



Our Mission: Love God—Love Others—Make Disciples

6th October 2019: **27th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

OUR VISION – PART 4

During the last three weeks we have been speaking about the vision of our Parish. Today we will speak about Charity and other issues.

Charity

It is difficult to give a definition of charity. The best way to understand it is to think about God. The life of God is charity, it is unconditional love. The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit are a perfect communion of love. And this communion of love is not closed in itself. God created the angels, the world and us to be part of this unity and when we abandoned Him He sent His Son to rescue us. Therefore God (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) and His relationship with us both manifest the profound meaning of love and charity.

We are created in the image of God, so if we want to enrich ourselves we have to love, we have to imitate the love of God, the feelings of Jesus.

But how can we imitate this love? What do we have to do in practice? Love is nothing other than being always open to others, and this way of being can be summed up in one sentence: "Here I am!"

For example: if I meet a person who is angry with me and does not speak to me, if I do not avoid him, but go and meet him and say: "here I am", this is definitively true love. My negative feelings decrease and the feelings of Jesus become predominant within me.

We must not be worried if sometimes we have negative emotions, the important thing is love! Love makes me realise that there is something good in my neighbour and while my instinct sometimes tells me to run away, because I don't want to meet that person, nevertheless I offer myself by telling him: "Here I am".

If I behave like this, slowly the love of Jesus becomes mine and true charity is in me.

This way of being is natural in God. He always tells us: "Here I am", He never abandoned us. But this charity is not automatic in us because of original sin. We have to work on ourselves, to convert our heart and our instincts.

All of this helps us to put in practice and learn the charity of Christ.

In our Parish there are many activities in which we say our "Here I am" to the poor and needy.

We can say our "Here I am" supporting Charities with our money and resources. It is difficult to mention all the ones we help: CAFOD, MISSIO, FOOD BANK, TWO SAINTS, FLEDGE, POITIER...and many, many others. Some of them are supported by our entire Parish, or by one Church, or by some parishioners.

We can say our "Here I am" with activities that lead us to be in more direct contact with our neighbours in need. We have in our Parish almost 50 volunteers who take communion to the housebound. Street Pastors help the vulnerable in the street during the weekend. Other volunteers visit care homes around the Parish.

As we have said **true love is not automatic, we have to work at it. Visiting the sick and needy, sharing a little of their life and putting in common a little of ours is the best way to learn how to love.**

We would like during this year to put in place some **Charitable Work**, which will help us to learn how to love. With the children of the Stars of Abraham we want to visit some care homes to share the lives of the elderly in a simple way. The same will happen with the Grail Seekers. For the teenagers of TOZ we are considering the opportunity of visiting periodically an institution of people with disabilities.

It would be good to be creative and have some Charitable Work for adults, simple moments of sharing our lives with people in need, done with an open heart.

With this front page we have finished the explanation of Our Vision. I hope all of this makes sense to you all. It is our attempt to give reasons for some changes in our Parish during this year 2019/20. All of us priests will be happy to receive suggestions and thoughts about this Vision.

I would like to take this opportunity to explain another change. As you know we had four different Pastoral Groups in our Parish. Following the Bishop's plan we think that we have to go in the direction of one or more new Groups more focused on Evangelisation (Evangelisation Strategy Team). For this reason we will take one year of reflection; for this coming year there will be no Pastoral Group in St Edwards and Holy Cross. During this time the Pastoral Groups in St Andrew, St Joseph and Our Lady Queen of Apostles will carry on as usual.

Fr Raffaele Cossa

GEM OF THE WEEK



This week's GEM is an article entitled "Newman's First Conversion" by Giuseppe Pezzini and Michaela Young. You can find it on our homepage.

LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday Cycle: Year C - Weekday Cycle: Year 1 - Psalter Week: 3

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: WITHIN YOUR WILL, O LORD, ALL THINGS ARE ESTABLISHED, AND THERE IS NONE THAT CAN RESIST YOUR WILL. FOR YOU HAVE MADE ALL THINGS, THE HEAVEN AND THE EARTH, AND ALL THAT IS HELD WITHIN THE CIRCLE OF HEAVEN; YOU ARE THE LORD OF ALL.

PSALM RESPONSE: O THAT TODAY YOU WOULD LISTEN TO HIS VOICE! "HARDEN NOT YOUR HEARTS".

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, 13TH OCTOBER 2019:

1st reading: 2 Kings 5:14-17 - **Psalm:** 97 - **2nd reading:** 2 Timothy 2:8-13 - **Gospel:** Luke 17:11-19

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, everyone is assured of a warm welcome. Contact June or Paul Wilson on 02380 616618. Or email: pwilson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

School of Community

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

Fellowship Group - Wednesday 9th October, 7.30pm

at St. Swithun Wells Church, Fair Oak. Harvest Liturgy and Harvest Supper - everyone Welcome. Queries to Peter Baggott or Dcn Bob Birtles.

Sacramental Preparation for Adults (RCIA)

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

Journey in Faith with the Bible: An opportunity for all to develop through prayer and reflection a better understanding of the readings for the following weekend's Sunday Mass. On Wednesday evenings fortnightly between 7.30pm and 9pm at St Edward the Confessor Church, Chandlers Ford starting on Wednesday 9th October.

Dates up until Christmas: 9th, 23rd October; 6th, 20th November; 4th, 18th December. All welcome.

Further details from Anne Owen on 02380 254806.

CAFE - the next meetings will be held on:

Tuesday 15th October in St Andrews at 7.30pm;
Monday 21st October in St Joseph's at 2pm.
Further details from Sheila on 01794 518071.

Oasis Women's Group - Tues 8th Oct: Bamenda

Find out more about life in Bamenda, Cameroon; the history of our relationship as twinned dioceses; including prayer for their current situation. 7:30pm St Edward's Cloister, finish at 9 pm. All ladies warmly welcomed - see you there!

Future Dates: 12th Nov; 3rd Dec; 14th Jan; 11th Feb

TOZ (for young people from school year 10) meet twice a month on Sunday in the Resource Centre in Eastleigh. Next Meeting Date: 6th Oct, 7pm-8.30pm.

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

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

For everyone in school years 3-6, 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. First meeting Tues 8th or Sat 12th October.

Grail Seekers (school years 7,8,9)

For everyone in school years 7, 8 and 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.

Knit for Peace - St Andrew's, Wed 9th Oct 2-4pm

Donations of mens clothes and shoes for Two Saints welcome. Please contact Anne Harcourt on 02380 734710 with any queries.

CHANGES TO MASS & PARISH OFFICE OPENING



For the Month of October to deepen our relationship with Our Lady we want to invite everyone to pray the Rosary:

- Every Thursday at 9am in Holy Cross;
- Half an hour before weekend Masses in St Joseph & St Andrew.

Also during October every Thursday (7-8pm) we will be praying the Rosary for Vocations at St Edward's.

OFFERINGS & SECOND COLLECTIONS



St Swithun Wells Parish Acknowledges with thanks

Last week's collections: £TBC;
SO/DD for September'19: £12,423.09

Second Collection

Please note there is a second collection this weekend, 5th/6th October, for CAFOD Harvest.

PARISH EVENTS



Get2Gether Family Afternoon

Sunday 6th October from 2.30pm to 4.30pm in St Edward's Church (Cloister). It is an event for all the families of the Parish: parents, children, grandparents...If you want to bring a cake or some juice, it will be much appreciated, at the end we finish with some refreshments.

Next Get 2Gether date: 3rd November

Formation for All Volunteers of the Parish

As previously announced the first Formation will be on Friday 18th October, 8pm at St Edward's.

OTHER EVENTS

19th October 2019 - Day for Catechists & Children's Liturgy Leaders

Portsmouth Cathedral 10am to 4pm, lunch will be provided.

Register online at www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/catechists or phone the Dominican Sisters to book a place: 01590 681874.

Extra Ordinary Month of Mission October 2019

Bishop Philip invites you to join him to celebrate Mission Sunday Mass at St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth on 20th October at 2pm, followed by refreshments in the Discovery Centre.

See poster on noticeboards.

SCHOOL NOTICES



St Mary's Independent Catholic School

Open Evening on Tuesday 8th October 6 - 9pm. For more info please visit www.stmarysindependentschool.co.uk.

St Anne's Catholic School

Open Morning & Evening for prospective Year 7 on Wed 9th Oct. For more info please visit: www.st-annes.uk.com.

St George's Catholic College

Open Morning on Thursday 10th October (9am-11am). For more info please go to www.stgcc.co.uk or phone 02380 322603.

St Anne's Catholic 6th Form College

Open Evening on Wednesday 16th October (6pm-8pm). For more information please visit: www.stannes6th.uk.

St Swithun Wells Catholic Primary School

St Swithun Wells Catholic Primary are inviting all parents with children who are due to start school in September 2020 to our Open Morning (9.30am - 11am) and Information Evening (7pm - 8.30pm) on Wednesday 16th October. If you are unable to make these dates please contact the school directly for a tour of the school.

MESSAGES



Feast Day of St Edward the Confessor - Sun 13th

October. The 9am Mass will be celebrated in honour of St Edward. The weekend also commemorates the 30th anniversary of the completion of the Church extension and the consecration of the new altar by Bishop Crispian in October 1989. In addition Sunday is the day of the Canonisation of Blessed John Henry Newman by Pope Francis, another reason to celebrate! After the 9am Mass refreshments and cake will be available in the Cloisters to which everyone is invited. If anyone would be able to make or supply a celebration cake please contact Clare Lasker on 02380 252138 / clarelasker@btinternet.com.

Christians Against Poverty (CAP) Eastleigh are once again running a CAP Money Course on 8th, 15th & 22nd Oct, 7.30pm at Junction Church, Smith Bradbeer House, High Street, Eastleigh. You are warmly invited to these three evenings where CAP will explain the method it recommends to help you manage your everyday use of money. It offers a system that will help you to budget and save & enables planning for those unexpected things. Please reply as early as possible to Andrew Pease: peasey27@outlook.com.

Recommended Reading

Two suggested books for parishioners until January: *Painted Veil* by W. Somerset Maugham; *Chiara Corbella Petrillo: A Witness to Joy*; It will be possible to buy the books after wk/end Mass.

Appointment as Parish Priest

On the 8th September the Bishop wrote a letter to Father Raffaele Cossa confirming his nomination as Parish Priest of St Swithun Wells and conferring upon him all the privileges, rights and duties pertaining to this office. *Congratulations Father Raffaele!*

New Time for Confession at St Edward's

From next weekend (12th/13th October) Confession at St Edward's will now be on Sundays at 8.30am.

Message of Thanks

Debbie, Malcolm and Alison (Dolbear) would like to thank all Vivienne's friends within the Parish who have been so supportive and especially for helping to make Vivienne's funeral last week such a beautiful occasion. We are extremely grateful to everyone for their friendship to Vivienne for so many years and for their prayers and kind wishes over the last few weeks.

The Bible - A Brief History

A series of 12 presentations and discussions on the Bible for the "Year of the Word" by Deacon Bob Birtles. Sessions will run on Wednesday evenings, hosted by the Fellowship Group. The first session will be "A look at Bible Translations" on Wednesday 23 October at 7.30pm at St Swithun Wells Church, Fair Oak See Notice Boards for details of further talks.

MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 5th	9.30am	HC	Robert Brockway FM
	5.00pm*	SSW	Martin Russell RIP
	6.00pm*	St J	
	6.00pm*	OLQA	
	6.30pm*	St Ed	Mark Harrison (Sick)
Sun 6th Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00am	HC	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i>
	9.00am	St Ed	Sheelagh Lloyd RIP
	9.00am	St A	
	9.30am	OLQA	
	11.00am	St J	
	11.00am	HC	Russell Speight (Special Intention)
Mon 7th <i>Our Lady of the Rosary</i>	10.00am	St Ed	Rita Forster RIP
Tues 8th	9.30am	HC	Frederick Bishop FM
	10.00am	St A	
	10.00am	OLQA	No Mass
Wed 9th	9.30am	HC	Lake & Hill Families (Special Intention)
	10.00am	St Ed	Rita Forster RIP
Thurs 10th	9.30am	HC	Saverina Marucci RIP
	10.00am	OLQA	No Mass
	6.00pm	St J	
Fri 11th	10.00am	St Ed	Holy Souls in Purgatory RIP
	10.00am	OLQA	No Mass
	10.00am	St J:AH	
Sat 12th	9.30am	HC	Street Pastors (In Thanksgiving)
	5.00pm*	SSW	Maria Jacobs RIP Anniversary
	6.00pm*	St J	
	6.00pm*	OLQA	
	6.30pm*	St Ed	Paulina Lesniczuk FM
Sun 13th Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00am	HC	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i>
	9.00am	St Ed	Ian Warwick FM
	9.00am	St A	
	9.30am	OLQA	
	11.00am	St J	Deceased members of the Slevin, Kelly & Fox Families RIP
	11.00am	HC	Brian Roy Smith RIP

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
 Tues: HC - First Tuesday of the Month (10am-1pm)
 Thurs: St Ed - Holy Hour 7-8pm
 Thurs: St J - from 4-6pm, Rosary and 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
Tuesdays: Fr Raffaele, 4pm-6pm in the Parish Office, Holy Cross, Eastleigh.
Fridays: Fr Raffaele, 11.30am-12.30pm in the Parish Office (26 Abbey Water), Romsey.
Saturdays:
 Fr Marco, 10am-Midday, Parish Office (26 Abbey Water), Romsey.
 Fr Luca, 11am-1pm, Parish Office, Holy Cross, Eastleigh.

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