



Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ 7th May 2023: FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

THE HOUSE OF THE FATHER

In this Sunday's Gospel Jesus tells us, "Do not let your hearts be troubled, trust in God and trust in me. There are many rooms in my **Father's house**." It is a message of consolation and hope, especially regarding our life after death. Many people have been consoled by these words in the past and even now. "I am going to prepare a **place**" with the Father, Jesus says, a place where we will rest, a place of happiness and light. This Gospel has given hope to a lot of distressed families, telling them that the Lord takes care of the dead, He takes them to **his home**.

At the same time, this Gospel is not only about the **house in Heaven** where we will be together with God one day. In fact, God prepares a house, a proper home for us even now. The **Father's house** is present among us, in our midst. The Second Reading gives us a clue to understand this, St Peter says, "The Lord is the living stone, set yourselves close to him so that you too may be living stones making a spiritual house." This reading helps us to understand that we are the **Father's house**; we are **the Church** on earth, that is, the house where God lives and where we can find our rest. When we gather for Mass on Sunday we are Church, when we pray together we are Church, and when you are in your families together, loving each other, forgiving each other...you are a little Church.

We can even look deeper and try to describe the life of the Church, the life of our little **domestic Churches**, the life of our families. The First Reading from the Acts of the Apostles says clearly that prayer and charity were the two pillars of the first Christian community. And in a special way the Reading highlights charity, saying that the deacons were instituted, if I can say so, to take care of those in need. A few years ago, I found a Sermon by Saint John Henry Newman that inspires me and makes me reflect about what charity should be, "The best preparation for loving the world at large, and loving it duly and wisely, is to cultivate our intimate friendship and affection towards those who are immediately about us." Love is towards those who are immediately about us, otherwise it is not true love.

Let us pray to be able to love with a pure heart those who are part of our families.

Fr Raffaele

GEM OF THE WEEK



This week's GEM is **Communion & Liberation's Easter video poster 2023 "Easter Morning"** - 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 10th May 2023**, please email your messages/notices to: office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday 7th May 2023: Year A - Year 1 - Psalter Week: 1

PSALM RESPONSE: MAY YOUR LOVE BE UPON US, O LORD, AS WE PLACE ALL OUR HOPE IN YOU.

READINGS: 1st reading Acts 6:1-7 Psalm 32 2nd reading 1 Peter 2:4-9 Gospel John 14:1-12

Sunday 14th May 2023: Year A - Year 1 - Psalter Week: 2

PSALM RESPONSE: CRY OUT WITH JOY TO GOD ALL THE EARTH.

READINGS: 1st reading Acts 8:5-8,14-17 Psalm 65 2nd reading 1 Peter 3:15-18 Gospel John 14:15-21

PARISH GROUPS



Youth Groups (including First Holy Communion & Confirmation)

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

Tuesdays, 4pm-5.30pm in St Edward's Cloister;

Wednesdays, 4.15pm-5.45pm in St Andrew;

Saturdays, 10.30am-Noon in Holy Cross R/Centre.

Grail Seekers (school years 7, 8, 9) &

Student Youth (school year 10 until sixth form)

Please check the parish website for the calendar of meetings, times and venues.

www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

Communion & Liberation Groups

School of Community meet weekly:

Holy Cross every Wednesday at 8pm;

St Edward's every Thursday at 8pm.

For more information please click the link on the homepage of our website. All are welcome!

Growing In Faith Together Group

Tuesdays 10.15am to approx. 11.30am in the Holy Cross Resource Centre. On 25th April we will be exploring the Sycamore Course 4th Session, "Who Is Jesus?" All are welcome!

Fellowship Group - St Swithun Wells Church, Fair Oak. We will not be meeting during the month of May. Meetings will resume on Wednesday 7th June at 7.30pm.

Over 60's Club - Meetings will resume at a later date to be confirmed.

Romsey Prayer Group - Every Wednesday morning at 11am in the St Joseph's Parish Centre, 26A Abbey Water. All will be made very welcome.

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

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

Afternoon Club - St. Joseph's Parish Centre

(26 Abbey Water), first Tuesday in the month at 2pm. Come and join us for tea, games and good fun. All are welcome!

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!

Bishop Philip's Pastoral Message

Will be read out in our churches on Sunday 7th May after which the faithful will be invited to stand for the Prayer for the King. *Parts of the prayer require a Response by the faithful, please see below in bold:*

V. O Lord, save Charles, our King.

R. And hear us on the day we call upon you.

V. O Lord, hear my prayer.

R. And let my cry come before you.

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

St Swithun Wells Church 5pm Mass on 6th May

Please stay after Mass and join us for a glass of Fizz and some nibbles to celebrate the Coronation of His Majesty.

The Rosary will be prayed in Holy Cross every Thursday at 9.00am (before Mass) during May.

MESSAGES



Parish Get2Gether - Coronation Celebration Sunday 7th May, 1-4pm

Pavillion on the Park, 1 Kingfisher Road, SO50 9LH. An event for all of the parish. We begin by sharing a meal together followed by some activities to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III. Come dressed in red, white and blue.

No cost, however we kindly ask you to give a donation to cover the hire of the Pavillion. Please bring some food, beverages or cakes to share with others. We would be grateful if you could please write down the main ingredients and allergens on a piece of paper so people can make an informed decision as to whether the food is suitable for them. Please can you bring your own cups/plates/cutlery. To book your place please go to our parish website and click the link.

MESSAGES CONTINUED

St Swithun Wells Catholic Primary School & Mass

The children of St Swithun Wells Primary School will actively be involved in our Sunday Masses by assisting with the readings, singing and offertory:
at Holy Cross on 14th May, 11am Mass;
at St Edward's on 21st May, 9am Mass.
It will be lovely to have the children actively participate in the Masses.

CAFOD Message

There will be a sale of cakes, produce and plants after morning coffee at **St Edward's on Wednesday 17th May**. Donations of any of the above items will be gratefully accepted. All proceeds to CAFOD to support their work in war torn countries.

Come & See Summer Half Term Club (7-14yrs)

Tuesday 30th May - Friday 2nd June, 9am-3pm

St Edward's Cloister Cost: £5 per day.

Spaces are limited. For any enquiries please contact fr Luca/fr Marco at: comeandsee.sswp@gmail.com

For more information and to book your child's place please go to the parish website. **Please only book if you are sure your child is going to attend, thank you.**

Changes to Office Opening Hours - The office will be closed on **Bank Holiday Monday 8th May and also Tuesday 9th May**. Please note Fiona, our Finance Administrator will be on leave for one week, week commencing 8th May, therefore the office will close at 2.30pm on Wed 10th, Thurs 11th & Fri 12th May.

Upcoming Funeral

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Peter William Sweet and for his family. Peter's Funeral Mass takes place on **Friday 19th May at 12 Noon in Holy Cross Church**.

Planned Giving & Gift Aid - If you took a Standing Order form or Direct Debit form at Mass in the last few weeks please return it in an envelope marked 'Planned Giving' to a priest or the Office.

The Rosary - Free Download

A while ago Bishop Philip recorded a CD of the Rosary, an audio recording of this has been made available that can be downloaded, please go to:

<https://mailchi.mp/portsmouthdiocese/the-rosary-free-download>

Diocesan Mission Event: "Then You Will Be My Witnesses" Friday 12th May, 7:30-9:30pm and Saturday 13th May, 10am-4:30pm

In this Year of the Holy Spirit, Fr Mark Hogan, Episcopal Vicar for Evangelisation, would like to invite you to a Diocesan Mission Event at St. Peter's Church, Winchester on the evening of Fri 12th May and the daytime of Sat 13th May. It will give us the opportunity to come together, to receive input from Allegra Mutanda, who has spoken at several international and national events, such as the New Dawn Conference; to worship God and to be filled afresh with the Holy Spirit. The theme we have chosen is "Then You Will Be My Witnesses", which links closely with our Diocesan 10-year Mission Plan and reminds us that the disciples had to wait in Jerusalem to receive the Holy Spirit before stepping out and allowing God to change the world through their witness.

Please click on this link by 5th May to book go to: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/620724673207>
And please do come, even for just a little while...

Job Vacancy - Catholic Home Care Co-ordinator

We're looking for a self-motivated, and resourceful individual to take over the role of co-ordinating the activities of the Catholic Home Care. This is a demanding but rewarding post which offers the opportunity to lead a team of caring people who make a significant social impact providing domestic support, to enable elderly people to safely remain in their own homes for longer. You will be making an important contribution to your community and helping local people.

The position is part-time, flexible 20 hours per week. Days and times to be agreed, based in Southampton. This post will require a full DBS check.

For an application form or more details, please call Anne Monaghan or Marina Joyce 023 8017 0498 or email: catholichomecare@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Closing date for applications is **22nd May with interviews on 26th May 2023**.

Latest Diocesan Job Vacancies

Choral Director for Schools (2 year contract) 35hrs/week
For more details and how to apply please go to: <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs/>

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 or alternatively please speak to a priest.

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 Raffaele, 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

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
	10am or by appointment	OLQA
	5.30pm-6.00pm	St Joseph
Sunday:	8.30am-9.00am	St Edward
	8.30am-9.00am	St Andrew

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 (5.00pm-6.00pm)

MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 6th May	9.30am 5.00pm	Holy Cross SSW	King Charles III (Special Intention) Pritchard Family Wellbeing & Souls of the Deceased members of the Pritchard Family
	6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Sarah Howie RIP Anniversary Lillian Crocroan RIP
Sunday 7th May <i>Fifth Sunday of Easter</i>	8.30am	Holy Cross	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i>
	9.00am	St Edward	Jan Gaca & Helena Gaca RIP
	9.00am	St Andrew	John & Beppie Marsh (Wellbeing)
	9.30am	OLQA	
	11.00am 11.00am	Holy Cross (also livestreamed) St Joseph	People of the Parish Laurence Rigamonti RIP
Mon 8th May	9.30am	Holy Cross	
Tues 9th May	10.00am 6.00pm	St Andrew St Edward	Hesla Rayment RIP Anniversary Kathleen Mary Boaden FM
Wed 10th May	9.30am 9.30am 10.00am	Holy Cross OLQA St Edward	Keith Small RIP
Thurs 11th May	9.30am 12 Noon 6.00pm	Holy Cross OLQA St Joseph	Frank Tywang RIP
Fri 12th May	9.30am 10.00am 10.00am	OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Special Intention Ossie Carr RIP FM
Sat 13th May	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross SSW OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Sheila Starrs RIP FM Jenny Wheeler (Wellbeing) People of the Parish Thomas William Mason RIP FM
Sunday 14th May <i>Sixth Sunday of Easter</i>	8.30am	Holy Cross	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i>
	9.00am	St Edward	Phyllis & Georg Roman RIP FM
	9.00am	St Andrew	Doris Bonello RIP Anniversary
	9.30am	OLQA	
	11.00am 11.00am	Holy Cross (also livestreamed) St Joseph	Marie Hanna Hayek RIP 50th Anniversary John Crowther RIP Anniversary

CLERGY & PARISH OFFICE

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

Fr Luca Speziale (Assistant Priest)
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Fr Marco Vignolo (Assistant Priest)
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mvignolo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Fr Bruce Barnes (Assistant Priest)
Tel: 01489 890947 (OLQA Office)

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Deacon Paul Wilson
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Deacon Andrew Lee
Tel: 023 8061 2430; E: alee@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)