



Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ

25th SEPTEMBER 2022: TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Practice What You Preach and Preach What You Practice

If you really want to annoy a priest just tell him that you believe, "that you don't have to go to church to be a Christian!" Now stand back and watch his face gradually change in both colour and expression. Why? Well, it's because you have fallen into a modern misconception and heresy of *Privatised Christianity* for which there is no place in authentic Christianity. And certainly not in the Catholic faith.

Let me explain. We are called to live our life in a community of the faithful, but we are also called to meet together to share in the Eucharist and to go out and take the faith to others. The mutual strength we need is through the grace of God's Holy Spirit in word and sacrament and it is a strength which we also gain through being together. This is what constitutes a church, and this is what has been initiated by Christ for the continuation of His word throughout the world. You cannot have faith without a church in which it is to be practiced. For it is in this divine institution that God still speaks to His people through the framework He has left us in the apostolic ministry of bishops, priests, deacons and laity. This is what it means to be a Catholic and it is something in which we should rejoice rather than ignore.

Every human being has faults, and it is easy to apply the *fault factor* to our thinking about the church. However, God uses the frailty of human beings for His work in the world - what else can He do and who else can He choose? The framework of the church ensures that whoever comes along, the teaching and the institution of the church remains immutable. Indeed, such was the attachment of the early Christians to the church as a divine institution that it was said by one church father that, "*No one can have God for his father, who does not have the Church for his mother.*" (st cyprian died:258)

So, when next you are confronted by a well-intentioned person who suggests that it is ok to be a Christian without being a member of the church, you may confidently point out that this is a lot of nonsense. The outward building of the church reflects the reality of that community of "Church". Our regular attendance at worship on a Sunday or during the week is a witness to this truth. The celebration of the papal encyclical *Gaudium Evangelii* talks about the joy of our life together to spread the Gospel. Perhaps, setting off in *joy* for Mass on a Sunday may be the first step in restoring our faith and devotion to the church which Christ has left us as a continual sign of his presence in the world.

Fr Bruce

GEM OF THE WEEK



This week's GEM is, "Sermon of Justin Welby for the funeral of Queen Elizabeth II" - 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 28th September, please email your messages/notices to: office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday 25th September 2022: Year C - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 2

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

READINGS: 1st reading Amos 6:1a,4-7 Psalm 145 2nd reading 1 Timothy 6:11-16 Gospel Luke 16:19-31

Sunday 2nd October 2022: Year C - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 3

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

READINGS: 1st reading Habakkuk 1:2-3,2:2-4 Psalm 94 2nd reading 2 Timothy 1:6-8,13-14 Gospel Luke 17:5-10

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 2022/2023 are still open on our website: www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

Communion & Liberation Groups

School of Community meet weekly:

Holy Cross every Wednesday at 8pm;

St Edward's every Thursday at 8pm.

For more information please click the link on the homepage of our website. All are welcome!

Sacramental Preparation for Adults (RCIA)

Starts on Wed 5th October at 8pm in St Edward's

If you would like to be baptised, confirmed or received into the Catholic Church (or know more about the Catholic faith) please email Deacon Paul

Owen: powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or alternatively please speak to a priest.

Fellowship Group - Wed 28th September at 7.30pm

in SSW church, Fair Oak. We will be discussing the Diocesan 10 Year Plan. Everyone is welcome to join us in person or online by Zoom. For the Zoom link please contact Peter: peterbaggott@aol.com

Growing In Faith Together (GIFT) Group

Tuesdays at 10.15am to approx. 11.30am in the Holy Cross Resource Centre. All are welcome!

The Little Flowers Baby & Toddler Groups

Holy Cross Group meet on **Wednesdays** from 10am in the Resource Centre, Eastleigh;

St Joseph's Group meet on **Thursdays** from 10.30am – 12 Noon in the Hall (26 Abbey Water, Romsey).

The groups are for 0-4 years and their families. More information is on the website or you can email: littleflowers.sswp@gmail.com

Ark of Fellowship - Group for learning disabilities or learning difficulties, their families and friends

Thursdays at 6.30pm in the Holy Cross Resource Centre. Interested in volunteering or know some young adults who would like to join the group? If yes, please contact: arkoffellowship.sswp@gmail.com

OASIS is Back! Monday 26th September, 7.30pm in

St Edward's Cloister, finish at 9pm. As a welcome back for old friends and any new ladies who would like to find out more about us, we're having a **Wine and Cheese** social. Come along for a relaxing evening, to catch up and share ideas for future meetings. **ALL LADIES WARMLY WELCOMED!** Future Meetings: Mondays once a month, dates to be agreed.

Afternoon Club - St. Joseph's Parish Centre (26A Abbey Water), first Tuesday in the month at 2pm. Come and join us for tea, games and good fun.

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!

MESSAGES



OLQA Quiz

Join us on Saturday 8th October at 7.15pm

£5 per person to include drink & cheese/charcuterie.

Bring or join a team of up to six people. Tickets on sale after weekend Masses or prebook on 07760 809640.

Parish Get2Gether - 9th October, 1-4pm

Pavillion 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. 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.

Please can you bring your own cups/plates/cutlery.

To book your place please go to our parish website and click the link.

Come & See Half Term Club (7-14yrs)

Monday 24th - Friday 28th October, 9am-3pm

St Edward's Cloister

Cost: £5 per day. Spaces are limited.

For any enquiries please contact fr Luca/fr Marco at: comeandsee.sswp@gmail.com

For more information and to book your child's place please go to the parish website. **Please only book if you are sure your child is going to attend, thank you.**

Parish Lunch

Wednesday 26th October, 12.30pm at the Hunters Inn, Romsey. Menus are on the church notice boards. All are welcome. Please let Rosemary (01794 522411) know your choice of meal before

Tues 18th October as we have to pre-order. Thank you.

MESSAGES CONTINUED

Upcoming Funerals

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Eileen Buckingham and for her family. Eileen's Funeral Service takes place at Holy Cross on Wed 28th September at 12.30pm.

CAFOD Family Fast Day Friday 7th October

This Harvest, we are responding to the World Food Crisis. On the Family Fast Day, CAFOD invites us to eat a simple meal for lunch or dinner and give the money we save to help the world's poorest people. Millions of families are facing a food crisis that could be the worst in living memory. Fast Day envelopes will be made available in all of our churches from next weekend.

There will be a soup lunch at St Edward's on the Family Fast Day, Friday 7th October from 12 Noon till 1.30pm. The cost is £5, this includes soup, bread, tea & coffee. Everyone is welcome! Donations will go to the CAFOD Fast Day appeal.

Mass to Celebrate Bishop Philip's 10th

Anniversary, Thurs 29th Sept at 12:00 in Portsmouth Cathedral, followed by a reception (of drinks and nibbles) in the Cathedral Centre.

Vacancy for Pastoral Co-ordinator for Evangelisation

Part-time (14 hours per week) to be worked on a flexible pattern. Based at the Pastoral Centre, St Peter and the Winchester Martyrs, Jewry Street, Winchester. For the Job Description, Person Specification and details of how to apply, please contact: recruitment@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
If you would like a confidential discussion about the role please contact: Fr Mark Hogan - Tel: 01962 852804 mhogan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Going Deeper

Are you wanting to go deeper into your faith and prayer life? A new monthly meeting in the Romsey Parish Centre (26a Abbey Water SO51 8EJ) will provide an opportunity for that. It will centre on the spiritual guidance offered by the great Carmelite saints like St Teresa of Avila, St John of the Cross, and St Thérèse of Lisieux. Although discussion of their texts will form part of the meeting, the focus will be very much on the help we can give each other to grow our prayer lives. The first meeting will begin at 10.30am on Saturday 22nd October. It will include the Morning Prayer of the Church, discussion of a Carmelite text, lunch (please bring your own), and a period of silent prayer.

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
	5.30pm-6.00pm	OLQA
	5.30pm-6.00pm	St Joseph
Sunday:	8.30am-9.00am	St Edward
	8.30am-9.00am	St Andrew
	9.00am-9.30am	OLQA

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesday: St Edward's - after Mass (6.30pm-7.30pm)
Wednesday: Holy Cross - after Mass (10.00am-11.00am)
Thursday: St Joseph - before Mass (5.00pm-6.00pm)



This meeting is sponsored by the Secular Carmelites (OCDS), who constitute a lay branch of the Discalced Carmelite Order (OCD), and it will be open to all Catholics from the Portsmouth and neighbouring Dioceses. For further information contact Cyprian Blamires (OCDS Regional Representative) on 01858 468224 or 07714 651756 (cpblamires@aol.com) or Samantha Harris (parish organiser) 01794 503716.

The Digital Collection Plate

We are very grateful to parishioners for their generosity to the parish, especially in these recent uncertain and difficult times.

A card reader has now been installed in the church foyers at Holy Cross, St Edward & St Andrew (to start with) and will be made available for parishioners to use from Saturday 24th September.

Contactless payments are touch-free. There is no need to type in your PIN (unless your card requires it) or hand over your card. Simply select the amount you wish to give from the options on the screen. When the screen prompts for payment, hold your card over the reader, listen for the beep, and your payment is done.

Gift Aiding your contactless donations: You only need to register for Gift Aid once per card. Once registered, the card reader in the church will recognise it the next time you make a gift aided payment. When you donate using your contactless card without Gift Aid, no personal information is collected.

Alternatively, please scan in this QR code which will take you directly to the online giving page.



SCHOOL NOTICES



St Swithun Wells Catholic Primary School

Vacancies - Are you looking to support the Parish? Would you like to come and get to know our children? We are looking for a Learning Support Assistant, a Higher Level Teaching Assistant and a Midday Supervisory Assistant.

For more info and to apply please go to: <https://www.st-swithunwells.org.uk/vacancies>

St Anne's Catholic School and Sixth Form College

Open Events – Wednesday 28th September 2022

We are delighted to invite you to our
**Open Morning 9.00am–11.00am &
Open Evening 6.00pm–8.00pm**

The school has been placed in the top 10% of all schools nationally in recent years. For more info please go to <https://www.st-annes.uk.com>

TIMES A PRIEST WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MEET

Tuesdays: Fr Raffaele, 3.30pm-5.30pm, Holy Cross Resource Centre, Eastleigh
Wednesdays: Fr Luca, 4.30pm-6.30pm, 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
Sat 24th Sept <i>Morning Mass: Our Lady of Walsingham</i>	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross St Swithun Wells OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Mathew Family (Special Intention) Pat Freemantle FM People of the Parish Ann Wood RIP
Sunday 25th Sept <i>Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLQA (also live streamed) Holy Cross (also live streamed) St Joseph	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Folco Scappaticci RIP Anniversary Newton Carrasco RIP Anniversary Jackie Higgins RIP (Birthday Anniversary)
Mon 26th	9.30am	Holy Cross	
Tues 27th <i>St Vincent de Paul</i>	10.00am 6.00pm	St Andrew St Edward	Jeffrey Tuppein RIP
Wed 28th Sept	9.30am 9.30am 10.00am 12.30pm	Holy Cross OLQA St Edward Holy Cross	Ellen Lane RIP FM Mrs Edward Christian FM Funeral Service: Eileen Buckingham RIP
Thurs 29th <i>The Holy Archangels Michael, Gabriel & Raphael</i>	9.30am 12 Noon 6.00pm	Holy Cross OLQA St Joseph	James Joseph McElhinney RIP
Fri 30th <i>St Jerome</i>	9.30am 10.00am 10.00am	OLQA St Joseph St Edward	James Kerr RIP
Sat 1st Oct <i>Morning Mass: St Teresa of the Child Jesus</i>	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross St Swithun Wells OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Florence Bohan FM People of the Parish Josephine O'Grady RIP Anniversary David & Barbara Layzell (Birthday Anniversary)
Sunday 2nd Oct <i>Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8.30am 9.00am 9.00am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Cross St Edward St Andrew OLQA (also live streamed) Holy Cross (also live streamed) St Joseph	<i>Polska Msza Święta</i> Living & Deceased Members of the Murphy & Lucas Families Margaret Martindale RIP Eileen Buckingham RIP Deceased Members of the Kelly, Slevin & Fox Families RIP

CLERGY & PARISH OFFICE

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

Fr 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

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

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 8025 4806; E: powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Deacon Paul Wilson
Tel: 023 8061 6618; E: pwilson@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)