# PETERPOST

# Parish of St. Peter and the Winchester Martyrs

#### 23rd May 2021

#### **PENTECOST SUNDAY – Year B**

Next Door I – Pentecost Sunday

#### Fr Mark writes:

Today, we're beginning a brand new message series. This series is called Next Door: The Art of Neighbouring.

I don't know about you but actually I'm not really all that good a neighbour. I don't mean I'm boisterous or rowdy or abusive. Just simply that I quite like retreating into my own space. I'll smile or nod or wave but I'm often rushing about, from one task to another, and am often late for the next thing, and find myself thinking, "how can I get back into the presbytery as quickly and safely and politely as possible?" I'm not saying I want to be like this. I'm just acknowledging the truth of the matter. The idea of chatting aimlessly over the garden fence isn't one that fills me with delight...So, I'm not worried if it's something you struggle with too...

Appropriately, we're kicking off this series on the Feast of Pentecost, which celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit to the Church. The Celtic Christians called the Holy Spirit the Wild Goose. The name points to the mysterious nature of the Holy Spirit. You never know where the Spirit will lead you. There is an air of danger, discomfort and unpredictability when you follow the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will lead us to places we would not naturally go on our own. The Spirit can even lead us into adventure. Ironically, the adventure we're looking at in this series is right in our own back yard.

The premise of this series is that God wants you to be a source of his goodness and grace in your neighbourhood. If you are a Christ follower, the Holy Spirit is sending you to be an instrument of his grace to the people who live near you. You do not live where you live by accident but by providence, for reasons known to God. With God there are no accidents. You may have chosen your home because you thought it was a good investment or a great location. You may have chosen your house because you loved the kitchen. You probably didn't buy your home because you were thinking about how to be a blessing to your neighbours. You were probably just hoping they're not crazy (and they were probably thinking the same about you). But the truth is, God though had other reasons for putting you there. God sees it as an opportunity to bring his light and love to the people in that community.

Of course, this is not at all easy. Then there's the question: why pay any attention to your neighbourhood anyway?

Firstly, because God wants to use us for the transformation of the world to build his kingdom. And the transformation of the world happens person by person, family by family, neighbourhood by neighbourhood. Jesus asks us to love our neighbour and whenever we follow what Jesus says there are always blessings in store. Blessings are always on the other side of our obedience to God.

Secondly, we do it because all of us want to live in a kinder, friendlier neighbourhood. And if you want to live in a friendlier neighbourhood then guess what? You've got to be friendlier.

This is rightly understood as the beginning, the birthday of the Church, which begins as a movement from isolation and aloneness to interconnection and communication.

The Holy Spirit still works in the same way. It is a gift given to us in a Sacramental way in Baptism and Confirmation. It is also a gift given to us whenever or wherever we dispose ourselves to the work and the will of God in our lives, whenever or wherever we ask the Holy Spirit to fill us.

The Holy Spirit can give you the opportunity to make connections that you would never have thought possible. The Holy Spirit has the power to open up doors that you would never have thought would open. The Holy Spirit has the power to help you overcome your fears, and connect with those around you.

So over the course of this series we are going to look at some initial steps you can take to impact your neighbourhood for good and for God. And, just to reassure you, none of them will involve going door to door. The main goal is to begin seeing your neighbourhood from God's perspective and to ask for the Holy Spirit to fall fresh on your neighbourhood. It is to invite the Holy Spirit into your neighbourhood through you. And about being open to where the Holy Spirit is leading you.

To start, start simply praying for your neighbours and neighbourhood. Invite the Holy Spirit into your neighbourhood. You can pray for your neighbourhood every day during your quiet prayer time. Pray for the people you know by name. Pray for the people who you only know by description.

- ✤ You can pray for people you know, and make their intentions your prayer intentions.
- You can pray for the people whom you never see. X
- ▶ You can pray for your neighbourhood as a whole.

Or another idea could be to do a prayer walk. The next time you are walking your dog or taking the children or grandchildren for a walk, or you're out running, pray a rosary for your neighbourhood. Prayer is something we can all do no matter what the obstacles or objections you might have.

#### Our Global Village

Today also marks the sixth anniversary of Pope Francis' letter, Laudato Si. Our Catholic Bishops in England and Wales have written a letter to us all about the Environment. They say:

"As we celebrate Pentecost this year, we are acutely aware of the damage that continues to be inflicted on the Earth, and the repercussions for the well-being of our brothers and sisters, both here in our own countries and, more especially, in the poorest countries of our world. Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis have both taught us that everything is interconnected and interdependent. The way we live our everyday lives has an impact on everyone and on the earth...

Thirdly, this actually impacts the quality of your life. Your life improves when you're better connected. We'll talk about this a little more next week, but as human beings we were not created to live in isolation. In fact, some argue that community is at least as important to your physical health as even diet or exercise.

Today is the feast of Pentecost and we hear that the disciples, who'd all been praying together since the Ascension, "were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech". (Acts 2. 3-4)

In Jerusalem at the time, there were people from all over the world, who spoke many different languages, there to celebrate the feast. And yet at Pentecost they were suddenly able to understand what the disciples were saying, in their own language. The Holy Spirit allowed for connections and understanding among people who never would have connected or communicated otherwise.

...we cannot leave the healing of our common home and the wellbeing and care of our brothers and sisters merely to a response from industry and governments. Our own local concern and action is necessary and has farreaching consequences. We all have a part to play, each and every one of us, in the routines, choices and decisions of our everyday lives and our aspirations for the future."

We now have a parish Laudato Si' group which seeks to energise parishioners to embrace the messages of Laudato Si' and to achieve its objectives in the way we live and influence social and political views. The parish group has a plan for local engagement and seeks your support.

The Letter from the Bishops is attached to the newsletter email, and is on the website. There's a message from the parish Laudato Si' group below in the newsletter, and more details on the parish website

- www.catholicwinchester.org.uk

Welcome....... If this is your first time reading the newsletter, then you are particularly welcome. Please get in touch - we'd love to tell you about everything that's going on here, and invite you to join us. Just to start you off, elsewhere in the newsletter you will find our services, our virtual church timetable and other activities. Look at our website <u>https://www.catholicwinchester.org.uk/</u>, or our <u>Facebook page</u> or email office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk

#### Pentecost Sunday – 23rd May

#### **Entrance Antiphon:**

The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world and that which contains all things understands what is said, alleluia.

First reading: Acts 2:1-11

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 103:1-24, 29-31, 34

Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and Renew the face of the earth.

#### **Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia!

Gospel:

John 15:26-27;16:12-15

Communion Antiphon:Acts 2:4,11They were all filled with the Holy SpiritAnd spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.

Second reading:

Gal 5:16-25



A recording of Mass will be broadcast at 6pm on Winchester Radio this Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May. We know many people really appreciated the chance to hear this on previous occasions, and we are very grateful to our friends at Winchester Radio for organizing this. If you know of anyone who is missing attending Mass and is not online, it would be a great idea to tell them about it (and we'd love to hear from anyone who listens in).

The broadcast will go out just after the 6pm news on Sunday, with a repeat on Tuesday evening (25th) at 8pm. They are at 94.7FM across Winchester and the immediately-surrounding villages, or online via their website, or using the UK Radioplayer app on your smart device.

## A Decade a Day in May

The Vatican has announced a rosary initiative dedicating the month of May to prayer for an end to the coronavirus pandemic. We invite you to pray a decade a day (Monday to Friday) during May. This week will be the **Glorious Mysteries**. One Our Father then 10 Hail Mary's and a 'Glory Be' and reflect or meditate on the mystery for the day. If you are praying with children you could pray 3 Hail Mary's instead of 10.

Monday: The Resurrection. Tuesday: The Ascension Wednesday: Pentecost

Thursday: The Assumption of Mary

Friday: Mary, Queen and Mother Follow us on Facebook for daily reflections. We would love to see pictures of Mary in your home to share in the newsletter and on facebook, knowing we all share our Heavenly Mother with Jesus.



#### **Confirmation Celebrations**

This weekend, 23 young people from our parish will receive the sacrament of confirmation at St Peter's Church. Due to the unusual times we find ourselves in, confirmations will take place at 3pm in parishes across the diocese, with Bishop Philip celebrating the sacrament in the cathedral at the very same time. Please pray for all our confirmation candidates, their families and their sponsors as the young people receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit and begin the next stage in their journey of faith. On behalf of the parish, we would like to thank our wonderful confirmation catechists for the giving of their love, talents and time in supporting everyone involved in the preparation programme.



St. Peter's Church will be open to the public for prayer and adoration this Saturday evening from the end of the 5:30pm Mass (about 6:30pm) through until the end of Night Prayer (which begins at 9pm and ends about 9:15pm). Please do join us for this time as we pray on the eve of Pentecost for the Holy Spirit to be poured out on our parish in a new way. This time will mainly be silent prayer but interspersed with occasional Scripture readings, music and litanies. Please do come and join us, either in person or via livestream.

### Portsmouth Diocese - Life in the Spirit Seminars

At the first Pentecost the disciples changed from being fearful and looking inward to being full of joy and looking outward. The Holy Spirit gave them courage, words and great joy. Pope Francis has asked that we bring the Life in the Spirit Seminars to all, to enable us all to have a greater capacity to speak about our joy in the risen Lord. The seminars are online using Zoom, they start after Pentecost on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> and run for seven weeks. Timing is to join from 7pm for a start at 7.15pm with an end each time at 8.45. Participants will want to use some recommended scripture passages in their prayer during the weeks between seminars.

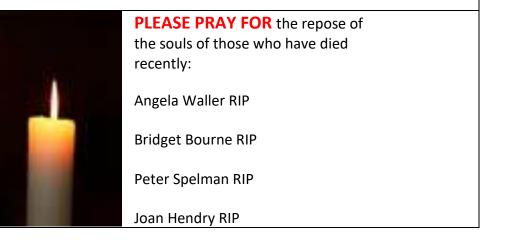
For more information and to register see www.pffm.org.uk/lifeinthespirit



**PRAYER CORNER**: Each week, this section will contain an intercession that I hope every parishioner will pray for during the coming week. In this way, we will all pray to the Lord for the parish's mission, because *"if the Lord* 

does not build... in vain do the builders labour" (Ps 127:1) Fr. Mark

**This Week's Intention:** As we celebrate Pentecost, let us pray for our parish and for our confirmation candidates - that we are blessed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit and that we use these gifts to share our faith, bringing people to Christ in hope and joy.



#### LOCKDOWN REPORTS – MUSIC MINISTRY

We've been looking at the different initiatives we got going during lockdown - this time we're looking at the music ministry.

It all started with an email... ... from Fr Mark on 26th March 2020 (towards the end of the first week of the UK lockdown) – asking if we could provide a recording of Abide with Me, to allow him to test his "cunning plan" for playing music during livestreamed Night Prayer the next evening. This was a "dry run" for providing music for Holy Week.



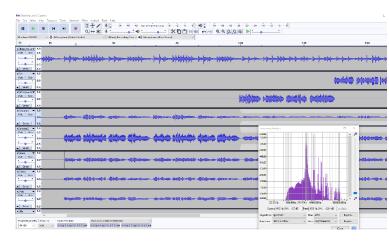
And so, we "scaled up" rapidly from that one recording of 3 people at home, around a piano, to delivering 41 pieces at the Triduum and Easter Sunday, from 28 different "performers" representing most of our Mass communities. And a core team came together: Jeanine McElroy leading the choosing of music, Liz Slinn

helping with music choices and commissioning home recordings from our various contributors, and Arthur Hickson, our sound engineer, who started simply by making the various recordings consistent in volume and sound quality, but has gone on (as have all 3 of them) to do much more. As we got the hang of choosing, commissioning and recording 6-7 pieces of music weekly, for each Sunday 10am Mass, our grasp of technology improved, and the level of ambition and creativity increased. Within a month, Liz had organised a small group to record a 4-part harmony rendition of Soul of My Saviour, with all the different parts (and the sound engineering from Thomas Sharrock) coming from different homes – without any of the individuals meeting. Indeed, 2 of the singers in that recording have contributed over 30 years of musical service to the parish between them, and yet they have never met, because one attends Mass in Winchester, and the other in Alresford – but technology brought them together to praise the Lord.

In the meantime, public Masses have resumed (thanks be to God!). Generous cantors (and their accompanists) have sung and played at most weekend Masses since, at St Peter's, St Stephen's and St Gregory's - including Christmas and the Triduum in all 3 churches – all operating within social distancing rules, and also the bizarre constraint of choosing less familiar music, so that people are not tempted to join in, contrary to government guidelines. Despite the constraints, new people have joined the music ministry and brought family to participate with them, of all ages and abilities.

14 months on, the team has produced another 302 recorded pieces from 37 contributors (aged 6 to "80-something"), with new music continuing to be produced each week. Our musicians have provided different musical styles from ancient chant, to 4 part choir (sometimes combined electronically, other times recorded by a single family in their kitchen), and contemporary praise & worship. Another benefit of the technology is that we can refresh previously recorded pieces with new additions; for example, our Mass parts acquire additional singers (and instrumental parts) as they are re-used, recorded separately and added by Arthur using his music processing software.

The technology, by the way, is nothing special: it's the sort that most of us use every day. Most recordings are made on mobile phones and emailed to Arthur. He then edits out unwanted noises: ambulances, dogs barking, seagulls overhead and the odd wobbly note! Take a look at the picture which shows how Arthur combines voices and instruments from various contributors. Completed recordings are shared on Microsoft OneDrive, for Fr Mark and Fr Anthony to download to their phones, from where they are played at Sunday Mass via iTunes using a Bluetooth-operated loudspeaker (note: other file sharing and music playing platforms are available J).





And it's not just about performing and recording the music: other tasks include producing each Sunday's word sheet, so that those participating can follow along (thanks to Moira and Richard for publishing via email and the website); also, accounting for copyright and licensing of all the music we "broadcast" on livestream (crucial, not only to act justly, but also to prevent us receiving unpleasant emails from YouTube...). And not forgetting Fathers Mark and Anthony, who have to act as "DJs" as they are celebrating Mass. Thank you to everyone who has made a contribution – too many of you to name here, but the Lord knows your name and loves to hear your voice.

What have we learned as we've done all of this? That we are a community full of wonderful people, with creativity and passion, who have themselves learned "new tricks" in these challenging circumstances. That the unprecedented conditions of lockdown have provided opportunities to welcome new people, who bring their own distinctive gifts. That music ministry is not only a service to the Church, but is important to the individuals who offer it, giving them a sense of purpose, counteracting feelings of isolation, and helping them feel part of our parish community. And that we can be together, even when we can't be physically together, through the gift of music, the wonders of technology, and the privilege of serving the Lord.

The biggest thing that's still missing - and it's a very big thing - is the people's voice. We pray that we may begin to hear you singing along with us again, very soon.

# Laudato Si'

The Parish Laudato si group has a vision!

#### 'To Bring People Closer to Jesus Through Care of our Common Home.'

The group seeks to energise parishioners to embrace the messages of Laudato si' and to achieve its objectives in the way we live and influence social and political views. The group is open to all parishioners and has a plan for this critical year with the G7 conference in Cornwall in June and the international COP26 environmental conference in Glasgow in November.

You can get more information updates from the Winchester Laudato si' Facebook Group. If you would like to get more involved and share your ideas with other like-minded parishioners then you can join our whatsapp group by emailing...<u>outreach@stpeterswinchester.org.uk</u> and providing your mobile number.

**This week's tip** ... Become a bee saver! Send for a bee saver kit from act.friendsoftheearthuk/take-part/join-us

Did you know bees polinate 75% of our main food crops including tomatoes ,apples and strawberries?. It would cost £18 million pounds to do what the bees do for free!

Together, we really can make a difference. Thank you!

# Virtual Church Programme: 2<sup>nd</sup> May – 29<sup>th</sup> May 2021

For Mass times, please check the newsletter or website.

Liturgy & Prayer	Monday - Friday	Morning Prayer and Adoration @St Peter's (Public & live streamed)	8am – 9am (except Bank Holidays)	
	Monday - Saturday	Holy Hour (Adoration) @St Peter's	10.30am – 12noon (Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday) 11am – 12noon (Monday - <i>except Bank Holidays,</i> Friday & Saturday)	
	Monday - Sunday	Night Prayer and Adoration (Live stream only)	9pm (except Bank Holidays)	
	Sunday	Children's Liturgy - Online (see website for registration)	9.20am – 9.50am	
Evangelisation & Discipleship	Monday	The Alpha course – Online (See website or newsletter for registration)	8pm – 9.15pm	
	Thursday	Acorn Groups	7.45pm – 9pm	
	Friday	The Gospel of Mark (See newsletter for registration)	7.45pm – 9.30pm	
Youth	Wednesday	<b>'Youth Groups'</b> (Email youthstuff@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)	6.30pm – 8.30pm	
	Thursday	Uncover Series' - Youth evenings on the Gospel of Mark (Email youthstuff@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)	7pm – 8.30pm	
Social & Fellowship	Sunday	St Peter's Tea Room - Online	11.15am	

For Tea Room, click <u>https://zoom.us/j/4388694572</u>

Alternatively, sign into Zoom and enter **Meeting ID:** 438 869 4572. **Password:** 376428.

#### **Useful Contacts**

Clergy: Fr Mark Hogan (Parish Priest) (mhogan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk); Fr Anthony Chiatu Njingo (Assistant Priest (cnjingo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk); & Fr Stephen Vooght (svooght@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk), Deacon Gerard Dailly (gdailly@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) and Deacon Martin McElroy (mmcelroy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) Director of Evangelisation and Leadership: Allegra Mutanda (allegra@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) Finance and Property Manager: Annette Parr (annette@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) Facilities and Resources Manager: Sean Reidy (sean@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) Parish Administration Manager: Michaela Waterfield (michaela@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) Sacristan: Laurie Howe Caretaker: Richard Phiri Pastoral team: Rosanne Walker (rosanne@stpeterswinchester.org.uk), Jo Donaldson (joanna@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) Outreach Ministry Lead: Mike Elks (mike@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) Volunteer Director of Operations: Dcn Gerard Dailly (gdailly@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) Volunteer Director of Communications: Moira Redmond (moirar@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) To get in touch with them, and for other general matters, please contact the Parish Office: 01962 852804 office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk. PeterCares: petercares@stpeterswinchester.org.uk Prayerline: prayer@stpeterswinchester.org.uk

St. Peter's School Office: 01962 852820 admin@st-peters.hants.sch.uk

St. Thomas More's Stockbridge: please email stm@stpeterswinchester.org.uk

#### **Parish Safeguarding Representative**

We will soon be looking to recruit a new Safeguarding representative, who will be supported by Michaela Waterfield, our Parish Administration Manager. In the interim period, any safeguarding concerns or requests for advice can be routed through to the central team via this email address <u>safeguarding@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk</u> or telephone number: 02394 216486. Email is probably best as, with current restrictions etc, the office is not always resourced.

Newsletter (deadline for items Wednesday evening): <u>newsletters@stpeterswinchester.org.uk</u> Newsletter list: <u>hello@stpeterswinchester.org.uk</u>

If there is a concern that someone is at immediate risk of harm, people should be advised to contact 999 for the emergency services. In the meantime, please use the <u>safeguarding@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk</u> address for any queries or contact Ruth Attfield, our diocesan safeguarding coordinator on 02394 216486.

We have a new email address for the newsletter It is <u>newsletters@stpeterswinchester.org.uk</u> – please make a note of this and send any items there. The deadline for submissions is the end of Wednesday.

Scam Alert – please be very careful about emails alledgedly from Fr Mark. ANY email from him will be from a Portsmouth Diocese email address, and will have his full signature with his job titles. And he is not asking favours from you... Please always be careful and stay safe online.

Mass Timetable	22nd – 29th May 2021			
Date	Mass Times & Intentions			Livestream/Public
	9.00AM	Mass		Livestream, Public.
SATURDAY – May 22nd	3.30 PM	Family mass at St Peter's		Livestream, Public, booking reqd
Easter Weekday Saint Rita of Cascia	5.30 PM	Vigil Mass	Eleanor Neil RIP	Livestream, Public, booking reqd
	8.00 AM	Mass	6 <sup>TH</sup> anniversary of Laudato si	Livestream, Public, booking reqd
	9.00 AM	Mass at St Thomas More's		Public, booking reqd *
SUNDAY – May 23rd	9.15 AM	Mass at St Stephen's		Public, booking reqd
PENTECOST SUNDAY	10.00AM	Mass	Soul of William Meader	Livestream, Public, booking reqd
	11.00 AM	Mass at St Gregory's	People of the Parish	Public, booking reqd
	12.00 Noon	Mass		Livestream, Public, booking reqd
	5.30PM	Mass		Livestream, Public, booking reqd
MONDAY – May 24th ORDINARY TIME RESUMES (Week 8)	12.15PM	Mass	Soul of Richard Spencer and concelebrating local priests	Livestream & Public
The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church	7.00PM	Mass		Livestream & Public
TUESDAY – May 25th	10.00AM	Mass	Jack and Teresa Laishley RIP	Livestream & public
St Bede the Venerable, priest and doctor of	10.00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	Intentions of the Neil family	Public
the church	7.00PM	Mass		Livestream & public
WEDNESDAY – May 26th	10.00AM	Mass	Jack and Teresa Laishley RIP	Livestream & public
St Philip Neri, priest and founder	7.00PM	Mass		Livestream & public
THURSDAY – May 27 <sup>th</sup>	10.00AM	Mass		Livestream & public
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THE ETERNAL HIGH PRIEST	7.00PM	Mass		Livestream & public
FRIDAY Mary 2044	10.00AM	Mass at St Gregory's		Public
FRIDAY – May 28th	12.15PM	Mass		Livestream, Public
	7.00 PM	Mass		Livestream, Public
	9.00 AM	Mass		Livestream, Public
SATURDAY – May 29th	3.30PM	Family Mass at St Peters		Livestream, Public, booking reqd
	5.30 PM	Vigil Mass		Livestream, public, booking reqd

#### All at St. Peter's, except where stated.

FOR ALL ONLINE BOOKINGS please use website homepage - <u>The Parish of St Peter & the Winchester Martyrs</u> - or call office 01962 852804. Or you can email office if any issues: <u>office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk</u>

\*To book mass at St Thomas More's Stockbridge, email: <u>stm@stpeterswinchester.org.uk</u> If you would like a phone number to call, please ring the office 01962 852804 to ask for it.

Confessions every Saturday 11.00am till 12.00pm and 4.30pm-5.00pm at St Peter's Church – booking not required.

Night prayer (livestream only) every evening from St Peter's, 9.00pm

Morning Prayer (open to public) every weekday, Monday to Friday, 8.00am, followed by Adoration till 9.00am

St Peter's also open for Adoration and private prayer every day except Sunday, 11.00am till 12.00pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (Adoration) takes place every day in St Peter's Church. Come spend time with the One who knows you best! Times: 8am – 9am weekdays 11am – 12pm every day except Sunday

To participate online or see the recorded services for Morning Prayer & Adoration and Night Prayer & Adoration, go to our <u>YouTube channel</u> ALL SERVICES (INCLUDING MORNING PRAYER, NIGHT PRAYER & ADORATION) FROM ST PETER'S ARE LIVESTREAMED

#### **Current lockdown regulations**

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT YOU MUST (BY LAW) WEAR A FACE COVERING IN CHURCH AT ALL TIMES, UNLESS YOU HAVE AN AGE, HEALTH OR DISABILITY REASON FOR NOT DOING SO (SOME PEOPLE ARE LESS ABLE TO WEAR FACE COVERINGS, AND THE REASONS FOR THIS MAY NOT BE VISIBLE TO OTHERS. PLEASE BE MINDFUL AND RESPECTFUL OF SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES). YOU MAY REMOVE YOUR FACE COVERING BRIEFLY AND TEMPORARILY TO RECEIVE COMMUNION, AND IF YOU ARE PROCLAIMING THE READING AT MASS.

And remember that all services from St Peter's are livestreamed so you can always take part from home.

#### **Re-opening of the Pastoral Centre(s) and other Church Facilities**

As a team within the Pastoral Centre, we too have been extremely cautious and frustrated as to what we have been able to do and allow over the last 15 months. The increased uncertainty and what might be possible has been difficult in trying to second guess what and when we might be able to do something. At this time, we are working towards re-opening access the Pastoral Centre(s) from **Monday 6 September 2021**. We are working through a number of maintenance activities in advance of being able to re-open. Pre-lockdown, the Pastoral Centre was largely closed for the month of August, so given the uncertainty about the easing of lockdown at the end of June, it seems sensible for us to delay re-opening the centre for an extra few weeks. That means, we hope, that we will be able to re-open fully and safely in September, and offer the date with some confidence. Over the last few weeks, we have granted permission to a limited number of users to meet in the Pastoral Centre under very strict conditions; these have and will continue to be judged on their individual merit. We sincerely hope that you will continue to bear with us whilst we move forward to welcoming everyone back. In the meantime, if you believe that you have a valid reason to be granted access, please contact me direct via **gdailly@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk** and we will consider your request. Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Deacon Gerard and the Pastoral Centre Team.



#### Message from St. Peter's School

Dear Parents

**Our Best Work... Writing** 

Following on from the past two week's newsletters, when we have shared the 'St Peter Polish' for RE and maths, we thought we would share some of the great writing that is going on in school.

Children are given opportunities to practise, consolidate and develop English across the curriculum. Staff plan English teaching using 'text drivers' which are quality texts chosen to allow small step progressive learning. When writing during English lessons, the children embark on a 'learning journey' which has a clear writing outcome. The form of this will be chosen to give opportunities to write from different viewpoints, different audiences and using different genre. In order to realise this, they are taught grammar, punctuation and spelling in context. They are given tasks and activities which develop their powers of imagination, inventiveness and critical awareness. They are then able to rehearse, review, refine and edit their writing. Through the teaching of grammar and punctuation, the children are given the tools to achieve their writing outcome and, when satisfied with their piece of writing, to publish it.

Using the No Nonsense spelling, individual spelling rules are taught out of context enabling children to learn, practise, revise and then apply learning to independent writing.











'In the past few weeks Year 4 have been enjoying Michael Morpurgo's 'Wreck of the Zanzibar' and researching about the Isles of Scilly. We liked learning about how people in the past lived and how they earnt their money. We had to write a newspaper article about what happened when rescued Billy and his crew, taking them back to the island. We have published our articles.' Cora and Leo (Year 4)

'This past week Year 5 have been drafting a letter to Mr Spielburg about a short animation called 'Ruin'. We had to persuade him to turn 'Ruin' into a feature film.' Anna (Year 5)

'Before writing this letter we focused on the short animation itself. We thought about how the creator was trying to express through writing and music the atmosphere.' Aks (Year 5)

"If you want to be a writer, you must do two things above all others: read a lot and write a lot." ~ Stephen King

If you have pre-school children and like the sound of St Peter's School then why not contact us to find out about the application process? Telephone 01962 852820 or email <u>admin@st-peters.hants.sch.uk</u>.

Best wishes

Louise Buxton (Miss)

Headteacher