



Our Vision is a Person, Our Vision is Jesus Christ

23rd OCTOBER 2022: THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Christian Family

The readings this Sunday invite us to reflect on some basic features of the Christian family.

1. First: the family prays. The Gospel passage speaks about two ways of praying, one is false – that of the Pharisee – and the other is authentic – that of the tax collector. The Pharisee embodies an attitude which does not express thanksgiving to God for his blessings and his mercy, but rather self-satisfaction. The Pharisee feels himself justified, he feels his life is in order, he boasts of this, and he judges others from his pedestal. The tax collector, on the other hand, does not multiply words. His prayer is humble, sober, pervaded by a consciousness of his own unworthiness, of his own needs. Here is a man who truly realizes that he needs God's forgiveness and his mercy.

The prayer of the tax collector is the prayer of the poor man, a prayer pleasing to God. It is a prayer which, as the first reading says, "will reach to the clouds" (Sir 35:20), unlike the prayer of the Pharisee, which is weighed down by vanity.

In the light of God's word, I would like to ask you, dear families: Do you pray together from time to time as a family? Some of you do, I know. But so many people say to me: But how can we? As the tax collector does, it is clear: humbly, before God. Each one, with humility, allowing themselves to be gazed upon by the Lord and imploring his goodness, that he may visit us. But in the family how is this done? After all, prayer seems to be something personal, and besides there is never a good time, a moment of peace... Yes, all that is true enough, but it is also a matter of humility, of realizing that we need God, like the tax collector! And all families, we need God: all of us! We need his help, his strength, his blessing, his mercy, his forgiveness. And we need simplicity to pray as a family: simplicity is necessary! Praying the Our Father together, around the table, is not something extraordinary: it's easy. And praying the Rosary together, as a family, is very beautiful and a source of great strength! And also praying for one another! The husband for his wife, the wife for her husband, both together for their children, the children for their grandparents...praying for each other. This is what it means to pray in the family and it is what makes the family strong: prayer.

2. The second reading suggests another thought: the family keeps the faith. The Apostle Paul, at the end of his life, makes a final reckoning and says: "I have kept the faith" (2 Tim 4:7). But how did he keep the faith? Not in a strong box! Nor did he hide it underground, like the somewhat lazy servant. Saint Paul compares his life to a fight and to a race. He kept the faith because he didn't just defend it, but proclaimed it, spread it, brought it to distant lands. He stood up to all those who wanted to preserve, to "embalm" the message of Christ within the limits of Palestine. That is why he made courageous decisions, he went into hostile territory, he let himself be challenged by distant peoples and different cultures, he spoke frankly and fearlessly. Saint Paul kept the faith because, in the same way that he received it, he gave it away, he went out to the fringes, and didn't dig himself into defensive positions.

Here too, we can ask: How do we keep our faith as a family? Do we keep it for ourselves, in our families, as a personal treasure like a bank account, or are we able to share it by our witness, by our acceptance of others, by our openness? We all know that families, especially young families, are often "racing" from one place to another, with lots to do. But did you ever think that this "racing" could also be the race of faith? Christian families are missionary families. Yesterday in this square we heard the testimonies of missionary families. They are missionary also in everyday life, in their doing everyday things, as they bring to everything the salt and the leaven of faith! Keeping the faith in families and bringing to everyday things the salt and the leaven of faith. (...)

Dear families, always live in faith and simplicity, like the Holy Family of Nazareth! The joy and peace of the Lord be always with you

Pope Francis

GEM OF THE WEEK



This week's GEM is "Ten Year Mission Strategy" Pastoral Letter of 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 **9.30am on Wednesday 26th October**, please email your messages/notices to: office@stswithunwellsparish.org.uk

LITURGICAL INDICATIONS



Sunday 23rd October 2022: Year C - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 2

PSALM RESPONSE: THIS POOR MAN CALLED; THE LORD HEARD HIM.

READINGS: 1st reading Ecclesiasticus 35:12-14,16-19 Psalm 33 2nd reading 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Gospel Luke 18:9-14

Sunday 30th October 2022: Year C - Year 2 - Psalter Week: 3

PSALM RESPONSE: I WILL BLESS YOUR NAME FOR EVER, O GOD MY KING.

READINGS: 1st reading Wisdom 11:22-12:2 Psalm 144 2nd reading 2 Thessalonians 1:11-2:2 Gospel Luke 19:1-10

PARISH GROUPS



Youth Groups (including First Holy Communion & Confirmation)

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

Tues, 4.00pm-5.30pm in St Edward's Cloister;

Wed, 4.15pm-5.45pm in St Andrew;

Sat, 10.30am-Noon in Holy Cross Resource Centre.

Grail Seekers (school years 7, 8, 9) &

Student Youth (school year 10 until sixth form)

We usually meet on Friday evening in Holy Cross Resource Centre. Please check the parish website for the calendar of meetings, times and venues.

Youth Group Registrations for the year 2022/23 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)

Wednesdays 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 26th October there will be no meeting as it is Half Term week. Meetings resume on 2nd November.

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

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!

Romsey Prayer Group - Every Wednesday morning at 11am in the St Joseph's Parish Centre, 26A Abbey Water. Although this group came about following the CaFE group's sessions on The Gift, a Life in the Spirit, it is open to everyone in the Parish. The sessions last no longer than an hour. All will be made very welcome.

Going Deeper - a meeting for Catholics wanting to grow spiritually. Third Saturday in the month from 10.30am to 3pm in the St Joseph's Parish Centre, 26A Abbey Water. Contact Samantha Harris 01794 503716 for details. **First Meeting on Sat 22nd Oct.**

Upcoming Second Collections

World Mission Sunday on 22nd/23rd October

This World Mission Sunday you have the chance to support missionaries who work alongside some of the most vulnerable communities in our society. Your generosity and prayers on World Mission Sunday mean that together with them, we can keep loving, serving and sharing God's hope with others. Missio donation envelopes are available in all of our churches, alternatively please give online at: missio.org.uk

All Saints - Please remember that the Solemnity of All Saints will be celebrated on Tuesday 1st November. A

MESSAGES



number of Masses will be held across the Parish on this day. Details of Masses will be in next weekend's newsletter.

Annual Mass and lighting of candles for parishioners who have died in the past year

This will take place at the following churches:

Holy Cross, Wed 2nd November at 9.30am;

St Joseph, Wed 2nd November at 10am;

St Edward, Wed 2nd November at 7pm

St Andrew, Wed 2nd November at 7pm;

St Swithun Wells, Sat 5th November at 5pm.

MESSAGES CONTINUED



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.**

Good Companions - The next tea for those who live alone or are lonely will be at **3pm on Friday 4th November in St Edward's cloister.** Please ring Tony Wilson on 023 80266617 if you wish to join us. We look forward to seeing you.

Parish Get2Gether - 6th November, 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. Next Get2Gether date for your diaries:

11th December (Christmas Party)

Holy Cross Cleaners

Can you spare an hour regularly on a Friday or Saturday morning? A small friendly team will welcome you!

Please contact Frances Curtis on 07896 637045 for more info. Let's keep our church clean and safe!

Kneelers at St Joseph

- In order to make it more comfortable for people to kneel during Mass at St Joseph's we are investing in 50 kneelers at a cost of £20 each. Some people have already offered help to cover the cost by making a contribution: this would be greatly appreciated and Janet Cooke will collect any offerings on behalf of the parish.

The Digital Collection Plate - A card reader is now available in the church foyers at Holy Cross, St Edward & St Andrew (to start with). The digital collection is another way to give, it does not replace the second collection baskets or direct debits/standing orders.

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



Utilities - Energy bills are going up for everyone, sadly for us, our churches do not come under the domestic energy bill cap. The electricity bill for Holy Cross Resource Centre last month alone came to £147.97 and for St Edward's it was £141.49. We are therefore appealing to all of our parish groups who use our facilities to consider giving a donation towards the energy consumed during their meetings/events etc. We have never needed to ask before as the rates we were on from our energy supplier were very reasonable. Any donation, however small, would be gratefully appreciated. For Holy Cross Resource Centre and St Edward's Cloister please consider using the Dona machines available. Alternatively, if this isn't available, please put the donation in an envelope stating what it is for and put in the collection basket during Mass.

Two Saints Charity in Southampton are in need of the following items: socks, boxer shorts, clothes for younger men, deodorants (even if already used), sleeping bags, hats and gloves. There is a collection box for Two Saints at St Edward in the cloister.

New Forest For Ukraine Is a community interest company with volunteers transporting donations to Poland & Ukraine. Their main hub is in Lymington but they have 25+ drop-off sites, one is in Romsey (FR Consultants Ltd, Abbey House, Premier Way, SO51 9AQ). For more info and a list of required items please go to: www.newforestforukraine.co.uk

SCHOOL NOTICES



St Swithun Wells Catholic Primary School

Vacancy - We are looking for a Higher Level Teaching Assistant. Closing date for applications is Noon, Monday 31st October 2022.

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

Open Mornings & Information Evening

Wed 2nd November from 9.30am-10.30am

Thursday 3rd November from 9.30am-10.30am

Thursday 3rd November from 6.30pm-7.30pm

To book a place at any of the open mornings or information evening, please follow the link below:

<https://forms.gle/Dn47LhDtv4zyjaRM8>

If you are unable to attend any of the sessions and would like to arrange another time please phone the school office on 02380 266210 or email us at adminoffice@st-swithunwells.hants.sch.uk.

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'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)

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
Sat 22nd Oct	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross St Swithun Wells OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Jackie Callow RIP Anniversary Murdo Robie Mackenzie RIP Audrey, Ron & Stephen Chiari RIP
Sunday 23rd Oct <i>Thirtieth 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> Mrs Anna McElroy RIP Monica Carrasco RIP Anniversary People of the Parish
Mon 24th	9.30am	Holy Cross	
Tues 25th	10.00am 6.00pm	St Andrew St Edward	Margaret Martindale RIP
Wed 26th	9.30am 9.30am 10.00am	Holy Cross OLQA St Edward	Annamma RIP Roger Candler RIP
Thurs 27th	9.30am 12 Noon 6.00pm	Holy Cross OLQA St Joseph	Jane Palmer RIP
Fri 28th <i>Ss Simon & Jude</i>	9.30am 10.00am 10.00am	OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Alice Neary RIP
Sat 29th Oct	9.30am 5.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Cross St Swithun Wells OLQA St Joseph St Edward	Deceased Members of the Russell Family RIP Roy Russell-Smith RIP Anniversary Jessie Regan RIP Anniversary
Sunday 30th Oct <i>Thirty-First 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> Paul Chandler RIP 7th Anniversary People of the Parish Tony & Jackie Barsi RIP Mackenzie Family Members

CLERGY & PARISH OFFICE

Fr Raffaele Cossa (Parish Priest)
Tel: 023 8061 2430; E: rrossa@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

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)