



Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ

24th NOVEMBER 2024: OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

A WAY TO LEARN HOW TO LOVE

In the last week of October, like every Half Term, we had the Come and See Club, a club for children aged 7 to 13. From Monday to Friday we met with 30-40 children every day from 8.30am to 3.30pm and the days were composed of times of content (as the last day of Half Term would have been the Solemnity of All Saints we decided to talk about holiness, helped by the figure of St Therese of Lisieux), prayer, games, craft activities and on two days we went on trips, visiting Fort Nelson in Portsmouth and then spending a morning of fun in an inflatable park.

Since last year I have been inviting the young people from Student Youth, the parish group for 14 to 18 year old teenagers, to help us during Come and See. When I invited them to help us a few weeks before Half-Term, I said to them: "The reason I am inviting you is because one of the ways you learn to really love is to give your time to others. So I assure you that if you give of yourself, in time you will find that you love the people you already love even more". A few days later, a girl from Student Youth told me this: "When you invited us to help at Come and See, your words resonated with me. Because since I started helping at Come and See last year, I realised that I love my friends more". Then, on the last day of Come and See, I asked another girl from the Student Youth who had come to help for the first time: "So, how was the week?" and she replied, "It was great! There is nothing more beautiful than taking care of children", which is another way of saying: "There is nothing more beautiful than giving of yourself without expecting anything in return".

But how is this possible? How is it that giving of our time, without expecting anything in return, is a way in which we learn to love truly? Because it is the way Christ loved and still loves us. So when we choose to give of our time, we are putting ourselves in the school of Jesus and learning to love from Him. I have seen in my own life that this is very true. But there is one thing I would like to emphasise: it is not so much the amount of time you give that is important, it is the faithfulness that shapes the way we love over time.

And what I find most amazing is that there is no limit to this learning: precisely because Jesus' love is infinite, we can learn more and more from Him to love the people He has given us.

Fr Matteo

GEM OF THE WEEK



This week's GEM is "A Life Worth Living", a CL Leaflet about Assisted Suicide - 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 **10am on Wednesday 27th November**, please email your messages/notices to: office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

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

LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday 24th November 2024: Year B - Year 2 - Psalter Week: Office Proper

PSALM RESPONSE: THE LORD IS KING, WITH MAJESTY ENROBED.

1st reading Daniel 7:13-14 Psalm 92 2nd reading Apocalypse 1:5-8 Gospel John 18:33b-37

Sunday 1st December 2024: Year C - Year 1 - Psalter Week: 1

PSALM RESPONSE: TO YOU, O LORD, I LIFT UP MY SOUL.

1st reading Jeremiah 33:14-16 Psalm 25 2nd reading 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2 Gospel Luke 21:25-28,34-36

PARISH GROUPS



Afternoon Club - St. Joseph's Parish Centre, 26A Abbey Water. Come and join us for tea, games and good fun. Please note the next games afternoon will be held on Tuesday 3rd December at 2pm.

Growing In Faith Together Group (GIFT) - The GIFT Group is meeting in the Balcony of Holy Cross Church every Tuesday at 10.30am whilst the Resource Centre is being re-furnished.

See our website for details of more groups: CL, Fellowship, Stars of Abraham, Grail Seekers, Student Youth, Ark...

MESSAGES



Parish Financial Summary September 2023-August 2024 and Ways to Support your Parish

This weekend you will receive with the Newsletter a summary of St Swithun Wells parish finances for 2023/2024, please read carefully and if you have any questions please contact Fr Raffaele. You will also hear an appeal to all parishioners about how you can support our parish through regular planned giving. Details of the ways to do this are below.

1. To set up a new Direct Debit (DD), complete the form provided and hand to a member of clergy, your Gift Aid coordinator (details below) or the parish office.
2. To give by Standing Order (SO). The forms for new standing orders are available at each church and on the parish website. Complete the SO form and a gift aid declaration form if you are a UK taxpayer. Then contact your Gift Aid coordinator, details below and on the parish website.

3. Use the QR code on the parish financial summary to set up regular online giving. If you wish to increase your DD or SO donation, you do not need a new form, simply contact your Gift Aid co-ordinator again details below.

St Andrew and St Joseph's – David Martin (01794 511883) giftaid.sjsa@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

St Edward's – Mike Greenslade (02380 262870) giftaid.sea@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Donna Scappaticci (02380 613845)

giftaid.seb@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk
Holy Cross, St Swithun Wells, Our Lady Queen of the Apostles – Pat Baggott (02380 694060) giftaid.hcolqa@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

Fr Bruce's Farewell Mass - Fr Bruce will be celebrating his farewell Mass at OLQA on Sunday 24th November at 9.30am. All are welcome. There will be refreshments and presentation of a gift (bought from your contributions) to Fr Bruce afterwards.

Upcoming Funeral - Please pray for the repose of the soul of Helen Armshaw and for her family. Helen's Funeral Mass will take place on Tues 3rd December at 10am in St Andrew's.

Parish Retreat for Advent on Sat 30th November, 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 at the Hunters Inn, Romsey, on Wednesday 4th December at 12.30pm. To see the large choice of food, go to their website: huntersromsey.co.uk/menu and look at main, lunch and kids menus as all are available to us. All are welcome. If you would like to come, please let Rosemary (01794 522411) know before Monday 25th November as we have to pre-order.

Annual Christmas Fayre at St Edward's after Mass on Saturday 7th & Sun 8th December. Christmas related "goodies" will be on sale and a Christmas hamper will be raffled. Donations of cakes or Christmas gifts will be gratefully received. All proceeds will go to CAFOD to be used as and when needed in our suffering world. For more info please contact Clare on 02380 252138.

OLQA Volunteers - There will be a meeting for all the volunteers in Our Lady Queen of the Apostles and for those who want to join us to contribute to the life of the Catholic Church in Bishop's Waltham. We are gathering in the church hall on Saturday 7th December at 4pm.

Christmas Flower Workshop at OLQA

For all novices who would like to create a simple arrangement for the Christmas table - no previous skills needed! The OLQA (Bishop's Waltham) Flower Ladies are holding a workshop in the church hall for up to 15 people on Friday 13th December from 9.00 - 12.00, which will be followed by Mass, then a simple lunch. **Minimum donation to cover the morning: £10** (all donations will go to Crisis At Christmas). If you would like to join us for an enjoyable morning, please email - paulinestmargaret@gmail.com by 6th December latest.

Parish Pilgrimage (Fri 23rd - Mon 26th May 2025)

The pilgrimage to Lisieux, France will be led by Fr Raffaele & Fr Mario. There will be a meeting to present the itinerary and answer any questions on Saturday 23rd November at 2.30pm in St Edward.

Fr Matteo's Ordination Gift - the Icon that parishioners generously contributed to has finally arrived. You can see some photos of the Icon on our website. Fr Matteo is very happy with it!



Parish Christmas Party - Sunday 15th December, 1pm-4pm at St Swithun Wells Primary School

Menu: Main - Chicken with vegetables, a vegetarian option will be available and a Dessert.

Please bring your own drinks.

Price £10 per person, children 16 and under free. We have kept the ticket price the same as last year (£10), however if you are able to pay more, please do so.

In Holy Cross & St Edward's you can pay by contactless if you would prefer.

Tickets are available in our churches (in the welcoming areas) from next weekend. A limited number of tickets is available, the **deadline for purchasing tickets is Sunday 8th December. Admission by ticket only** Christmas jumpers and fancy dress actively encouraged!

Carol Service - Faith, festivities, food and fun! Please join us for our Carol Service on **Sunday December 22nd 2024 at 3.00pm**, in St Swithun Wells Church, Fair Oak.

Date for your Diary! Seniors (over 60s) Afternoon Tea Sunday 2nd February. Details to follow.

The New Sunday Missal

St Edward's - These are now available from the parish shop at St Edward's at a cost of £19.95. They contain the new ESV translations of the lectionary which will be read at every Mass from the 1st Sunday in Advent.

Holy Cross Shop - Please be aware the supplier does not currently have the new Sunday Missals in stock, however they are on order.

St Joseph's & St Andrew's - The new Sunday Missal is available from Martin Ceresa. Please phone 07757 999165 for details.

Assisted Suicide

Kim Leadbeater MP is introducing a bill to introduce assisted suicide, which will be voted on by MPs on the **29th November**. Please contact your MP by visiting: <https://righttolife.org.uk/AStreat>

We have a template letter that can be used to send to your MP on the parish website.

Leaflets 'Assisted Suicide' - In order to inform our neighbours about the dangers of this proposed bill, and to encourage them to ask their MP to oppose it, please take some of the SPUC leaflets, available at the back of church and drop one through the letterboxes of your local neighbourhood. Thank you.

Postcards - Not Dead Yet UK (a network of disabled and terminally ill people) have produced postcards that can be filled in and sent to local MPs. These can be found in church welcome areas.

Upcoming Road Closures in Eastleigh

Please be aware further resurfacing will take place on Hanns Way on Thurs 28th & Fri 29th November with the road being closed from 9am-4.30pm therefore there will be no access to the Holy Cross Church car park on those days.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tues: St Edward - after Mass (6.30pm-7.30pm)
Wednesday: Holy Cross - after Mass (10am-11am)
Thursday: St Joseph - before Mass (5pm-6pm)

SCHOOL NOTICES

St Swithun Wells Catholic Primary School

Mini Bus Driver Needed - The school is **URGENTLY** recruiting a Mini Bus Driver. 10 hrs per week, Mon to Friday, Term Time only. More info can be found on the school website:

<https://www.st-swithunwells.org.uk/staff-vacancies/>
 For an application form please contact the school office on 02380 266210 or email: adminoffice@st-swithunwells.hants.sch.uk

Request for Raffle Prizes - The St Swithun Wells Catholic Primary School PTFA are sourcing raffle prizes from local businesses for the Christmas Fayre on the 5th December. If any parishioners are linked with local businesses and are able to help us out by donating a prize/voucher we would be sincerely grateful. If you are able to help please let us know via email at: A.PTA@st-swithunwells.hants.sch.uk
 Thank you in advance, *The PTFA Committee*

Nativity for the Parish - Friday 13th December at 10am in our school hall. The parish is warmly invited to join us.

Thank you - We have received a donation of £400 from an anonymous donor towards the children's football kit. We would like to say a big thank you to whoever you are!

Consultation of St Anne's Catholic School

Admissions Policy (2026/2027) - A copy of the proposed policies, as well as the guidance sheets for completing SIFs and the school's aptitude for music admissions priority, are in church welcome areas. The consultations will run to 23rd December 2024. The school welcomes views from any interested parties. Go to: <https://st-annes.uk.com/about-us/news/44/consultation-admissions-policy-2026-2027>

At a Glance - List of Upcoming Parish Events

- 23rd Nov:** Pilgrimage Meeting
- 24th Nov:** Fr Bruce's Farewell Mass at OLQA
- 30th Nov:** Parish Advent Retreat
- 4th Dec:** Parish Lunch
- 7th Dec:** OLQA Volunteers Meeting
- 7th & 8th Dec:** CAFOD Christmas Fayre at St Edward
- 12th Dec:** Penitential Service at OLQA
- 13th Dec:** Christmas Flowers Workshop at OLQA
- 15th Dec:** Parish Christmas Party
- 20th Dec:** Penitential Service at St Andrew's
- 21st Dec:** Penitential Service at Holy Cross
- 22nd Dec:** Carol Service at St Swithun Wells Church

TIMES A PRIEST WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MEET

- Tuesdays:** Fr Raffaele, 3.30pm-5.30pm, Holy Cross Church, Eastleigh;
- Wednesdays:** Fr Luca, 3.30pm-5.30pm, Holy Cross Church, Eastleigh;
- Fridays:** Fr Mario, 10am-12 Noon, OLQA, Bishop's Waltham;
- Fridays:** Fr Pietro, 11am-12.45pm, 26A Abbey Water, Romsey.

MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Saturday 23rd Nov	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross St Swithun Wells OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Special Intention Joe & Lydia Fonseca RIP Holy Souls in Purgatory RIP Deceased Members of Shina's Family John Milne RIP Anniversary
Sunday 24th Nov <i>Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe</i>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 5.30pm	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLQA Holy Cross (also livestreamed) St Joseph Holy Cross	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Angela Thompson RIP Birthday Anniversary Harold Butcher RIP Anniversary Holy Souls in Purgatory RIP Steven Roy (Wellbeing) People of the Parish Holy Souls in Purgatory RIP
Monday 25th Nov	9.30am	Holy Cross	Charlie & Rita Kelly FM; Jinu Varghese RIP
Tuesday 26th Nov	10.00am 6.00pm	St Andrew St Edward	Barney & Peggy Rice RIP FM
Wed 27th Nov	9.30am 9.30am	Holy Cross St Edward	Holy Souls in Purgatory RIP Bernadette Marren RIP
Thurs 28th Nov	9.30am 12 Noon 6.00pm	Holy Cross OLQA St Joseph	Antonio Cicu RIP FM In Thanksgiving
Friday 29th Nov	10.00am 10.00am 12 Noon	St Joseph St Edward OLQA	Holy Souls in Purgatory RIP
Saturday 30th Nov <i>Morning Mass: St Andrew</i>	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross St Swithun Wells OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Kenneth Sweet FM Justine Power RIP Holy Souls in Purgatory RIP People of the Parish Holy Souls in Purgatory RIP
Sunday 1st December <i>First Sunday of Advent</i>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 5.30pm	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLQA Holy Cross (also livestreamed) St Joseph Holy Cross	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Paul Chandler RIP 9th Anniversary Jesus Ocaya & Francisco Villaver RIP James & Catherine Pearson RIP In Memoriam FM In Thanksgiving Holy Souls in Purgatory RIP

CLERGY & PARISH OFFICE

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

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

Fr Mario Toma (Assistant Priest)
Tel: 023 8061 2430; E: mtoma@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Fr Matteo Pagani (Assistant Priest)
Tel: 023 8061 2430; E: mpagani@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Fr Pietro Paiusco (Assistant Priest)
Tel: 023 8061 2430; E: ppaiusco@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 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

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