

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: 3

### THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Today is the commemoration of Saint Agnes, a virgin and martyr in Rome sometime about the beginning of the fourth century AD. She is one of the saints named in the Roman Canon of the Mass and had a significant cult in medieval Europe. She has two churches in the City of Rome, one marking the site of her martyrdom (Sant' Agnese in Piazza Navona) and the other her burial place (Sant' Agnese Fuori Le Mura).

Her legend is as follows. According to tradition, Saint Agnes was a member of a Roman noble family and was born towards the end of the third century AD. Her family was Catholic. Agnes, so the legend goes, was a young girl of great beauty as well as being a child of wealthy parents. Her attractiveness and high social status meant that many men wished to marry her. This was a time when girls were regularly married at twelve or thirteen.

The legend holds that her many suitors were offended by her refusal of their interest and also by her resolute devotion to remain a virgin for the sake of the Kingdom of Heaven. So they denounced her to the authorities as a Christian. The Church was then an illegal religion and suffered persecution.

The Roman Prefect (or mayor), one Sempronius, condemned Agnes to be dragged naked through the streets to a brothel. In one account, as she prayed, her hair grew and covered her body. Another legend says that all the men who attempted to abuse her in the brothel were immediately struck blind. Finally, she was condemned to death in the arena where the Piazza Navona now is. She was led out to be burned at the stake, but the bundles of wood would not catch fire, or the flames would not touch her body. At this point the officer in charge of the proceedings drew his sword and beheaded her. It was said that her blood poured to the stadium floor where other Christians soaked it up with cloths. Agnes was immediately venerated as a martyr and the day of her death kept as a commemoration of her.

Violence against women and the abuse of children and young people is something that in many parts of the world (not just in Hollywood) is routine. Forced marriage, rape, honour killing, enslavement, genital mutilation and many other injustices and abuses are still rampant and culturally embedded – some even in the UK and Europe.

Saint Agnes, child-martyr, is a good patron Saint for women and children suffering abuse. She will remind Christians that part of our witness to God's justice is to denounce and work against such wickedness. Her name means 'Lamb' – and in the Passion of the innocent Lamb of God she finds her fulfilment, her meaning and her glory.

Canon Alan

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:** O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place.

**Psalm Response:** Lord, make me know your ways.

**Readings for next Sunday 28th January 2018  
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

1st reading: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Psalm: 94

2nd reading: 1 Corinthians 7:32-35

**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](mailto:powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Fellowship Group**

The next meeting will be on **24th January** at 7.30pm in St Swithun Wells Church. The topic will be on 'Reflections on the Greatest Commandments'.

Refreshments will be served. Everyone is welcome.

Queries to Peter Baggott on 02380 694060 or Deacon Bob Birtles.

**Prayer Link** - A new Prayer Sheet (Winter 2018) is available today. Please contact me if you have any requests, queries or comments. **Marion** (02380 692416) [marionbirtles@gmail.com](mailto:marionbirtles@gmail.com)

**Growing in Faith Together**

Meet at Holy Cross Resource Centre (10.15-11.30am) on a Tuesday. Our topic is 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 is a second collection this weekend for our **Cathedral Church in Portsmouth**.

**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 **23<sup>rd</sup> February 2018**.

Training dates (Fri 7-9.30pm; Sat & Sun 9.30-4.30pm):

Friday Eve 23<sup>rd</sup>, Saturday 24<sup>th</sup>, Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> Feb.

Friday Eve 9<sup>th</sup>, Saturday 10<sup>th</sup>, Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March.

Friday Eve 23<sup>th</sup>, Saturday 24<sup>th</sup>, Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March.

**Applications needed by Fri 1st February please.**

T: 023 80643457; E: [erichyom@hotmail.com](mailto:erichyom@hotmail.com)

**A message from CAFOD**

Thank you to all parishioners for your generous support to CAFOD by donating **£3,150.72!** Your donation can help a child like Mohammed whose home was destroyed and both parents killed by an explosion during the 2014 conflict in Gaza. Mohammed was then taken in by his uncle, but his house had no clean water supply. CAFOD's expert partner in Gaza - Islamic Relief Palestine - installed a special reverse osmosis water filter to purify dangerous water so it is safe to drink. Since 2014 we have provided 220 families and 65 nursery schools with these clean water filters. We also ensured that children in Mohammed's neighbourhood have soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste and they understand how to stay healthy. Thank you for bringing the light of hope to our brothers and sisters across the world.

**Friday Masses During Lent (Holy Cross & St Edward's)**

**Holy Cross:** Every Friday during Lent there will be an additional Mass at 9.30am.

**St Edward's:** Mass will be at 7.00pm with the Stations of the Cross before Mass and supper after Mass. **Note this 7pm Mass REPLACES the Friday 10am Mass.**

WE ACKNOWLEDGE WITH THANKS

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

### **St Andrew's - No Mass on Tuesday 23rd January**

Please note there will be no Mass or Adoration with Morning Prayers on Tuesday 23rd January.

### **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](http://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 Presbytery Car Park**

Work has now started on the refurbishment of the Presbytery. Parishioners are reminded that the Presbytery car park is now permanently out of use.

### **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 this weekend (**Jan 20th/21st**) for this stupendous prize. Please support our efforts to help people less fortunate than ourselves.

### **Holy Cross Shop**

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

### **Coffee Stop - Holy Cross Resource Centre**

Do you come to Eastleigh on a Thursday morning? If so why not pop in to the Resource Centre for coffee/tea/hot chocolate and biscuits. Pleasant surroundings and good company. No strangers here, just friends you haven't met yet. Why not give us a try? We look forward to meeting you, open 10am - 12 noon.

### **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.

### **Poitiers Care & Two Saints**

Would like to thank all those who donated Christmas gifts, food or money over the Christmas period. Also many thanks to those who continue to donate on a regular basis throughout the year. May God bless you all for your generosity.

#### **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:** 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 - St Swithun Wells Acting Group**

Please contact me on 07437 440299 or [joannaaz@cwqsy.net](mailto: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**.

### **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.

### **Good Companions Lunch**

Our next lunch for those who live alone or are lonely will be at 12.30pm on **Tuesday 6th February** at Keats Restaurant in Ampfield. Please notify Pauline Wilson on 023 80266617 if you would like to join us. You will be assured of a warm welcome, excellent food and good company. See you there!

### **CAFOD - Appeal for Volunteers**

What is your New Year Resolution?

Why not help to make a difference in the fight against poverty and injustice by volunteering for CAFOD, The Catholic Agency for Overseas Development.

To find out more about our work please come to one of our Lent Fast Day briefings:

27<sup>th</sup> Jan, 10am - 12noon at Our Lady of Sorrows, Fordingbridge,

30<sup>th</sup> Jan, 7:15-9:15pm at Sacred Heart Church Fareham,

3<sup>rd</sup> Feb, 10:30am-1pm at St Bede's Church Basingstoke,

For more info and to book your place please call Jo Lewry on 01252 329385 or email

[portsmouth@cafod.org.uk](mailto:portsmouth@cafod.org.uk)

### **Pilgrimage to Rome, San Giovanni and Assisi** **30th October - 6th November 2018**

In honour of the 50<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:fatherdes@icloud.com).

# Mass Times for our Six Church Communities

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION	DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
<b>Sat 20th Jan Vigil Masses</b>	5.00pm	St Sw	Friends of Suffering Souls RIP	<b>Thurs 25th</b>	9.30am	HC	Amarant Ferreria RIP
	6.00pm	St J	Muriel Matthias Intentions		10.00am	OLQA	Marjorie Harris (Special Intention)
	6.00pm	OLQA			6.00pm	St J	
	6.30pm	St Ed	Marjorie Harris (Special Intention)				
<b>Sun 21st (Third Sunday in Ordinary Time)</b>	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta	<b>Fri 26th</b>	10.00am	St Ed	Marjorie Harris (Special Intention)
	9.00am	St Ed	Marjorie Harris (Special Intention)		10.00am	St J (AH)	
	9.00am	St A	George & Sheila Marshall RIP				
	9.30am	OLQA					
	11.00am	St J	Michael Jeffery RIP				
	11.00am	HC	Ronald Walter Russ FM				
<b>Mon 22nd</b>	10.00am	St Ed	Marjorie Harris (Special Intention)	<b>Sat 27th</b>	9.30am	HC	Maria Smyth FM
				<b>Sat 27th Vigil Masses</b>	5.00pm	St Sw	Andrew Bates RIP
6.00pm	St J	For the Donors of the Sacred Vessels for St Joseph					
6.00pm	OLQA						
6.30pm	St Ed	Jeanette Halfpenny RIP					
<b>Tues 23rd</b>	9.30am	HC	Marjorie Harris (Special Intention)	<b>Sun 28th (Fourth Sunday in Ordinary time)</b>	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta
	<u>10.00am</u>	<u>St A</u>	<b><u>NO MASS or Adoration with Morning Prayer</u></b>		9.00am	St Ed	Deceased Members of the Griffin and O'Connell families RIP
	10.00am	OLQA			9.00am	St A	
					9.30am	OLQA	
					11.00am	St J	
			11.00am	HC	Sylvester & Paddy McMahon FM		
<b>Wed 24th</b>	9.30am	HC	Regina Alyward RIP				
	10.00am	St Ed	Marjorie Harris (Special Intention)				

### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

**Tuesday** HC Adoration 1st Tuesday of the month 10.00 1.00pm  
**Tuesday... St A** **No Adoration 9.15-10am with Morning Prayer**  
**Thursday** St Ed 7-8pm  
**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

#### Mgr John Nelson (Parish Priest)

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#### Fr Wojciech Paszko (Assistant Priest)

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 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

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