

Our Mission: LOVE GOD - LOVE OTHERS - MAKE DISCIPLES



www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk  
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Registered Charity No. 246871

Sunday Cycle: Year B  
Weekday Cycle: Year 2  
Psalter: Office Proper

## THE NATIVITY OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

### Clergy Appointments

This week the Bishop announced a number of appointments across the diocese, to take effect at the beginning of September. Included in the list:

*“Fr Raffaele Cossa (as Priest in Charge) and Fr Luca Speziale (as Local Superior) to St Swithun Wells, Eastleigh, under Fr Mark Hogan as Parish Priest.”*

Father Raffaele and Father Luca are currently serving the parish of St John Bosco on the east side of Reading. Father Mark is Parish Priest in Winchester.

### Today's Feast

It says a lot about the importance of John the Baptist that the feast of his birth takes precedence over the usual Sunday liturgy. Always on the 24 June, this will only happen every few years. John is one of a handful of saints who have two feast days during the year, the other marks his death and martyrdom.

Of course John the Baptist, the man and his ministry, is inextricably bound to the life and mission of his cousin, Jesus. John is the bridge from the Old Covenant (the last of the prophets) who calls the people to repent and prepare for the institution of the new: “Look, there is the Lamb of God”. Although we don't have a lot of factual information about John from the Gospel accounts, in a strange way we can know him well – a bit like St Peter in the sense that we can *feel* who these great men were.

Part of John's character was humility. He always had a clear understanding of his role in relation to Jesus. “I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandal.” And later, when referring to Jesus he summed it up: “He must increase and I must decrease.” For me these are probably the most powerful of all the words we have from John. At first it seems he is just acknowledging that, with the arrival of Jesus in his public ministry, John's work of preparation is done. But there's more. His words capture precisely what each of us must aim for. As Jesus becomes greater in our lives so our will is conformed to his, our desires fit with what he is asking of us, we allow him to take over and guide us in all things. We must decrease so that he increases.

In recent weeks a number of one-year anniversaries have been marked. The attack on young people at the end of a concert in Manchester, the van driven into people on Westminster Bridge, the fire at Grenfell Tower, the attack on Muslim worshippers on their way home after prayers. And these are just the ones which happened in our country twelve months ago. Something which struck me when listening to accounts from those who were caught up in these awful events is the mixture of emotions which are still very raw. There is pain, anger, a sense of solidarity with others affected, questions needing answers. Not only are we fragile as individual human beings – our society and communities too can be vulnerable and easily fractured. We need a common purpose, a shared understanding and a commitment to work for change which will improve the lives of our sisters and brothers.

Our faith gives us this, fastened on Jesus Christ. In our world we have a part to play, a vital contribution to make. But in the end it isn't about me or you – it's about allowing the Lord to work through us. John the Baptist knew that.

*Father 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 9.30am–5pm; Thursday & Friday 9.30–2.30pm Newsletter items should be received by Wednesday 12:00 noon

**Entrance Antiphon:** A man was sent from God, whose name was John. He came to testify to the light, to prepare a people fit for the Lord.

**Psalm Response:**

I thank you for the wonder of my being.

**Readings for next Sunday 1st July 2018  
Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Gospel: Mark 5:21-43

1st reading: Wisdom 1:13-15; 2:23-24

Psalm: 29

2nd reading: 2 Corinthians 8:7.9. 13-15

**Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius of Loyola Retreat  
Sunday 22nd July to Friday 27th July 2018**

A five-day retreat for men led by the Benedictine Monks of St Joseph Abbey, Flavigny at Carmelite Retreat Centre, Boars Hill, Oxfordshire. Please speak, call or email Deacon Paul Owen as soon as possible if you are interested in going as he will need to register you. Tel: 02380 254806; E: [powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:powen@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](mailto:powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Fellowship Group**

The next meeting will be on **Wednesday 27th June** at St Swithun Wells Church, Fair Oak at 7.30pm.

**The Meal that Jesus gave us**

A five session exploration of the Last Supper, looking at the ways in which Christians have interpreted this event over the centuries and what it means for us today. *Session 5 - The Greatest Drama Ever Staged.* Starting with the Emmaus story, we will look at how Jesus' command to "Do this in memory of me" developed into today's celebration of the Eucharist which as Catholics, we know as Mass.

Everyone welcome, each session stands on its own so don't worry if you can't make them all. Queries to Peter Baggott (02380 694060) or Deacon Bob Birtles.

**Growing in Faith Together (GIFT) Group  
Tuesdays, 10.15-11.30am**

Holy Cross Resource Centre. All are very welcome! Any queries please contact Paul on 02380 616618. ([pwilson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:pwilson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)).

**CAFOD - Gifts in Wills**

You might be surprised to learn that gifts in wills raised £9 million last year - enough to pay for a third of our international work.

To find out more about leaving a gift to CAFOD in your will and our free will-writing service please see the leaflets available in our churches, see the poster on the noticeboards or call Hannah on 020 7095 5367.

**Second Collection**

Please note there will be a second collection next weekend for Peters Pence.

**St Swithun Wells Primary School - Walk to Mass**

**Friday 29th June**, leaving school at about 1.20pm for Mass at 2pm in St Edward's Church. CAFOD have responded to Pope Francis' call that schools and Parish communities take part in a walk as a sign of solidarity with refugees from around the world. The aim is for communities, from across the world, to walk the circumference of the world (24.900 miles). The school will be walking to Mass to celebrate the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul. We know lots of parents and parishioners join us for Mass on Holy Days and would encourage you to walk with us rather than meet us at the church. If you are unable to do this you are still most welcome to join us at the church for Mass.

**St Edward's - Welcomers Wanted**

Do you feel able to devote just half an hour to welcome your fellow parishioners to Mass at the weekend? We just need you to be present half an hour before Mass begins until after the entrance hymn has been sung to greet the faithful arriving for Mass, distribute the parish bulletin and assist any new parishioners at either the Saturday evening or Sunday morning Masses. The rota runs quarterly across the year and obviously the more people taking part the less frequent it will be.

If you can assist, especially with Sundays, then please contact either Trish ([trish.cassidy1@virginmedia.com](mailto:trish.cassidy1@virginmedia.com)) or Tony ([tony.cassidy1@virgin.net](mailto:tony.cassidy1@virgin.net)) before or after Saturday evening Mass or by e-mail.

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

We would like to expand the numbers and if you are able to join us, please contact Maria Head on 02380 260275; [headsrez@virginmedia.com](mailto:headsrez@virginmedia.com).

**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! See [www.FanningTheFlame.co.uk](http://www.FanningTheFlame.co.uk) for more info.

**Young Catholic Adults Weekend: 7-9th Sept 2018**

Will be running a retreat at Douai Abbey for young catholic adults (18-40yrs). To guarantee your place please book your place by **17th August 2018**. For more information please see poster on church noticeboards.

**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.

**Annual CAFOD BBQ - St Edward's, Sat 21st July**

Date for your diaries! More details to follow soon.

### **Open Parish Meeting - Monday 16th July, 7.30pm in the Resource Centre at Holy Cross**

During a recent Health & Safety Inspection carried out by the Diocese, a number of issues were raised in connection with the occupation of people using the Gallery area at Holy Cross Church. Following an investigation, changes to the Gallery access arrangements are now being proposed. These will be explained at the meeting when there will be an opportunity to ask questions or to comment on the proposals. This meeting is open to all.

### **Flame - 2nd March 2019**

Booking for Flame is now open! This is a highlight national event for Catholic young people in Wembley Arena, featuring inspirational international speakers, award winning music and celebrating faith and the young Church. Last year 350 people attended from Portsmouth Diocese, joining over 8000 people from all over the UK. Ages 14-25. Please speak to Cath (07846 438224) to register.

### **Eastleigh Memory Support Group**

Meets weekly every Wednesday from 2-4pm at the Dovetail Centre, Winchester Rd, Chandlers Ford, offering support to people living with Dementia, and their carers. A planned programme of activities includes a variety of games, talks, monthly armchair exercises with a qualified trainer, music and singing by local choirs/musical groups, plus occasional outings for a pub lunch, and cream teas. Please see letter on noticeboards for more info or phone Mrs M Martin on 023 80270813.

### **St George Catholic College - Applications**

This year they had a record number of applications to join St George in Year 7, meaning they are heavily over-subscribed with 100 children on the waiting list for Year 7.

One of the main reasons many children were not able to get a place, was because the Supplementary Information Form (SIF) was not completed.

To apply to St George, two things must be done:

1. Parents must apply to the LA between Sept and 31st October 2018;
2. Parents must complete and return a SIF (with evidence if necessary) by 31st October 2018.

If you are applying for a place at St George, please complete a SIF. SIFs can be downloaded electronically from [www.stgcc.co.uk](http://www.stgcc.co.uk), they are also available on the Southampton Admissions website. Hard copies are also available in each of our churches.

### **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: £1,362.67; SO/SD for May 2018: £12,904.09

### **Share the Journey - Walk in St Swithun Wells Parish, Sunday 1st July**

Please join us for our 'lap' of Pope Francis' initiative to show your support for refugees.

Gather at St Edward's Church straight after 9am Mass and walk 1 mile in the local area, i.e. around the lake.

Each person walking counts as 1 mile towards the grand total. Light refreshments afterwards at St Edward's. All supporters welcome. For more info about CAFOD's Share the Journey see:

<https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Share-the-Journey>.

### **Eastleigh Basics Bank - Vacancy**

Is urgently seeking to recruit a Tuesday Shop Manager and more shop volunteers. A copy of the job description for each of these roles is on the noticeboards or from the Parish Office. An online application form can be found under the 'volunteering' section of the website: [www.eastleighbasicsbank.co.uk](http://www.eastleighbasicsbank.co.uk). Closing date for applications for the shop manager role is **30th June**. Please pray for EBB during this time of change and take action if you feel called to this work.

### **Bereavement Support Workshop – Sat 7<sup>th</sup> July**

You are warmly invited to a workshop that will look at the process of a parish helping people going through dying and bereavement. Our main speaker will be Kathryn Turner, Head of the Department for Spirituality in the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle. There will also be a few speakers from parishes in our diocese. Please come if you are at all interested in learning more, even if you or your parish aren't currently doing any work in this area. It will be held at Milner Hall, next to the Winchester Parish Centre, between 10am - 12.30pm. Please book a free place by contacting Philippa Foster, the Leader of the Pastoral Care Services team in the diocese, on [pfoster@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:pfoster@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

If you cannot come but would be interested in registering your interest, please email Philippa too, who is looking to help parishioners and parishes develop bereavement support.

### **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 Meeting: 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 Meeting: July 8th.**

### **Parish Office - Changes to June Opening Hours**

The office will be closed on **Friday 29th June**.

### **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.

# Mass Times for our Six Church Communities

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION	DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
<b>Sat 23rd June</b> Vigil Masses	5.00pm	St Sw	Andrew Bates RIP	<b>Thurs 28th</b>	9.30am	HC	Umberto Pugi RIP
	6.00pm	St J			<u>10.00am</u>	<u>OLQA</u>	<u>No Mass</u>
	6.00pm	OLQA			6.00pm	St J	
	6.30pm	St Ed	Ena Mary Greenfield RIP		<u>7.00pm</u>	<u>OLQA</u>	<u>Vigil Mass for The Feast of Sts Peter &amp; Paul</u>
<b>Sun 24 June</b> The Nativity of St John the Baptist	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta	<b>Fri 29th</b> The Feast of Sts Peter & Paul	<u>9.30am</u>	<u>HC</u>	
	9.00am	St Ed	Living & Deceased Members of the Bonetti and Wilson Family FM		10.00am	St J	
	9.00am	St A			<u>2.00pm</u>	<u>St Ed</u>	<i>NB - if you are able to walk to Mass with the children from SSW Primary school please meet at the school at 1.20pm.</i>
	9.30am	OLQA			<u>7.00pm</u>	<u>St A</u>	
	11.00am	St J			<u>7.30pm</u>	<u>St Ed</u>	<u>Vocations to the Priesthood</u>
<b>Mon 25th</b>	10.00am	St Ed	Carol Williams RIP Anniversary	<b>Sat 30th</b>	9.30am	HC	Exam Success (Special Intention)
				<b>Sat 30th</b> Vigil Masses	5.00pm	St Sw	Mary Connelly (Intentions)
6.00pm	St J	Father George Lyons RIP					
6.00pm	OLQA						
6.30pm	St Ed						
<b>Tues 26th</b>	9.30am	HC	Mary Bain RIP	<b>Sun 1st July</b> 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta
	10.00am	St A	For the protection of unborn children		9.00am	St Ed	John Miles FM
	<u>10.00am</u>	<u>OLQA</u>	<u>No Mass</u>		9.00am	St A	
					9.30am	OLQA	
				11.00am	St J		
				11.00am	HC		
<b>Wed 27th</b>	9.30am	HC	Regina Turl (Special Intention)	<b>Mon 2nd</b>	10.00am	St Ed	Lilian De Melo RIP
	10.00am	St Ed	Margaret Egan RIP				

### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

<b>Tuesday</b>	HC	Adoration 1st Tuesday of the month 10.00-1.00pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	St A	Adoration 9.15-10am with Morning Prayer
<b>Thursday</b>	St ED	7-8pm
<b>Thursday</b>	St J	from Noon-6pm, Rosary and Benediction at 5.30pm (before Mass at 6pm)

### Rosary And Prayers

**St Edward** 9.30am Wednesday The Holy Rosary  
**St Joseph** 6.00pm Wednesday Evening Prayer

### CONFESSION (SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION)

<b>Saturdays:</b>	10.00am	Holy Cross Church
	12 noon	St Edward's
	5.30pm	OLQA
	5.30pm	St Joseph
<b>Sundays:</b>	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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