

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 1

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

### The Vocation to a particular role in life

It's interesting how certain jobs are described as 'vocations' whereas others are not. Someone studying to be a teacher, nurse or doctor is said to have a vocation. However, I've never heard this used of a car salesman, banker or bookie. Why not? Perhaps because we usually associate vocation with lives lived in service of others and then we limit this to select occupations or roles. However, there is no reason why it shouldn't be extended to police officers, fire crew, lorry drivers, scaffolders, shop assistants and motor mechanics – or even car salesmen, bankers and bookies. The idea ought to be broadened to describe what individuals believe they are called to be and to do in their lives.

I can remember a certain Prime Minister proudly announcing a target (there were always new targets being declared) for 50% of all young people to attend University. This seemed arbitrary and ignored whether this was a good use of some young people's time when they might be better off training for a profession or developing practical skills. The reinvention of apprenticeships is, I believe, a step in the right direction. Discovering and developing the gifts that God has placed within every one of us leads us to an understanding of what we are called to do with the years allotted to us on this earth. One frustration is the tendency of our society to grade things according to salary: if you are paid a lot then, apparently, your contribution to society is deemed to be greater. This can lead to those doing essential tasks – and feeling called to do them – having the sense that others don't value what they are doing. Logically it makes no sense: who would really claim that a currency trader in the City of London is 'worth' twenty or thirty times more than a young teacher or nurse?

We should go back to one of the rituals in the Sacrament of Baptism where the minister anoints with the Oil of Chrism. This anointing marks the child as someone for whom God has a unique task and role. Over the years, with the help of family and friends, that individual will, we pray, come to find out what that unique calling is and how they are to live it - a calling no better or less important than any other, but unique. The *Called & Gifted Programme* which we have used in our parish is just one way of helping people to discover, or rediscover, those gifts and charisms that God has planted within them and then finding new ways of allowing them to shine through what they do in their daily lives.

So, the call we have all received through baptism is to gather to worship and praise God in our liturgical celebrations. As a result, we are sent into the world of today to share the Good News through word and action. And we do it in different ways, each accordingly to the gifts we have been given and the particular calling or vocation we have received. It isn't about consulting a list of what can be described as 'vocation' but rather a process of discovery, seeking what it is we are called to be by the God who made us and holds us in being. Or to put it another way: having been chosen by God, we look to find the best way we can of living out a life of serving him in others. That life of service can take many shapes, forms and directions. We need to be careful before narrowing it down too quickly.

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 sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

**Psalm Response:** May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

**Readings for next Sunday 21st May 2017  
6th Sunday of Easter**

Gospel: John 14:15-21

1st reading: Acts 8:5-8. 14-17

Psalm: 65

2nd reading: 1 Peter 3:15-18

**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. Every Wednesday until the end of July from 7.30 to 9.00pm at St Edward the Confessor Church. Theme this week is 'Sacrament of Confirmation'. Contact Deacon Paul Owen Tel 02380 254806; email: [powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).

**Fellowship Group** - There will be **NO** Fellowship Group meeting this week—Wednesday 17h May, at St. Swithun Wells, Fair Oak.

**Significant Wedding Anniversaries** Are you celebrating a 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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.

**Catenian Bursary Fund Update**

Following pulpit presentations at Weekend Masses in January, the Winchester Catenians are pleased to announce that an 18 year old student at Winchester University has applied successfully and been awarded a grant of £600 from the Bursary Fund to support a 3 month voluntary work experience in Nigeria on an educational programme, teaching English and computer skills and working with youth groups. For information about the Bursary scheme for young people in the 16 to 25 year age range please contact Bas Bush via email [probas@btinternet.com](mailto:probas@btinternet.com).

**FATHER WOJCIECH** is taking a break for the next couple of weeks. We have most Masses covered in his absence but there do need to be a few small adjustments and a couple of cancellations. Therefore, if you attend Mass on weekdays, **please** check the details on the back of the Newsletter. Next weekend Father Shaun Budden will celebrate the Masses at St Joseph's and St Andrew's. The following weekend Father Des Connolly will be looking after those Masses in Romsey and North Baddesley. Father Wojciech will be back for the weekend of 27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> May.

**FATHER SHAUN BUDDEN** celebrates the Golden Anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood towards the end of this month. Having served for a number of years as Parish Priest of Eastleigh, Father Shaun is going to say the 11am Mass at Holy Cross Church on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> May. Immediately after the Mass there will be a Reception in the Resource Centre so please make time to join us for refreshments and to congratulate Father Shaun on his long ministry of service. As you know, he still gives us great support when coming to say Mass when our priests are away. *Ad multos annos!*

**PENTECOST SUNDAY.** At Holy Cross Church on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June we'll celebrate at the 11am Mass the diversity and richness of our community. Parishioners here come from many backgrounds and cultures and one of the great joys this brings is a chance to celebrate with one another our variety. There will be some slightly different elements to the 11am Mass that day and afterwards, in the Resource Centre, a **Bring-and-Share Lunch**. So, please come along and bring a dish of food which reflects your culture and background. More details next weekend.

**St Swithun Wells Prayer Link.**

A new Prayer Sheet is available in our churches this weekend. There are some thoughts and prayers for May, the month of Mary and also some Holy Spirit Prayers as we lead up to Pentecost. Prayer requests continue to come in, as do grateful thanks for the support our prayers give. Do feel free to contact me for further details.

Marion [marionbirtles@gmail.com](mailto:marionbirtles@gmail.com) 02380 692416

**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 19<sup>th</sup> –21<sup>st</sup>. For further details go to [www.wme.org.uk](http://www.wme.org.uk)

WE ACKNOWLEDGE WITH THANKS

Last week's collections £1,584.52

SO/SD for the month of March £15037.59

### **Funeral Service—Rita Wright**

The funeral service for Rita Wright will be at 11.00am on Wednesday, 17th May at Holy Cross Church.

### **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](mailto:paulinestmargaret@gmail.com)

**Parish Picnic** Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **St Edward's—Connect2**

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.

**DISCIPLE** tickets are now available.

A Half Term treat from our young people in **SWAG**.

Please contact Joanna at

[joannapuzzle@gmail.com](mailto:joannapuzzle@gmail.com) if you would like to come.

### **CHRISTIAN AID**

Jane Hough will be doing her annual solo cycle ride this year in memory of her husband Jim who died just before Holy Week. It was his work in Developing countries that highlighted for them both the importance of providing help through Christian Aid.

Jane will ride across Switzerland knowing that Jim had urged her to continue.

Please support her at

[www.justgiving.com/janehough2017](http://www.justgiving.com/janehough2017)

**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 21st June 11th & July 9th.

### **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 Edwards Parish Pastoral Area, Valley Park.**

Monday, 15th May, 2017, at 11 am

The Rosary will be said at the home of Ann Harding, 21 Salcombe Close, Chandlers Ford, SO53 4PJ

All are welcome.

### **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](mailto:youth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

### **GOOD COMPANIONS**

Our next lunch for those who live alone or are lonely will be at 12.30pm on Tuesday 6 June at Keats Restaurant, Ampfield. Please let Pauline Wilson know on 023 80266617 if you wish to join us. New members are always welcome and transport can be arranged if required.

**Golf Day** - Join us for a relaxing day of Golf organised

by the Catenian Association in aid of CAFOD's work overseas on 7 July at 12.30pm at Dummer Golf Course, Dummer Village, Basingstoke RG25 2AD.

For more information and an application form please contact Dave McKenna on 07931 564064 or e mail

[dave.rose.mckenna@gmail.com](mailto:dave.rose.mckenna@gmail.com)

### **ADORE (Alton Day Of REnewal)**

**Saturday 20th May 11.00-4.00** You are warmly welcome to a mini-retreat day (or morning/afternoon) of spiritual refreshment and renewal, focussing on the Charisms or gifts of the Holy Spirit. Please note new venue: at Alton Convent, Anstey Lane, Alton GU34 2NG. and Interpretation" by John Vaughan-Neil 3. There is no need to register in advance, and no charge (though a collection will be taken to cover costs). For more information and directions, see poster or website: [www.altonrenewal.com](http://www.altonrenewal.com) Or telephone Deacon John Foley on 07769 251747. Please see poster on display at all churches 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

# Mass Times for our Six Church Communities

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION	DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
<b>Sat 13th-May Vigil Masses</b>	5.00pm	St Sw	Frank Gill RIP	<b>Thurs 18th</b>	<b>9.00 am</b>	<b>HC</b>	Francesco Papallo FM
	6.00pm	OLQA			10.00am	OLQA	<b>NO MASS</b>
	6.00pm	St J			6.00pm	St J	
	6.30pm	St Ed	Thomas William Mason FM				
<b>Sun 14th</b>	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta	<b>Fri 19th</b>	10.00am	St Ed	<b>Service of Word &amp; Communion</b>
	9.00am	St Ed	Special Intention		10.00am	St J (AH)	
	9.00am	St A	Doris Bonello RIP (Anniversary)				
	9.30am	OLQA					
	11.00am	St J					
	11.00am	HC	Ellen Lane (Special Intention)				
				<b>Sat 20th</b>	9.30am	HC	Bryan Hobbs FM
<b>Mon 15th</b>	10.00am	St Ed	Phyllis & Georg Roman FM	<b>Sat 20th Vigil Masses</b>	5.00pm	St Sw	Andy Gorman
					6.00pm	St J	
					6.00pm	OLQA	
					6.30pm	St Ed	
<b>Tues 16th</b>	9.30am	HC	<b>NO MASS</b>	<b>Sun 21st</b>	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta
	10.00am	St A			9.00am	St Ed	Special Intention
	10.00am	OLQA			9.00am	St A	
			9.30am		OLQA		
			11.00am		St J		
			11.00am		HC	Marjorie Harris Special Intention	
<b>Wed 17th</b>	9.30am	HC	<b>NO MASS</b>				
	10.00am	St Ed	Friends of Suffering Souls				
	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>HC</b>	<b>Funeral Service for Rita Wright RIP</b>				

## ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

<b>Tuesday</b>	HC	Adoration 1st Tuesday of the month 10.00 - 1.00pm
<b>Thursday</b>	St E	Holy Hour 7.00pm to 8.00pm, closing with Benediction
<b>Thursday</b>	St J	from Noon-6.00pm, Rosary and Benediction at 5.30pm (before Mass at 6pm)Thursday -
<b>Friday</b>	St A	Morning Prayer and Adoration 10.00am

<b>Rosary</b>	St Edward	9.30 am Wednesday The Holy Rosary
<b>And</b>	St Joseph	6.00pm Wednesday Evening Prayer
<b>Prayers</b>	St Andrews	10.00am Friday Morning Prayer

## CONFESSION (SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION)

<b>Saturdays:</b>	10.00am	Holy Cross Church
	Midday	St Edward's
	5.30pm	Our Lady Queen of Apostles
	5.30pm	St. Joseph's Church
<b>Sundays:</b>	8.30am	St. Andrew's Church.

**St Ed** St. Edward's 191-193, Winchester Rd, Chandlers Ford, SO53 2DU  
**OLQA** 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 Church** Abbey House Drive, Romsey SO51 8YB

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

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