

Our Mission: LOVE GOD - LOVE OTHERS - MAKE DISCIPLES



www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Registered Charity No. 246871

Sunday Cycle: Year A
Weekday Cycle: Year 1
Psalter Week 1

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Those are my principles, and if you don’t like them ... well, I have others” is a quote attributed to Groucho Marx. The gist is that whatever you believe can be adjusted when necessary, but this demonstrates a lack of integrity and conviction. Today’s Gospel passage says the opposite: salt of the earth, light of the world – we must hold firm to what we have received and believe. Blowing with the wind to fit in or make ourselves more popular is fundamentally unchristian. We are to be seen, and heard.

It should have come as no surprise to people in the United States of America, or indeed anywhere else in the world, that Donald Trump would move quickly to implement some of the promises he made during an election campaign that was both divisive and rancid. He is a master at catching the attention of the media (which he simultaneously denigrates as biased and unfair to him) with sudden and often over-the-top statements. Many had hoped that, having gained the prize he fought hard for, he would become more statesmanlike, more inclusive and conciliatory. Well, there are no signs of that yet.

Whatever people think about the decision to put a temporary block on people arriving in the US from certain countries, and the freeze on refugees from war-torn places, the fact is that about half of all Americans support the move. What has caused extra problems is the shoddy way in which this was introduced. With little preparation or considered thought it has been a shambles. Laws made in haste are often poor. But in case we are tempted to look down our noses at our cousins across the Atlantic we should remember that in recent years many of our laws, rushed through, have proved to be badly drafted. The Bill introducing the Referendum in June when we were asked about leaving the EU was poorly written and led to the legal challenge that ended up in the Supreme Court. We don’t get everything right either.

So here we are, a small island nation which has a big history and principles which have guided our way of life for centuries. Will we be tempted to abandon or dilute them in the hope of strengthening our bond with the United States? With weaker ties to the rest of Europe, will our leaders and government fail to criticise what we feel is wrong in case that jeopardises our trade agreements and prosperity? Was Theresa May wise to rush into issuing an invitation to President Trump to come on a State Visit to the United Kingdom? After all, Barack Obama was in post for three years before he received such an invitation. Perhaps it would have been sensible to see how things panned out in these first few months of a new Presidency.

No one pretends that modern-day life and politics is easy. It is a constant challenge to gauge, weigh up and balance competing factors before decisions are reached. But there should be guiding principles that are held onto and not discarded for the sake of quick deals. If we don’t retain those – what do we become? Our society, our community, our country needs to keep hold of what we **really** believe in, such as the need to treat other human beings with respect and dignity. Sometimes voicing those principles will be unpopular but this is what we are called to do – as “the salt of the earth and the light of the world.”

Fr John

Parish Office: Holy Cross Church, 53 Leigh Road, Eastleigh, SO50 9DF

Tel.: 023 8027 3882. Email: stswparish@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

Office hours: Monday– Wednesday 9am-4.00pm Thursday & Friday 9.30-2.30 Newsletter items should be received by Wednesday 12:00 noon

Entrance Antiphon: O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.

Psalm Response: The good man is a light in the darkness for the upright.

**Readings for next Sunday 12th February 2017
6th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Gospel: Matthew 5:17-37

1st reading: Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20

Psalm: 118

2nd reading: 1 Corinthians 2:6-10

Journey in Faith (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) is for anyone interested in finding out more about the Catholic Church or is interested in becoming a Catholic. Wednesday February 8th 2017 from 7.30 to 9.00pm at St Edward Church. Theme this week is 'Human Freedom'. Contact Deacon Paul Owen Tel 02380 254806; email: powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

Fellowship Group - Wednesday 8th February 7.30 p.m. At the end of the Year of Mercy, Pope Francis signed an Apostolic Letter imploring us to continue being merciful entitled "Misericordia et Misera". We will look at some of the key themes of the letter and ask what do they mean for us in our Community today. Everyone in the Parish is most welcome. Queries to Peter Baggott 02380694060 or Deacon Bob Birtles.

St Swithun Wells Prayer Link. There is a new sheet, available in all our churches. If you would like more information about the Prayer Link please contact Marion Birtles marionbirtles@gmail.com 02380 692416

Preparation for Baptism. If you wish to have your child baptised, please contact the Parish Office for an application form, and return the completed form to the office. Then we look forward to welcoming parents for an essential Preparation Session on March 5th 2017 at Holy Cross Resource Centre. The meeting begins at 4.30pm and ends at 6.00pm. It would be very helpful if you could arrive a little early and refreshments are available from 4.15pm.

FIND OUT ABOUT HUMAN SLAVERY TODAY:

Come to a talk on Modern day slavery and how we have responded to this problem.

Thursday 9th February from 7pm. University Chaplaincy, 41 University Rd, Southampton SO17 1TL

Mass with the Anointing of the Sick:

Monday 6th March 2017 beginning at 7.00pm. This is a simple but beautiful Mass celebrated by Father Des for those who are unwell or struggling in anyway. It will take place at St Joseph's, 8 Lyndhurst Rd Ashurst SO40 7DU.

Father David Whitehead thanks all who by prayers and Mass, cards and gifts shared with him in the celebration of his Golden Jubilee.

The Meon Valley Food Bank is holding its 2nd A.G.M. on Friday 10th February at 7.30pm in Bishops Waltham Youth Hall. It's a wonderful opportunity to share with you what has been happening over the last year and our guest speaker this year is from Southampton City Mission, Chris Davis, MBE. Looking forward in seeing you there.

Wednesday 15th February at 7.30 pm, there will be a talk from a member of "Fledge" at St. Swithun Wells Church, Fair Oak. This is the charity that helps homeless young people in Eastleigh and they will tell us about the work they do supporting young homeless people. Please come along and join us at Fellowship for an interesting and worthwhile evening. Refreshments will be served. Any queries please contact Peter Baggott and Deacon Bob Birtles.

CALLED AND GIFTED

Do you want to understand better what God wants to do with your life? Do you want to know how God is calling you to reach out to others and serve him? Do you want to grow in your personal relationship with Christ? These and other questions will be looked at during the Called and Gifted process which is coming back to the parish soon. Please consider attending the Called and Gifted Weekend Retreat on **4th and 5th March 2017** at St Edward's. This will give time away from your everyday life to reflect on what the Lord calls you to be and to do, and there is no cost! To book your place, contact Graham Alldred (SA/SJ), Deacon Paul Owen (SE), June Wilson (HC), Deacon Bob Birtles (SSW), or Joanna Richardson (OLQoA); or you can book online through the diocese at: <http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/> (find the Called and Gifted section halfway down the page, then click on "ONLINE FORM").

Chandlers Ford Ecumenical Lent Groups start on 6th March with the theme of 'Lentwise : Spiritual essentials for real life', and will run for 5 weekly sessions. This is a good opportunity to prepare for Easter, and the sign up sheets are out in the cloister this weekend - for more information please contact me, Paul Carmody, tel: 02380 615373 or email: carmodys16@btinternet.com

Funeral Notice

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Mrs Hazell Jurd who died recently and her family. Her Funeral Mass is at Holy Cross Church at 2.30pm on Tuesday 7th February 2017. followed by refreshments in the Resource Centre from 4.30-6.00pm. All are very welcome to attend.

Funeral Service will be held on Tuesday 14th February at 10.30am for Teresa Rackett RIP at Holy Cross Church. All are welcome to attend.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE WITH THANKS

Last week's collections £1,356.09

SO/SD for the month of December £13,464.42

Help Wanted –More Street Pastors

Why do we go to church? Are we simply trying to ensure our own salvation or are we expected to do something else: to make a difference maybe? Questions that I struggled with for far too long. Eventually, I left my comfort zone and became a Street Pastor; a decision that I have never regretted. We do not openly evangelise, but do so by our witness - our presence out on the streets on a Friday evening once a month: listening, caring and helping if possible. Because we are non-confrontational I have never felt threatened in any way, but we do need to be thoroughly trained. The training is time consuming, but it is an opportunity to meet new people and have rewarding new experiences. Training courses take place at weekends on either of the following dates:

Spring Training: 3/4/5 and 17/18/19 March; and 31/01/02 Mar./April Autumn Training: 15/16/17 Sept, 29/30/01 Sept/Oct; and 15/16/17 Oct. If you feel that you might be up for this challenge please call Dave Cardinal on 023 80266985 (david.cardinal@btinternet.com), or Eric Hyom on 023 8064 3457 (erichyom@hotmail.com). Alternatively go to the street pastor website www.streetpastors.org.uk for further information.

60 club Do you know what colours you should wear? On Monday 13 February, from 2-4pm, Nicky Williams will be coming to demonstrate to us the art of colour analysis. Phone 023 80692682 *Maureen Westwood*

Celtic Spirituality Day at The Wisdom Centre

Romsey on Saturday 18th February 2017 from 10am until 4.00pm coffee/registration from 9.30am
A Day of Guided Stillness Inspired by the Celtic Saints. A one day contemplative workshop designed to introduce you to the spirituality of the Celtic Christians in the stillness of the Wisdom Centre.

The day will be led by David Cole, the author of 'Celtic Prayers and Practices' and 'The Mystic Path of Meditation.' David endeavours to present contemplation from different perspectives for spiritual seekers using teachings based on the ancient 'Celtic' church, and the Christian contemplative and mystic tradition.

To book email reception@wisdomhouseromsey.co.uk or phone 01794 830206. More information: http://www.wisdomhouseromsey.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/leaflet_Celtic_Contemplation-1.pdf

PILGRIMAGE to KNOCK SHRINE Fully escorted Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine, Ireland, 13th March 2017. £599 per person sharing. . Contact Patricia anytime on 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com. Knock Pilgrimages is a member of the Travel Trust Association and is fully protected by ATOL. Full details on display at all churches.

Youth Groups running at Holy Cross Resource Centre Eastleigh Both groups run from 7.00pm 8.30pm.

Inspire School years 7, 8 and 9, Wednesdays once a month please contact Marianne 07771704600 for information. **Next Meetings:** Feb 15th Mar 15th, Apr 26th, May 24th, June 21st & July 12th 2017.

TOZ (Time Out Zone) School years 10,11 and Sixth Form College, Sundays once a month. Contact Cath 07846438224 for information.

Next Meetings: Feb 12th, Mar 12th, April 2nd, May 14th, June 11th & July 9th 2017

SWAG Workshops for Age 11/16

Saturday Feb 11 from 3.00/4.30pm

Saturday March 4 from 3.00/4.30pm

Saturday March 25 from 3.00/4.30pm

AT HOLY CROSS RESOURCE CENTRE

Come along and enjoy some drama related GAMES!! Come to one or all three. Each will be different. Contact Joanna joannaaz@cwgsy.net / 07437 440299

KNIT FOR PEACE Next meeting Wednesday 8th February 2.00pm –4.00pm at St Andrews. Donations of mens clothes and shoes for '2 Saints' are welcome. *Anne Harcourt 02380 734 710.*

Job Vacancies at St Swithun Wells Primary

School—Lunchtime Supervisory Assistants and Minibus Escort. See church notice boards for details

St Valentine's Day Lunch at the Hunters Inn, top of Winchester Hill, Romsey, 12.15pm pm Tuesday 14th February. Menus will be on the church notices boards. If you would like to go, please let Rosemary 01794 5224110, know your choice of meal before Monday 6th February as we have to preorder. Thank you. Details of menu are on display at all churches.

Poitiers Care send a big thank you for the generous donation of £40.00 - the proceeds from the recent Wednesday coffee morning.

Social evening at Our Lady Queen of Apostles Bishops Waltham Saturday 25th March 2017

We are very pleased that Professor Barbieri of the University of Padua, will be returning to give us another talk on the solar system. The title of his talk will be "Our Surprising Solar System". More details to come.

This will be part of an Italian evening with a buffet, which Andrea and Marina Barbieri have very kindly offered to organise. All are welcome. Part of the money raised will be donated to a local charity. Further details contact Joanna Somerville 01489 891540

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES:

St Swithun Wells Primary School 023 80266210;

St George Catholic V.A. College 023 8032 2603;

St Anne's Catholic School 023 8032 8200;

Charlton House 023 8067 7575 /

St Mary's College 023 8067 1267

Mass Times for our Six Church Communities

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION	DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 4th Feb Vigil Masses	5.00pm	St Sw	Steven Carter 60th birthday Thanksgiving	Thurs 9th	<u>9.00am</u>	HC	Mr & Mrs John RIP
	6.00pm	OLQA			10.00am	OLQA	
	6.00pm	St J			6.00pm	St J	
	6.30pm	St Ed	Deceased Members of Wyman & Uphill Families FM				
Sun 5th	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta	Fri 10th	10.00am	St Ed	Lake & Hill Families Special Intention <u>Service of Word & Communion</u>
	9.00am	St Ed	Angela Adams FM		10.00am	St J (AH)	
	9.15am	St A	Denis Keefe RIP				
	9.30am	OLQA					
	11.00am	St A	Agatha Blishen (Birthday)				
	11.00am	HC	William & Isabella Regan FM				
				Sat 11th	9.30am	HC	Thomas, Kurian & Baby Thomas RIP
Mon 6th	10:00am	St Ed	Patrick Lake RIP	Sat 11th Vigil Mases	5.00pm	St Sw	
					6.00pm	OLQA	
					6.00pm	St J	
					6.30pm	St Ed	
Tues 7th	9.30am	HC	Albert & Violet Harrington FM	Sun 12thth	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta Kathleen Ditte & Deceased Family FM Jeanette Butcher RIP Joseph M Joseph & Family Special Intention
	10.00am	St A	<u>NO MASS</u>		9.00am	St Ed	
	10.00am	OLQA			9.15am	St A	
	2.30pm	HC	<u>Funeral Mass for Hazell Jurd RIP</u>		9.30am	OLQA	
			11.00am		HC		
			11.00am		St A		
Wed 8th	9.30am	HC	<u>NO MASS</u>				
	10.00am	St Ed	Father Bernard Higham Special Intention				

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesday	HC	Adoration 1st Tuesday of the month 10.00 - 1.00pm
Thursday	St E	Holy Hour 7:00pm to 8:00pm, closing with Benediction
Thursday	St J	from 12.00 –6:00pm, Rosary and Benediction at 5:30pm, Holy Mass at 6:00pm
Thursday	St A	following Morning Prayer until 11.00am

Rosary And Prayer

St Edward	9.30 am	Wednesday	The Holy Rosary
St Joseph	6.00pm	Wednesday	Evening Prayer
St Andrew	10.00am	Thursday	Evening Prayer

CONFESSION (SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION)

Saturdays:	10.00am	Holy Cross
	12.00 midday	St Edward the Confessor Church
	5.30pm	Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church
	5.30pm	St. Joseph's Parish Centre.
Sundays:	8.45am	St. Andrew's Church.

St Ed OLOA Our Lady Queen of Apostles, Martin Street, Bishops Waltham. SO32 1DN
 HC Holy Cross, 53, Leigh Road, Eastleigh. SO50 9DF
 St Sw St. Swithun Wells, Allington Lane, Fair Oak, SO50 7DB
 St A **St. Andrew's**, Fleming Avenue, North, Baddesley SO52 9EP
 St J **St. Joseph's Oratory**, 26 Abbey Water, Romsey, SO51 8EJ

Mgr John Nelson (Parish Priest)
 Tel: 023 8061 2430
 jnelson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Fr Wojciech Paszko (Assistant Priest)
 Tel: 01794 512599
 wpaszko@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Canon Alan Griffiths (Assistant Priest)
 Tel: 07760220346
 frgriffiths@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Fr David Whitehead (Retired Priest)
 Tel: 02380 260824

POLISH PRIEST : Fr Zbigniew Budyn
 Tel: 023 8178 6316

Deacon Bob Birtles Tel: 023 8069 2416
 bbirtles@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Deacon John di Meo Tel: 01794 515688
 jdimeo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Deacon Paul Owen Tel: 023 8025 4806
 powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Deacon Paul Wilson Tel: 07502 030408
 pwilson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Holy Cross Resource Centre & Finance Ad-
 min: Linda Roberts** Tel: 023 8065 8339
 lroberts@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Office Kristina Blake
 Tel: 023 80 27 3882
 stswparish@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk