

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 2

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

The Vocation to form, nurture and support young people

It has always been clearly stated that 'parents are the first and the best teachers of their children.' No one can take away that privilege and responsibility placed upon the shoulders of those given the great gift of a child. Cooperating with God, the giver of all life, a couple bring into the world a new life with all his or her potential, strengths, gifts and weaknesses. It is an awe-inspiring task but one that cannot be bettered for the sense of really making a difference to the life of another.

Although parents have this primary responsibility, many others support them in their role. Through baptism the child becomes part of the faith community and acquires the extended family of the church as well as their own Godparents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins and kin. All are there to encourage the parents in their duty, and often to provide practical support. Baby-sitters can be a life-saver for new young parents needing a few hours break!

The emphasis the Catholic Church has always placed upon education, and the provision of Catholic Schools in our parishes is precisely intended to underline this sharing in the upbringing and formation of young minds, hearts and indeed, souls. Our Catholic Schools were planned first and foremost to provide a context which reinforces what children receive at home and in church. Teachers are called to use their gifts and experience to nurture the young lives entrusted to their care, and they have support in this from other staff as well as School Governors who do an invaluable job often behind the scenes. Working in a school can never be just 'a job' and despite the stresses and strains placed upon them (not least by ever-changing policies coming from Government) teachers must always remain focused on the children who form a particular school community in any given year. After all, their education is life-forming: this academic year of 2016/2017 can never be repeated. Every year is a once in a lifetime opportunity.

Within the parish there are people who feel called to work with the young. Whether this be to provide Children's Liturgy on a Sunday morning, being involved with the First Communion or Confirmation Programmes, giving time to youth groups and activities, it is all vital and comes as a response to the call to work with those who are nearer the start of their journey. If there is one area of parish life where we need more people to respond to this call it is in working with young people. Perhaps as we get older we lose confidence that we can communicate with those of a different generation. After all, young people seem to live in a world which many of us find confusing and strange. But their basic needs are the same as ever as they seek to discern God's plan for them in their lives as they work out what it is they should be doing with their lives. They hear many conflicting messages – but the Gospel is what gives life and makes sense of it all.

Let me ask you: is it possible that you are being called to a more active role and greater involvement in working with young people? Don't just assume that God is calling someone else to this most rewarding work – he may actually be calling **you**.

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: Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

Psalm Response: Cry out with joy to God all the earth.

**Readings for next Sunday 28th May 2017
The Ascension of the Lord**

Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

1st reading: Acts 1:1-11

Psalm: 46

2nd reading: Ephesians 1:17-23

2nd Collection There will be a 2nd Collection next weekend after all Masses for World Communications

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 'Nicene Creed'. Contact Deacon Paul Owen Tel 02380 254806; email: powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

FELLOWSHIP GROUP - 24th May 7.30 pm
St. Swithun Wells Church.
A Bible Study focusing on the post resurrection appearances of Jesus from Easter to Ascension. Where and to whom did Jesus appear? Are the different accounts contradictory or complimentary? We will see how Jesus restored his disciples' faith, gave them hope and finally sent them out to share the good news. Everyone is most welcome. Refreshments will be provided. Queries to Peter Baggott 0238069406.

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 02380 692416

Catenian Bursary Fund Update

Following pulpit presentations at Weekend Masses in January, the Winchester Catenians are pleased to announce that a 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. For information about the Bursary scheme for young people in the 16 to 25 year age range please contact Bas Bush via email brobas@btinternet.com.

The Bishops of England and Wales have this week, issued a letter to Catholics on the forthcoming General Election, which to be distributed in parishes across all dioceses this weekend. The letter is an encouragement to all Catholics to play an active part in the election. While voting for any particular political party is a matter of conscience, our bishops encourage people to use their vote at this pivotal time for our nations, as we prepare to leave the European Union. Additionally the letter lays out broad principles to guide our thinking in the run-up to the election, taken from Pope Francis' *Evangelii Gaudium*. You are encouraged to read this document.

FATHER WOJCIECH is currently taking a break. 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. Father Wojciech returns next weekend.

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 28th 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 4th 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. Why not come to Mass in National Costume, or in the colours of your country's flag?

Sharing the Joy of the Gospel – Day of Prayer for the New Evangelisation

Sat 3rd June 10am-3pm at St. Edward's Church. The diocese will be hosting a day of prayer for the New Evangelisation beginning with Mass at 10am. Throughout the day there will be an opportunity to pray before the Blessed Sacrament. There will also be a prayer workshop either side of lunch (please bring your own), centred on the theme of "Using the gifts of the Holy Spirit". You are welcome to come for all or just some of the day. Even if you cannot join us, please take time that day to pray for the New Evangelisation in our diocese – it is essential that all our efforts are founded on a firm bedrock of prayer.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE WITH THANKS

Last week's collections £1,855.45

SO/SD for the month of March £15037.59

WANTED!! Lego Cards which Sainsbury are currently distributing, are being collected by St Swithun Wells School. If any parishioners have them please bring into the Parish Office or Church and they will be passed on. Thank You!

Parish Lunch at The Vine, Ower, Wednesday 14th June at 12.30pm. Menus will be on the notice boards. All are welcome. Please let Rosemary (01794 522411) know your choice of meals before Monday 5th June as we have to preorder. Thank you.

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.

Thank You

Following the successful event 'Our Surprising Solar System' held at Our Lady Queen of Apostles in Bishops Waltham, the parish has received a thank you letter from the Home Start Meon Valley for £300 donated from the proceeds of the evening.

POITIERS CARE

Thank you to all who so generously donate on a regular basis to Poitiers Care. This Catholic charity distributes food to families and children in much need who live locally. Please continue to help. Items of tea, coffee, sugar, tins of soup, meat, fish vegetables and fruit may be left in the boxes provided at St Andrew's St Joseph and St Edward's. Many Thanks.

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

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.

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.

CAFOD ----St Edwards.

Green Boxes will be emptied on the week ending June 3rd/4th. Please return your old box and pick up a new one. Thank You!

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.

DISCIPLE tickets are now available.

A Half Term treat from our young people in **SWAG**. Please contact Joanna at joannapuzzle@gmail.com if you would like to come.

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.

The 60 Club will meet as usual in Holy Cross Resource Centre, from 2pm -4pm, on Monday 22 May. Please just come along.

The Knights of Columba Annual BBQ The Knights of St Columba invite all parishioners to a BBQ at St Edwards Church 1pm Saturday 17th June. Cost £10. Proceeds go towards those needing assistance on Lourdes pilgrimage. Tickets on sale on the day, but names/numbers in advance please to David Martin: 2dmartin@gmail.com

The Knights of St Columba raise funds for charity by providing assistance at Gardener's Fayre at Stoneham on Sat/Sun 3/4 June. We need assistance for a few hours on the Sat morning and later on Sun afternoon, erecting and taking down tents. Anyone who can help (no experience needed) at either time, please contact Anthony Bradley 023 8026 6818. You will be helping the Knights to raise significant funds - last year over £1000, while having fun at the same time, and free entrance if you wish. Thank you, David Martin

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
Sat 20th- May Vigil Masses	5.00pm	St Sw	Andy Gorman	Thurs 25th	9.30am	HC	Marjorie Harris Special Intention <u>St Swithun Wells School Mass</u> NO MASS
	6.00pm	OLQA			10.00am	OLQA	
	6.00pm	St J			2.00pm		
	6.30pm	St Ed			6.00pm	St J	
Sun 21st	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta Special Intention Marjorie Harris Special Intention	Fri 26th	10.00am	St Ed	Marjorie Harris Special Intention
	9.00am	St Ed			10.00am	St J (AH)	
	9.00am	St A					
	9.30am	OLQA					
	11.00am	St J					
	11.00am	HC					
				Sat 27th	9.30am	HC	Oswald Carr FM
Mon 22nd	10.00am	St Ed	Marjorie Harris Special Intention	Sat 27th Vigil Masses	5.00pm	St Sw	Marjorie Harris Special Intention Bridget Goodridge RIP
					6.00pm	St J	
					6.00pm	OLQA	
					6.30pm	St Ed	
Tues 23rd	9.30am	HC	Marjorie Harris Special Intention NO MASS Funeral Mass for Sister Sheila Mary DW	Sun 28th	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta Maria Whitley RIP (Anniversary) Anthony Hillier RIP (Anniversary) Thanksgiving Golden Jubilee for Father Sean Budden
	10.00am	St A			9.00am	St Ed	
	10.00am	OLQA			9.00am	St A	
	2.30pm	St J			9.30am	OLQA	
		11.00am	St J				
		11.00am	HC				
Wed 24th	9.30am	HC	NO MASS Marjorie Harris Special Intention				
	10.00am	St Ed					

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 Noon-6.00pm, Rosary and Benediction at 5.30pm (before Mass at 6pm)Thursday -
Friday	St A	Morning Prayer and Adoration 10.00am

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

CONFESSION (SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION)

Saturdays:	10.00am	Holy Cross Church
	Middy	St Edward's
	5.30pm	Our Lady Queen of Apostles
	5.30pm	St. Joseph's Church
Sundays:	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

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