



*Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ*

3rd May 2020: **FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

### Being a Mother, Having a Mother

A few days ago, I came across this letter by Angelina Jolie in *Time* magazine:

*'Now, in the midst of this pandemic, I think of all the mothers and fathers with children at home. All hoping they can do everything right, answer all needs, and stay calm and positive. One thing that has helped me is to know that's impossible. It is a lovely thing to discover that your children don't want you perfect. They just want you honest'.*

I found this letter very illuminating. In this lockdown situation, a lot of parents have more time than before to spend with their children. It can be a blessing to have more "family time", to play together, to be able to help the children in their homework, maybe even have a one on one chat... But it can also be a big challenge. Questions like: "Am I able to be a good mother? Am I doing enough for my kids?" can pop into our minds. And we feel responsible, maybe even more than before, for these little individuals God has entrusted to our care.

How can we help each other to live with this new sense of responsibility? What does it mean to be honest – not perfect! – mothers? It means being frank with that voice set in our heart which asks us asking again and again, what do I really need? Children don't want their parents to be perfect, but they want us to tell them that life is not pointless, that life is worth living. In the end, they need what we need.

There is something more. We begin the month of May, a month the Church dedicates especially to the Virgin Mary, mother of Jesus and an example for all mothers. For her, being a mother meant being honest, not worrying too much about the destiny of her child, but clinging to the rock that sustained her life. She was entirely focused on God, her aim in life, and therefore she was a good mother, giving her son everything till the end.

Not only does Mary teach us how to be mothers today, she also teaches us that we need a mother, especially in this time, when fear is penetrating our hearts. Fr Julian Carron, in a recent interview was asked: "what can conquer our fears?" This is how he replied:

*'Perhaps the easiest way to answer the question is to recall that elementary experience of being a child. What conquers a child's fear? The presence of his mother. It is a presence, not our strategies or our intelligence or our bravery, that propels and sustains each of our lives. Antonio Polito [an Italian editorialist] highlighted the value of this metaphor of a mother and her child as the true response to the fear of coronavirus, saying, "I see the need to have faith in something greater than us, that loves us infinitely and therefore protects us, the same need children have, as the image of Our Lady of Mercy, who opens up her mantle and shelters the people, shows us".'*

Father Luca

### GEM OF THE WEEK

This week's GEM is a video of Bishop Robert Barron "The Greatest Woman Ever". You can find the link on our homepage. If anyone has suggestions for GEMs please contact the Webmaster on [website.sswp@gmail.com](mailto:website.sswp@gmail.com).



# LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



**Sunday 3rd May 2020:**

Year A - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 4

**PSALM RESPONSE:** THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD; THERE IS NOTHING I SHALL WANT.

**READINGS & HYMNS FOR THIS SUNDAY, 3RD MAY 2020:**

**1<sup>st</sup> reading:** Acts 2:14. 36-41 **Psalm:** 22 **2<sup>nd</sup> reading:** 1 Peter 2:20-25 **Gospel:** John 10:1-10

## MESSAGES



### Offerings for our Parish

Due to the current lockdown for public health and safety, parish finances need to be considered.

If you normally give using Planned Giving Envelopes, or in the plate, you obviously will not be able to give that way for the foreseeable future. Please consider making your offerings by direct Bank Transfer, Direct Debit or Standing Order. You may wish to pay into the bank account of the church you normally attend. We have listed the bank account details and the contact details of the Gift Aid Co-ordinators if you are a tax payer and wish to increase your donation by adding the gift aid element. The Coordinators are happy to advise you on setting up direct debit/standing orders and have the necessary documentation for your use. Thanks for your generosity.

**Romsey:** St Andrew, North Baddesley and St Joseph  
Bank Account: sort code 30-93-04  
Account number: 00886557  
Gift Aid Co-ordinator: David Martin: 01794 511883

**Chandlers Ford:** St Edward the Confessor  
Bank Account: sort code 30-93-04  
Account number: 00876187  
Gift Aid Co-ordinator: Mike Greenslade: 02380 262870 or Ian Fearon: 02380 265248

**Eastleigh Holy Cross & Fair Oak:** St Swithun Wells,  
Bank Account: sort code 30-93-04  
Account number: 00877299  
Gift Aid Co-ordinator: Patricia Baggot: 02380 694060

**Bishops Waltham:** Our Lady Queen of the Apostles  
Bank Account: sort code 30-93-04  
Account number: 00874648  
Gift Aid Co-ordinator: Patricia Baggot: 02380 694060

### Meeting to share our experiences

The meeting we had last Friday to share our experiences was very rich and inspiring. Unfortunately, it was not possible to listen to all the contributions because of time constraints, but you can read all of them on the parish website. Enjoy the readings!

### Tea and Coffee with your church

Do you want to have Tea and Coffee with your church community and priests after Mass? why not! During Tea and Coffee you can see, speak, and listen to those precious friends you are missing. The only requirement for joining is a hot cup of tea or coffee! You can join the Zoom connection following the instructions on the next page of the newsletter.

-St Edward church community  
Every Tuesdays at 10.15am

-Holy Cross & St Swithun Wells communities  
Every Thursday at 10.15am

-St Andrew and St Joseph communities  
Every Saturday at 10.15am

### Hospital Chaplaincy

It is important that when a Catholic is admitted to hospital, the family ensure that the Catholic Chaplaincy is contacted so that appropriate support can be given. One suggestion is that the patient carries a note to give to hospital staff on admission notifying staff that they are Catholic and that they would really appreciate the Catholic chaplaincy service. This could be followed up by a telephone call from the family to the ward making the request.

### Phone Contact

If you are a single person or a couple living alone and have no phone contact with anyone else in the parish, please ring us if you would like to be put in touch with someone. Parish Office: 02380 273882.

### Funerals

We would like to keep you informed about funerals we are having so that you can keep them in your prayers:  
Sebi Devassy on Tuesday 5th May.  
Brian Joseph Campbell on Tuesday 5th May.  
James [Jim] Kerr on Thursday 14th May.  
Angela Margaret Mary Phillips on Tuesday 19th May.

# ONLINE MASS TIMES & PRAYING OF THE ROSARY



## Churches in our Parish

All our churches are now closed for the time being.

## Mass will be live streamed from Holy Cross Church

Sundays at 10.00am

Mon to Sat at 9.30am

Please go to our website

<https://www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk/> where you will be able to watch and join in Mass being celebrated live from Holy Cross Church.

## Communal Praying of the Rosary with Meditations from the Holy Cross Presbytery

Monday to Friday at 7.00pm

Please follow the guidelines for the Zoom meetings.

You will be able to listen to a meditation given by one of our priests and then join in the Rosary being prayed.

Special guest on **Thursday**: Fr Antonio Acevedo, missionary in Taipei, Taiwan.

## How to join our ZOOM meetings

Via internet:

Go to <https://zoom.us/j/6942241055>

If you don't have the "zoom" app, it will be automatically downloaded.

Click "join a meeting"

Enter the Meeting ID: 694 224 1055

Via phone:

Dial one of these four numbers

0203 051 2874

0203 481 5237

0203 481 5240

0131 460 1196

Follow the instructions

When asked enter the Meeting ID:

694 224 1055

# CHANGES TO PARISH OFFICE OPENING & MASS INTENTIONS



## Main Parish Office/Priest Availability

The Parish Office is closed to visitors however the office telephone will be manned either by the Parish Secretary or by one of our Priests from Tuesday to Friday 10.00am-6.00pm.

If you want to speak to one of our Priests, for personal support or spiritual direction, please call this number during these times.

Parish Office telephone number: 02380 273882.

Outside of these times or if the matter is urgent please phone the emergency number below.

## Emergency Number Tel: 02380 612430

If you urgently need to speak to one of our Priests please use this number. If no-one is around to immediately answer your call please leave a message and someone will call you back as soon as possible.

**Mass Intentions:** Everyday 3 Priests will celebrate Mass, that means 3 Intentions can be offered. There are open spaces in the following weeks. If you want to book an intention please send an email or call the office.

There are two options if you want to make an offering for your Mass intention.

(1) You can send to the office a cheque made payable to **PRCDTR St Swithun Wells** (specifying on the back that it is a Mass intention and including the name of the person and the date of the Mass), or if you want you can send a cash offering.

(2) You can make a bank transfer to the main parish account **PRCDTR St Swithun Wells** with sort code **30-93-04**

and account number **01786599**

indicating the Mass intention and date.

# PARISH GROUPS



## The following groups are continuing to meet through ZOOM:

- **Stars of Abraham** (Live meeting) 7.00pm Tuesdays (from 24<sup>th</sup> March)
- **Grail Seekers** (Live meeting) 4.00pm Saturdays (from 28<sup>th</sup> March)
- **TOZ** (Live meeting) 7.00pm Sundays (from 29<sup>th</sup> March)

- **School of Community** (Live meeting) 8.00pm Wednesdays

*Please follow the ZOOM meeting instructions to connect to the group.*

# MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

| DATE   | TIME    | CHURCH                    | MASS INTENTION   |
|--|---------|---------------------------|--|
| Saturday<br>2nd May<br><i>St Athanasius</i>            | 9.30am  | Holy Cross<br>Live Stream | Diana Schimmer (Wellbeing)<br>For the Prasanth family (Wellbeing)<br>Friends of the suffering souls of Purgatory |
| Sunday<br>3rd May<br><br>Fourth<br>Sunday of<br>Easter | 10.00am | Holy Cross<br>Live Stream | Jim Kerr (RIP)<br>Fr Francis Keenan S.J. (RIP)<br>Mrs Edward Christian (FM)                                      |
| Mon 4th May<br><i>English Martyrs</i>                  | 9.30am  | Holy Cross<br>Live Stream | Fergal and Rose Altman and family (Wellbeing)  |
| Tues 5th May   | 9.30am  | Holy Cross<br>Live Stream | Brian Campbell (RIP)<br>Sebi Devassy (RIP)   |
| Wed 6th May  | 9.30am  | Holy Cross<br>Live Stream | Keith Small (RIP)  |
| Thurs 7th May  | 9.30am  | Holy Cross<br>Live Stream | Sebi Devassy (RIP)   |
| Fri 8th May  | 9.30am  | Holy Cross<br>Live Stream | Kathleen Mary Boaden (FM)<br>In thanksgiving for the end of WWII (VE Day)  |
| Sat 9th May  | 9.30am  | Holy Cross<br>Live Stream |  |
| Sun 10th May<br><br>Fifth Sunday<br>of Easter          | 10.00am | Holy Cross<br>Live Stream | Eric and Roslyn Lasker and family<br>Doris Bonello (RIP)<br>Jim Kerr (RIP)                                       |

## CLERGY

**Father Raffaele Cossa (Parish Priest)**  
Tel: 023 8061 2430; E: rcozza@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: Tuesday-Friday: 10.00am-6pm

**Holy Cross Resource Centre & Finance**  
Admin: Linda Roberts  
lroberts@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Parish Secretary: Philip Stokman**  
stswparish@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Website Contact: website.sswp@gmail.com**