

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: 1

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

It comes as a surprise to many people in this secular age that the armed forces have chaplains. In many ways modern chaplaincy began and was shaped by the First World War, during which the Padre came to be valued for the love and care that he had for the troops he served. Some, like Siegfried Sassoon and Robert Graves, gave Church of England chaplains in particular a bad press. Thanks to recent research views have changed.

In late 1917 a group of army chaplains published a book of essays, *The Church in the Furnace*, about their experiences on the Western Front. The chaplains were shocked at the ignorance of soldiers regarding even the basic tenets of the Christian faith, despite most having attended Sunday school and a high proportion having been confirmed. However, chaplains found in the army a unity of purpose and fellowship, which they had not seen anywhere else, including the church. Aristocrats and paupers, academics and illiterate men were thrown together, working, living and often dying together. They were astounded at the self-sacrifice the soldiers showed. Yet these same soldiers were ignorant that this self-denial is what Jesus called for in his disciples. If only the church and nation could harness the same fellowship, love and commitment.

These chaplains came to love the men they served. The soldiers' ignorance about Christianity is the church's fault for not teaching them properly in the first place. To the authors, the most important thing about Christians is the love we should be showing to God and our fellow human beings. The Christian God is good. The slaughter in the trenches was not God's will.

In the army today chaplains still serve alongside soldiers. If anything, the ignorance of soldiers regarding the Christian faith is worse than it was 100 years ago. Very few have received any religious education. Much of their knowledge of the Christian faith is at the level of the school nativity play, but the same fellowship and self-sacrificing love that the chaplains found in the First World War still exists. Chaplains (male and female) still show their love for their soldiers (men and women).

During operations in Iraq and Afghanistan nearly all commanding officers wanted a chaplain with their units. It wasn't just for religious services, although these are important, especially when soldiers have been killed. Why, in this mainly secular age, do they want a chaplain? They may say a good chaplain is great for morale, but why is that? It has to do with the love that is at the centre of our faith. A chaplain loves a soldier simply as a human being who is loved by God. He or she can listen in confidence to the fears, worries and concerns of a soldier and it won't go further. Generally speaking a soldier doesn't care what denomination the chaplain is. What they care about is whether the chaplain cares for them and if they can be trusted.

One aspect of military chaplaincy which has changed is that often wives and children are part of the community the chaplain serves. With the particular challenges life in the armed forces throws up, all involved need to be assured that they are loved by God. As do we all.

Father John
[drawing on an article by a former Chaplain General]

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

Tel: 023 8027 3882. Email: 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: Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

Psalm Response: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

**Readings for next Sunday 2nd September 2018
Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Gospel: Mark 7:1-8. 14-15. 21-23
1st reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2. 6-8
Psalm: 14
2nd reading: James 1:17-18. 21-22. 27

Holy Cross Children's Liturgy - Safeguarding

We will be registering children for children's liturgy over the next few weeks.

Parents: Please complete the index cards that will be available in the welcoming area (with instructions) and return them to one of the catechists. Someone will be there to help or collect them on return. This **will not** mean children **have** to attend every week, it will be as before, but it is important for us to have basic information to keep your children safe when they attend. Thank you.

Journey in Faith restarts Wed 19th September 2018

Restarts with a special enquirers evening - if you know of anyone who would like to become a Catholic or to learn more about what the Catholic Church teaches, then bring them along on **Wednesday 19th September** from 7.30-9pm at St Edward the Confessor Church. This is your chance to do something practical for evangelisation! For further information please contact Deacon Paul Owen. Tel: 02380 254806; E: powen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Fellowship Group is taking a Summer break

Date of next meeting in September TBA.
Queries to Peter Baggott and Deacon Bob Birtles.

Growing in Faith Together (GIFT) Group

The GIFT group is taking a summer break, however we will still meet for coffee and a chat after Tuesday Mass in the resource centre. Thank you to everyone who continues to support our Group, which restarts fully on 4th Sept. Any queries please contact Paul on 02380 616618; pwilson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

St Andrew's - Adoration

There will be no Tuesday Adoration until the Autumn.

Saint Padre Pio of Pietrelcina Reflection Day

Sunday 23rd Sept 2018. Fr Des Connolly SMM invites you to join Padre Pio Prayer Groups and other devotees to celebrate his Padre Pio's birthday/Feast day in this his 50th Anniversary of his death. The day will be held in St Joseph's Centre, 8 Lyndhurst Rd, Ashurst, SO40 7DU. Arrival from 10am for a 10.30am start, until 4pm and will include Mass. A donation of £22.50 per person would be very much appreciated. Please bring a packed lunch.

Father John's Leaving Gift

If you would like to contribute to Father John's leaving gift (a cheque), collection baskets will be made available at each of our churches at the end of Mass on the following weekends:

4th/5th August; 18th/19th August;
11th/12th August; 25th/26th August.

Please can all Gift Aid donors use the yellow collection envelopes for their cheques/cash to ensure that Gift Aid can be claimed on them.

The last date for *all* donations will be

Sunday 26th August as we have to centrally count and bank the money, and raise the cheque.

This will be presented to Father John at his final Parish Mass on Sunday 2nd September at Holy Cross.

Reminder about Cheques:

Cheques to the Parish for any collections (including Father John's leaving gift) should be made payable to: **PRCDTR St Swithun Wells**

Please ensure the counters know what the funds are for e.g. name of special collection, priest farewell leaving gift etc, by writing this on the back of the cheque. Funds can then be allocated accordingly.

Bishop Philip's Message in light of the report from the Pennsylvania Grand Jury

Please take the time to read Bishop Philip's message on the Portsmouth Diocese Website - a hard copy is available on the noticeboards.

http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/bishop/talks_and_addresses/BoP-Message-to-Diocese-in-Light-of-Pensylvania-and-Jury-28Aug-2018.pdf

CAFOD Harvest Fast Briefing Day: Sat 8th Sept

From 10.30am-1pm at St Bede's, Popley Way, Basingstoke, RG24 9DX. You are invited to come to our Harvest fast day briefing to hear about CAFOD's work in Peru from Weronika Ozieranska CAFOD's Regional Officer for Latin America. Please book your place by emailing portsmouth@cafod.org.uk or call Jo Lewry on 01252 329385.

Confraternity of the Rosary - Day Visit to IOW

Thursday 6th Sept. Coach pick up from St Edmunds, The Avenue, Southampton; Fareham West Street; St John's Cathedral Portsmouth. Cost of coach travel & return sailing with a complimentary lunch £40. Holy Mass at Quarr Abbey, a visit to Sandown and to St Mary's Ryde for recitation of the Holy Rosary and Exposition, and a welcome from Peter Clarke. For more info and to book please phone 02392 820744.

Essential Training for Catechists (Sept 2018)

5 sessions to cover five essential themes in Catechesis and Children's Liturgy of the Word, on Tuesday evenings at St Edward's (7.30-9pm) 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th September and 2nd October. This is open to anyone who is interested in becoming a catechist. Please speak to Anne Owen (tel: 02380 254806) for more information or look at the poster on the church noticeboards. To register please email [Sr Hyacinthe at ffm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:ffm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).

Bridge The Gap

Is our parish's new YOUTH Magazine and is being "published" this weekend and quarterly thereafter. If you would like to be added to the mailing list for an electronic copy, please let me know. Please also let me know if you wish to write something for the next issue. A hard copy will be available in each Church within the parish and also at St Swithun Wells School. Thank you.

Joanna (joannaaz@cwgsy.net)

St Edward's Shop - 'YOUCAT for Kids'

New 'YOUCAT for Kids', children's catechism, is now available in the shop at St Edward's.

Thank You from Poitiers Care Food Bank

"On behalf of Father Des and the Poitier team I would like to thank you most sincerely for the generous donation of **£228.94**. We are so grateful for the parish's faithful support of this essential charity. With renewed thanks and loving prayers."

Jenny Clemas

Thank You from CAFOD

Thank you to all parishioners for your amazing support for CAFOD this year, and for your latest generous donation of **£974.20**.

Chris Funnell (Head of Supporter Donations)

Kerala floods: An SVP appeal

As you've probably seen in the media, terrible floods have been taking place in Kerala in southern India. Hundreds of people have been killed and many more are missing; countless homes have been washed away, and the monsoon season is set to continue until early September. Kerala is the most Christian state in India – it has more churches than any other region. The leading Catholic volunteering charity, the St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP), is very active there and they are doing great work helping the victims of the flood in local communities. However, they desperately need funds. Please contribute to the SVP's Kerala appeal.

To donate visit www.svp.org.uk, telephone 020 7703 3030 or send cheques made out to SVP (write 'Kerala appeal' on the back) to SVP, Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7JB. And please remember our sisters and brothers in Kerala in your prayers.

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.

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: £TBA; SO/SD for July '18: £14,341.09

Little Way Healing Ministries Healing Day

Saturday 1st September 2018, 10am–4.30pm

Third Age Centre 3AC, 11 Cranbury Terrace, Southampton SO14 0LH.

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 and coffee will be provided. Booking not required!

The Knights of Columba Annual Barbecue

St Edward's Church - Sat 22nd Sept, 1pm

Cost £10

The Knights of St Columba invite all parishioners to a BBQ at St Edward's Church. Proceeds go towards parish causes including parish youth and Lourdes pilgrimage. Tickets will be on sale in early September and/or RSVP to Neil Hendricks 023 8026 6324.

Street Pastors - Volunteers Required

Street Pastors engage with people on the streets to care, listen and to help them. They work together with other partners in the night-time economy to make our communities kinder and safer. *Could you spare 4–5 hours once a month on a Friday night to serve in our community?* Next set of provisional training dates are: 14/15/16 Sept 2018; 28/29/30 Sept & 12/13/14 Oct.

Volunteers needed in Chandlers Ford, Eastleigh and Fair Oak. Enquiries to Eric Hyom, t: 02380643457 or e: erichyom@hotmail.com.

MHA Living at Home Scheme

The MHA aims to reduce loneliness amongst older people (60+) as well as empowering them to remain an active part of their community for as long as they are able. We do this by running groups and activities as well as outings and befriending and supported shopping service. Over the last year the Eastleigh Borough scheme has been running weekly events, please contact Mark Kirby (MHA Live at Home Scheme Manager) to find out more about the services they offer tel: 07989 710620 or email: mark.kirby@mha.org.uk.

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.

For more info phone Mrs M Martin on 023 80270813.

Parish Office - Changes to August Opening Hours

The office will be closed on:

Bank Holiday Monday (27th) & Tuesday 28th.

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

Mass Times for our Six Church Communities

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION	DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION
Sat 25th August Vigil Masses	5.00pm	St Sw	Andrew Bates RIP	Thurs 30th	9.30am	HC	
	6.00pm	St J	Fr George Lyons RIP		10.00am	OLQA	
	6.00pm	OLQA			6.00pm	St J	
	6.30pm	St Ed	In Thanksgiving to St Jude				
Sun 26th August 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta	Fri 31st	10.00am	St Ed	Elizabeth Beven (Birthday)
	9.00am	St Ed	Vishal Raichura (Special Intention)		10.00am	St J (AH)	
	9.00am	St A					
	9.30am	OLQA					
	11.00am	St J	Barbara Crowther's Intentions				
	11.00am	HC	Ron and Collette Reynolds FM				
Mon 27th	10.00am	St Ed	Peter Dornan RIP	Sat 1st Sept	9.30am	HC	Rev Mgr Canon Patrick O'Mahony FM
Tues 28th	9.30am	HC	Thomas Charles Robinson FM	Sat 1st Vigil Masses	5.00pm	St Sw	Father John's Special Intention (Health & Wellbeing)
	10.00am	St A			6.00pm	St J	Father George Lyons RIP (3rd Anniversary of Death)
	10.00am	OLQA			6.00pm	OLQA	
					6.30pm	St Ed	Father John's Special Intention (Health & Wellbeing)
Wed 29th	9.30am	HC	Eddie Francis Blake RIP	Sun 2nd Sept 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00am	HC	Polska Msza Święta
	10.00am	St Ed			9.00am	St Ed	Father John's Special Intention (Health & Wellbeing)
					9.00am	St A	Father George Lyons RIP (3rd Anniversary of Death)
					9.30am	OLQA	Father John's Special Intention (Health & Wellbeing)
					11.00am	St J	Steve Carter's Intentions
					11.00am	HC	Father John's Special Intention (Health & Wellbeing)

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesday HC Adoration 1st Tuesday of the month 10.00-1.00pm
Tuesday **St A** Adoration will restart in the Autumn.
Thursday **St ED** No Holy Hour, restarts Sept (date TBC)
Thursday 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)

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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