



Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ 26th MARCH 2023: FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

CONFESSION - A DANGER TO SELF

I was listening to a friend of mine talking about the pros and cons of Brexit (yawn). The conversation turned to the differences between the Nations of Europe. My friend droned on about their cultural background and differences. I was struck by the way we stereotype different nationalities. Some of these have become sayings in our own language - *Italian is the language of song, English is the language of diplomacy and French is the language of love!*

Well, I am not sure of the authenticity of these traits but it did get me thinking about what traits would I say influenced the British and can we see these traits today? Two spring to mind and both oddly enough are what we call heresies - Stoicism and Pelagianism. In short they are rather similar. The older 3rd century BC philosophy of Stoicism might best be described as that which influenced the "stiff upper lip" of the British mentality. That which endured hardships without any emotion and accepted the harshest conditions, both mentally and physically. The other Pelagianism, circulated in the 5th century AD amongst Christians, promoted the idea that human beings could reach a state of perfection on their own by a virtuous life; pulling themselves "up by their own boot strings" from any difficulty without the need for graceful intervention.

If you were to ask me where I see these particularly British traits today I would say, quite frankly, that they are alive and well and a major influence on the minds of those who ignore the Sacrament of Confession.

There is still a view which pertains regarding the celebration and use of this Sacrament which sees the individual as the touchstone of what is right and wrong. "As long as our conscience says it is OK then it is OK." WRONG. Our conscience has to be informed by the teachings of our Faith by Word and Magisterium (the carrying forward of Catholic Teaching by the church). Both the erroneous views of Pelagius, those promoted by the Stoics and many of the "faithful" today, place self as the measure of what is right. Confession removes the selfishness and celebrates the openness of God's grace - it is in every way a "Danger to Self," and thank God it is. I pray that we may put aside wilfulness and pride and enter the ever healing and leading presence of God. We are so Blessed with our Penitential Services as opportunities to enter the "Danger Zone" of Confession, where there will be no danger of annihilation other than being "blown away" by God's healing and forgiveness.

Fr Bruce Barnes

GEM OF THE WEEK



This week's GEM is "The Passion of Evangelizing" by Pope Francis - 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 29th March 2023, please email your messages/notices to: office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday 26th March 2023: Year A - Year 1 - Psalter Week: Psalter Week 1

PSALM RESPONSE: WITH THE LORD THERE IS MERCY AND FULLNESS OF REDEMPTION.

READINGS: 1st reading Ezekiel 37:12-14 Psalm 129 2nd reading Romans 8:8-11 Gospel John 11:1-45

Sunday 2nd April 2023: Year A - Year 1 - Psalter Week: Psalter Week 2

PSALM RESPONSE: MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?

READINGS: 1st reading Isaiah 50:4-7 Psalm 21 2nd reading Philippians 2:6-11 Gospel Matthew 26:14-27:66

PARISH GROUPS



Youth Groups (including First Holy Communion & Confirmation)

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

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

Growing In Faith Together Group

Tues 28th March at 10.15am to approx. 11.30am in the Holy Cross Resource Centre. We will be reflecting on the Stations of the Cross. All are welcome!

Fellowship Group - St Swithun Wells Church, Fair Oak. We are holding a Lenten Supper at 7pm every Wednesday during Lent followed by a Fellowship Lenten Study: **Belong and Believe** starting at 7.45pm. We will be following this CaFE course exploring how our Celtic past can help us in refreshing our communities and renewing our mission. **Week 5: 29th March** - the theme is "Evangelising with Love & Action."

For the Zoom link contact Peter at peterbaggott@aol.com

Anyone is welcome to come along just to the Lenten Supper or just to the Lenten Study or to both.

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

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!

60 Club - meets fortnightly on a Monday from 2pm-4pm in the Holy Cross Resource Centre. Next meeting: **Monday 27th March**

Changes to Mass during Lent

The Friday Mass at OLQA will be celebrated at 10.30am (instead of 9.30am), followed by Stations of the Cross at 11am and soup lunch at Midday.

This year the St Edward's Friday Mass will remain at 10am preceded by Stations of the Cross at 9.30am. There will be a soup lunch at Midday.

Stations of the Cross During Lent

St Andrew: Tuesdays at 9.30am (before Mass);

St Swithun Wells: Tuesdays at 10am with coffee available afterwards;

Holy Cross: Thursdays at 9am (before Mass);

St Joseph: Fridays at 9.30am (before Mass);

St Edward: Fridays at 9.30am (before Mass);

OLQA: Fridays at 11am (after Mass).

Penitential Services

Saturday 25th March, 11am at Holy Cross

Thursday 30th March, 7.30pm at OLQA

Friday 31st March, 7.30pm at St Andrew

A number of priests will be available during these times.

Second Collections

This weekend (25th/26th March): The Parish is running an Easter Camp (3rd-5th April). Donations are very welcome to allow more teenagers to join us.

Next weekend (1st/2nd April): Easter Flowers

Good Friday Collection: Holy Places of Palestine

The Easter Sunday Collection traditionally supports

MESSAGES



our parish priests, in recognition for all their dedication, guidance and care they give across our parish. For your convenience there are several ways of making these offerings:

- Loose cash or cheques in the collection basket (please make cheques out to CDP St Swithun Wells with Easter offering on the back);
- If you are a tax payer and wish to gift aid your offering you can use the yellow envelopes provided in the reception area of each church. Please ensure all relevant info is included so we can reclaim the gift aid on your behalf.
- Bank Transfer to the main parish account CDP St Swithun wells (Sort code: 30-93-04, A/c: 01786599 using ref: Easter).

Chrism Mass - Tues 4th April, 11am in Portsmouth Cathedral. The Mass is the special Liturgy in Holy Week during which the Bishop blesses the three Holy Oils for use in the Sacraments. Bishop Philip would like to invite you all to join him for this great celebration.

Changes to Office Opening Hours - Sarah, our Parish Secretary, won't be in on Friday 31st March however one of our wonderful volunteers will be in the office from 10am-2pm and will be able to take messages.

MESSAGES CONTINUED



Lunches & Suppers being held across the Parish during Lent

St Edward's - Soup lunches will take place on **Fridays** during Lent from **12-1.30pm**. Donations greatly received, all proceeds will go to CAFOD.

OLQA - Soup lunches will take place on **Fridays at Midday** (after Mass), donations will go to CAFOD.

St Swithun Wells, Fair Oak - at **7pm on Wednesdays**, the Fellowship Group will be hosting Lenten Suppers of soup, bread and cheese in aid of the CAFOD Disaster Emergencies Fund.

Ordination to the Priesthood of Edward Hauschild

Edward lived in Chandlers Ford for 22 years and was a server for many years at St Edward's. He is being ordained to the priesthood at 11am on Saturday 25th March in St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth. He has invited parishioners to come to his ordination and he will say his **first Mass at St Edward's at 9am on Sunday 26th March**, all parishioners are welcome to attend his first Mass. This is an occasion of great joy for both Edward and for the parish.

Easter Camp: Grail Seekers - School years 7, 8, 9 and Student Youth School years 10,11 & Sixth Form

Mon 3rd April - Wed 5th April £110 (all inclusive)

St Joseph's House - 8 Lyndhurst Rd, Southampton

For more info & to book your space/your child's space please go to our website and complete the form as soon as possible. Part bursaries may be available on application. **Full payment by bank transfer must be received by Friday 31st March** (account details are on the booking form on our website). For any enquiries please email either: grailseekers.sswp@gmail.com or studentyouth.sswp@gmail.com

Parish Get2Gether - Sunday 2nd April, 1-4pm

Pavillion on the Park, 1 Kingfisher Road, SO50 9LH. An event for all of the parish, especially families. We begin by sharing a meal together followed by some activities and a talk about education by John & Stefania Burke. 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.

Future Get2Gether date for your diaries: 7th May

Divine Mercy Sunday - 16th April 2023

Holy Cross Church, starting at 2.45pm with procession of the Divine Mercy Image, 3pm prayers and Chaplet, Veneration of Divine Mercy Image and Blessing with a 1st Class Relic of St Faustina, Meditations and Litany and ending with Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament. Confessions will be available. Refreshments in the Resource Centre afterwards, all very welcome. Enquiries to Roz Monaghan on 0775 263 9593 or to Fr Raffaele.

Help Needed at Holy Cross Coffee Stop on Thursday mornings. Coffee Stop has been going for over 30 years. Some of our wonderful volunteers have recently had to stop due to various circumstances. We are looking for 1 key holder and 3/4 helpers. If you have 3 hrs free every 5/7 weeks please consider helping us out. There is a lovely friendly atmosphere in the Resource Centre on Thursday mornings. If you would like to help out or want more information, please phone Pat Baggott on 02380694060 or call in at Coffee Stop and speak to any of the helpers there. **NB - There is no Coffee stop Maundy Thursday or the week after.**

Parish Concert/Evening of Entertainment

Sometime after Easter we are hoping to hold a Parish Concert. We don't have a date yet, however it will be on a Saturday evening at St Swithun Wells Primary School. This is alert all musicians, singers, dancers, comedians, poets etc of any age to start practising, so that when we ask you, you will be able to offer a contribution of approx. 3-5mins in length. Any questions please phone Veronika on 02380 616356.

Upcoming Funerals - Sadly Rev Fr James Carling whose parish is part of our Pastoral area passed away recently. His **Requiem Mass takes place at 11am on Wed 19th April at St Mary's Church in Alton.**

Communion under both kinds - The Bishops' Conference of England and Wales have decided that a suitable time for the resumption of Holy Communion received under both species would be at the Mass of the Lord's Supper in Holy Week 2023, given the theological significance of the celebration. We aim to follow that lead in this parish, though we won't be able to offer this opportunity at every Mass for some while.

British Summer Time - Please note, the clocks go Forward by one hour **this weekend** (25th/26th March).

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

Tuesday: 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)

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

MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Saturday 25th <i>Morning Mass: Annunciation of the Lord</i>	9.30am	Holy Cross	Oliver Shamkhani (Birthday Intentions) Penitential Service People of the Parish Sr Theresa RIP Layzell Family Intentions
	11.00am	Holy Cross	
	5.00pm	St Swithun Wells	
	6.00pm	OLQA	
	6.00pm	St Joseph	
Sunday 26th March <i>Fifth Sunday of Lent</i>	8.30am	Holy Cross	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Mary McCormack RIP Anniversary; Intentions of the Members of the Hauschild & Guillou Families both Living and Deceased Gladys Curmi RIP Anniversary Grace Moore RIP FM Sr Rani Kurian & DW Council
	9.00am	St Edward	
	9.00am	St Andrew	
	9.30am	OLQA	
	11.00am	Holy Cross (also live streamed)	
11.00am	St Joseph		
Mon 27th	9.30am	Holy Cross	Allan & Ursula Barltrop RIP
Tues 28th March	10.00am	St Andrew	Joseph Paulo RIP Atterbury Family Intentions
	6.00pm	St Edward	
Wed 29th March	9.30am	Holy Cross	Beatrice & George White; David, Laura & Eduardo Fernandes FM Mary McCormack RIP Anniversary
	9.30am	OLQA	
	10.00am	St Edward	
Thurs 30th March	9.30am	Holy Cross	Ray Hall RIP Wellbeing of the Pond Family Penitential Service
	12 Noon	OLQA	
	6.00pm	St Joseph	
	7.30pm	OLQA	
Fri 31st March	10.00am	St Joseph	Sr Paschal (Diamond Jubilee) Atterbury Family Intentions Penitential Service
	10.00am	St Edward	
	10.30am	OLQA	
	7.30pm	St Andrew	
Saturday 1st April	9.30am	Holy Cross	People of the Parish Alan Jones RIP (4th Anniversary) Muriel Matthias (Wellbeing) Mike Vokes (Wellbeing)
	5.00pm	St Swithun Wells	
	6.00pm	OLQA	
	6.00pm	St Joseph	
	6.30pm	St Edward	
Sunday 2nd April <i>Palm Sunday</i>	8.30am	Holy Cross	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Julia Jackson RIP FM Margaret Martindale RIP Mary Webber RIP FM Tren Ginevra RIP FM
	9.00am	St Edward	
	9.00am	St Andrew	
	9.30am	OLQA	
	11.00am	Holy Cross (also live streamed)	
	11.00am	St Joseph	

Fr Raffaele Cossa (Parish Priest)
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Fr Luca Speciale (Assistant Priest)
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Fr Marco Vignolo (Assistant Priest)
Tel: 023 8061 2430; E: mvignolo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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

Deacon Bob Birtles
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Deacon John di Meo
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Deacon Paul Owen
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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)