

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

NINETEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

During the coming week we celebrate the Solemnity of the Assumption of Our Lady into Heaven. This is just one of the feasts spread throughout the year which give us an opportunity to reflect on the role of Mary, Mother of Christ and Mother of the Church. As such she belongs to us, and we to her. It is this bond that enables us to continually ask her to join with us in prayer, summarised in that most familiar of prayers, the Hail Mary.

As with anyone in the Church, we cannot take one part of Mary's role on its own: we need the whole picture to make sense of the constituent parts. As the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states: "Mary's role in the Church is inseparable from her union with Christ and flows directly from it." After her Son's Ascension, Mary 'aided the beginnings of the Church by her prayers.' In her association with the apostles and several women, 'we also see Mary by her prayers imploring the gift of the Spirit, who had already overshadowed her in the Annunciation.' [Catechism nn964 & 965 with references to Vatican II, *Lumen Gentium* 69 & 59]

The description in the *Catechism* of Mary's Assumption is succinct and taken from the document of Pope Pius XII, *Munificentissimus Deus* in which the dogma of the Assumption was declared:

"Finally the Immaculate Virgin, preserved free from all stain of original sin, when the course of her earthly life was finished, was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory, and exalted by the Lord as Queen over all things, so that she might be the more fully conformed to her Son, the Lord of lords and conqueror of sin and death'. The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin is a singular participation in her Son's Resurrection and an anticipation of the resurrection of other Christians." [n.966]

The focus of each feast of Our Lady is intended to do two things. First: to recognise the unique role, contribution and witness of Mary. For example, when the angel Gabriel came to her with the message that she had been chosen to bear Jesus the Son of God her answer was an immediate 'yes' to fulfilling her part in God's plan. Each of us has a part in God's plan and her example encourages us to be eager and wholehearted in our 'yes'. The second aspect of these feasts is to place Mary nearer to us, close to and not distant from the realities of our lives. She experienced suffering and bereavement in the loss of her only Son. She shares what we go through and so, as a Mother, can bring solace and comfort through her presence.

And so it is with her Assumption. The unique aspect of her journey is that she was assumed into heaven and, because she was without sin, had no need to be purified in what we know as purgatory. Far from being a place of punishment, purgatory is a recognition that none of us will be ready at the time of our death to enter directly into the presence and glory of God. Whilst we will need that preparation Mary did not. But ultimately our destiny is the same as hers – resurrection and life eternal. The Feast of The Assumption of Mary is all about that hope we share of being with God in his glory. She is there before us, encourages us and beckons us forward.

Father 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: Look to your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

Psalm Response: Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.

**Readings for next Sunday August 20th 2017
20th Sunday of the Year**

Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28

1st reading: Isaiah 56:1. 6-7

Psalm: 66

2nd reading: Romans 11:13-15. 29-32

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 will 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 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.

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 (02380 692416)

On Monday 14th August, Vigil of the Feast of The Assumption, please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this Country. Your prayer and fasting is urgently needed. For information on the days of Prayer and Fasting; www.goodcounselnetwork.com

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

WE ACKNOWLEDGE WITH THANKS

Last week's collections :£1,698.44SO/SD for the month of July £14,244.59

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 fair oak@streetpastors.org.uk

Fledge is a Christian charity operating in Eastleigh. The aim of the charity is to nurture vulnerable and homeless young people from the Borough of Eastleigh, by providing supported housing, mentoring and supported lodgings. To raise funds for this charity, a Summer Tea at St Edward's Church will be held Thursday, 24th August at 2:30 pm Adults £4.50/children freeA brief talk about the charity will be given during the afternoon. Please come along and bring your friends.

FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH A 6 session course to explore the practical benefits of prayer, presented by CAFÉ (*Catholic association for faith exploration*) Beginning October 10 and 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7.30 pm at 20 Mottisfont Lodge, Alma Road, Romsey SO51 8AGIf you would like to come please contact

Mrs Sheila KeefeTel: 01794 518071

s.keefe@bopenworld.com or Mrs Kathy Thompson

Tel: 01794 341102 jandkthompson@yahoo.co.uk

St Wilfred's Pilgrimage Walk - Sat 9th Sept

St Wilfred founded many Saxon churches in the Meon Valley during the C7th. Members of OLQA plan to visit up to five of them between Droxford & Warnford on Sat 9th (1000-1430). It will be an easy walk through beautiful Hampshire countryside - as spiritually uplifting as the churches themselves. Anyone who is interested or would like more details, please contact Angus Somerville on angussomerville@hotmail.com or 07929 867472.

Cheque Payments to the Parish

Lloyds Bank are imposing stricter conditions on cheques. For any payments to the parish using a cheque please ensure the following details are used or the bank may refuse to accept the cheques. We will then have to ask you for duplicates, which often takes time.

Payee - **PRCDTR St Swithun Wells.**

One Community Older People's Network

Wednesday 13th September 10am to 12noon at St Peter's Church Boyatt Wood. A free informal event to find out about the support and opportunities available for older people in your area. Refreshments available. Contact the Community Development Team for further details and/or confirm attendance. 02380 902400 or info@1community.org.uk Posters are on display at all Churches.

St Padre Pio Feast Day

Saturday September 23rd at St Joseph's Centre, 8 Lyndhurst Road, Ashurst, Southampton, SO40 7DU. 10am-4pm. Come and join Fr Des Connolly SM and Padre Pio Prayer Groups and devotees for a retreat day to celebrate the Feast Day of this wonderful saint. Please bring packed lunch. Cost will be £20.00 per person and include tea and cake. Please contact Fr Des before Wednesday 20th Sept on 20380292337 or email fatherdes@icloud.com

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje

There are still a couple of places available for the Pilgrimage to Medjugorje in Bosnia Herzegovina Shrine of our Lady Queen of Peace. The trip will be supported by Marian Pilgrimages departing 4 Oct 2017 from Gatwick Airport flying to Split and returning on 11 Oct 2017. Cost £589 per person in shared accommodation. £130 single room supplement. Insurance £30 if required. If you are interested please contact Heather Hauschild as soon as possible for details on 07810310316 or email: hauschild287@btinternet.com

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.

Catholic Singles is an organisation which helps single Catholics of all ages (over 18 years) meet other single Catholics, either one to one or through social events. For further information visit www.catholicssingles.org.uk or tel. 0161 941 3498. See Poster for more details.

CAFOD Portsmouth Harvest Briefing on 23rd Sept 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 01252 329385 or portsmouth@cafod.org.uk

Our Lady of Fatima

The statue will be at the Cathedral on Sat/Sun 26th/27th August. If you wish to go, a mini-bus has been arranged for **Saturday**. Contact Elizabeth Nash 01962 712022. First Come first served.

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.

KNIT & NATTER At St Edwards on Monday 14th Aug 2.00-4.00pm. All Welcome. Refreshments and good company. Any queries contact Maureen Stephenson on 02380 252104

Disbanding of Eastleigh Faith and Light. The Eastleigh Faith and Light Community, part of the international Christian organisation for people with learning disabilities, their families and friends, has met monthly in the Parish since the very first gathering held here in 1991, initially in Holy Cross, but latterly at St Edward's. Their presence in the parish will end on 23 August when they celebrate 26 years of sharing the love of God with all who came to them in solidarity and companionship. Since the world wide movement began on pilgrimage to Lourdes in 1971, new communities have sprung up while others, like ours, have inevitably closed as age has caught up with the organisers. Eastleigh Faith and Light offer their grateful and sincere thanks for all the acts of generosity and kindness shown by countless parishioners over the years.

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

Mass Times for our Six Church Communities

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION	DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION	
Sat 12th Aug Vigil Masses	5.00pm	St Sw		Thurs 17th	9.30am	HC	Funeral Mass for Patrick Downes RIP	
	6.00pm	OLQA			10.00am	OLQA		
	6.00pm	St J	Newton Carrasco RIP		6.00pm	St J		
	6.30pm	St Ed	Mary Haslam RIP (Anniversary)					
Sun 13th	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta	Fri 18th	10.00am	St Ed	Mrs Edward Christian FM	
	9.00am	St Ed	John Davis RIP		10.00am	St J (AH)		
	9.00am	St A	Alan French RIP (Anniversary)					
	9.30am	OLQA						
	11.00am	St J						
	11.00am	HC	Lily Lewis RIP					
				Sat 19th	9.30am	HC	Michael Lane FM	
Mon 14th	9.30am	HC	Funeral Mass for Rosemary Lima RIP	Sat 19th Vigil Masses	5.00pm	St Sw	Kenneth MacLennan RIP	
	10.00am	St Ed	Skipton & Marjorie Haslam RIP (Anniversary)		6.00pm	St J		
					6.00pm	OLQA		
					6.30pm	St Ed		Intentions of the Layzell Family
Tues 15th Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Holy Day of Obligation	9.30am	HC	Francesco Papallo & Giuseppina Bava RIP	Sun 20th	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta	
	10.00am	St A	Izabela Weinke's Intentions		9.00am	St Ed		Intentions of the Layzell Family
	10.00am	OLQA			9.00am	St A		
	7.00pm	St J			9.30am	OLQA		
	7.30pm	St Ed	Dennis Cave RIP		11.00am	St J		Anne and Peter Hooper (Wedding Anniversary)
Wed 16th	9.30am	HC	Rev Paul Beaumont FM		11.00am	HC		Kathleen Reynolds FM
	10.00am	St Ed	Rachel & James Special Intention					

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

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