

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: 4

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

During the week the death was announced of Sir Roger Bannister – the first man to run one mile in under four minutes. In fact this record only stood for 46 days but his achievement was iconic and he was always remembered for this feat. As emerged from recorded interviews with Sir Roger, he went on to become an eminent neurologist and he always felt his greatest achievements were in that field – rather than athletics. He came across as self-effacing and quite humble. Of course those days in sport were rather different from today: most athletes were amateurs and had a ‘day job’.

Also in the news this week was the result of an enquiry by a Committee of MPs who came to a judgement about one of this country’s greatest cyclists: Sir Bradley Wiggins. He was the first British rider to win the Tour de France and he has won many Olympic medals for cycling. The conclusion of the Committee’s investigation was a little strange and at the same time quite revealing. It said that Sir Bradley and Team Sky (who he cycled with) had not broken any laws but had ‘crossed an ethical line.’ It was fascinating to listen to commentators wrestling with what an ‘ethical line’ might be. Sir Bradley gave an interview which demonstrated his hurt at being judged in this way. But why has it happened?

Sport is totally different to what it was in Sir Roger Bannister’s day. A number of sports are awash with cash (look at how some footballers are paid £300,000+ each week) and this leads to enormous pressure. For some years now, British cycling has had millions pumped into it using Lottery Funding. But if medals aren’t won the funding will be withdrawn and given to other sportsmen and women. Thus the pressure is on to produce results - gain medals and so guarantee further funding. To win, teams of doctors, physios and psychologists work to squeeze every ounce from the finely tuned bodies of individuals where hundredths of a second can separate the gold medal winner from the dreaded fourth place. No wonder they sail close to the wind when it comes to what’s legal and what’s not.

But let’s return to the concept of an ‘ethical line’. What this introduces is the idea that simply because an action is legal does not make it right. You can stay within the boundaries of the law but still do things which you should realise are not right. That requires a formed conscience, and a functioning moral compass to help you work out which is the correct path to take. As people shaped by the Gospel message we ought to instinctively understand this – but do we? Really? Or can we be tempted to push our luck, see what we can get away with, convince ourselves that we are doing no harm to others and, if it doesn’t break the law, then it should be OK. An ethical line is not something visible and concrete, but we ought to know where it is and why we shouldn’t cross it.

For me it boils down to this: the fact that an action is not wrong does not make it right. A society that loses sight of this is diminished. Last weekend we heard listed the Ten Commandments. Jesus deepened them, gave them their true and proper meaning, and established high expectations for those who choose to follow him. Not for us the bare minimum, skating inside the lines. No: much more is expected.

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: Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

Psalm Response: O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not!

**Readings for next Sunday 18th March 2018
5th Sunday of Lent**

Gospel: John 12:20-33
1st reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34
Psalm: 50
2nd reading: Hebrews 5:7-9

Planned Giving Weekly Envelope Boxes

The new boxes of envelopes which begin on the 8th April will be available in the welcoming areas of the churches from next weekend 17/18th March until Easter. Please collect the box with your name on it. If anyone would like to contribute by envelope planned giving please see your gift-aid coordinator :

St Joseph and St Andrew - David Martin.
St Edward - Ian Fearon and Mike Greenslade.
Holy Cross and St Swithun Wells - Pat Baggott.
OLQA - Hank Dawson

Journey in Faith, St Edward's every Wednesday

Is for anyone enquiring about the Catholic faith and for people intending to become a Catholic. The sessions run from 7.30pm to 9pm. For further information please contact: Deacon Paul Owen (tel: 02380 254806) E: powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Prayer Link

The new Prayer Sheet (Lent 2018 - Stations of the Cross with a difference) is to be used during Lent and Holy Week. Please contact me if you have any requests, queries or comments. **Marion**
marionbirtles@gmail.com 02380 692416

CAFOD Lent Family Fast Day

Many thanks for your support of the CAFOD Lent family fast day. You can still contribute to the Lent appeal online at cafod.org.uk or by calling 0300 100 0089. Remember, all donations received for the appeal until the 12th May will be doubled by the UK Government.

Bishop's Waltham Churches Good Friday Walk of Witness, 30th March 2018

Please join members of Our Lady Queen of Apostles, the United Free Church and St. Peter's as we follow a cross, stopping at twelve places around the town for a short reading, hymn and prayers about Jesus' path to the resurrection. This allows participants to think and pray together about Jesus' suffering and death, and remind others of the importance of Good Friday. Hot cross buns, wrapped in napkins printed with the Good Friday Story, are given out as we walk. The Walk starts at St Peter's at **10am** and finishes at the United Free Church, Basingwell Street, at about 11am (followed by coffee and hot cross buns for the walkers!). For more info please email: angussomerville@hotmail.com

Second Collection - Clergy Assistance Fund

Please note there is a second collection this weekend for the Clergy Assistance Fund.

Prepare For Easter at our Parish Day of Reflection

There is still time to book a place on our Parish Day of Reflection on **Saturday 17th March** with Mass and talks by Father John, Canon Alan and Deacon John to help our understanding of the great celebration of Easter. There is no charge but please bring a packed lunch; all drinks are provided. Arrival at St Joseph's Centre, Ashurst from 10am for a 10.30am start; prompt finish at 3.15pm. Everyone welcome.

World Day of Prayer Service (New date as previously cancelled)

Will now take place at St Joseph's in Romsey on **Friday 16th March** at 1.30pm. All are welcome.

Growing in Faith Together

Tues, 10.15-11.30am, Holy Cross Resource Centre

We have now completed our topic on the Holy Spirit. Over the next few weeks during Lent we will be undertaking a series of Lectio Divina. The last session will be on **Tues 20th March**. We will then break for Easter and restart on 10th April, where the new topic will be decided by the group. All are very welcome.

Lent 2018 at St Edward's, Chandlers Ford

CAFOD Lenten Suppers - every Friday after 7pm Mass. Homemade soup, bread and cheese £5, also homemade produce on sale. All proceeds to CAFOD.

Lent 2018 at St Swithun Wells Church, Fair Oak
Lenten Suppers - every Wednesday at 7pm.

Homemade soup, bread and cheese, proceeds to Lenten Alms supporting CAFOD and Fledge.
Bible Studies - A series of Lenten Bible Studies will follow the suppers at 7.45pm, entitled "Followers of Jesus". Study 4 on **14th March** is "James - Son of Thunder". Everyone is most welcome to come along. Queries to Peter Baggott (02380 694060) or Deacon Bob Birtles.

Free Food & Company!

Everyone is welcome to attend the Lenten Soup Kitchen at Holy Cross Resource Centre, **Saturday 12-2pm**, where you will be warmly welcomed by our young people and served with soup and a bread roll.

Car Park – Holy Cross, Eastleigh

If you have visited Holy Cross recently you will have seen that the new barrier has been installed – but is not yet in operation. There are a few technical matters to be finalised and then the barrier will be working. As previously explained, the old fobs (of which we estimate there are more than 200 in circulation!) will no longer function. The aim of the new system is to ensure that parishioners attending Mass and visiting the Parish Office can actually park here. Therefore, the barrier will be raised for an appropriate period of time before Mass.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE WITH THANKS

Last week's collections: £1,386.55; SO/SD for February 2018: £13,087.09

SWAG - St Swithun Wells Acting Group

Please contact me on 07437 440299 or joannaaz@cwgsy.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**.

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: March 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: March 18th, April 29th, May 20th, June 17th, July 8th.

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 25th March 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.

Alton Day of Renewal - 24th March, 11am-4pm

Alton School, Anstey Lane, Alton, GU34 2NG.
"Living Kingdom Values" - How our everyday lives can be opportunities for witness. Speaker: Gemma Wildsmith (Conference Speaker; Youth Leader; Member of Celebrate Leadership Team).

St Edward's Church Shop

Open before and after all weekend Masses.

Divine Mercy Day of Reflection, Sat 7th April

10.30am-4pm at Saint Joseph's Centre, 8 Lyndhurst Rd, Ashurst, Southampton, SO40 7DU. Father Des will lead a Reflection Day focusing on the Divine Mercy of God in preparation for Divine Mercy Sunday; this will include the celebration of the Mass and a homemade soup lunch. The cost of the day is £20 per person. If you would like to attend then simply email:

fatherdes@icloud.com or leave a message on the centre's answering machine: 02380 292337.

'Come and Sing' at OLQA on Sat 14th April 2018

Save the date for OLQA's Spring social event - bring and share a meal together, learn one or two simple songs (probably themed for Easter, so "Alleluias etc.") and finish by performing the song together in simple harmony. Come along, whether you can sing or just enjoy listening to others, in a thoroughly convivial atmosphere. More details to follow.

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.

60 Club - The next meeting is on **Mon 12th Mar, 2pm** in the Holy Cross Resource Centre. For more information please phone Maureen on 02380 692682.

St Edward's - Knit and Natter

The next meeting is on **Monday 12th March, 2-4pm**. Everyone welcome; any queries please contact Maureen Stephenson (02380 252104)

Oasis - Parish Women's Group: Tues 13th March

A Taste of Korea: Come along for our Korean cookery demonstration. A chance to see how three dishes are made, and an opportunity to taste them. A small donation towards ingredients (suggested £1) would be appreciated. Bring your appetite! **Meet at 7:30pm, St Edward's Cloister**, finish at 9pm. Future dates: 24th Apr, 15th May, 12th Jun, 10th Jul. All Ladies Warmly Welcomed.

St Andrew's - Knit for Peace

The next meeting will be on **Wed 14th March, 2-4pm**. Donations of mens shoes and clothes for 2Saints most welcome. Anne Harcourt (02380 734710)

Fanning the Flame Catholic Mission: Summer Camp

20th-24th August 2018 - for ages 10-25 years. Come and join us in the New Forest, Hampshire! Wherever you are in your Catholic faith, come and be refreshed and renewed in God's love for you! For more information and booking forms please see www.FanningTheFlame.co.uk.

St Edward's Church - Babies & Toddler Group

Will be looking for someone to take over in September. It is fun to do and a very worthwhile activity! All the toys are provided and the paperwork is simple and organised. The group, however, could be adapted to you own way of working. Help and support to start with can be given and two to three people would be ideal. Please let Anne Hubbold know if interested:

anne.hubbold@yahoo.com

Bishops Waltham Churches - Lenten Lunch

Wed 21st March, 12.00 - 2pm at the United Free Church, Basingwell Street, Bishops Waltham. The charities this year are Bishops Waltham Gateway Club and Prison Fellowship. If there is anyone who would be prepared to make some soup for the lunch, help set-up/clear away please could they contact me on 01489 890149 or email me (jenny@just-jenny.net). **Jenny**

Holy Cross Shop

Come and pay the shop a visit - we are located between the church and the resource centre. We have Lenten reading books for children, and cards and gifts for all occasions. We look forward to seeing you.

Pat & Angela

Please pray for Christine Hopkins RIP

A former parishioner at St Joseph's who passed way on 27th Feb in Holmwood Nursing Home, Salisbury. The funeral is on **16th March, 3pm at Salisbury Crematorium**. All are welcome.

Mass Times for our Six Church Communities

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION	DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 10th March Vigil Masses	5.00pm	St Sw	Joanna & Maximilian Karnecki RIP	Thurs 15th	9.30am	HC	Jeannette Armstrong Family (Special Intention)
	6.00pm	St J			10.00am	OLQA	
	6.00pm	OLQA			6.00pm	St J	John Carmody RIP
	6.30pm	St Ed	Anna King RIP (Anniversary)				
Sun 11th (Fourth Sunday of Lent)	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta	Fri 16th	<u>9.30am</u>	<u>HC</u>	<u>Ludwig Kolacz & Deceased Members of the Killick Family RIP</u>
	9.00am	St Ed	Andrew Wilson RIP		10.00am	St J (AH)	
	9.00am	St A	Patrick McNally RIP (Anniversary)		<u>7.00pm</u>	<u>St Ed</u>	<u>Alison Milchem RIP</u>
	9.30am	OLQA					
	11.00am	St J					
	11.00am	HC	Bridget Bell (nee Carroll) RIP				
Mon 12th	10.00am	St Ed	Keith Small RIP	Sat 17th	9.30am	HC	Ann Whelan & Family (Special Intention)
					Sat 17th Vigil Masses	5.00pm	St Sw
					6.00pm	OLQA	
					6.30pm	St Ed	Patricia Bradley FM
Tues 13th	9.30am	HC	Mrs Elena Skuodiewe RIP (1st Anniversary)	Sun 18th (Fifth Sunday of Lent)	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta
	10.00am	St A	For the Protection of Unborn Children		9.00am	St Ed	Mary Uphill FM
	10.00am	OLQA			9.00am	St A	
	<u>12 Noon</u>	<u>HC</u>	<u>Funeral Mass: Kazimiera Monid RIP</u>		9.30am	OLQA	
					11.00am	St J	Teresa Kennedy RIP
				11.00am	HC	Allan Baxter & Peter Byrne RIP	
Wed 14th	9.30am	HC	Delia Walsh RIP				
	10.00am	St Ed	Patrick Burke FM				

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesday HC Adoration 1st Tuesday of the month 10.00-1.00pm
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
17th Mar cancelled 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

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