

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 OF EASTER

This weekend I am in the Holy Land – returning Wednesday evening. On Sunday morning I shall be celebrating Mass by the Sea of Galilee at a small church known as the Church of Peter's Primacy. According to tradition it marks the spot where Jesus accepted Peter's assurance that he loved him as his Lord. St John describes how Jesus had a charcoal fire ready to cook some of the fish they had caught. Three times Jesus asked Peter 'do you love me?' and three times in reply Peter said 'Lord, you know I love you.' This happened after Jesus had risen and in preparation for the time when he would ascend to the Father. Peter is then given the task of leading the apostles in their work of building the Kingdom of God.

Any pilgrimage or visit to the Holy Land involves a vivid reminder of the tensions which grip the Middle East. Israel is a small country, intertwined with the Palestinian territories and surrounded by Lebanon to the north, Syria to the north-east, Jordan to the east and Egypt to the south. Everything is relatively close together which only serves to heighten the anxieties and fears of those who live in the region. I shall be offering Mass for everyone in St Swithun Wells Parish – and praying for peace especially in the Middle East.

I do also have some news to share with you which may not be welcomed by everyone. This summer I shall be moving on from the parish to take up a role that I had not expected at this stage of my life as a priest. The Royal Army Chaplains Department has been faced a particular difficulty in filling a role which requires a Catholic Chaplain. You know that I am a serving Chaplain with the Army Reserve and although I'm significantly past the age limit for transfer from Reserve to Regular (full-time) service, this has been waived and I am to be in full-time military service for the next few years. Bishop Philip has agreed to release me for this work away from the diocese.

It will mean me leaving St Swithun Wells Parish at the beginning of September to take up the post of Chaplain to the Mercian Regiment. I will be the sole Catholic military Chaplain in Cyprus, based in Episkopi, providing pastoral and sacramental care to Catholics across the various military bases on the island.

I have great respect for parishioners here and as I've become aware that the news is just starting to leak out, I want to avoid you learning of this piecemeal, even though it is quite early to be announcing my departure. It is unlikely that we will know who Bishop Philip will appoint in my place until June or July, and of course, as soon as I have information on this I will pass it on.

I'm also very aware that my leaving after just three years as Parish Priest is not ideal because it will mean a certain amount of upheaval and turbulence. Having come to know many of you across the communities which form this parish it is not easy to let go and move on, even though this is the reality of life as a priest that we accept when we are ordained. There is a lot planned for the next few months with Confirmation next weekend, First Communions in June, Weddings, Baptisms and other important celebrations to mention just some. There's no such thing as a 'winding down period' when it comes to parish life and I shall do my best to fulfil all that's required and expected between now and September. When we know who is coming to be your new Parish priest, my aim will be to ensure as smooth a transition as possible.

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–4pm; Thursday & Friday 9.30–2.30pm Newsletter items should be received by Wednesday 12:00 noon

Entrance Antiphon: Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

Psalm Response: Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord.
Or, Alleluia!

**Readings for next Sunday 22nd April 2018
Fourth Sunday Of Easter**

Gospel: John 10:11-18
1st reading: Acts 4:8-12
Psalm: 117
2nd reading: 1 John 3:1-2

Changes to Mass: 17th-19th April

Tuesday 17th at Holy Cross there will be a Service of Word & Communion **instead of Mass.**

Wednesday 18th at Holy Cross there will be **No Mass.**

Mass time changes:

Thursday 19th at OLQA, Mass is now at 11am (Funeral Mass for Mrs Joyce Flory RIP)
Friday 20th at St Edward's, Mass is now at 11am (Funeral Mass for Rose Murray RIP)

Journey in Faith - St Edward's

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

Growing in Faith Together (GIFT) Group

Tuesdays, 10.15-11.30am, Holy Cross Resource Centre. We continue with our prayer group on the 'Father's Love' with complimenting DVD. On the 24th April we will be focussing on St Catherine of Siena. All are very welcome. Any queries please contact Paul Wilson on 02380 616618 (pwilson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Rosary on the Coast for Faith, Life & Peace in the British Isles - Sunday 29th April at 2.45pm

The "Rosary on the Coast" campaign (<https://www.rosaryonthecoast.co.uk>) invites the faithful, with the support of the clergy, to gather at various sites along the coast and pray the Holy Rosary at **2.45 pm** on Sunday 29th April for faith, life and peace in the British Isles. In the Parish of St Swithun Wells we will be gathering **at the main entrance to Royal Victoria Country Park at 2.30pm.**

We are considering running a minibus from either Holy Cross or St Edward's. If you would like to take advantage of this, please email me at chasnbex@hotmail.co.uk, or phone me on 02380 694482. **Charles Forrest**

Second Collection Next Weekend

Please note there is a second collection for the Clergy Training Fund next weekend.

Easter Thanks

THANK YOU to everyone for your Easter greetings, prayers, cards and thoughts expressed in so many different ways. We are also very grateful for your generosity shown through the Easter Offerings which we do appreciate.

Thank you to all the many people who had a part in ensuring our Triduum liturgies were well-prepared and celebrated joyfully.

Fathers John, Alan and Wojciech.

Our Lady Queen Apostle - Children's Liturgy Sunday 22nd April

Our next session for the children will be at the 9.30am Mass on the above date. All are welcome.
Joanna Somerville (01489 891540).

Fellowship Group Meetings - Restarts 25th April

Fellowship Group - the next meeting will be on Wednesday 25th April at St Swithun Wells Church, Fair Oak at 7.30pm.

This will be a Bible Study on 'Resurrection - an empty tomb'. Everyone in the Parish is very welcome.

Queries to Peter Baggott (02380 694060) or Deacon Bob Birtles.

Parish Confirmation - Sunday 22nd April, 3pm

48 of our young people are being confirmed by Bishop Philip at the Cathedral in Portsmouth. They would really like your support.

If you need transport to the Cathedral please sign the list at either Holy Cross Church or St Edward's Church as soon as possible as there are a limited number of spaces. The minibuses will leave at 1.30pm.

SWAG - St Swithun Wells Acting Group

The next show is on 1st June - rehearsals begin **15th April, 4pm** at St Edward's. Please contact me on 07437 440299 or joannaaz@cwgsy.net, or find the Facebook page "S.W.A.G. **Joanna.**

Fryern Prayer Group - Monday 21st May, 2pm

At the home of Sheila and Pauline O'Neill, 19 Carthage Close, Chandlers Ford. Remember All Prayer Intentions continue being prayed for by our Prayer Groups.

Prayer Link - The new Prayer Link entitled "Spring 2018" is now available in all of our churches. **Marion** (02380 692416) marionbirtles@gmail.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 March 2018: TBC

Youth Groups at Holy Cross Resource Centre

Both groups run from 7.00pm to 8.30pm:

Inspire (School yrs 7, 8 and 9)

Wednesdays once a month please contact Marianne 07771704600 for more information.

Next Meetings: Apr 18th, May 16th, Jun 13th, July 8th.

TOZ (Time Out Zone) (School yrs 10, 11 & Sixth Form College)

Sundays once a month please contact Cath on 07846 438224 for more info. **Next Meetings: April 29th, May 20th, June 17th, July 8th.**

St Edward's Choir

Is looking for new singers...no experience necessary. Is singing part of your ministry in our community? Are you aged 18 or over? Do you enjoy singing? Come along with an open mind, a willing heart and a smile!! We rehearse on **Tuesday evenings from 7.30pm**. Contact Joanna on 07437 440299 or email on joannapuzzle@gmail.com or just find me after the 9am Mass on a Sunday.

ADORE (Alton Day Of REnewal) – Sat 21st April (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. No need to register and no charge (though a collection will be taken to cover costs). For more info see poster or website: www.altonrenewal.com
Or telephone Alastair Emblem on 01252 714809.

SSG Spring Gathering (Liturgy Matters!)

Sat 28th April, 10am-4pm

St John's Catholic Cathedral, Portsmouth;
Speaker: Monsignor Kevin McGinnell;
Cost: £10 per person (please bring packed lunch).
See posters on church noticeboards for more info.

A Workshop for singing the Mass - Lift up your hearts!

Date: Saturday 12th May 10.30am-7.30pm

Venue: Holy Family, Redbridge Hill, Southampton SO16 4PL

Adam Bartlett, Editor of Illuminare Publications and accomplished musician, choir director, and composer, will be leading a workshop exploring the riches of the Catholic tradition of liturgical music. The workshop will provide formation on the role of music in the Church's life and mission, the role of music in the liturgy, and some practical sessions introducing liturgical chant (mainly in English) for use in parishes. The day concludes with a Sung Mass with the opportunity to sing in the choir directed by Adam. No previous knowledge of liturgical chant is required. The purpose of the day is to understand why the Church places such importance in this form of liturgical music, and to learn how this ancient tradition can enhance the worship of a normal parish today.

Details from the Holy Family Parish office, email: hfoffice@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or t:02380 778203.

Share the Journey - A Conference on Refugees

"Responding to Pope Francis's and Caritas Internationalis call to "Share the Journey", CAFOD and Caritas Diocese of Portsmouth are co-sponsoring a conference on refugees on the **12th May** at St Edward the Confessor Church in Chandlers Ford.

The conference will also be entitled "Share the Journey" so come along and see what we can practically do as a diocese to assist refugees including coming together as parishes to sponsor and house refugee families. More information and registration at <https://goo.gl/22tgLY> or contact kgallagher@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

See poster & conference agenda on noticeboards.

Oasis - Parish Women's Group: Tues 24th April

Women's Health Awareness: We have a speaker who is kindly going share her experience of breast cancer. A chance to share, support each other and look at the hope in similar difficult circumstances.

Meet at 7:30pm, St Edward's Cloister, finish at 9pm.

Future dates are: 15th May, 12th Jun, 10th Jul.

All ladies warmly welcomed.

A Belated Thank You

To all the young people who helped make the Lenten Soup Kitchen a great success. A donation of **£72.40** was shared between CAFOD & Fledge.

Elizabeth, Catherine & Marianne

Thank you - To all who supported the Lenten Suppers at St Edward's, **£815** was raised for the CAFOD Lenten Appeal.

Raffle at St Edward's

Weekending **21st/22nd April** there will be another "one-off" raffle in aid of the CAFOD Lenten Appeal.

The prize is a Fortnum & Mason Gift Box of Champagne and Champagne Truffles. Tickets £1 each; on sale after both Saturday & Sunday Masses

Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy Sale at St Edward's on 23rd May, after 10am Mass

In aid of CAFOD Connect2 Peru. More details to follow.

CAFOD - Lent Fast Day

Thank you for your support! Donations to CAFOD until 12th May will be doubled by the UK Government. We have planned a £5 million programme to combat malnutrition - and with it we hope to be able to reach 245,000 people. You can help us reach the full amount needed for this crucial programme. We still have some way to go yet!

To donate please go to cafod.org.uk/lent

Toddlers Group - Tuesday 17th April, 10am at St Edward's Church, Chandler's Ford. Any queries please contact Yvette Cardinal.

Fair Trade Fashion Show

Friday 18th May, 7.30-9.30pm at St Martins in the Wood Church, Chandler's Ford. Posters to follow!

Mass Times for our Six Church Communities

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION	DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 14th April Vigil Masses	5.00pm	St Sw	Agnes Carter and all the Sullivan Family RIP	Thurs 19th	9.30am	HC	Loreto Mollicone (Anniversary)
	6.00pm	St J	All Souls		11.00am	OLQA	Funeral Mass: Mrs Joyce Flory RIP
	6.00pm	OLQA			11.00am	St J	Funeral Mass: Alice Hounsone RIP
	6.30pm	St Ed	Joe Conlon (Sick)		6.00pm	St J	
Sun 15th April Third Sunday of Easter	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta	Fri 20th	11.00am	St Ed	Funeral Mass: Rose Winifred Murray RIP
	9.00am	St Ed	Peter Ashcroft FM		10.00am	St J (AH)	
	9.00am	St A	Winnie Fung RIP				
	9.30am	OLQA					
	11.00am	St J	Colette's family intentions				
11.00am	HC	Thomas Leah RIP Anniversary					
Mon 16th	10.00am	St Ed	All the Holy Souls in Purgatory RIP	Sat 21st	9.30am	HC	Kathleen & Leslie Hammerton RIP
				Sat 21st Vigil Masses	5.00pm	St Sw	Andrew Bates RIP
					6.00pm	St J	
	6.00pm	OLQA					
	6.30pm	St Ed	Rosemary Oxby RIP				
Tues 17th	9.30am	HC	Service of Word & Communion	Sun 22nd April Fourth Sunday Of Easter	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta
	10.00am	St A	For the Protection of Unborn Children		9.00am	St Ed	Oliver Shamkhani (Special Intention)
	10.00am	OLQA			9.00am	St A	Anna Barrett RIP
	12.30pm	St J	Funeral Mass: John Walsh RIP		9.30am	OLQA	
				11.00am	St J	Deceased relatives of the Coughlan & Corry Families	
				11.00am	HC	Jackie Higgins (Wellbeing)	
Wed 18th	9.30am	HC	No Mass	Mon 23rd April	10.00am	St Ed	Mrs Edward Christian FM
	10.00am	St Ed	Friends of Suffering Souls RIP		11.30am	HC	Funeral Mass: Moira Goodburn RIP

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesday	HC Adoration 1st Tuesday of the month 10.00-1.00pm
Tuesday	St A Adoration 9.15-10.00am with Morning Prayer
Thursday	St ED 7.00-8.00pm
Thursday	St J from Noon-6.00pm, Rosary and Benediction at 5.30pm (before Mass at 6pm) Thursday

Rosary And Prayers

St Edward 9.30am 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's
	5.30pm	OLQA
	5.30pm	St Joseph
Sundays:	8.30am	St Andrew

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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 jnelson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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