

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 B
Weekday Cycle: Year 2
Office Proper

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Today's feast marks a significant moment in the unfolding of the Christmas story. Jesus, born into a Jewish family, in a land occupied by a foreign force, presented in the temple and recognised by Simeon and Anna, is sought out by three mysterious men who have travelled from afar. They represent the whole of humanity and so the point is made that Jesus has come for all – not a few. Their gifts are symbolic and relate to aspects of his life and ministry. They are drawn to him, and then go home.

We stand at the beginning of another year, with all its opportunities and many challenges which cannot be predicted. There are things in our lives which are fixed and stable, and there are others which are more fluid. Reading a magazine which contained a review of 2017, I was struck by how much took place in the past twelve months, at home and abroad. We live in uncertain times, politically and in many other ways too. Having something firm and solid which we can depend upon makes such a difference – and this is our faith. Faith tells us that God is with us at every step, come what may. Perhaps we take it for granted, perhaps we don't always value it sufficiently, maybe we are a little too relaxed about the way we try to live it, but it does not disappear, it sustains us.

I've never been a fan of New Year's Resolutions because all too soon they can be broken and then you wonder why you bothered. That said, specific moments do provide an opportunity to review, to rethink and reset. Maybe the start of a new year is one of those. What is it that we wish to achieve in the coming year, for ourselves, for our family, for our church, in our place of work? They need to be realistic and concrete goals which stretch us but are attainable.

In 2014 I was about to deploy to Iraq for the first time. We had spent three weeks at Strensall north of York doing pre-deployment training as a Medical Unit. We were dressed in our desert combat uniforms and were ready to board the coaches taking us to Brize Norton for the flight. On parade, our Commanding Officer (a Psychiatrist as it happens) spoke to us about the coming months. I doubt whether there was a single person standing there who wasn't feeling a mixture of nerves and excitement about going into something we had not experienced before. The CO told us that we were ready to do a good job and he had every confidence in our ability. He then suggested that each of us should set ourselves one or two personal goals: perhaps getting fitter, reading a number of books, losing some weight – whatever. He said that then, when we returned in six months' time we would have performed our role for the benefit of all who needed treatment in the hospital but also we would have something to show for our time away, something which was for us personally.

When we live with so many demands upon us, which can be generated by work, family and other commitments (usually a combination of all of them) we can start to think it would be selfish to take time for ourselves. But creating space when we do something just for us is not selfish, it's sensible. Without nourishing and feeding our minds, our bodies, our spirit, we become drained and operate in 'survive' mode. The child born in Bethlehem, shown to the world represented by the kings, came so that we 'can have life and have it to the full'. What goals do you have for 2018?

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: Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

Psalm Response: All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

**Readings for next Sunday 14th January 2018
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Gospel: John 1:35-42
1st reading: 1 Samuel 3:3-10. 19
Psalm: 39
2nd reading: 1 Corinthians 6:13-15. 17-20

Journey in Faith - (Restarted 3rd Jan)

Journey in Faith is for anyone who wishes to enquire about the Catholic faith and for people intending to become a Catholic. If you know of anyone interested then please bring them along. The sessions run every Wednesday from 7.30pm to 9pm at St Edward the Confessor Church, Chandlers Ford. For further information please contact: Deacon Paul Owen (tel: 02380 254806) email: powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Fellowship Group

The next meeting will be on **Wednesday 10th January** at 7.30pm in St Swithun Wells Church. The meeting will start with a liturgy for the New Year. Everyone is welcome. Queries to Peter Baggott 02380 694060 or Deacon Bob Birtles.

Prayer Link - Extra copies of the Advent/Christmas Prayer Sheets have been placed in our churches where necessary. Following on from the "Prayers for Christmastide" (Christmas, New Year, Epiphany) are to be found on the back of the sheet - Marion. (02380 692416) marionbirtles@gmail.com

Growing in Faith Together - Will restart on 9th Jan.

Meet at Holy Cross Resource Centre (10.15-11.30am) on a Tuesday. Our new topic will be on the Holy Spirit. All are very welcome.

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. We then look forward to welcoming parents for an **Essential Preparation Session** on **Sunday 21st January 2018 (4.30-6pm)** at Holy Cross Resource Centre. It would be very helpful if you could arrive a little early - refreshments are available from 4.15pm.

Bishop Philip's FREE weekly e-Newsletter

Keep in touch with the latest news and forthcoming events around the diocese. Visit www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/enews to sign up.

Holy Hour at St Edward's

Recommencing Thursday 18th January, 7-8pm.

As it is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Christians from the other churches in Chandlers Ford have been invited. Please support this opportunity for an hour's prayer before the Blessed Sacrament and in particular on the 18th January.

**Service for Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
St Edward's 4pm Sunday 21st January**

St Edward's is hosting this year the Service closing the Week of Prayer Unity for Christian Unity at 4pm on Sunday 21st January. We need good support from the Parish so please try and make the effort to come.

Street Pastors - Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are urgently needed for Eastleigh, Chandlers Ford and Fair Oak Street Pastors. Could you spare five hours a month on a Friday night? Night-time patrols have meant we can be out there building community in new ways, loving our town and offering reassurance, safety and support through listening, caring and helping.

Applications appreciated ASAP - Training starts on **23rd February 2018.**

Training dates (Fri 7-9.30pm; Sat & Sun 9.30-4.30pm):
Friday Eve 23rd, Saturday 24th, Sunday 25th Feb.
Friday Eve 9th, Saturday 10th, Sunday 11th March.
Friday Eve 23th, Saturday 24th, Sunday 25th March.

Applications needed by Friday, 1st February

please. Call: 023 80643457, Email: erichyom@hotmail.com

Christian Unity Week

Les Isaacs, the national founder of Street Pastors will be at Eastleigh Baptist Church, Wells Place, on the **14th January 2018 at 6.30pm**, all are welcome. It should be an inspiring evening, and we have the opportunity to worship with our fellow Christians.

"A Dramatic Reading of Mark" by Gerald Osborne and Colin Heber-Percy (Fri 26th Jan 2018, 7pm)

This is a dramatised recital of St Mark's Gospel at Salisbury Cathedral, North Transept; although the event is 'free', it is necessary to book a ticket with the Cathedral, see www.salisburycathedral.org.uk

**Healing Day with Little Way Healing Ministries
Saturday 3rd February 2018, 10am-4.30pm**

Highfield House Hotel, Highfield Lane, SO17 1AQ. Fr Laurence Brassill OSA and Mrs Pauline Edwards and team offer a day of teaching and healing. Please invite relatives, friends and neighbours, no need to be a churchgoer or even a believer. Come all day or just pop in. Jesus said: 'Lay your hands on the sick and they will be healed'...come and see. Tea & coffee will be provided, booking not required.

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 us know. Similarly, if you have not seen a parishioner at Mass for a while then please let the Parish Office know.

Holy Cross Shop

There will be a sale of Christmas and other stock on Sunday **11th & 18th January** after Mass. **Pat & Angela**

Holy Cross - Thank you

To all those who attended the 14th December Coffee Stop Christmas Special - we raised £25 which was donated to Eastleigh Food Bank.

St Andrew's - Knit For Peace

Wednesday 10th January, from 2-4pm.

Donations of mens clothes and shoes for 2 Saints welcome. Any queries please contact Anne Harcourt 02380 734710.

St Swithun Wells - Christmas Cards & World Gifts

Thank you to all those who gave money to CAFOD World Gifts instead of sending Christmas cards - you generously raised **£278.74**.

The money has been used to buy a cow, a goat, chirpy chickens, a community toilet, water for a family & drought resistant crops.

St Edward's - Knit & Natter

Monday 8th January, from 2-4pm.

Refreshments available and everyone most welcome! Any queries please contact Maureen Stephenson on 02380 252104.

St Edward's - CAFOD World Gifts

Thank you to all those who contributed to CAFOD World Gifts - you generously raised **£120**, which enabled us to buy 2 greenhouses and drought resistant crops.

St Edward's Church Shop

Open before and after all weekend Masses.

Faith In Genesis

Saturday 20th January 2018, 2pm in St Edward's Cloisters.

If you've ever struggled to reconcile the account of creation given in the Book of Genesis with what modern science says, you're not alone! Come and hear about new scientific discoveries that cast doubt on evolution and support the Genesis account.

There will be an opportunity for questions and discussion, followed by tea/coffee and biscuits. For more information please contact Charles Forrest (tel: 02380 694482; email chasnbex@hotmail.co.uk).

Parish Lunch

Tuesday 30th January, 12.30pm at the Hunters Inn, Romsey. Menus will be on the notice boards. Please let Rosemary (tel: 01794 522411) know your choice of meal by **Monday 22nd January** as we have to pre-order. Thank you.

Tiny Footprints Babies and Toddlers Group

Fun for all! **Tuesdays 10 - 12 midday term time only** at St Edward the Confessor Church, in the Cloister. £2 per family.

Youth Groups running at Holy Cross Resource Centre. 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:** Jan 17th, Feb 21st, Mar 21st, Apr 18th, May 16th, Jun 13th.

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

Contact Cath 07846438224 for more information.

Next Meeting: To be Confirmed.

SWAG performed their version of the Nativity, in JOIN THE ANGELS, on December 22nd and raised **£300** for Simon Says which is a great achievement. Well done SWAG and thank you to all involved! Thank you to the safe guarders who made it possible. Thank you to the parents of the cast and crew and a big thank you to the Young People who gave their time and commitment.

Please contact me on 07437 440299 or joannaaz@cwqsy.net, or find the Facebook page "S.W.A.G." if you would like to be part of the **next show at the end of the May Half Term Week**. Rehearsals will begin weekend of April 14th. **Joanna**.

Oasis - Parish Women's Group Meeting

Tuesday 23rd January 2018

Meet as usual at 7:30pm, St Edward's, finish by 9pm. If possible, please bring a small donation (suggested £2) towards cost of materials.

Future dates are: 13 Feb, 13 Mar, 24 Apr, 15 May, 12 Jun, 10 Jul.

Pilgrimage to Rome, San Giovanni and Assisi

In honour of the 50th Anniversary of the death of Saint Padre Pio.

30th October – 6th November 2018

Led by Father Des Connolly SMM.

Price: £875pp (inc estimation of flight cost; half board).

If you would like further information about this wonderful opportunity for prayer please contact:

Gill: 01732 886666 or Father Des: 02380 292337

(fatherdes@icloud.com).

Medjugorje Irish Centre Pilgrimages 2018

7 nights B&B and Airport Shuttle service from €279 per person. Book any flight, any time and we provide guaranteed airport shuttle service. Call us for further info and book the dates that suit you - tel: 0044 20 3239 8662 or email reservations@med-irishcentre.com.

See website for more info: www.med-irishcentre.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 80328200;

Charlton House 023 8067 7575;

St Mary's Independent School 023 8067 1267.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE WITH THANKS

Last week's collections: £TBC

SO/SD for the month of Dec: £TBC

Mass Times for our Six Church Communities

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION	DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 6th Jan Vigil Masses	5.00pm	St Sw	Mary Johnson RIP Anniversary	Thurs 11th	9.30am	HC	Michael Lane FM
	6.00pm	St J	Larry's Well-being		<u>10.00am</u>	<u>OLQA</u>	<u>NO MASS</u>
	6.00pm	OLQA			6.00pm	St J	
	6.30pm	St Ed	Albert James Boaden FM				
Sun 7th (The Epiphany of the Lord)	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta	Fri 12th	10.00am	St Ed	Keith Small (Sick)
	9.00am	St Ed	Mrs Edward Christian FM		10.00am	St J (AH)	
	9.00am	St A	Harry Roydon RIP Anniversary		<u>1.00pm</u>	<u>St Sw</u>	<u>Funeral Mass for Anna Maria Smith RIP</u>
	9.30am	OLQA					
	11.00am	St J	Lofel Borres (Birthday)				
	11.00am	HC	Peter Shehan and Deceased Members of the Shehan Family RIP				
Mon 8th (The Baptism of the Lord)	10.00am	St Ed	Margaret Egan RIP Anniversary	Sat 13th	9.30am	HC	Patrick Lake RIP
				Sat 13th Vigil Masses	5.00pm	St Sw	Mary Johnson RIP Anniversary
6.00pm	St J	William & Georgette Longworth (Anniversary)					
6.00pm	OLQA						
6.30pm	St Ed	Margaret Egan RIP Anniversary					
Tues 9th	9.30am	HC	Gualtero Family FM	Sun 14th (Second Sunday In Ordinary Time)	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta
	10.00am	St A			9.00am	St Ed	Deceased Members of the Atterbury & O'Grady Families RIP
	10.00am	OLQA			9.00am	St A	
			9.30am		OLQA		
			11.00am		St J		
					11.00am	HC	Deceased Members of the Sweeney Family RIP
Wed 10th	9.30am	HC	Mary Breen RIP				
	<u>11.30am</u>	<u>HC</u>	<u>Funeral Mass for Mary (Ena) Virginia Anna Hunt RIP</u>				
	10.00am	St Ed	Holy Souls RIP				

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesday HC Adoration 1st Tuesday of the month 10.00-1.00pm
Tuesday... St A Adoration 9.15-10am with Morning Prayer
Thursday St Ed 7-8pm—will resume on 18th Jan
Thursday St J from Noon-6pm, Rosary and Benediction at 5.30pm (before Mass at 6pm) Thursday

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 Church
 12 noon St Edward the Confessor
 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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