

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

## SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Last Monday evening I watched *Diana, Our Mother* which featured a tribute from her sons, William and Harry. I remember well the extraordinary scenes and reactions twenty years ago when people woke to the news that Diana Princess of Wales had died in Paris. TV channels spent the whole day reporting what had happened into the evening when her body was brought back to England. Later the nation – and millions around the world – saw her two young sons walk behind her coffin with their father, grandfather and uncle. Even then I wondered at the decision to ask this of a twelve and a fifteen year old.

One of the impressions given by the programme broadcast on Monday was of two brothers who enjoy a deep personal bond. They love each other very much. As they spoke of their mother it was clear just how much of an impact she had on them and that influence has helped shaped the men they are today. They also described their regret over the final time they spoke with her: they were playing at Balmoral and she was in Paris: 'If only we had known it was the last time we'd hear her voice we wouldn't have rushed the conversation to get back to playing with our cousins'. It isn't logical but I think we can all understand what they were saying. At the end of the programme I was left reflecting on how important it is to value the relationships we have because you can never be certain what may happen.

On the same day last week two young parents announced in the High Court that they would no longer fight to take their son, Charlie Gard, from Great Ormond Street Hospital to the United States for experimental treatment. Seeing Connie and Chris in recent weeks it is plain to see the toll on them of their son's situation and the decision of experts to allow him to die. It is almost impossible to imagine what they are going through because, at its core, this is about the strength of a bond between a Mum and Dad and their little boy. Doctors and a judge have been called upon to make a choice in the best interests of Charlie and now as I write (on Thursday morning) the one remaining decision is whether he remains at GOSH or can be safely moved to a Hospice. It is a desperately sad situation that will shape those involved for the rest of their lives.

Our faith emphasises two important points when we contemplate death, our own or that of someone else – especially when we are close to them. The prayer of commendation towards the end of a Funeral includes these words of hope: 'Lord, turn toward us and listen to our prayers: open the gates of paradise to your servant and help us who remain to comfort one another with assurances of faith, until we all meet in Christ and are with you and with our brother/sister for ever'. So we do look forward to sometime in the future when we will be reunited. The separation we experience is not permanent.

Then secondly the reality of death, the fact that none of us is here on earth forever, leads us to treasure the bonds and relationships we have. They will not always be perfect because we make mistakes. However, failing to mend a relationship which has broken, or just thoughtlessly taking others for granted is to devalue what love can do in binding us together. Life is too short to make that mistake.

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:** God is in his holy place, God who unites those who dwell in his house; he himself gives might and strength to his people.

**Psalm Response:** Lord, how I love your law!

**Readings for next Sunday August 6th 2017  
The Transfiguration Of The Lord**

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

1st reading: Daniel 7:9-10. 13-14

Psalm: 96

2nd reading: 2 Peter 1:16-19

**Journey in Faith:** The formal sessions on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm at St Edward the Confessor Church have now ended for the summer break.

The group will continue to meet and Fr Wojciech has agreed to lead sessions on Lectio Divina (prayerful reading of scripture). All are welcome to attend.

**Fellowship Group.** Meetings will recommence after the Summer - date to be confirmed.

More details from Bob Birtles

[bbirtles@portsouthdiocese.co.uk](mailto:bbirtles@portsouthdiocese.co.uk) 02380 692416 or Peter Baggott 02380 694060

**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 September 3rd 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 will be available from 4.15pm.

**THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION**

Next year, sometime after Easter 2018, Bishop Philip will celebrate Confirmation for young people who belong to St Swithun Wells Parish. For the last few years the Bishop has arranged a Confirmation once every two years for parishes and next year it is our turn. The plan is to form the group before the summer break so that the preparation will be up and running in good time for September. This means that young people wishing to enrol must do so in the next few weeks. There are *Enrolment Forms* available in each of our churches. Anyone who will be in Year Eight next year (ie. starting in September) and above is eligible to apply. This means that if you are currently in Year Seven you can join the Programme for Confirmation. Please do this soon as we want to have plans well underway before the summer break. If you have any questions or concerns, contact Father John.

**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

**St Swithun Wells Prayer Link**

Please take a copy of the Prayer Sheet, "Summer 2017" to use at home and so join many others in prayer. I will continue to send Prayer Requests and updates throughout the summer. Please contact me if you would like to receive these emails or have a request for prayer. Marion.

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

**Young Catholic Adult Weekend @ Douai Abbey**

20th -22nd Oct 2017 Are you 18-40, do you want to deepen your knowledge of the Catholic faith, learn its devotions and meet like minded people? Young Catholic Adults are organizing a weekend at Douai Abbey in Berkshire) with Lawrence Lew O.P., and Canon Poucin ICKSP. You'll be able to hear catechetical talks, learn how to sing Gregorian Chant, say the Rosary, socialize and have fun. Book soon as places are limited! All Masses are in the Old Rite. To book go to:-To Book:<https://v1.bookwhen.com/youngcatholicadults-douai2017>For updates go to:-

<http://youngcatholicadults-latestnews.blogspot.co.uk/>. For more details go to:-<http://www.youngcatholicadults.co.uk/events.htm>. Prices start from £18.50. See Poster for details.

**Bishopstoke, Fair Oak and Horton Heath Street Pastors**

have served the local area every Friday evening for nearly 10 years. We walk through our community engaging those we come into contact with by listening, caring and helping! **We desperately need to recruit more street and prayer pastors**, in order to strengthen our four teams (Training this Sept/Oct). Please contact Liz Richardson (BiFOHH coordinator) for more information: 07727018985 or [fairoak@streetpastors.org.uk](mailto:fairoak@streetpastors.org.uk)

**9th August 2017 – Retreat Day for the Deaf**

There will be a retreat day for the deaf on Wednesday 9th August 2017 at St John's Cathedral and Discovery Centre. This event will be fully sign-interpreted. The theme for the event is St Edith Stein. The day will begin at 10:45 and will include Mass at 12.15. If you are interested then please contact Fr Robin Ellwood on email, [careofthedeaf@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:careofthedeaf@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**CAFOD Portsmouth Harvest Briefing**

Join us at a special Harvest Briefing on Saturday 23 September from 2.15pm to 4.15pm at St Stephen's Church Hall, Oliver's Battery Road, Winchester S022 4JB to hear more about CAFOD's work in El Salvador, the focus of Harvest Fast Day. Please book a place in advance via 01252 329385 or [portsmouth@cafod.org.uk](mailto:portsmouth@cafod.org.uk) Thank you.

**Mark your diaries!!: Sunday 10th September,**

Knights of St Columba parish family BBQ at St Edwards, 1pm. Fund raising for Lourdes pilgrims. Tickets on sale from 19th August in all churches. All under 12s free.

### **St Swithun Wells Parish Annual Picnic 2017**

Thank you to everyone who made the day such a great success. We had sunshine and shade and Fr Wojciech's apple cake. The purpose of this **Free** event is to bring our community together, family and friends and to get to know each. We enjoyed our lunch and each other's company. Look out for the date next year and put it in your diaries so as not to miss out. A special thanks goes to the Social Team for their help on the day. I could not do it without you.

*Lorraine Clapham (Chair)*

### **Betty Foster & Family**

would like to thank all those who offered prayers, sent cards and those who attended the funeral Mass for Michael on 17th July. Knowing that we were in the St Swithun Wells prayer link when Mike was so ill was a great comfort.

Thank you.

### **St Wilfred's Pilgrimage Walk - Sat 9 Sept**

We are blessed to live in an area that is home to a number of ancient churches. St Wilfred founded the original Saxon ones between 681-686AD, the remains of which are still evident in the villages of the Meon Valley today. We plan to retrace his steps over what is now called the St Wilfred Pilgrimage Trail, on Saturday 9th September between 1000 and about 1430.

We will walk - or rather amble along (it's easy terrain) - and visit 5 wonderful churches at Droxford, Meonstoke, Corhampton, Exton, and Warnford.

Together with the glorious countryside, the architecture, atmosphere and ancient history of the churches makes for a truly spiritual experience (and for those who need more, there is a pub near every one!). The maximum distance is between 5 and 6 miles but participants can limit the length of their walk to fewer villages and thereby reduce it to whatever they prefer - even visit just two churches. We plan to offer transport to ferry people back to the starting point in Droxford from their destination church. Volunteers are very much needed, so if you'd like to do so (and visit at least one church in the process), please let us know. 9 Sept is still a while away, but with the holidays approaching, we'd like to get an idea at this stage of who might be interested in participating. Please let me know by e-mail on [angus.somerville@hotmail.com](mailto:angus.somerville@hotmail.com) or calling 07929 867472

**Live at Home** -Weekly Coffee Morning at the Point every Monday between 11am and 2pm at The Point Eastleigh. See Poster at all Churches for further information. Also, Singing for Well Being at St Andrew's Church Blenheim Rd Eastleigh every Tuesday from 2.30 to 4.30—a new singing and social group for people 60 or older.

**A big thanks** to all who supported the CAFOD BBQ. £684 was raised for the Connect2 Project supporting groups in Peru.

### **Hospital Admittances**

If you are expecting to be admitted into the Royal Hampshire Hospital Winchester 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. Additionally if being admitted to Southampton General Hospital contact Father Michael Cronin on 02380 774273.

### **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.

### **CAFOD CAMPAIGN: POWER TO BE.**

With one in six people living without electricity, children across the developing world are being deprived of the opportunity to realise their full potential. POWER TO BE cards are available to fill in this weekend in all our Churches asking the U.K. Representative at the World Bank to support the use of sustainable energy in the developing world, thus enabling children and young adults reach their God given potential. For more details see the current edition of the Portsmouth People.

### **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.

### **Catholic Chaplaincies: Catholic? Going to university this year?**

Most of our Universities and Higher Education Institutions have a dedicated Catholic Chaplain based in the university or the local parish. The Catholic Chaplaincy is a place for you to explore your faith as a young adult, to meet other young people with similar interests from a great range of backgrounds, and to get involved in activities and social outreach. If you already have a strong faith, this is a chance to deepen it. If you are full of questions and doubts, this is a chance to share them and search for some honest answers about life and faith. Everyone is welcome.

To find your local Chaplaincy, and for contact details of all the University Chaplains and Catholic Student Societies, visit the Catholics At University website at: [www.catholicsatuniversity.org.uk](http://www.catholicsatuniversity.org.uk)

# Mass Times for our Six Church Communities

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION	DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
<b>Sat 29th July Vigil Masses</b>	5.00pm	St Sw	James Haren RIP	<b>Thurs 3rd</b>	9.30am	HC	For the Family of Maria Papallo
	6.00pm	OLQA			<b>10.00am</b>	<b>OLQA</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
	6.00pm	St J			6.00pm	St J	
	6.30pm	St Ed	Robert Bucknell RIP (Anniversary)				
<b>Sun 30th</b>	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta	<b>Fri 4th</b>	10.00am	St Ed	Denis McQuail RIP
	9.00am	St Ed	Pat & Michael Cummins Wedding Anniversary		10.00am	St J (AH)	
	9.00am	St A	Arthur Heslop RIP (Anniversary)				
	9.30am	OLQA					
	11.00am	St J	Herbert Howie RIP (Anniversary)				
	11.00am	HC	Beatrice & George White Laura,				
				<b>Sat 5th</b>	9.30am	HC	
<b>Mon 31st</b>	10.00am	St Ed	Friends of Suffering Souls	<b>Sat 5th Vigil Masses</b>	5.00pm	St Sw	Agnes Etherington RIP
					6.00pm	St J	Special Intention
					6.00pm	OLQA	
					6.30pm	St Ed	Re`al Boucher RIP
<b>Tues 1st Aug</b>	9.30am	HC	Janet Burton FM	<b>Sun 6th</b>	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta
	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>St A</b>	<b>Funeral Mass for Valerie Farrugia RIP</b>		9.00am	St Ed	Living & deceased Members of the Layzell Families FM
	10.00am	OLQA			9.00am	St A	Patino & Carter Families
<b>Wed 2nd</b>	9.30am	HC	Special Intention for the relatives of Bella		9.30am	OLQA	
	10.00am	St Ed	Hugh Cambridge RIP		11.00am	St J	Ron & Sheila Rhymer RIP
					11.00am	HC	Sudha Hall RIP

## ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

**Tuesday** HC Adoration 1st Tuesday of the month  
10.00 - 1.00pm

**Thursday** -St E **NO HOLY HOUR until early Sept**

**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 And Prayers**

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

## CONFESSION (SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION)

**Saturdays:** 10.00am Holy Cross Church  
12 noon 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

**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

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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  
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**Deacon Paul Wilson** Tel: 07502 030408  
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