

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
Psalter Week: 2

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

At the start of his public ministry, Jesus chose to be baptised in the River Jordan by John. Following last weekend's Feast of the Epiphany, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord fell on Monday – so many won't have had the chance to celebrate it this year. Nevertheless, it is important to reflect on the significance attached to this event for Jesus himself and then for us and our own baptism. The Gospel writers make the point that, at his baptism, there was an audible and visible expression of the unity of Father, Son and Holy Spirit: as Jesus emerged from the Jordan a voice was heard from heaven, and the Spirit's presence was manifest in the form of a dove.

Most of us were baptised at an early age, perhaps even within a few weeks of being born. Few of us have any recollection of being baptised but the fact that our parents chose to do this for us was an expression of their faith and commitment. Of course, over the years we witness others being baptised and this gives us food for thought about the meaning of the Sacrament which set us off on the Journey of Faith which we still travel. That most simple of signs – pouring water on a person's head – marks the beginning of a lifelong relationship with God which can grow and deepen and then takes us from this life into the next. For Jesus, standing at the edge of the River Jordan, it marked the start of his public ministry. In baptism it all begins.

CONFIRMATION MASS

Building on their baptism, we have a group of forty-six young people from across the parish who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation after Easter. Bishop Philip will celebrate the Mass with Confirmation on Sunday 22nd April, 3pm at St John's Cathedral in Portsmouth. One advantage of the Cathedral is that it offers much more space than any of our parish churches and opens up the possibility for parishioners who would like to join us to do so. In other words, you do not have to be related to the young person being confirmed – all are welcome! By coming to the Cathedral for this Mass you will be giving a visible sign of your support for those being confirmed, younger members of our parish community. So, please put the date in your diary and come. Wouldn't it be marvellous to have a full Cathedral on that Sunday afternoon in April?

PASTORAL AREAS - A CHANGE

Pastoral Areas were established following publication of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan **Go Out and Bear Fruit**. The intention behind them is to enable parishes to work more closely with their neighbours, thus making better use of the resources available (including clergy) and to ensure that smaller parish communities are not left without the support they need. Over the years, some Pastoral Areas became one parish with the amalgamation of the parishes within them – St Swithun Wells is an example and so too is St Peter & the Winchester Martyrs. The decision has now been taken to bring these two extensive parishes, together with Alton, into one larger Pastoral Area, with Father Mark Hogan taking the lead as Coordinating Pastor. There are already a number of areas, such as the hospital, where our parishes liaise and coordinate their efforts and this amalgamation should increase the opportunities for us to work together.

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: All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!

Psalm Response: Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.

**Readings for next Sunday 21st January 2018
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

1st reading: Jonah 3:1-5. 10

Psalm: 24

2nd reading: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Journey in Faith

Journey in Faith is for anyone enquiring 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 **17th January** at 7.30pm in St Swithun Wells Church. There will be a talk by Deacon Bob Birtles on the Holy Spirit and St. Paul. Everyone is welcome. Queries to Peter Baggott on 02380 694060 or Deacon Bob Birtles.

Prayer Link - Thank you for your continued support. Look out for a new Prayer Sheet next weekend. **Marion** (02380 692416) marionbirtles@gmail.com

Growing in Faith Together

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.

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.

Second Collection

Please note there will be a second collection next weekend for our **Cathedral Church in Portsmouth.**

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.

Parish Day of Reflection Before Holy Week

St Joseph's Centre, Ashurst, Saturday 17th March

We will focus on the meaning and importance of the Sacred Triduum through the liturgy of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and The Easter Vigil. Everyone is welcome, especially those who exercise a ministry role within the parish. More details to follow.

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

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity - Chandlers Ford

Please consider spending some time in prayer for local and national Christian unity and for the work of our Churches in this community. St Boniface will be open throughout the week as a drop-in venue, with prayer resources provided. Other venues are:

Mon 15th, 7.45pm at 1 Winsor Court, The Hillway (G/F Flat opp Methodist Church);

Tues 16th, 6-9pm drop in at the URC;

Wed 17th, 8pm at Velmore chapel;

Thurs 18th, 7-8pm at St Edwards Church;

Fri 19th, 7pm with Street Pastors at the Methodist Church. The Ecumenical Service is on **Sunday 21st January** at St Edward's Church starting at 4.00pm.

St Andrew's - Reminder about Adoration on Tues

Adoration with Morning prayers, starts at 9.15am at St. Andrew's on a Tuesday followed by Mass at 10am. After Mass coffee/tea and biscuits are served.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE WITH THANKS

Last week's collections: £TBC; SO/SD for the month of Dec: £13,146.09

ADORE: Alton Day of Renewal

Saturday 27th January, 11am-4pm

Alton School, Anstey Lane, Alton, GU34 2NG.

You are warmly welcome to a mini-retreat day (or morning/afternoon) of spiritual refreshment and renewal, focussing on Renewal and Mission.

There will be a talk at 2.30pm by Charles Whitehead KSG on "The Good News of Jesus Christ". No need to register in advance, and no charge (although a collection will be taken to cover costs). For more information and directions please visit

www.altonrenewal.com or telephone Deacon John Foley on 07769 251747.

Next month's meeting is on 24th February "The Spirit has Anointed me" - speaker Fr Anthony Meredith.

St Edward's Prayer Group Fryern

The next Prayer Group is on **Monday 15th January, 2-3 pm** at the home of Sheila and Pauline O'Neill, 19 Carthage Close, Chandlers Ford. All Welcome.

St Edward's Presbytery

Work will start on refurbishment of the Presbytery on **Monday 15th January**. Parishioners are reminded that the Presbytery car park will be permanently out of use from this date.

St Edward's - "Tower of Treats" Raffle

In aid of CAFOD's Connect2 Peru. Raffle tickets, £1 each, will be on sale after both Masses at St Edward's next weekend (**Jan 20th/21st**) for this stupendous prize. Please support our efforts to help people less fortunate than ourselves.

Our Lady Queen of Apostles - Children's Liturgy

Our next session will be on **Sunday 21st January** during the 9.30am Mass. All are welcome.

Joanna Somerville (joannasomerville1@hotmail.com).

Holy Cross Shop

There will be a sale of Christmas and other stock on **Sunday 14th & 21st January** after Mass. **Pat & Angela**

60 Club

Our first meeting of the New Year is **Monday 15th Jan, 2pm** at Holy Cross Resource Centre.

Looking forward to seeing you there. **Maureen**

Correction to last week's Newsletter

The 14th December Coffee Stop Christmas Special at Holy Cross actually raised **£125**, and not £25 as was stated in the previous week's Newsletter. Thank you again to all who contributed!

Christmas Gifts For Elderfield 2017 - Thank You

Thank you so much for your generous contributions to Elderfield for Christmas 2017. A total of **£310** was raised which enabled us to buy a good range of gifts.

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.

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, July 8th.

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

Contact Cath 07846438224 for more information.

Next Meetings: Jan 21st, Feb 25th, March 18th, April 29th, May 20th, June 17th, July 8th.

SWAG

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 16th January 2018 (definitely the 16th!)

Come along for our usual mix of friendship, faith and reflection. Meet as usual at 7:30pm, St Edward's Cloister, finish by 9pm. Future dates are: 13 Feb, 13 Mar, 24 Apr, 15 May, 12 Jun, 10 Jul.

All ladies warmly welcome.

Faith In Genesis

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

Come and hear about new scientific discoveries that cast doubt on evolution and support the Genesis account. 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 on notice boards. Please let Rosemary (tel: 01794 522411) know your choice of meal by **Mon 22nd January** as we have to pre-order.

Christmas Toy and Gifts Collection Inspired by Fr George Lyons - Thank You

Your boundless generosity has warmed the lives and brought endless joy to so many children and their families this Christmas. May God bless you all abundantly. **Heather New**

Pilgrimage to Rome, San Giovanni and Assisi

30th October - 6th November 2018

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

Appeal for Room Share for Pilgrimage to Rome

I am interested in the Rome trip but there are only double rooms left - is any lady willing to share a twin room? Please contact Margaret on 02381 943798.

Mass Times for our Six Church Communities

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION	DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 13th Jan Vigil Masses	5.00pm	St Sw	Mary Johnson RIP Anniversary	Thurs 18th	9.30am	HC	Marjorie Harris (Special Intention)
	6.00pm	St J	William & Georgette Longworth (Anniversary)		<u>10.00am</u>	<u>OLQA</u>	<u>NO MASS</u>
	6.00pm	OLQA			6.00pm	St J	
	6.30pm	St Ed	Margaret Egan RIP Anniversary				
Sun 14th (Second Sunday in Ordinary Time)	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta	Fri 19th	10.00am	St Ed	Marjorie Harris (Special Intention)
	9.00am	St Ed	Deceased Members of the Atterbury & O'Grady Families RIP		10.00am	St J (AH)	
	9.00am	St A					
	9.30am	OLQA					
	11.00am	St J					
11.00am	HC	Deceased Members of the Sweeney Family RIP					
Mon 15th	10.00am	St Ed	Lilian de Melo RIP Anniversary	Sat 20th	9.30am	HC	Hazel Freda Jurd FM
				Sat 20th Vigil Masses	5.00pm	St Sw	Friends Of Suffering Souls RIP
6.00pm	St J	Muriel Matthias Intentions					
6.00pm	OLQA						
6.30pm	St Ed	Marjorie Harris (Special Intention)					
Tues 16th	<u>9.30am</u>	<u>HC</u>	<u>NO MASS</u>	Sun 21st (Third Sunday in Ordinary time)	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta
	10.00am	St A			9.00am	St Ed	Marjorie Harris (Special Intention)
	10.00am	OLQA			9.00am	St A	George & Sheila Marshall RIP
					9.30am	OLQA	
					11.00am	St J	
			11.00am	HC	Ronald Walter Russ FM		
Wed 17th	9.30am	HC	Peggy Barry RIP				
	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
No confession at 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

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

POLISH PRIEST : Fr Zbigniew Budyn

Tel: 023 8178 6316

Parish Office: Sarah Goodfellow

Tel: 023 80 27 3882
 stswparish@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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 80254806
 powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Deacon Paul Wilson Tel: 02380 616618
 pwilson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Holy Cross Resource Centre & Finance
Admin: Linda Roberts Tel: 023 80 27 3882
 lroberts@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk