

Our Mission: LOVE GOD - LOVE OTHERS - MAKE DISCIPLES



[www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk](http://www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk)  
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Registered Charity No. 246871

Sunday Cycle: Year B  
Weekday Cycle: Year 2  
Psalter Week: 4

## FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### IN PRAISE OF THE PSALMS

We are all familiar with lines from the psalms: 'The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want' ... 'O Lord, you search me and you know me' ... 'Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord' ... 'Be still and know that I am God'. The psalms speak to us of the wide range of human emotions and the human condition. They cover the great events which punctuated the history of Israel and they embrace subjects that are timeless and universal. We hear of the love God shows to us and our response to God: prayers of praise and thanks, repentance, lament and supplication; joy in times of success and victory; messianic psalms which foreshadow the earthly ministry of Jesus; and wisdom psalms on the conduct of life and life's contradictions.

For half a century now since Vatican II we have seen and heard the treasures of the Bible expanded within the Liturgy of the Word at Mass. We are familiar with readings from the Old and the New Testaments and with the solemn proclamation of the Gospel. We also join in the responsorial psalm which, by its design, presents a very different challenge to a reading.

It is a common practice with two readers at Mass for the first reader to be allocated the OT reading and the psalm. These two are very different: the reading - taken from the law or the prophets, from Israel's history or the wisdom writings - contrasts with the psalm, a hymn written as Hebrew poetry, which has become for us a prayer. The word 'psalm' refers to instrumental music, the action of a plucked musical instrument to accompany singing, such as the harp and lyre mentioned in the psalms themselves. In Hebrew the Book of Psalms, the longest book in the Bible, is known as *Tehillim*, a title which we might translate as 'Songs of Praise'. The precepts of Hebrew poetry are quite different to English poetry e.g. the emphasis is more on meaning than on sound; there are particular types of repetition called parallelism; and rhyme is rare. The psalm calls for a particular understanding and approach on the part of the reader or cantor.

At Mass we hear only selected verses from the psalms. While the psalms vary in length greatly (the shortest has 2 verses, the longest 176) the compilers of the Lectionary have chosen verses which support and in some cases even sum up the other readings. This means that while we know some psalm verses quite well, there are many others which never appear at Mass.

The centrality of the Mass in our worship is framed by the Prayer of the Church, also called The Divine Office or The Liturgy of the Hours. The two supporting 'bookends' of each day are Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer and here we have an opportunity to pray whole psalms arranged in a 4-week cycle. Very often these psalms are said or sung antiphonally – two 'sides' alternating – and this reminds us how important it is for us not only to speak but to listen and to allow the prayers to flow into and permeate our being. Over time the psalms become so embedded that they become like old, familiar friends. We even begin to memorise some of the lines or verses!

Let us give some thought to how we can accomplish a greater love and appreciation of the psalms – in our weekday and Sunday Masses, in Morning and Evening Prayer and in reaching out for our Bible or prayer book to rediscover this great treasure-store of our faith and tradition.

Deacon John

Parish Office: Holy Cross Church, 53 Leigh Road, Eastleigh, SO50 9DF

Tel: 023 8027 3882. Email: [stswparish@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto: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:** Save us, O Lord our God! And gather us from the nations, to give thanks to your holy name, and make it our glory to praise you.

**Psalm Response:** O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.

**Readings for next Sunday 4th February 2018  
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

1st reading: Job 7: 1-4. 6-7

Psalm: 146

2nd reading: 1 Corinthians 9: 16-19. 22-23

**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 **31st January** at 7.30pm in St Swithun Wells Church. The topic will be on 'Exploring Church and Community' - a joint meeting with King's Family Church. 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) was made available last week in all our churches. 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.

**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.**

**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.

**Churches Together Ecumenical Lent Course – time to sign up!**

The Churches Together in Chandlers Ford Lent Course for 2018 is "On the Third Day". The resurrection is the Big Story that turned a little Jewish protest movement into a world-transforming religion. How can we recapture the explosive power of the resurrection and live as an Easter people? The course runs for 5 weeks from **19th February**. There are only 5 groups this year, so places are limited. The sign-up sheets will be in church on **Sunday 28th Jan and Sunday 4th Feb.**

**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)

**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.

**Holy Cross - Soup Kitchen**

There will be a soup kitchen every Saturday during Lent, starting on the **17th February**, until the 24th March (excluding Holy Saturday).

A group of young people are supporting this, but we need more!

As well as more young people we also require adult volunteers in order to support them.

Please contact Elizabeth Nash (T: 01962 712022; E: [nashp@aol.com](mailto:nashp@aol.com)) or Cath Szymanski (T: 07846 438224; E: [Cathszymanski@gmail.com](mailto:Cathszymanski@gmail.com)) if you would like to be involved.

### **Mass Time Change For Holy Cross**

Please note that on **Thurs 1st & Thurs 8th Feb**, Mass starts **at 9.00am** and not 9.30am.

### **Holy Cross Car Parking - Gate Update**

Please be advised work on the gate to the Holy Cross car park is being carried out the week commencing **5th February** and we have been told the work will take about a week to complete. Please make alternative parking arrangements if possible as we must keep 22 spaces available for the local paying businesses. Access to the car park other than for Mass times and Parish business is being reviewed.

### **Holy Cross Resource Centre Update**

Repairs to the floors in the toilet area are being undertaken on **Monday 12th & Tuesday 13th February**. The hall can be used but not the toilets. Thank you.

### **Holy Cross - Basics Bank Food Donations**

A box has been placed in the welcome area at Holy Cross, for donations of tins, jars and dried goods (e.g. tea, coffee, pasta, rice). Please consider giving; as an extra tin or packet on your shopping list can make a huge difference to a poor family.

### **60 Club**

The next meeting of the 60 Club in the Holy Cross Resource Centre is on **Monday 29th January** at 2pm and also on Monday 12th February, at the same time. For more information please phone 02380 692682.

### **St Edward's - Thank You**

Thanks to all who supported the "Tower of Treats" raffle at St Edward's. **£95** was raised for our Connect2 project in Peru.

### **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!

### **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.

### **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: £1,262.02;  
SO/SD for the month of Dec: £13,146.09

**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:** 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**.

### **CAFOD - Family Fast Day**

CAFOD's Family Fast day is an opportunity to support our brothers and sisters who don't have enough to eat. On **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February** please can you give up a meal or eat a simple meal and then put the money you would have saved in the CAFOD family fast day envelope. This Lent your donation will make the double the difference! For every pound you donate the UK Government will also donate a pound up to a total of £5 million meaning twice the number of lives can be transformed, so please give generously and help us raise £5 million.

### **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.

### **An International Evening, St Mary's Hall, Gosport Saturday 10th February, 7pm**

This event is being run to raise money for the Friars to pay for the new heating system currently being installed in St Mary's Church. Please come along and help with this worthy cause. You could bring a plate of food, show your talents by performing, or donate a prize for the raffle. Tickets are £5.00 per head; children under 12 years old are free. Drinks are provided (one glass of wine, soft drinks, tea & coffee). For more information please contact Eleanor on 07969 158599.

### **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 27th</b> <b>Jan</b> <b>Vigil</b> <b>Masses</b>	5.00pm	St Sw	Andrew Bates RIP	<b>Thurs</b> <b>1st Feb</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>HC</b>	<b>Fred and Kitty Williams &amp; Family RIP</b>	
	6.00pm	St J	For the Donors of the Sacred Vessels for St Joseph		<b>10.00am</b>	<b>OLQA</b>	<b>No Mass</b>	
	6.00pm	OLQA			6.00pm	St J		
	6.30pm	St Ed	Jeanette Halfpenny RIP					
<b>Sun 28th</b> <b>(Fourth</b> <b>Sunday in</b> <b>Ordinary</b> <b>Time)</b>	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta	<b>Fri 2nd</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>St Ed</b>	<b>Funeral Mass - Julia Cranvey-Hayward RIP</b>	
	9.00am	St Ed	Deceased Members of the Griffin and O'Connell families RIP		10.00am	St J (AH)	Keith Small (RIP)	
	9.00am	St A			<b>OLQA</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>Candlemas (Blessing of Candles &amp; Mass)</b>	
	9.30am	OLQA						
	11.00am	St J						
	11.00am	HC	Sylvester & Paddy McMahon FM					
<b>Mon 29th</b>	10.00am	St Ed	Edward Doran RIP	<b>Sat 3rd</b>	9.30am	HC	Isabella Murray & Family (Special Intention)	
					<b>Sat 3rd</b> <b>Vigil</b> <b>Masses</b>	5.00pm	St Sw	Friends of Suffering Souls RIP
						6.00pm	St J	Peter Clark RIP
	6.00pm	OLQA						
	6.30pm	St Ed	Mrs Edward Christian FM					
<b>Tues 30th</b>	9.30am	HC	Mary McMahon FM	<b>Sun</b> <b>4th</b> <b>(Fifth</b> <b>Sunday</b> <b>in</b> <b>Ordinary</b> <b>time)</b>	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta	
	10.00am	St A			9.00am	St Ed	Deceased Members of the Wyman & Uphill Families FM	
	10.00am	OLQA			9.00am	St A	Calvin Nel RIP Anniversary	
					9.30am	OLQA		
					11.00am	St J		
	11.00am	HC	Antonio Martone RIP	11.00am	HC			
<b>Wed 31st</b>	9.30am	HC	The Driscoll Family RIP					
	10.00am	St Ed	Grahame Nanson 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  
**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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