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| 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

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

On the Mount of Olives, overlooking the city of Jerusalem, is a small octagonal building, a mosque, but also visited by Christians as the Chapel of the Ascension. It is a relatively compact place into which thousands of people crowd each day where they listen to the Gospel account of Jesus leaving his disciples and ascending into heaven. In the ground is a rock on which it is possible to make out the shape of a right footprint. In the Middle Ages, the piece of rock alongside this one, on which a left footprint could be discerned, was removed and taken to the Al-Aqsa Mosque. The Muslim community care for the building and welcome visitors under something called the *Status Quo* agreement between different faith groups in the Holy Land.

Of course there are some who are less than convinced about the outline of a human footprint in the rock but that rather misses the point. The key for us is that Jesus, who did indeed walk upon the earth as a human being, came to the time when he left and returned to his Father. That small chapel on the brow of the Mount of Olives is a reminder of Jesus' physical presence, his earthly ministry and his ministry of building the Kingdom of God through the proclamation of the Good News.

This Thursday, forty days after Easter, we celebrate the Feast of the Ascension. The Bishops of England & Wales have, over the years, made changes to when we celebrate Holy Days of Obligation. For a while the Ascension was moved to the following Sunday (and the Feast of the Epiphany in January was transferred to the nearest Sunday). These changes have been reversed and so next Thursday is kept as a Holy Day when we are expected to make every reasonable effort to take part in a celebration of Mass. There are six Masses across our parish that day – including one at St Swithun Wells School – so please do come along.

You might be interested to read what the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* has to say about keeping certain days holy. It talks about the 'precepts of the Church' which are set in "the context of a moral life bound to and nourished by liturgical life. The obligatory character of these positive laws decreed by the pastoral authorities is meant to guarantee to the faithful the indispensable minimum in the spirit of prayer and moral effort, in the growth in love of God and neighbour." [n2041] It goes on to describe how the first precept of the Church ('You shall attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation') requires the faithful to participate in the Eucharistic celebration when the Christian community gathers.

It is worth noting in this quote from the Catechism that the phrase used is 'these positive laws'. Sometimes when we hear the word 'obligation' we immediately feel that we are being told what to do, that conditions are being imposed upon us – and we react negatively. What the Church is encouraging through the requirement to participate in a celebration of Mass on Sundays and Holy Days is for us to grasp the opportunity to celebrate Mass, and receive Our Lord in the Eucharist, on these most days when we recall the realities of what God has done for us in sending his Son into our world. Coming to Mass to honour him for the great love he has shown to us doesn't seem too onerous and when we do come along and take part we return home with more than we arrived with – which helps us on our journey to the Father.

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: Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

Psalm Response: The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.

**Readings for next Sunday 13th May 2018
Seventh Sunday Of Easter**

Gospel: John 17:11-19
1st reading: Acts 1:15-17. 20-26
Psalm: 102
2nd reading: 1 John 4:11-16

General Data Protection- new legislation and impact on our Parish

We have been asked by the Diocese to undertake a data audit. This will include all aspects of how data is held, processed, used and stored. This is to ensure we are compliant with the more rigorous aspects of the new law due out on **25th May 2018**. As a parish we hold personal data for many parishioners and we need to make sure we are relevant, accurate and current.

There are many groups working for the parish and we need to make sure each one of us understands the nature of the processes we need to follow to ensure the parish does not breach the data laws.

Over the next few weeks you will be approached by the team working on the data audit to get your feedback in terms of how you handle any data in your care. Please let them have as much information as you can to help them complete this piece of work.

This might be a good time to check that what we hold on record is correct in terms of address and telephone or other contact details. We are very lucky to have David Martin from Romsey as our Lead Data Protection Co-Ordinator. David will be liaising with the Diocese once the audit is completed and communicate any findings or recommendations thereafter.

Fr John

Growing in Faith Together (GIFT) Group

Tuesdays, 10.15-11.30am, Holy Cross Resource Centre. Over the next few weeks we will be concentrating on the Mass. All are very welcome. Any queries please contact Paul Wilson on 02380 616618 (pwilson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).

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

Confraternity of the Rosary - Annual Rosary Rally Sat 12th May, St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth.

Begins with Holy Mass at 12.15pm; hymns and prayers with Benediction at 2pm. See posters for more info.

Second Collection

Please note there will be a second collection next weekend for World Communications.

Readers required for the Saturday Evening Mass at St Edward's

Please contact Maria Head on 02380 260275; headsrez@virginmedia.com.

Fellowship Group Meetings

The next meeting will be on **Wednesday 9th May** at St Swithun Wells Church, Fair Oak at 7.30pm. **An evening on Mary** - what we know about her from the Bible and from tradition. Everybody welcome! Queries to Peter Baggott (02380 694060) or Deacon Bob Birtles.

Alton Day of Renewal - Sat 19th May, 11am-4pm

Proclaiming the Lord's Favour: How the Good News sets us free from condemnation and unforgiveness. No need to book and no set charge - you are invited to make a donation to the collection to cover costs. At Alton School, Anstey Lane, Alton, GU34 2NG.

A Day of Reflection: The Secret of Mary

Saturday 26th May 2018, 10.30am-3.30pm; St Joseph's Centre, 8 Lyndhurst Road, Ashurst, Southampton SO40 7DU.

Mass will be celebrated during the day and a delicious home-made soup will be served for lunch. If you would like to take part in this day led by Father Des, please email: fatherdes@icloud.com or leave a telephone message on 02380 292337. If you are able, a donation of £22 would be very much appreciated.

Formation for Mission - Upcoming Event

(Posters on Church Noticeboards)

FHC Catechists Training Day, 12th May, for those interested in having a look at the new programme published by Redemptorist Publications. St Bede's, Basingstoke from 9.30am to 3pm. **Sr Hyacinthe (tel: 01590 681874; e: ffm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)**

Changes to Mass this week

St Edward's - Service of Word & Communion on Mon 7th May instead of Mass;
Holy Cross - there is **no Mass** on Tues 8th & Wed 9th;
OLQA - there is **no Mass** on Tues 8th May;
Ascension Day Mass (10th May), please see the back page of the Newsletter for times and locations.

Christian Aid Week: Sun 13th May – Sat 19th May

If you are willing to help with the Christian Aid collection in central Eastleigh this year, please contact John Elton by email: janetandjohnelton@hotmail.com or phone 023 80615220.

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: £1,438.28; SO/SD for April 2018: £15,140.09

60 Club - Our next meeting is on **Tuesday 8th May** at the usual time of 2pm in the Holy Cross Resource Centre. For more information please phone Maureen on 02380 692682.

St Edward's Christian Aid week collection
(Sun 13th - Sat 19th May 2018)

Reluctantly St Edward's have decided not to collect for Christian Aid this year, mainly due to difficulty with the high proportion of No Cold Calling Zones in the Hiltingbury area. However some Chandlers Ford churches will be collecting as usual, and if any parishioners would like to assist them then please contact me, Paul Carmody, by email: carmody16@btinternet.com, or phone 02380 615373.

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: 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: May 20th, June 17th, July 8th.

St Edward's Pastoral Area - Valley Park
Thursday 24th May at 10am

There will be a Rosary said at the home of Ann Harding, 21 Salcombe Close, Chandlers Ford, SO53 4PJ (there are no parking restrictions). Everyone is most welcome.

Pentecost at St Edward's

To celebrate the birthday of the Church, we would like to share local sweets/delicacies from around the world with coffee after the 9am Pentecost Mass on **Sunday 20th May**. If you would like to make/bring along any delicacies on the day please do.

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.

SWAG Performance - "What's Up Zak?"

Friday 1st June, 7.30pm at St Edward's.

Please come along and support our young people as they tell the story of Zacchaeus in a very different way. FREE entry! **Joanna (07437 440299)**.

Little Way Healing Ministries

Healing Outreach Evening - Mon 4th June 7-9.30pm

New Venue - 3rd Age Centre, 11 Cranbury Terrace, Southampton. Booking not required.
Fr. Laurence Brassill OSA and Mrs. Pauline Edwards and team offer an evening of teaching and healing. Please invite relatives, friends and neighbours. Jesus said: 'Lay your hands on the sick and they will be healed'...Come and see. Tea and coffee provided.

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 **Sat 12th May** at St Edward's Church, 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 info and registration go to <https://goo.gl/22tgLY> or contact kgallagher@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

A Workshop for singing the Mass - Lift up your hearts! (Saturday 12th May 10.30am-7.30pm)

Holy Family, Redbridge Hill, Southampton SO16 4PL

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 hfoffice@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or t:02380 778203.

Upcoming Events run by Sherry Weddell

Sherry Weddell, author of "Called and Gifted", and "Forming Intentional Disciples", is coming to the diocese next month. There are two events for laity, held at the Basingstoke Country Hotel:

Friday 18th May, 2pm-7pm Sherry will be speaking about parish renewal and a few of our parishes will be sharing what they are doing.

Saturday 19th May, 9.30am-4.30pm, Sherry will be focusing on the personal spiritual journey and how each of us can develop our love and relationship with the Lord.

For more details and to book free places, please email Clare at csimpson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Knit For Peace - St Andrew's (Wed 9th May, 2-4pm)

Donations of mens clothes and shoes for 2 Saints welcome. Please contact Anne Harcourt on 02380 734710 with any queries.

Oasis - Parish Women's Group (Tues 15th May)

7.30-9pm, St Edward's Cloister. *Inspirations: Come along for an interesting evening of sharing inspiration, another way to pray and reaching out to others.*
All ladies, new or familiar faces, warmly welcomed.

Mass for Peace followed by Rosary

Last Friday of each month at 7pm;
St Edmund's Church, The Avenue, Southampton.
Please join us to pray for peace in our world.

Prayer Link - Please contact me if you have any requests, queries or comments. **Marion** (02380 692416) marionbirtles@gmail.com

Thank you!

To all who supported the recent Champagne Raffle at St Edwards, **£100** was raised for the CAFOD Lenten Appeal which will receive Government Funding.

Mass Times for our Six Church Communities

| DATE | TIME | CHURCH | MASS INTENTION | DATE | TIME | CHURCH | MASS INTENTION |
|---|---------|--------|---|--|---------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Sat 5th May Vigil Masses | 5.00pm | St Sw | Gerald Monaghan RIP | Thurs 10th Ascension of the Lord | 9.30am | HC | Thomas & Flora Kelly RIP |
| | 6.00pm | St J | Thanksgiving | | 10.00am | St A | |
| | 6.00pm | OLQA | | | 2.00pm | SSW School | |
| | 6.30pm | St Ed | Mary Hollingworth (Get Well) | | 7.00pm | St J | |
| | | | 7.00pm | | OLQA | | |
| | | | 7.30pm | | St Ed | | |
| Sun 6th May Sixth Sunday of Easter | 9.00am | HC | Polska Msza Święta | Fri 11th | 10.00am | St Ed | Ossie Carr FM |
| | 9.00am | St Ed | All the Holy Souls in Purgatory RIP | | 10.00am | St J (AH) | |
| | 9.00am | St A | | | | | |
| | 9.30am | OLQA | | | | | |
| | 11.00am | St J | | | | | |
| | 11.00am | HC | All Souls in Purgatory RIP | | | | |
| Mon 7th | 10.00am | St Ed | No Mass: Service of Word & Communion | Sat 12th | 9.30am | HC | Maguire & Richard Family FM |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Sat 12th Vigil Masses | 5.00pm | St Sw | Friends of Suffering Souls RIP |
| | | | 6.00pm | | St J | | |
| | | | 6.00pm | | OLQA | | |
| | | | 6.30pm | | St Ed | Patrick Flavin RIP | |
| Tues 8th | 9.30am | HC | No Mass | Sun 13th May Seventh Sunday Of Easter | 9.00am | HC | Polska Msza Święta |
| | 10.00am | St A | | | 9.00am | St Ed | Thomas William Mason FM |
| | 10.00am | OLQA | No Mass | | 9.00am | St A | Doris Bonello RIP |
| | | | 9.30am | | OLQA | | |
| | | | | | 11.00am | St J | Marie & Allan Johnson's Intention |
| | | | | 11.00am | HC | Sheila Starrs FM | |
| Wed 9th | 9.30am | HC | No Mass | Mon 14th | 10.00am | St Ed | Eric and Roslyn Lasker & Family RIP |
| | 10.00am | St Ed | Kathleen Mary Boaden FM | | | | |

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 **No Adoration**
Thursday St J **Special Arrangements for Thurs 10th May only: Adoration will be extended beyond 6pm and conclude with Benediction at 6.30pm**

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)

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