



Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ

3rd NOVEMBER 2024: THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

WE ARE MADE FOR ETERNAL LIFE

The month of November begins with the beautiful Solemnity of All Saints (1st November) and All Souls (2nd November), when we remember all those in Heaven and pray for those in Purgatory.

During the month of November we have other meaningful celebrations, like Remembrance Sunday when we pray for all those who have given their lives in wars. On the same day we will also pray for all those in our Parish who have died in the past year and we will visit the cemeteries and bless the graves and pray for our deceased family members.

The liturgy will also force us to reflect on the end of all things and the final coming of Christ.

All of this makes November a special month, which seems to be dark and gloomy, but is actually beautiful and meaningful; every year this month helps us to fix our eyes on the things that are eternal and everlasting.

In November, our Christian faith reassures us that our lives have a direction and a purpose. In our secular society, many people, including intellectuals and celebrities, think that we are just matter, the fruit of evolution. They say that we come from dust and that we are destined to disappear as dust in the universe. Our faith says something different, we come from God and we go to God, there is a direction, a plan, a purpose given by the living Lord.

In November we are also encouraged to remember our friends and family who have passed away. We are helped to keep them in our hearts. A great poet said that people only die when they die in our hearts. This means that every time someone dies, there is a responsibility for us, a responsibility to recognise the values, the beliefs, the legacy of that person and to let them flourish and grow in us. In this way the person will always be relevant to us, and perhaps more so as time goes on. Remembering is not just about remembering events and facts of the past, it is also about going deeper and becoming aware of the reason why a person was and still is important to us.

In November we are all struck by the beauty of nature. The trees, like the sun at sunset, are never more beautiful than at the moment when they "die" and show all their glory and beauty. They remind us of Christ's death on the tree of the cross, which transformed the event of his death into a glorious victory. All this suggests that there is a secret message hidden in this month, a message of hope and glory, that death is not the end, but an open window to eternity.

Fr Raffaele

GEM OF THE WEEK



This week's GEM is "Why This is Gravely Wrong" by Bishop Philip - 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 **10am on Wednesday 6th November**, please email your messages/notices to: office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

If you wish to make a donation to our parish please go to: <https://www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk/financesdonations>

LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday 3rd November 2024: Year B - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 3

PSALM RESPONSE: I LOVE YOU, LORD, MY STRENGTH.

1st reading Deuteronomy 6:2-6 Psalm 17 2nd reading Hebrews 7:23-28 Gospel Mark 12:28b-34

Sunday 10th November 2024: Year B - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 4

PSALM RESPONSE: MY SOUL, GIVE PRAISE TO THE LORD.

1st reading Kings 17:10-16 Psalm 145 2nd reading Hebrews 9:24-28 Gospel Mark 12:38-44

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)

Registrations for the year 2024/2025 are open on our website: www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk/parishlife (scroll down to Youth Groups).

Fellowship Group - Wednesdays at St Swithun Wells Church, 7.30pm-9.30pm. On Wed 6th Nov we will be having 'A look at Lost Scriptures' led by Dcn Bob. Everyone is welcome. If you wish to join by Zoom please email Peter Baggott for the link on peterbaggott@aol.com.

Learn to Pray with the Weekly Scripture Readings

Wednesdays at 11am in St Joseph's Parish Centre, 26A Abbey Water, Romsey;

Thursdays at 10am in St Edward the Confessor, Chandler's Ford.

Please come along if you would like to grow in your life of prayer by praying with the following Sunday's Mass readings. All are welcome.

Afternoon Club - St. Joseph's Parish Centre, 26A Abbey Water. Come and join us for tea, games and good fun. The next games afternoon will be held on Tuesday 5th November at 2pm.

See our website for details of more groups: GIFT, School of Community (CL), Little Flowers, Ark of Fellowship...

MESSAGES



Second Collection This Weekend

3rd November: Bamenda Sunday

This year we mark a very special anniversary, namely its golden jubilee. Fifty years ago, Bishop Worlock and Bishop Verdzekov, of the then newly established Diocese of Bamenda, initiated the twinning as a practical demonstration of St Pope Paul VI's Vatican II document "Gaudium et Spes".

The second collection this weekend is the main source of annual income for the various joint projects our Bamenda Funds will support. Please be as generous as you can in these very challenging times. ANY contribution of ANY size is most welcome and can make a real difference.

Donations can also be made securely online at:

<https://www.bamendaandportsmouth.com/donate.php>

If you can set up a standing order, this would really help the Bamenda Committee to assess how many project applications we can afford to support. Please download a form from the same Donate page. Many thanks for your support.

Lighting of Candles and Prayers for parishioners who have died in the past year

We normally hold this on All Souls, however this year we will be lighting candles and praying for parishioners who have died in the past year on 9th Nov (Vigil Masses) & Sunday 10th Nov during Mass at St Swithun Wells, Holy Cross, St Edward, St Andrew & St Joseph. However, in OLQA we will be lighting candles and praying for the parishioners who have died during the 2nd Nov Vigil Mass and Sunday 3rd Nov Mass.

Blessing of the Graves

In November each year we remember in a special way those who have died and gone before us. One of our traditions is the Blessing of Graves in the cemeteries within our Parish. Details for this year are:

3rd November: OLQA churchyard after 9.30am Mass

10th November (Remembrance Sunday):

Romsey Cemetery 2pm Woodley 2.30pm
Bishopstoke Cemetery 2pm Fair Oak Cemetery 2pm
Eastleigh Cemetery 3pm Ramalley Cemetery 3pm

12th November: North Baddesley 10.30am

Remembrance Sunday - 10th November

Holy Cross - Mass will start at 11.30am following the civil commemoration in the park. There will be the annual parade with road closures (see Holy Cross noticeboard for a map and list of the roads being closed).

St Joseph's - Mass will be at 11.30am following the civil commemoration in the park.

Fair Oak Remembrance Day Service will be at 11am in the Square. As usual St. Swithun Wells Church will be laying a wreath and would ask as many parishioners as possible to come along and take part in the Service.

St Charles Borromeo Feast Day

Monday 4th November is the Memorial of St Charles Borromeo, patron of The Fraternity of Frs Raffaele, Luca, Mario, Matteo & Pietro. At the 9.30am Mass we will pray for all the missionaries of The Fraternity.

Upcoming Funeral - Please pray for the repose of the soul of Kenneth Scott and for his family. Kenneth's Funeral Service will take place on **Tuesday 5th November at 12.30pm in St Edward's.**

MESSAGES CONTINUED

Parish Get2Gether - Sunday 3rd November, 1-4pm Pavilion on the Park, 1 Kingfisher Road, SO50 9LH

An event for all of the parish, especially families. We begin at 1pm, sharing a meal together followed by some activities and a discussion, the topic will be 'Dialogue in the Family'. 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. To book your place please go to our parish website and use the link you find on the "Next Main Parish Events" section. *Parish Christmas Party: 15th December*

OLQA Quiz - Saturday 9th November, 7.15pm

Open to all. Please bring a team (up to six people) or join one. £5 per ticket includes cheese and charcuterie board, plus one free drink, if interested please phone Marie Kemp on 07760 809640.

CL Portsmouth Diocese Day

Sunday 17th November, 12 Noon at St Edward

Programme for the Day:

12 Noon: Arrival, bring & share lunch;

3pm: Witnesses and questions (children's activities held simultaneously);

5pm: Holy Mass.

To register for the event please go to our parish website and complete the online registration form. Please bring some food to share. We will provide drinks, pudding and plates and cutlery. Please bring a donation for use of the venue. This is a great opportunity to invite any family or friends, make sure you **register as soon as possible** so that we know how many people are coming.

Parish Pilgrimage (Fri 23rd - Mon 26th May 2025)

The pilgrimage to Lisieux, France will be led by Fr Raffaele & Fr Mario. We will visit the place where St Therese lived and the surrounding area. Cost: approx £500 per person depending on numbers. There will be a meeting to present the itinerary and answer any questions on **Saturday 23rd November at 2.30pm in St Edward.**

Encyclical Letter of Pope Francis "Dilexit Nos"

Last Friday the Holy Father published his fourth Encyclical Letter, called *Dilexit Nos*. It is about the love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, exploring how this divine and human love meets the deepest needs of our world today. "Love and the human heart do not always go together, since hatred, indifference and selfishness can also reign in our hearts. Yet we cannot attain our fulfilment as human beings unless we open our hearts to others; only through love do we become fully ourselves. The deepest part of us, created for love, will fulfil God's plan only if we learn to love. And the heart is the symbol of that love." (*Dilexit Nos*, 59)

You can read *Dilexit Nos* in full on the Vatican website, alternatively you can buy this as a paperback (for around £6.95).

The New Lectionary - The new translation of Sacred Scripture we use at Mass will begin at the start of Advent (Sun 1st Dec). To help with the changes, Fr Anthony Fyk (Diocesan Director of Liturgy) is providing a one-hour introductory online session for Ministers

of the Word (Readers) with a choice of dates.

You can register to take part on either Tues 5th Nov 7pm-8pm or Tues 19th Nov 7pm-8pm using the link in the weekly Diocese of Portsmouth e-News. Thank you for all your support.

Holy Cross Shop - Please be aware the supplier does not currently have the new Sunday Missals in stock, however they are on order.

Mass Cards at Holy Cross - We have recently introduced Order of Service Mass Cards at Holy Cross. These are inserted into the Hymn books, however, we have noticed that many are missing. It is not intended for these to be removed from the church, the cost is £1 per card to replace. If you have inadvertently taken one home, please return it to the church the next time you attend Mass at Holy Cross. Thank you.

Communion for the Sick & Housebound - if you, or anyone you know requires Communion at home please contact the parish office in Eastleigh and we will pass your request onto the relevant Co-ordinator at each of our six churches.

Message from the Bishop's Conference

Kim Leadbeater MP is introducing a bill to introduce assisted suicide, which will be voted on by MPs on the **29th November**. This is the biggest threat to the vulnerable in a decade, and we need a huge effort to lobby MPs. Please contact your MP by visiting:

<https://righttolife.org.uk/Asthreat>

SCHOOL NOTICES

St Swithun Wells Catholic Primary School

Children Starting in September 2025

Please come to our open mornings to see our school in action on **Tues 5th & Thurs 14th November between 9.30am and 10.30am.**

Find out more about our school at our parent information evening on **Wed 6th November at 6.30pm.** Find us in Hillcrest Ave, Chandler's Ford, SO53 2JP.

www.st-swithunwells.org.uk Tel: 02380 266210

Email: adminoffice@st-swithunwells.hants.sch.uk

At a Glance - List of Upcoming Parish Events

Sun 3rd Nov: Parish Get2Gether

Sat 9th Nov: Quiz at OLQA

9th & 10th Nov: Lighting of Candles and Prayers for the Deceased (except OLQA which takes place on 2nd & 3rd Nov)

10th & 12th Nov: Blessing of the Graves (except OLQA which takes place on Sun 3rd Nov)

17th Nov: CL Portsmouth Diocese Day

TIMES A PRIEST WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MEET

Tuesdays: Fr Raffaele, 3.30pm-5.30pm, Holy Cross Church, Eastleigh;

Wednesdays: Fr Luca not on 6th & 13th Nov, 3.30pm-5.30pm, Holy Cross Church, Eastleigh;

Fridays: Fr Mario, 10am-12 Noon, OLQA, Bishop's Waltham;

Fridays: Fr Pietro, 11am-12.45pm, 26A Abbey Water, Romsey.

MASS TIMES FOR OUR CHURCH COMMUNITIES

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Saturday 2nd Nov <i>Morning Mass: All Souls</i>	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross St Swithun Wells OLOA St Joseph St Edward	Mass Offered for the Deceased (All Souls Mass) People of the Parish Holy Souls in Purgatory RIP Intention for the Deceased of the Past Year Real & Florentina Boucher RIP
Sunday 3rd Nov <i>Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 5.30pm	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLOA Holy Cross (also livestreamed) St Joseph Holy Cross	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Mrs Edward Christian FM Patricia Roydon RIP Anniversary Holy Souls in Purgatory RIP Beatrice & George White; Laura, David & Eduardo Fernandes FM Lysbeth Wagstaff & Nanie Askham RIP Anniversaries Holy Souls in Purgatory RIP
Monday 4th Nov <i>St Charles Borromeo</i>	9.30am	Holy Cross	Fraternity of St Charles; Annamma RIP
Tuesday 5th Nov	10.00am <u>12.30pm</u> 6.00pm	St Andrew St Edward St Edward	Funeral Service: Kenneth Scott RIP Nuala Bright RIP 26th Anniversary
Wed 6th Nov	9.30am 9.30am	Holy Cross St Edward	Holy Souls in Purgatory RIP Keith Small RIP
Thurs 7th Nov	9.30am 12 Noon 6.00pm	Holy Cross OLOA St Joseph	Keith Clark RIP Holy Souls in Purgatory RIP
Friday 8th Nov	10.00am 10.00am 12 Noon	St Joseph St Edward OLOA	Holy Souls in Purgatory RIP Holy Souls in Purgatory RIP
Saturday 9th Nov <i>Morning Mass: The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica</i>	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross St Swithun Wells OLOA St Joseph St Edward	Paul Freeman FM People of the Parish Holy Souls in Purgatory RIP Commemoration of the Dead Rosemary Oxby RIP
Remembrance Sunday 10th Nov <i>Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am <u>11.30am</u> <u>11.30am</u> 5.30pm	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLOA Holy Cross (also livestreamed) St Joseph Holy Cross	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Commemoration of the Dead Commemoration of the Dead Commemoration of the Dead Phil Talbot RIP 20th Anniversary Commemoration of the Dead Holy Souls in Purgatory RIP

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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