



Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ

16th FEBRUARY 2020: **SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

2020 The Year of the Word

As you will know, from the newsletter, we have several groups that meet in various parts of the parish. These groups allow you to share with other likeminded parishioners and they all offer different opportunities. Yet they all offer friendship and expand our knowledge of our faith in a variety of ways. What can be better than that?

The group that meet on Tuesday mornings after the 9:30am Mass at Holy Cross, is called GIFT (Growing in Faith Together). There is a core team of three who facilitate the group. The content varies widely and depends on suggestions from the group. There are guest speakers, various prayer and Lectio Divina sessions, presentations and of course video based courses.

I could fill several newsletters with how valuable these various groups in the parish are, I could bore you all for hours about the hundreds of courses I have run over the years, starting with Alpha back in 1996 in the Cathedral Hall at Nottingham, continuing on in various parishes and even in prisons. But I am not going to do that, (I can hear the sighs) but I do want to share with you how the latest video course, which finished on Tuesday morning, impressed me so much more than all the others that I have been involved in over the years.

It was a course which came out of a conversation last September at the Southampton Celebrate Conference held at St George's school. The conversation was about how we could best follow the lead from Pope Francis about making "2020 the Year of the Word". We happened to involve a priest from the diocese, who was at the conference, in the conversation. He suggested a particular course and we decided to look into it further.

We were worried that it could be too academic! That it was expensive! That it was American! and each session was a bit longer than our group's typical timeframe! However, we found we could borrow a copy. So we did, the core team looked at it individually and we concluded that it was not too academic, the American presenter was deemed more than acceptable and the timeframe could be adapted to suit our group.

So we said to the group: "We think we have found what we were looking for, we can run the first session and decide if it suits us". Well, as I said at the beginning, we have just finished the final 8th session, we are keen to share our experience with anyone interested, in fact we agreed we should run this course again, it was so good. Any existing or new group could probably arrange to borrow the video course – and in fact I would be happy to help any group who wanted assistance in running this course. If anyone is interested in attending a future rerun of this course (it could be on a different day and time), email or give me a call, and I will discuss with the core team (email: pwilson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk; tel 02380 616618).

P.S. Have you worked out yet that I have not told you what the course was?
It is Jeff Cavis – Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible. (in 8 sessions)

Deacon Paul Wilson

GEM OF THE WEEK



This week's GEM is an article by Julian Carron entitled 'Faith and Solitude' - you can find the link on our homepage. If anyone has suggestions for GEMs please contact the Webmaster on website.sswp@gmail.com.

LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday 16th February 2020:
Year A - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 2

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: BE MY PROTECTOR, O GOD, A MIGHTY STRONGHOLD TO SAVE ME. FOR YOU ARE MY ROCK, MY STRONGHOLD! LEAD ME, GUIDE ME, FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR NAME

PSALM RESPONSE: THEY ARE HAPPY WHO FOLLOW GOD'S LAW!

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, 23RD FEBRUARY 2020:

1st reading: Leviticus 19:1-2. 17-18 -**Psalm:**102- **2nd reading:** 1 Corinthians 3:16-23 - **Gospel:** Matthew 5:38-48

Growing in Faith Together (GIFT)

Tuesdays between 10.15-11.30am (after Mass) in 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.

Sacramental Preparation for Adults (RCIA)

Preparation will be on Wednesday evenings fortnightly at **St Edward the Confessor Church, Chandlers Ford at 7.30pm.** If you would like to be baptised, confirmed or received into the Catholic Church please speak to a priest or email Deacon Paul Owen at powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Upcoming dates: **19th Feb, 4th Mar, 18th Mar**

Journey in Faith with the Bible

Wednesday evenings fortnightly between **7.30pm and 9pm at St Edward's Church, Chandlers Ford.**

All Welcome. Upcoming dates: **26th Feb**

See poster on Church Noticeboards or contact Anne Owen on 02380 254806 for more information.

Fellowship Group - There will be *no meeting* on **Wednesday 19th** as it is half term.

Wednesday evenings in Lent at St Swithun Wells Church, Fair Oak. We will be having a Lenten Supper of Homemade soup, bread, cheese and fruit at 7pm followed at 7.45pm by a Bible Study Course '*Opening The Scriptures and Setting our hearts on fire*'. There is no charge for the Suppers but donations to our Lenten Alms fund would be welcome. The first session is on **Wednesday 4th March** and everyone in the Parish is very welcome. Queries to Peter Baggott and Deacon Bob Birtles.

School of Community

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

PARISH GROUPS



CaFE: Next Meetings

Tues 18th Feb, 7.30pm in St Andrew's Social Centre;
Mon 24th Feb, 2.30pm in Romsey Parish Office (26 Abbey Water).

Details from sheila.keefe20@gmail.com.

Fryern Prayer Group St Edwards - Our next meeting will be on **Monday 17th February from 2-3pm** at the home of O'Neill's, 19 Carthage Close.

Theme: CaFE bible study Session 2 - All Welcome.

TOZ (for young people from school year 10) meet twice a month on Sunday. **Next Meeting Date: 23rd February, from 7pm to 9pm** (with dinner) in the Resource Centre.

Contact: toz.sswp@gmail.com or phone 07846 438224 (Cath Szymanski).

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

We meet every other week:

Tuesday, 5.30-7.00pm in St Edwards Cloister;
Saturday 10.30am-Noon in HC 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.

Grail Seekers (school years 7, 8, 9) - We meet weekly 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.

The 60 Club will meet on **Monday 17th February at 2pm** in Holy Cross Resource Centre.

Everyone welcome. *Maureen (80692682)*

CHANGES TO MASS & PARISH OFFICE OPENING



The Parish Office will, from the **24th Feb**, be closed on **Mondays (all day) and Tuesday afternoons** until Linda has recovered from her operation and is back at work.

Please note the Office will be open from 10.15am instead of 9.30am on **Friday 6th & 27th March** - we apologise for any inconvenience.

OFFERINGS & SECOND COLLECTIONS



St Swithun Wells Parish Acknowledges with thanks

Collection for weekend 1st/2nd Feb '20: £1,380.54;
SO/DD for January '20: £13,020.59

The next Second Collection

Will be for CAFOD on 7th/8th March (Lenten Fast Day will be on Friday 6th March).

PARISH EVENTS

Call My Bluff

Tuesday 18th Feb, 2-4pm in Romsey Parish Centre, 26 Abbey Water. If you would like to come, please contact Rosemary (01794 522411).

Parish Lent Retreat

Sunday 8th March, 2.30pm-5pm at St Edward's. There will be a talk by Fr Raffaele, some time for questions and personal prayer.

Parish Lunch

Monday 2nd March, 12.30pm at the Luzborough, Romsey. All welcome. Menus will be on the notice boards. Please let Rosemary (01794 522411) know your choice of meal *by Sunday 23rd Feb* as we have to pre-order. Thank you.

MESSAGES

Bishop Philip Egan writes:

I'd like to invite the whole Diocese to join me at the Cathedral on the First Sunday of Lent, 1st March 2020 for a Day of Prayer and Reparation for the sins of sexual abuse by members of the Church. The purpose of the Day is to beg God's forgiveness and God's healing as well as to make reparation for the sins and crimes of sexual abuse that have taken place within the Church by and against members of the Church, especially children and vulnerable adults. As we begin the season of Lent, and especially during this two-year period of intense prayer for the spiritual renewal of our Diocese, it seems very important to me that we all have an opportunity to pray earnestly for the victims of sexual abuse and for the forgiveness of those, clerical and lay, who have perpetrated abuse. Please see church noticeboards for times and a finalised programme for the day.

Lent Course in Chandlers Ford

Sign-up sheets are in the cloister at St Edward's, along with timing and location details of the groups. **The forms will be collected after Mass on 16th February.** For further details, please contact Richard Avery (richavery@gmail.com).

Recommended Reading

The current suggested books for parishioners are:
A Song for Nagasaki: The Story of Takashi Nagai by Fr. Paul Glynn (£12);
I'm Not Scared by Niccolò Ammaniti (£8).
It will be possible to buy the books after wk/nd Mass.

Mothers Prayer Group will not meet over the school half-term break and will resume as usual on **Thursday 27th Feb (1:45pm-2:30pm)** at St Edward's.

Church Cleaning at Holy Cross

Can you spare an hour once every 4 weeks?
Or could you be a reserve team member to help out occasionally? If so find out about joining one of our friendly teams. All details from Frances Curtis on 07896637045.

Wheelchair wanted - To assist in the mobility of some of our less able parishioners we need a folding (collapsible) wheelchair in good working order. If you own one that is no longer required and are happy to donate it to the Parish please can you email me, Lorraine Clapham at claphamlmt@gmail.com.

Bible Study in Preparation for World Day of

Prayer for Zimbabwe - Thursday 27th February, 10.30am at **Velmore Church**, Somerset Room on Falkland Road, Chandlers Ford, SO53 3GA.

Parish Office - Linda Roberts is due for surgery on her right shoulder on 24th February. She will be away on sick leave for a number of weeks. If you have any invoices or claims please continue to send all claims into the office as usual and the cheques will be sent out as soon as possible however, please be aware there may be some delay. Please also ensure your address is available to facilitate the posting of cheques. Due to a reduction in office opening and staffing during this period there may be delays in the processing of ad hoc and general requests as well. Thank you for your patience and co-operation.

Coffee Stop would like to thank everyone who supports us on Thursday mornings in the Resource Centre. Last year we were able to donate **£770** to the Parish. Why not come along and bring your friends or meet new friends. Coffee (M&S Italian), tea, hot chocolate and biscuits 70p, Toasted tea cakes 50p. We also serve decaf tea and coffee. We look forward to seeing you, open 10am to 12noon.

Flu Season

1. We are asking people to maintain good hygiene especially at Mass and parish gatherings. Remember, catch it (cough/sneeze into a tissue), bin it (bin the tissue), kill it (wash your hands with soap and water). Do not touch your face unless you have washed your hands.
2. We are asking people not to take from the chalice or host on the tongue if they have a cold or cough during this flu season. There are lots of vulnerable people at church and this is something we can do to protect others in the congregation. Clergy and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will be using alcohol gel before distributing communion.

CAFOD Lent family fast day - Friday 6th March

This Lent CAFOD's family fast day is an opportunity to reach out to some of the poorest, most marginalised of our sisters and brothers. Please consider eating a simple meal and put what you save in the CAFOD collection envelope. Through CAFOD's global Church family your support can help those living in poverty overseas so many thanks for your donation.

MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 15th Feb	9.30am	HC	Terry Williams & Terry Blake (Special Intention)
	5.00pm*	SSW	Marion Lloyd (Special Intention)
	6.00pm*	St J	Sr Avis Baldwin (Jubilee)
	6.00pm*	OLQA	
	6.30pm*	St Ed	
*Vigil Mass			
Sun 16th Feb	9.00am	HC	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i>
	9.00am	St Ed	Alexander Hill (Special Intention)
	9.00am	St A	Jeanette Butcher RIP
	9.30am	OLQA	
	11.00am	St J	
	11.00am	HC	Riccardo Santovito RIP (1st Annv)
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time			
Mon 17th	10.00am	St Ed	Special Intention to St Joseph & Our Lady
Tues 18th	9.30am	HC	Special Intention to St Joseph & Our Lady
	10.00am	St A	John Peckham (Birthday)
	10.00am	OLQA	
	11.00am	St Ed	<u>Funeral Mass: Paul Serellis RIP</u>
Wed 19th	9.30am	HC	
	10.00am	St Ed	Eileen Milles RIP
Thurs 20th	9.30am	HC	Special Intention to St Joseph & Our Lady
	10.00am	OLQA	
	6.00pm	St J	
Fri 21st	10.00am	St Ed	Special Intention to St Joseph & Our Lady
	10.00am	St J:AH	Sr Clare (Birthday)
	10.00am	OLQA	
	11.30am	St Ed	<u>Memorial Mass: Gillian Farnsworth RIP</u>
Sat 22nd Feb	9.30am	HC	Ellen Lane (Special Intention)
	5.00pm*	SSW	Doreen Cortis RIP
	6.00pm*	St J	Sarah Howie RIP Anniversary
	6.00pm*	OLQA	
	6.30pm*	St Ed	Special Intention to St Joseph & Our Lady
The Chair of St Peter			
*Vigil Mass			
Sun 23rd-Feb	9.00am	HC	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i>
	9.00am	St Ed	Patrick Lake RIP
	9.00am	St A	
	9.30am	OLQA	
	11.00am	St J	Sr Anne Goodman (Jubilee)
	11.00am	HC	Raymond Harrison RIP
Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time			

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT	
Tues: HC - First Tuesday of the Month (10am-1pm)	
Thurs: St Ed - Holy Hour 7-8pm	
Thurs: St J - 4-6pm, Rosary & 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
	5.30pm OLQA
	5.30pm St Joseph's
Sundays:	8.30am St Edward's
	8.30am St Andrew's
TIMES A PRIEST WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MEET	
Tues: Fr Raffaele, 4.30pm-6.30pm, Parish Office, Holy Cross, Eastleigh.	
Weds: Fr Luca, 4.30pm-6.30pm, Parish Office, Holy Cross, Eastleigh.	
Fridays: Fr Raffaele, 11.30am-12.30pm, Parish Office (26 Abbey Water), Romsey.	
Saturdays: Fr Marco, 10am-Midday, Parish Office (26 Abbey Water) Romsey.	

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

Father Luca Speziale (Assistant Priest)
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Fr Marco Vignolo (Assistant Priest)
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Deacon Paul Wilson
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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