional or scientist. But one thing we can say is this: everything must be done to prevent relationships between people from breaking down, at any cost. Breaking an alliance is always a harm, as in the case of the alliance between healthcare personnel and the family.

Now that Indi is in Heaven, we have another friend joining in our prayers and protecting us from there.

## GEM OF THE WEEK



This week's GEM is the "Anscombe Statement about Indi Gregory" - you can find this on our homepage. If anyone has suggestions for GEMs please contact [website.sswp@gmail.com](mailto:website.sswp@gmail.com)

For the next Newsletter, items should be received into the Parish Office by **10am on Wednesday 22nd November 2023**, please email your messages/notices to: [office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk](mailto:office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk)

# LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



**Sunday 19th November 2023:** Year A - Year 1 - Psalter Week: 1

**PSALM RESPONSE:** O BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO FEAR THE LORD.

**1<sup>st</sup> reading** Proverbs 31:10-13,19-20,30-31 **Psalm 127** **2<sup>nd</sup> reading** Thessalonians 5:1-6

**Gospel** Matthew 25:14-30

**Sunday 26th November 2023:** Year A - Year 1 - Psalter Week: Office Proper

**PSALM RESPONSE:** THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD; THERE IS NOTHING I SHALL WANT.

**1<sup>st</sup> reading** Ezekiel 34:11-12,15-17 **Psalm 22** **2<sup>nd</sup> reading** Corinthians 15:20-26,28 **Gospel** Matthew 25:31-46

## 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)

For Grail Seekers & Student Youth we usually meet on Friday evenings in the Holy Cross Resource Centre at 6.30pm. Please check the parish website for the calendar of meetings, times and venues.

## Growing In Faith Together Group

**Tuesdays 10.15am to approx. 11.45am** in the Holy Cross Resource Centre. All are welcome!

**Fellowship Group - Wednesday 22nd November, 7pm** at St Swithun Wells Church, Fair Oak. We are starting a 4 week Advent Bible study. This week is "In Search of Happiness". Everyone is welcome and if you wish to join us on Zoom please contact Peterbaggott@aol.com for the link.

**Learn to Pray with the Weekly Scripture Readings**  
**Wednesdays at 11am** in St Joseph's Parish Centre, 26A Abbey Water, Romsey;

**Thursdays at 10am** in St Edward the Confessor Church, Chandler's Ford.

Please come along if you would like to grow in your life of prayer by praying with the following Sunday's Mass readings. All are welcome. For more info please contact Emmanuel Chituh (chiati2002@yahoo.com or 07915 379686) or Dcn Paul

## PARISH GROUPS



Owen (02380 254806 or powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) for the St Edward's group or Marilyn on 07909 127027 for the Romsey group.

### The Little Flowers Baby & Toddler Groups

**Holy Cross Group** meet on **Wednesdays from 10am** in the Resource Centre, Eastleigh;

**St Joseph's Group** meet on **Thursdays from 10.30am - 12 Noon** in the Hall (26 Abbey Water, Romsey).

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

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

**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: arkoffellowship.sswp@gmail.com

**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!

## Fr Marco

As you know Fr Marco has been absent from the parish for the last few weeks. He continues to need time away and so has returned to our community in Italy.

We express our gratitude to him for his dedicated ministry in our parish over the last four years. Fr Marco extends his heartfelt thanks to all the parishioners who have prayed for him in recent weeks. He will continue to hold you in his prayers and will cherish all the wonderful memories of his time in our parish.

## Second Collection this Weekend

**18th/19th Nov for Missions of the Fraternity of St Charles Borromeo:** This second collection is to help our missionary work in seventeen countries especially the poorest ones, in Siberia & Kenya.

**Cultural Friday - 17th Nov at 7pm** in St Edward's We will be watching a film, "Sully: A Miracle on the Hudson", directed by Clint Eastwood. A film about the

## MESSAGES



contrast between numbers/theories and a "human factor" that no calculation can erase. Cheese and wine from 7pm, film starts at 7.30pm. Suggested donation £1.

### Churches Together

On **Tuesday 21st November at 7.30pm, in Holy Cross Church**, we are hosting an ecumenical service. It will be on the theme of "Listening" (part of the "Bells" initiative - information cards in Welcoming Area). It would be great if our Catholic community was to be well represented as we are the hosts. All are welcome.

**Good Companions** - Our next get-together for those who live alone or are lonely will be at **12 Noon on Friday 24th November in St Edward's Cloister**. Please note the EARLIER START TIME due to the daylight factor. Please join us. Contact Tony Wilson on 023 80266617.

## MESSAGES CONTINUED

### Parish Retreat for Advent on

Sat 2nd December, 2.30pm-4.30pm at St Edward's. Open to everyone. There will be a talk about Advent, some time for private prayer in the church and a time for questions and sharing thoughts.

Parish Lunch on Wednesday 6th December, 12.30pm at the Hunters Inn, Romsey. Menus are on the notice boards. All are welcome. Please let Rosemary (01794 522411) know your choice of meal by Tues 28th Nov as we have to pre-order. Thank you.

### Parish Christmas Party - Sunday 10th December, 1pm-4pm at St Swithun Wells Primary School

Menu to be confirmed (a vegetarian option will be available). Price £10 per person, children 16 and under free. In Holy Cross, St Andrew & St Edward's you can pay by contactless if you would prefer. We have kept the price of the tickets the same as last year (£10), however if you are able to pay more please do so.

Tickets are available in our churches (in the welcoming areas after weekend Masses) from next weekend.

A limited number of tickets are available, the **deadline for purchasing tickets is Sunday 3rd December**.

**Admission by ticket only**

Advent to Christmas Carol Service at St. Swithun Wells Church, Fair Oak, on Sunday 10th December at 5.30pm. All are welcome. Please join us for mulled wine and mince pies afterwards!

KSC Christmas cards designed by the pupils of St Swithun Wells school will be on sale after most Masses from this weekend. All for a good cause with all proceeds going towards local charities supported by the Knights of St Columba.

### CAFOD Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal

Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at [cafod.org.uk/ipc](http://cafod.org.uk/ipc) or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need.

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

**Tuesdays:** Fr Raffaele, 3.30pm-5.30pm, Holy Cross Resource Centre, Eastleigh  
**Wednesdays:** Fr Luca, 3.30pm-5.30pm, Holy Cross Resource Centre, Eastleigh  
**Fridays:** Fr Luca, 10.30am-11.30am, Romsey Parish Office (26 Abbey Water), Romsey

#### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

**Tues:** St Edward - after Mass (6.30pm-7.30pm)  
**Wednesday:** Holy Cross - after Mass (10.00am-11.00am)  
**Thursday:** St Joseph - before Mass (5.30pm-6.00pm)

#### CONFESSION (SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION)

<b>Tuesday:</b> 6.30pm-7.30pm (after Mass)	St Edward
<b>Tuesday:</b> 9.30am-10.00am (before Mass)	St Andrew
<b>Saturday:</b> 10.00am-10.30am (after Mass)	Holy Cross
10am or by appointment	OLQA
5.30pm-6.00pm (before Mass)	St Joseph
<b>Sunday:</b> 8.30am-9.00am (before Mass)	St Edward
8.30am-9.00am (before Mass)	St Andrew

### Parish Pilgrimage to Siena, Assisi & Rome

Tuesday 18th June - Sunday 23rd June 2024

Please note that completed booking forms (forms are available on our website or in church welcome areas) and deposit payments need to be made to **Tangney Tours as soon as possible!**

### 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](mailto:powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) or alternatively please speak to a priest.

### St Edward's Church - Flowers

Enhancing our lovely church with flowers is a very rewarding and joyful Ministry. We need more people to join the flower arranging team: all it takes is a little time – time that is flexible. No experience necessary as guidance can be given. Please contact Irene James to find out more on 023 8027 3389 or email [imajam17@outlook.com](mailto:imajam17@outlook.com). Thank you.

Communication Group - The first meeting of the Communication Group will be in **St Swithun Wells Church on the 22nd November at 2pm**. If you are interested in joining us please contact Kathy East: [Kathyeast361@gmail.com](mailto:Kathyeast361@gmail.com) or on 07928050948 We look forward to seeing you.

Help required - An elderly parishioner living in Surrey Court, Chandler's Ford, with limited mobility is eager to attend 11am Sunday Mass at Holy Cross. She needs someone to give her a lift. Can you help? If so please email [svp@st-boniface.org.uk](mailto:svp@st-boniface.org.uk) for details.

Leaving a gift in your will - Legacy giving is an important form of stewardship, as it offers donors the opportunity to leave a lasting impact on the Church, and to ensure the continuation of the Catholic faith for generations still to come.

You can choose to leave a gift to your parish. However, you should ensure that the gift is made via the diocese, because the diocese is a registered charity and can benefit from charity tax exemptions. If you wish your parish to benefit, you can ask your will-writer to use particular wording to enable this. Indeed, it is important that you use a will-writing professional to ensure your final wishes are clear.

For more information contact the parish office on 02380 273882 or write to: [legacygiving@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:legacygiving@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

### Parish Financial Summary Sept 2022–Aug 2023

Last weekend you received with the newsletter a summary of St Swithun Wells parish finances for 2022/2023. If you missed this, copies are available for you to pick up in church welcome areas. Please read the summary carefully and if you have any questions please contact Fr Raffaele.

## MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Saturday 18th Nov	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross St Swithun Wells OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Mr Pappachan RIP Allan Kennedy RIP  Ann O'Donoghue RIP Constance Brixey FM
Sunday 19th Nov <i>Thirty-Third Sunday In Ordinary Time</i>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLQA Holy Cross (also livestreamed) St Joseph	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Terry Lennon (Wellbeing) Denis Keefe RIP Anniversary  Jim O'Mara RIP For Lucy & Erin (In Thanksgiving)
Monday 20th Nov	9.30am	Holy Cross	Punnamchra Family RIP Mary Ellen Connolly & Family (Special Intention)
Tuesday 21st Nov <i>The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	10.00am 6.00pm	St Andrew St Edward	Edward Rayment RIP Anniversary Angela Thompson RIP Birthday Anniversary
Wed 22nd Nov <i>St Cecilia</i>	9.30am 9.30am 10.00am	Holy Cross OLQA St Edward	People of the Parish  Patrick Burke RIP FM
Thurs 23rd Nov	9.30am 12 Noon 6.00pm	Holy Cross OLQA St Joseph	Lydia & Joe Fonseca RIP  For Alan & all dementia sufferers and carers (Wellbeing)
Friday 24th Nov <i>St Andrew Dung-Lac &amp; Companions</i>	9.30am 10.00am 10.00am	OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Margaret Foster RIP
Saturday 25th Nov	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross St Swithun Wells OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Anu (Special Intention) Justine Power RIP  Deceased members of the Baker & Hanrahan Families
Sunday 26th Nov <i>Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe</i>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLQA Holy Cross (also livestreamed) St Joseph	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Barney & Peggy Rice RIP FM Harold Butcher RIP Anniversary  Charlie & Rita Kelly FM Teresa Rayment (for recovery)

### 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 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 Matteo Pagani  
Tel: 023 8061 2430; E: mpagani@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

**Safeguarding:** Please see Safeguarding posters in each of our churches for details of the Parish Safeguarding Reps. Diocesan Safeguarding: Ruth Attfield rattfield@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk