

Our Mission: LOVE GOD - LOVE OTHERS - MAKE DISCIPLES
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www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Registered Charity No. 246871

Sunday Cycle: Year A
Weekday Cycle: Year 1
Psalter Week 3

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

The Vocation of all the Baptised

At this stage of the Easter Season the Sunday readings have two concurrent but central themes. The first reading, from the Acts of the Apostles, describes events following Pentecost when the early Christian community was finding its feet. In parallel, the Gospel readings detail encounters between various disciples and Jesus after his resurrection. Of course the two are intimately connected: faith in the Risen Lord is the starting point for everything that the believers undertook by proclaiming the message Jesus had preached and they had received.

Baptism features as a mark of that 'new life' for individuals coming together as faith communities. *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* summarises this:

"From the very day of Pentecost the Church has celebrated and administered holy Baptism. Indeed St Peter declares to the crowd astonished by his preaching: 'Repent, and be baptised every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.' (Acts 2:38) The apostles and those working with them offer Baptism to anyone who believes in Jesus: Jews, the God-fearing, pagans. Always, Baptism is seen as connected with faith: 'Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household', St Paul declares to his jailer in Philippi. And, the narrative continues, the jailer 'was baptised at once, with all his family.' (Acts 16:31-33)" [Catechism n.1226]

Baptism makes us members of the Body of Christ and therefore we become members of one another, as parts of one body. Baptism brings us into the Church and we become living stones to be built into a spiritual house. (1 Peter 2:5) Having become a member of the Church the individual no longer belongs to him or herself but to Him who died and rose for us. Because we belong to God we must profess the faith we have received from God through the Church and also participate in the apostolic and missionary activity of the People of God.

Just in case we're tempted to think that this all sounds a bit theoretical or theological, the Catechism makes it clear: "...by Baptism, the faithful have received the sacramental character that consecrates them. The baptismal seal enables and commits Christians to serve God by a vital participation in the holy liturgy of the Church and to exercise their baptismal priesthood by the witness of holy lives and practical charity." [Catechism n.1273]

So there we have it in a nutshell. Our baptism brings us into the Body of Christ and makes us part of the Church. As members of the Church we are to give glory to God especially through our celebration of the Mass and Sacraments. Because we are baptised we are called to live holy lives – nothing less – and to give a witness to the world in which we live. As a result, we are obliged to find ways of living 'practical charity' so that our faith is never trapped inside us or even inside the walls of our churches. It belongs outside and requires us to engage with the needs of others. There is no more noble calling than this. It is the vocation which all the baptised share every single one of us. It shapes our lives, from font to grave.

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:

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

Psalm Response: Show us, Lord, the path of life.

Readings for next Sunday 7th May 2017
4th Sunday of Easter

Gospel: John 10:1-10

1st reading: Acts 2:14. 36-41

Psalm: 22

2nd reading: 1 Peter 2:20-25

Children's Liturgy of the Word
For Bishop's Waltham

Gather round and listen, listen to the Lord,
 Gather round and listen, listen to his Word,
 Take his Word and see what we are to be,
 Gather round and listen,
 Come and share God's Word with me.

Fellowship Group - starts on 10th May, 7.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. at St. Swithun Wells, Fair Oak

Witnesses to the Resurrection - looking at how Jesus' closest followers responded to his most outrageous claim - that he would rise from the dead. We will be examining Luke's account of the women who went to the tomb on the first day of the week. Queries to Peter Baggott 02380694060.

Journey in Faith (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) Journey in Faith will be on Wednesday 3rd May and will run weekly until the end of July. The subject next week will be '*Jesus, the Good Shepherd*'.

St Swithun Wells Prayer Link.

The Prayer Link Sheet for April is available in all our churches this weekend. Marion.

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 May 7th 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.

Parish of St Peter & The Winchester Martyrs
Parish Administration Assistant

Full time position 35 hours per week Please see posters on display for further details.

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 Independent School 023 8067 1267

Father David's 90th Birthday Thank you to all who shared the Mass in Thanksgiving for my 90th birthday and thank you for your prayers, cards and gifts. We all enjoyed the reception so generously prepared for us.
Father David

THANK YOU. The priests of the parish wish to thank parishioners at all our churches for their cards, messages and gifts over Easter. The many signs of appreciation mean a lot to us: yours words of encouragement and your generosity in the Easter Offerings are never taken for granted and are humbling to us as clergy striving to serve the communities within St Swithun Wells Parish. As we continue to celebrate with joy the triumph of Christ over death in his resurrection let us continue to pray for each other. *Fr John*

Christian Aid Week: Sunday 14th May – Saturday 20th May 2017 If you would like to help with the Christian Aid collection in central Eastleigh this year, by calling on households or making a personal donation, please contact John Elton for envelope(s) on 023 80615220 or email janetandjohnelton@hotmail.com

Significant Wedding Anniversaries Are you celebrating a 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th or Anniversary over 60 years? If so Bishop Philip would like to invite you to a Mass of Celebration. This will take place at St Bede's Church in Basingstoke on **Saturday 24th June 2017** at 11 am. If you would like to come, please visit the Diocesan website <http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/anniversaries/> and complete the on-line form, email to anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

This address is not monitored daily. Or contact Liz Murphy at St Bede's Parish office on 01256 465214 To help celebrate the occasion please could you provide a **COPY** of your Wedding photograph, you can upload it when you complete the form. Send via email to above email address or by post to St Bede's Parish Office Popley Way Basingstoke RG24 9DX Please mark envelope Significant Wedding Mass

Ministers of Communion Day

Please take a letter this weekend which gives details of the **Day of Prayer and Reflection at St Joseph's, Ashurst on Saturday 13 May**. The day will begin at 10.00am and finish by 3.30pm. To help with planning please sign up on the sheet provided by Sunday 30th April.

A Marriage Encounter Weekend is an opportunity to enrich your marriage. The weekend is focused on various aspects of relationship, including the Catholic Churches Vision for Marriage. Here is a tremendous opportunity to enrich your relationship away from the stresses of everyday life. The next weekend to be held in this area is at Park Place near Fareham from May 19th –21st. For further details go to www.wme.org.uk

Parishioners unable to get to Mass

If you are aware of any parishioner who cannot attend Mass because of age, infirmity etc then please contact the parish office and let them know. Similarly, if you have not seen a parishioner at Mass for a while then please let the parish office know.

ST EDWARD'S CHOIR

Choir rehearsals will now be held on a Friday evening at 7pm until 8.30pm at St Edwards Church. We sing at the 9am Mass every Sunday and rehearse usually every week. New adult members are very welcome. Please feel free to come along. For more information, please contact Joanna (joannapuzzle@gmail.com)

Friends After Bereavement (FAB) Sunday Tea

As it is a Bank Holiday weekend, there will be no Friends After Bereavement Sunday Tea on Sunday 30th April.

Dates for your Diary

Flower Festival—Friday 23rd - Sunday 25th June. Our Lady Queen of Apostles will be hosting a Flower Festival with arrangements by all 6 churches in St. Swithun Wells Parish, as part of the Bishops Waltham Blooming Arts Festival. Floral displays, art exhibits, refreshments. Come and support your Parish flower arrangers and have an interesting day out! Contact: Pauline Watson 07917 407361 or paulinestmargaret@gmail.com

Parish Picnic Sunday 9th July 2017 1.00pm -4.30pm Fryern Hill Recreation Ground Chandlers Ford

New to the Parish?

A very warm welcome to our Parish; we are delighted that you have joined us. Please feel free to make yourself known to one of the Welcomers or Priest at each Mass and hopefully join us for a cup of coffee after Mass. Please complete one of the new to the parish registration forms/Cards available in the church foyers, giving us your contact details and leave the form with one of the Priests or Welcomers. All families are welcome at **ALL** Masses; however we have specific Children's Liturgies on Sundays. Please ask one of the Welcomers for details of the times at your Church.

Bishop's Waltham Charity Garden Fair In aid of St. John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital on Sunday 30th April 10pm - 4.00pm At Wintershill Hall, Durley SO32 2AL Entrance £5.00 (free parking) Children under 14 free Ask the expert: Andy McIndoe, 60+ specialist stalls, Children's corner, Homemade refreshments, Cuff Billett's, New Europa Jazz Band, Birds of Prey display, Hog Roast and award winning sausages. For more information see our website www.bishops-waltham-garden-fair.org

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

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

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

Next Meetings: May 14th, June 11th & July 9th

PARISH QUIZ NIGHT

Holy Cross Resource Centre Saturday 6th May at 7.30pm. Tickets on sale after Masses. Going Fast!! Light supper provided, but bring your own drink. Contact Val Talbot on 02380 620423 for further details.

Oasis - Parish Women's Group : Meeting Tuesday 9th May

We will be welcoming Sr Veronica and Sr Mary Benedicta from the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph's in Sway to share experiences of their and our faith journeys. 7:30pm – 9 pm in St Edward's Cloister. Come along for an evening of reflection and fellowship. ALL LADIES WARMLY WELCOMED. Handmade cards will be for sale as a way for us to support their community. Meetings to continue this year: June 13 and July 11.

Lourdes Youth Pilgrimage

This is for teenagers aged from 14 to 17 years running alongside the main diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage from 18th—25th August. More details from youth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

CAFOD

There will be a Coffee Morning, Bring & Buy and Produce Sale in St Edwards Cloisters on Wednesday May 17th after 10am Mass in aid of our Connect2 project in Peru. All donations of cakes, unwanted gifts etc gratefully received. For more information please contact Clare Lasker on 02380 252138.

On going catechisis - A workshop for catechists

Saturday 13th May 2017 10.30 -2.30 at the Resource Centre Holy Cross This workshop is aimed at giving catechists ideas for children between 4 – 11 years. The day will include the in-depth discovery of different resources (Godly Play, Come follow me, Messy Church) to open the Word of God to children and to awake their faith. Bring along your own tried & tested ideas to share. Please see poster on display at all churches for further details.

Royal Hampshire County Hospital Winchester

If you are expecting to be admitted into the Hospital in the near future, please inform St Peters Parish Office so they can arrange for a member of the clergy to come and visit and/or bring Holy Communion. They can be contacted on 01962 852804.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE WITH THANKS
Last week's collections £1,458.61
SO/SD for the month of March £13,791.09

Mass Times for our Six Church Communities

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION	DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 29th April Vigil Masses	5.00pm	St Sw	Muriel Beattie RIP	Thurs 4th	9.30 am	HC	Thomas & Flora Kelly RIP
	6.00pm	OLQA	NO MASS		10.00am	OLQA	NO MASS
	6.00pm	St J	Intention for the Sick: David Gordon		6.00pm	St J	Private Intention
	6.30pm	St Ed	Rosemary Oxby RIP				
Sun 30th	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta	Fri 5th	10.00am	St Ed	Living & Deceased members of the de Melo & Gove families
	9.00am	St Ed	Pam & John Marchesi 50th Wedding Anniversary		10.00am	St J (AH)	
	9.00am	St A					
	9.30am	OLQA					
	11.00am	St J					
	11.00am	HC	Maria & Harold Payne RIP				
				Sat 6th	9.30am	HC	NO MASS
Mon 1st May	10.00am	St Ed	Itti Avirah RIP	Sat 6th Vigil Masses	5.00pm	St Sw	Father George Lyons RIP
					6.00pm	St J	
					6.00pm	OLQA	
					6.30pm	St Ed	
Tues 2nd	9.30am	HC	Amarant Ferreira RIP	Sun 7th	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta
	10.00am	St A			9.00am	St Ed	James, Amelia & Matthew Special Intention
	10.00am	OLQA	NO MASS		9.00am	St A	
					9.30am	OLQA	
Wed 3rd	9.30am	HC	Mr & Mrs John RIP		11.00am	St J	Chloe Godding RIP (Anniversary)
	10.00am	St Ed	Mrs Edward Christian FM		11.00am	HC	
	11.30 am	SJ	Funeral Mass for Matt Reynolds RIP				

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 3.00pm - 6.00pm,
Rosary and Benediction at 5.30pm (before Mass at 6pm)

Rosary And Prayers

St Edward 9.30 am Wednesday The Holy Rosary

St Joseph 6.00pm Wednesday Evening Prayer

CONFESSION (SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION)

Saturdays:
10.00am Holy Cross **NO CONFESSIONS**
Midday St Edward's **NO CONFESSIONS**
5.30pm Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church
5.30pm St. Joseph's

Sundays: 8.30am St. Andrew's Church.

St Ed Our Lady Queen of Apostles, 191-193, Winchester Rd, Chandlers Ford, SO53 2DU
OLQA Holy Cross, 53, Leigh Road, Eastleigh. SO50 9DF
HC St. Swithun Wells, Allington Lane, Fair Oak, SO50 7DB
St Sw **St. Andrew's**, Fleming Avenue, North, Baddesley SO52 9EP
St A **St. Joseph's Church** Abbey House Drive, Romsey SO51 8YB
St J

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 Admin: Linda Roberts Tel: 023 8065 8339
lroberts@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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