



Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ

24th May 2020: **SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Spirit of Glory

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven... So begins the Gospel for this Sunday. It is a moment of solemn prayer, Jesus' 'last words.'

Back in the day, it was fashionable to pooh pooh this kind of language. We said that 'God' is not 'up there' somewhere. Yuri Gagarin, the first Russian astronaut, remarked that if God had been up in the sky he would have seen him - and he didn't. Children of the enlightenment no longer believe in that medieval stuff.

Maybe so. But we all watch football. We see the star player score the winning goal. Then he or she drops to the ground and raises their eyes to the sky. They might not actually think that 'God' is 'up there' - but still, they lift up their eyes to heaven.

We raise our children in a scientific world where causes and effects, the origins of matter and the beginnings of life are accounted for in terms that don't involve any 'transcendent' reality. 'Mystery' is simply something that we don't understand - yet. We know that when we look at the sky we are looking 'out' into a universe, not 'up' to a heavenly location. That culture surrounds us in school, in the media, everywhere. And 'God?' for many, there is no place for that hypothesis in this world.

Yet the sky is still a wonder. By day it can be that radiant blue, by night a deep dark where stars hang like lamps to relieve the gloom. They stimulate our imagination: The Plough, The Great Bear, Orion. The sky liberates the mind from just thinking in dull, earthbound terms. The heavens are a portal for our human imagination. Imagination and faith are closely linked.

Jesus looked up at the sky, as he emerged from his baptism in the Jordan. And from the heavens came the voice announcing his mission 'You are my Son.' Jesus looks up to heaven hours before his arrest as that mission is accomplished: 'Father, glorify your Son.' The disciples gaze into the sky as Jesus is parted from them.

We believe that greater than the sky, further than the farthest galaxies, beyond all time and space and energy and matter, there is the One who speaks to us as 'I AM,' who is not of the Universe, just as the creator is not the created or the craftsperson not the object crafted. To that One, the heavens are the place where the human imagination can give form to faith, shape and image to belief.

Why do you gaze up into heaven? So say the Angels to the disciples at Jesus' Ascension. They, and we, lift up our hearts, for the mission of Jesus is to make heaven on earth.

Canon Alan

GEM OF THE WEEK



This week's GEM is the video of Fr Joe Mcnerney (Catholic chaplain in Southampton hospital) speaking to our parish. You can find the link on our homepage. If anyone has suggestions for GEMs please contact the Webmaster on website.sswp@gmail.com.

LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday 24th May 2020:

Year A - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 3

PSALM RESPONSE: I AM SURE I SHALL SEE THE LORD'S GOODNESS IN THE LAND OF THE LIVING.

READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY, 24TH MAY 2020:

1st reading: Acts 1:12-14 **Psalms:** 26 **2nd reading:** 1 Peter 4:13-16 **Gospel:** John 17:1-11

MESSAGES



Offerings for our Parish

Due to the current lockdown for public health and safety, parish finances need to be considered. As the extended lockdown of our churches continues, the parish needs to help parishioners who are having difficulties in making their regular donations to get us through the emergency. With this in mind we have been building up our Donation section on the website. There is now a document with a comprehensive guide found at the bottom of the donation section.

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, God Bless.

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 on Friday 15th May to share our experiences about charity and service was very rich. You can read your contributions 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

-Our Lady Queen of the Apostles community

Every Wednesday 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. 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.

Funerals

We would like to keep you informed about funerals we are having so that you can keep them in your prayers:

James Joseph Webb on Wednesday 27th May.

Laurence Vincent Doyle on Thursday 28th May.

Mary Frances Preston on Thursday 4th June.

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 28th May: Joe Morgan**, music teacher in secondary school in London.

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 24th March)
- **Grail Seekers** (Live meeting) 4.00pm Saturdays (from 28th March)
- **TOZ** (Live meeting) 7.00pm Sundays (from 29th 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
Sat 23rd May	9.30am	Holy Cross Live Stream	Norah Smewing (Wellbeing) Kayleigh and Brian (Special Intention)
Sun 24th May <i>Seventh Sunday of Easter</i>	10.00am	Holy Cross Live Stream	Kathleen Bernadette Reynolds (FM) John and Bernadette Donnelly (Special Intention) Jim and Mary Donohue (RIP)
Mon 25th May <i>St Bede the Venerable</i>	9.30am	Holy Cross Live Stream	James Kerr (RIP)
Tues 26th May <i>St Philip Neri</i>	9.30am	Holy Cross Live Stream	Maureen Wyer (RIP)
Wed 27th May <i>St Augustine of Canterbury</i>	9.30am	Holy Cross Live Stream	Oswald Carr (FM)
Thurs 28th May	9.30am	Holy Cross Live Stream	For the deceased members of the Wilmot family
Fri 29th May	9.30am	Holy Cross Live Stream	Margaret Martindale (RIP)
Sat 30th May	9.30am	Holy Cross Live Stream	Rebecca Cole and Jamie Cooper (Special Intention)
Sun 31st May <i>Pentecost Sunday</i>	10.00am	Holy Cross Live Stream	Mr Pappachan (RIP) Mrs Morton (FM) David Hanbury (Wellbeing)

CLERGY

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

Father Luca Speziale (Assistant Priest)
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Fr Marco Vignolo (Assistant Priest)
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Canon Alan Griffiths (Assistant Priest)
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Deacon Paul Owen
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Deacon Paul Wilson
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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
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Parish Secretary: Philip Stokman
stswparish@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Website Contact: website.sswp@gmail.com