



Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ

9th FEBRUARY 2020: **FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Holy Mass: how to be in front of the Lord

One of us priests some years ago had the pleasure of being invited to concelebrate Mass with the Pope in Rome. He arrived in the small chapel of *Santa Marta* (the place where the Pope lives in Vatican) around 7am when one of the officials told him: "you will have the chance to speak briefly with the Pope after Mass. Now he is praying, preparing for Mass. He always spends an hour in silence before celebrating". After Mass the Pope greeted everyone, one by one, asking personal questions and shaking hands. It is clear that if **Pope Francis is a man of dialogue it's because he is first a man of silence**. It is from his deep and silent personal dialogue with the Lord that springs his openness.

During a recent general audience, Pope Francis made this point saying:

Praying, as every true dialogue, is also knowing how to be in silence together with Jesus. When we go to Mass, perhaps we arrive five minutes early and begin to chat with the person next to us. But this is not the moment for small talk; it is the moment of silence to prepare ourselves for the dialogue. It is the moment for recollection within the heart, to prepare ourselves for the encounter with Jesus. Silence is so important!

In a recent document, the Bishops of England and Wales said:

Even before the celebration itself, calm and opportunities for silent prayer and reflection have their proper place in the church... Providing opportunities for such calm and quiet is one of the many ways in which a community is able to show hospitality to those gathering for worship.

We have to remind ourselves that the Church is not a hall, but the House where Jesus with his very Body (preserved in the tabernacle) lives. **Whenever we enter the Church, during the day or before Mass, there is Someone waiting for us and we are called to be in front of Him with the right attitude.**

Another important suggestion about the right attitude to have in front of the Lord, comes again from our Bishops and regards **the right posture to adopt at Mass, especially during consecration:**

We rise to greet people or to honour someone important... we kneel as a human gesture of submission, humility, reverence and adoration... we sit to listen, to rest, to watch... Except in case of infirmity it is not usually an appropriate posture to sit during consecration, where a more engaged posture, such as standing or kneeling is to be preferred.

These few guidelines (silence in the Church, before and after Mass, standing or kneeling during consecration) are significant for the good and growth of our faith and understanding of the real presence of Jesus among and before us. It is only for this reason that we would like to invite you to follow them as a community.

Fr Raffaele, Fr Luca, Fr Marco & Canon Alan

GEM OF THE WEEK

This week's GEM is 'Bishop Barron on Silence and the Meaning Of the Mass' - 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 9th February 2020:

Year A - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 1

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: O COME, LET US WORSHIP GOD AND BOW LOW BEFORE THE GOD WHO MADE US, FOR HE IS THE LORD OUR GOD.

PSALM RESPONSE: THE GOOD MAN IS A LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS FOR THE UPRIGHT.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, 16TH FEBRUARY 2020:

1st reading: Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20 - **Psalm:**118 - **2nd reading:** 1 Corinthians 2:6-10 - **Gospel:** Matthew 5:17-37

PARISH GROUPS



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: **12th Feb, 26th Feb**
See poster on Church Noticeboards or contact Anne Owen on 02380 254806 for more information.

Types of Old Testament Writings

The fourth session of the series "The Bible - A short History" for the "Year of the Word" will be on **Wednesday, 12th February, from 7.30pm until 9pm at St Swithun Wells Church, Fair Oak.**
What's in the Library? Come and discover the fascinating world of writings that make up the Old Testament. Everybody welcome - refreshments afterwards. Further information from 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.**

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: 9th February, from 2pm to 4.30pm** where we will be visiting Fryars House in Romsey. **The mini bus will leave at 2pm from Holy Cross.** 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.

Oasis Women's Group – Tuesday 11th Feb

Film Night: We will be watching *Miracles from Heaven* - based on a true story about a family struggling with the illness of a child, questions of faith, and how God intervenes. *All ladies warmly welcomed - See you there! 7:30pm, St Edward's Cloister, finish at approx. 9.15pm.*
Future Dates: 10th & 31st Mar, 12th May, 9th Jun.

Knit & Natter - St Edward's, Mon 10th Feb, 2-4pm
Refreshments available and everyone most welcome!
Any queries please contact Maureen Stephenson on 02380 252104.

Knit for Peace - St Andrew's, Wed 12th Feb, 2-4pm.
Donations of mens clothes and shoes for Two Saints welcome. Please contact Anne Harcourt on 02380 734710 with any queries.

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



Formation for All Volunteers of the Parish

Following on from the 'Vision of the Parish' we are continuing with our Formation for volunteers. We next meet on **Friday 14th February, 8pm at St Edward's.**

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 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.

Parish Lent Retreat

There will be a Lent Retreat on **Sunday 8th March, 2.30pm-5pm at St Edward's.** More details to follow.

MESSAGES



Sat 15th February 2020 - Engaged Couples event

Bishop Philip has invited engaged couples to a breakfast and blessing at the Cathedral on the 15th Feb. Seven couples from our Parish are attending, we wish them all the very best for their upcoming weddings and many congratulations!

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. Over the next weeks, as we finalise the programme, I will give more details. Please keep the date.

Lent Course in Chandlers Ford

The Ecumenical course this year builds on the wide appeal of two Narnia films: 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' and 'Prince Caspian', together with 'Shadowlands', the moving film of C. S. Lewis's later life. Film clips, linked to a saying of Jesus or a Bible passage, will be shown in each session to stimulate discussion on a specific topic. (It is not necessary to have read any of C. S. Lewis's books or seen the films used.)

Five separate groups will be running on two mornings, one afternoon and two evenings. **Sign-up sheets are now in the cloister at St Edward's, along with timing and location details of the groups.** Everyone is welcome to take part in this enjoyable and worthwhile preparation for Easter. **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.

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.

Portsmouth Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes (15th to 19th July 2020), flying by charter aircraft to Lourdes (Tarbes) from Bournemouth airport; the cost of the pilgrimage is **£695 per person** for a shared room. Staying at the hotel La Solitude where all meals are included. As last year, the pilgrimage will be supported by the 'Youth of the Diocese' those aged 14-35 who volunteer to support the pilgrimage by helping with music, the liturgy, companionship for our pilgrims, and physically supporting those in need by pushing wheelchairs etc. The cost for a youth pilgrim is £545 again for a room shared with probably 3 others. Please see posters on church noticeboards for more info. A video inviting people to join Bishop Philip on the pilgrimage can be found at <https://vimeo.com/367708674>.

Alton Day of Renewal - Sat 22nd February, 11am-4pm at Alton School, Anstey Lane, Alton, GU34 2NG. This month's theme is "A Light for Revelation". How does prophecy inspire us today? How can we be prophetic in our own parishes? See poster on church noticeboards for more information.

MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 8th Feb	9.30am	HC	Oliver Armstrong RIP
	5.00pm*	SSW	Agnes Carter RIP
	6.00pm*	St J	John Gare RIP
	6.00pm*	OLQA	
	6.30pm*	St Ed	Gill Farnsworth RIP
*Vigil Mass			
Sun 9th Feb	9.00am	HC	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i>
	9.00am	St Ed	Harrison Family (Special Intention)
	9.00am	St A	
	9.30am	OLQA	
	11.00am	St J	Joe Brennan RIP
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	11.00am	HC	Mr Pappachan RIP
Mon 10th St Scholastica	10.00am	St Ed	Special Intention to St Joseph & Our Lady.
Tues 11th	9.30am	HC	Alan Weston RIP
	10.00am	St A	
	10.00am	OLQA	
Wed 12th	9.30am	HC	Souls in Purgatory (Special Int) Kathleen Ditte RIP & Deceased Family FM
	10.00am	St Ed	
	11.00am	St Ed	
Thurs 13th	9.30am	HC	Special Intention to St Joseph & Our Lady
	10.00am	OLQA	
	6.00pm	St J	
Fri 14th St Cyril & St Methodius	10.00am	St Ed	Special Intention to St Joseph & Our Lady
	10.00am	St J:AH	
	10.00am	OLQA	
	10.00am	HC	
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	Jenny Blackstaff RIP
*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)

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 is unavailable to meet on 15th Feb, meetings restart on 22nd February.

Father Raffaele Cossa (Parish Priest)
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; E: mvignolo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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