

# PETERPOST

## Parish of St. Peter and the Winchester Martyrs

Alresford • Stockbridge • Winchester

31<sup>st</sup> October 2021

All Saints – Year B

*Confessions of a Control Freak Week 4 – All Saints, All Poor in Spirit*

**Fr Mark writes:**

Welcome to the fourth week of our series, "Confessions of a Control Freak." We've suggested that we're all control freaks about one thing or another, and these things can actually get in the way of our relationship with God. Instead, if we can learn to loosen our grip, even just a little bit, the quality of our relationship with God, of all of our relationships of our lives would get better. And that's what this series is all about.

Today we're talking about another topic, surrendering control to God. And I would like to look at that through the lens of the first Beatitude, or "blessing", which Jesus offers in our Gospel, Blessed are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

This is not the first beatitude by accident. It is, in fact, the foundation of all the beatitudes. Just as baptism is unique in that it gives access to the other sacraments, so poverty in spirit gives access to the other beatitudes and opens for us the path to holiness.

St. Paul, when writing to the Philippians, urges them to have the same heart and mind as Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God as something to be grasped at / used to his own advantage, but emptied himself...Jesus is the ultimate illustration of humility, of poverty in spirit. Even for Jesus to become human was for him to become poor, and he thought of his life as kenosis, an open-handed spending, even to death.

At the core of our being we are truly dependent on God, even for our very existence, but we spend much of life insulated from this reality, surrounded by our comforts. We ultimately have two choices - to embrace our poverty or to run away from it and become the slave to anxiety and worries and concerns.

Poverty of spirit begins with an awareness of our own sinfulness but it goes beyond that. First and foremost, it is an attitude of childlike trust in God. The true identity of Jesus is to be the beloved son of the Father. We too are beloved sons and daughters of the Father - this is our fundamental identity.

The Little Way of St. Therese gives an insight into this. One reason why the way of Therese appeals to so many is that it appeals to the grace of our baptism. God is a loving Father, who wishes to bless us with his love and mercy. God gives us the courage to approach him, not with fear but with total confidence.

Therese had an intense experience of God one Christmas Eve after Midnight Mass. She was just shy of her fourteenth birthday at the time, and this experience freed her from years of scruples, enabling her to move from a stubborn childishness to become a true child of God. She was strengthened in her conviction that she was small and helpless, but in a positive way, enabling her to trust in God. The love of God was poured into her heart and she came to know God as he is, a loving, generous father.

Therese loved to tell the story of a hare which was being chased by the king's dogs, when suddenly the hare turned around and leapt into arms of the king, following behind in his chariot. From this moment, the king forbade anyone from harming the hare. We too need to take our comfort in the arms of the King, throwing ourselves into the arms of Jesus. God is more loving and more merciful than you realise.

The fulcrum of our spiritual lives is living as beloved sons and daughters of the Father, trusting in his will and love. Being small, we see the value of small things, small actions of love and mercy. We pass as little

children from pride to humility, autonomy to dependence on God, fear and anxiety to loving trust.

I'm guessing that for most of you this is not new information. You know that you need to love God and trust in him, be more loving, be more humble. The problem that we have, though, is not an information problem. It's not a knowledge problem. The problem isn't that we don't know what to do. It's the problem that, even though we do know what to do, sometimes often we don't do it. We don't have a head problem. We have a heart problem. Maybe you're reading this and you're well aware of your control issues. It's something that you're working on. Or maybe you're here today and you're sort of waking up to the fact that you might have some issues in this area. Or maybe you're thinking about and deciding on the impact that you want to leave behind, the mark that you want to make on this road with your life. And you know you want to leave behind a legacy of love. You don't want to be known as a controlling person. But at the same time, you know you can't do it on your own.

If any of that is you, congratulations, you're in the right place. Because we're all on a journey. None of us has arrived yet. And I think that the most helpful thing would not be for me to just say, "Try harder next time. Good luck. Be more loving, more humble, off you go." I think the most helpful thing would be for you to have a humble encounter, face-to-face with the Lord Jesus. Because when we approach God in humility, He absolutely always meets us right there. The real confession of a control freak is the simple, poor in spirit, humble confession that I need God. Then we're on the path to possessing the kingdom of God; the path to holiness; the path to eternal life with All Saints.



Maybe the best thing I can do is to invite you to take just a few minutes away from the noise and make a simple prayer of surrender to God, your Loving Father, perhaps like this one from St. Ignatius of Loyola:

Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty,  
My memory, my understanding  
And my entire will,  
All I have and call my own.

You have given all to me.  
To you, Lord, I return it.

Everything is yours; do with it what you will.  
Give me only your love and your grace.  
That is enough for me.

Amen.



**Message from the Petercares Team** - We are concerned that the autumn and winter season ahead looks quite challenging with regard to Covid, influenza and rising energy costs. We'd like to encourage anyone who is feeling anxious or isolated and who would welcome a regular, friendly telephone call from one of our wonderful callers to get in touch. You can email [petercares@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:petercares@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) or telephone the parish office and ask for a message to be passed through to us. It doesn't matter if you have never had a call before, would like to resume calls or would like to increase the frequency of your calls - we are here for you.

**New doors at St Stephen's** - As of this week, the long-awaited replacement double doors and frame into St Stephen's church have now been fitted. All three pairs of double doors into the church are now fitted with safety devices that will auto-close on detection of the fire alarm signal. The old doors needed to be replaced due to splitting at their pivot points. Don't they look spiffy? (As well as safe.)



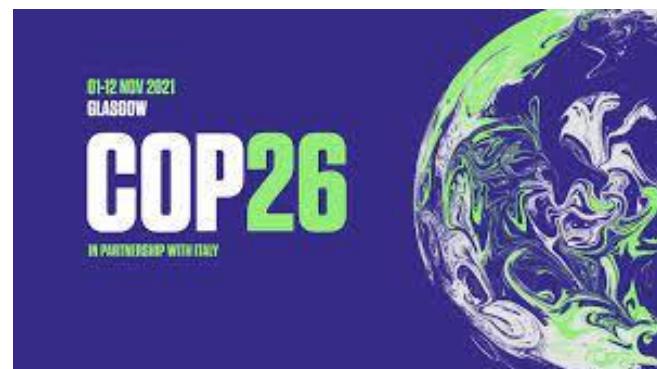
**Keeping children safe** – in order to keep children safe at all times when visiting our churches, please could we ask parents/guardians to accompany any child of primary school age or younger when they need to make use of the toilets. Many thanks.

**Parish 100 Club:** The winner of the £50 prize for October 2021 is Paddy Edworthy. There are vacancies in the Club! Monthly sub is £4.00 or £48 annually, and there are monthly prizes of £50, and Six-monthly prizes of £100, £200 and £500, with the balance going to parish funds. Contact Piers Armstrong on 01962 734542 or [piersmarmstrong@gmail.com](mailto:piersmarmstrong@gmail.com)

The Parish Laudato si group has a vision!

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

In the run up to COP 26 we are sharing information on local and national items which relate to our aim of Caring for our Common Home.



## Together for our Planet - Finding Hope: An art exhibition in the Discovery Centre Cafe till November 12<sup>th</sup>

One of the Winchester Green Week events was an invitation to respond to this quote by Pope Francis:

**'May our struggles and concern for our planet never take away the joy of our hope'.**

We have gathered some art works: concept board reflections, embroidery, collage and oil painting, and these are on display at the Discovery Centre until 12th November in the Cafe area. There is also a 'community doodle book' so visitors can express their own responses.

We hope this will be part of the discussion in our wider community during the COP26 UN Conference in Glasgow and that it will reach past the facts and figures and allow people to find the emotion that can lead to action: hope.

Here are some of our parishioners who have contributed to the exhibition at the Discovery Centre.



**CAFOD** is participating in a GLOBAL DAY OF ACTION for CLIMATE JUSTICE in London on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> November in the middle of the Glasgow Conference on Climate Change (COP26). If you would like to be involved, register on the CAFOD website or simply turn up from 11.00 am onwards at: St Mary, Moorfields, Eldon Street, London EC2M 7LS

**The CAFOD Prayer for COP26** Loving God, we praise your name with all you have created. You are present in the whole universe, and in the smallest of creatures. We acknowledge the responsibilities you have placed upon us as stewards of your creation. May the Holy Spirit inspire all political leaders at COP26 as they seek to embrace the changes needed to foster a more sustainable society. Instil in them the courage and gentleness to implement fairer solutions for the poorest and most vulnerable, and commit their nations to the care of Our Common Home. We ask this through Our Lord Jesus Christ your Son. Amen



**Introducing Our Parish** In this corner of the newsletter we'd like to let you know more about what's going on, how the parish runs, and who the people are that you see in church! Let us know if there's anything or anyone you'd particularly like to hear about.

## Getting to know you...

**Name:** Piers Armstrong

**Favourite Saint?** St John Bosco

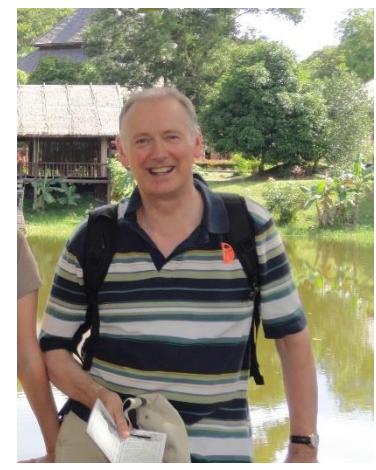
**Favourite hymn or worship song?**

Lo, He comes with clouds descending

**How long have you been connected with the Parish?** 40 years

**Which ministry(ies) are you involved in?**

Choir/Cantor, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, EMHC to the housebound, 100 club coordinator, representative to Churches Together in Alresford



**If we wanted to talk to you about your ministry, which Mass would we usually find you at?** 11am St Gregory's

**An unusual/little-known fact about yourself?** I'm a keen (ageing) cyclist and work one day a week at the Life charity shop in Eastleigh



### Canon Peter Wilkie

As many of you will know, Canon Peter moved from his flat in St Peter's Street to more accessible accommodation in Ringwood. The move went well, and he is happily settled there. But he has recently been diagnosed with cancer: please keep him in your prayers.

### Upcoming Parish Events/Dates for the Diary

Additional information on the events below will be included in forthcoming editions of Peterpost.

- Bamenda Sunday – Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> November
- The next 'Big Welcome Sunday' after 10.30am Family Mass – Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> November
- Youth and Young Adults Music Group – 5.30pm Mass on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> November
- Annual Mass of Remembrance at 7pm on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November
- Young Adults' Prayer and Adoration - Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> November, 8-9pm
- Blessing of the Graves at Alresford and St James' Cemetery - Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November at 3pm
- Mayor of Winchester joining us for a Civic Mass at 10.30am in St Peter's – Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November
- Magdalen Hill Cemetery Service - Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November at 3.30pm



### Useful Contacts

**Clergy:** Fr Mark Hogan (Parish Priest) ([mhogan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:mhogan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)) ;

Fr Anthony Chiatu Njingo (Assistant Priest) ([cnjingo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:cnjingo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)) ;

Deacon Gerard Dailly ([gdailly@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:gdailly@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk))

and Deacon Martin McElroy ([mmcelroy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:mmcelroy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk))

**Director of Evangelisation and Leadership:** Allegra Mutanda ([allegra@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:allegra@stpeterswinchester.org.uk))

**Finance and Property Manager:** Annette Parr ([annette@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:annette@stpeterswinchester.org.uk))

**Facilities and Resources Manager:** Sean Reidy ([sean@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:sean@stpeterswinchester.org.uk))

**Parish Administration Manager:** Michaela Waterfield ([michaela@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:michaela@stpeterswinchester.org.uk))

**Sacristan:** Laurie Howe      **Caretaker:** Richard Phiri

**Pastoral team – Baptism and First Holy Communion:** Rosanne Walker ([baptism@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:baptism@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)), ([FHC@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:FHC@stpeterswinchester.org.uk))

**Pastoral team – Youth Ministry:** Jo Donaldson ([youthstuff@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:youthstuff@stpeterswinchester.org.uk))

**Outreach Ministry Lead:** Mike Elks ([mike@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:mike@stpeterswinchester.org.uk))

**Volunteer Director of Operations:** Dcn Gerard Dailly ([gdailly@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:gdailly@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk))

**Volunteer Director of Communications:** Moira Redmond ([moirar@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk).

**PeterCares:** [petercares@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:petercares@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) **Prayerline:** [prayers@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:prayers@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

**Newsletter** (deadline for items Wednesday evening): [newsletters@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:newsletters@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) **Newsletter list:** [hello@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:hello@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

**St. Peter's School Office:** 01962 852820 [admin@st-peters.hants.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-peters.hants.sch.uk)

**St. Thomas More's Stockbridge:** please email [stm@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:stm@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

### Symposium on Politics and Religion – Saturday 6th November 2021

The last Symposium on science and religion held in 2018 in Winchester was a great success. The next one – on Politics and Religion – is timed to coincide with COP26 and will be held online on Saturday 6th November 2021. The keynote speakers are the Rt Hon Jacob Rees-Mogg MP and Ruth Kelly MP, former Education Secretary. Workshops will be run on a range of topics by Lord David Alton, Rt. Hon. Mark Hoban, Dr. Elizabeth Slinn, Dr. Mary Sutton, George O'Neill from the Cardinal Hume Centre and Dr. David Goodill OP, from Blackfriars, Oxford. David Wells, the popular inspirational speaker, will be front of house as presenter and guide. More information can be found on the website: <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/symposium> Tickets can be booked directly on <https://prcdtr-symposium.eventbrite.co.uk>



<b>Mass Timetable</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup> October – 6<sup>th</sup> November 2021</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>Mass Times &amp; Intentions</b>			<b>Livestream/Public</b>
<b>SATURDAY – October 30<sup>th</sup> Solemnity of the Blessed Winchester Martyrs</b>	<b>9.00AM</b>	Mass for the Blessed Winchester Martyrs	Soul of Agnes Mary Robinson	Livestream, public, booking reqd
	<b>5.30 PM</b>	Vigil Mass	Maria & Joao – 55 <sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary	Livestream, public, booking reqd
<b>SUNDAY – October 31st</b> <b>All Saints – Solemnity (transferred)</b>	<b>8.00 AM</b>	Mass	Soul of Richard Wheble	Livestream, public, booking reqd
	<b>9.00 AM</b>	Mass at St Thomas More's	People of the Parish	Public, booking reqd *
	<b>9.15 AM</b>	Mass at St Stephen's	Mary Richards RIP	Public, booking reqd
	<b>10.30AM</b>	Mass	Soul of John McKendry	Livestream, public, booking reqd
	<b>11.00 AM</b>	Mass at St Gregory's		Public, booking reqd
	<b>5.30PM</b>	Mass	Peter Whiteman RIP	Livestream, public, booking reqd
<b>MONDAY – November 1st</b>	<b>12.15PM</b>	Mass	Intentions of the Neil Family	Livestream & public
<b>TUESDAY – November 2<sup>nd</sup> Commemoration of All Souls</b>	<b>7.00AM</b>	Mass	Avelina Bonus (health) and Angelo Bonus RIP	Livestream & public
	<b>10.00AM</b>	Mass	Soul of David Tutton	Livestream & public
	<b>10.00AM</b>	Mass at St Gregory's		Public
	<b>7.00PM</b>	Mass	Nuala Halpin RIP	Livestream & public
<b>WEDNESDAY – November 3rd</b>	<b>10.00AM</b>	Mass	Dorothy Beattie RIP	Livestream & public
<b>THURSDAY – November 4th</b>	<b>10.00AM</b>	Mass	Soul of Mrs. Giles	Livestream & public
<b>FRIDAY – November 5th</b>	<b>10.00AM</b>	Mass at St Gregory's		Public
	<b>12.15PM</b>	Mass	Souls in Purgatory	Livestream & public
<b>SATURDAY – November 6<sup>th</sup> Our Lady on Saturday Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - Vigil</b>	<b>9.00AM</b>	Mass	Peter and Kathleen Cook RIP	Livestream. Public, booking reqd
	<b>5.30 PM</b>	Vigil Mass	All Souls in Purgatory	Livestream, public, booking reqd

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

**FOR ALL ONLINE BOOKINGS** please use website homepage - [The Parish of St Peter & the Winchester Martyrs](#) - or call office 01962 852804. Or you can email office if any issues: [office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

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

**Adoration every Monday and Friday from 11am-12noon at St Peter's Church.**

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

**Night Prayer (livestream and open to public) Sunday to Thursday from St Peter's, 9.00pm.**

**Morning Prayer (livestream and open to public) every weekday, Monday to Friday, 8.00am at St Peter's followed by Adoration till 9.00am**

**To participate online or see the recorded services for Morning Prayer & Adoration and Night Prayer & Adoration, go to our [YouTube channel](#)**

**ALL SERVICES (INCLUDING MORNING PRAYER, NIGHT PRAYER & ADORATION) FROM ST PETER'S ARE LIVESTREAMED**

**Parish Safeguarding Representative** - We will soon be recruiting a new Safeguarding team, 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 [safeguarding@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) or telephone number: 02394 216486. Email is probably best as, with current restrictions etc, the office is not always resourced. 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 [safeguarding@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) address for any queries or contact Ruth Attfield, our diocesan safeguarding coordinator on 02394 216486.

## **Job Vacancies at St Peter's School**

### **Teaching Support Assistant**

Contract/hours: 30 hours per week, term time only, fixed term to July 2022

Salary range: Grade B/c (pro rata)

Start date: ASAP

Closing date: 5th November 2021 (midday)

Interview date: 10th November 2021

We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic Teaching Assistant to work in our happy caring school. Previous experience in a similar role is preferable. This could be a good opportunity for someone considering undertaking teacher training to gain valuable experience. We are looking to appoint a flexible, enthusiastic person to join our friendly team of hard-working staff. The successful candidate will be part of a supportive and dedicated team. Part time job share may be the right candidate. For more details, please visit the school website: <https://www.stpetershants.co.uk/vacancies/>

### **Pre-school Assistant (maternity cover)**

Contract/hours: 14 hours per week, 8.30 to 16.00 Tuesdays and Fridays, term time only, maternity cover

Salary range: Grade A point 3 (pro-rata)

Start date: ASAP

Anticipated finish date: Friday 18th February 2022

Closing date: 8th November 2021 (midday)

Interview date: week commencing 8th November 2021

We are seeking to appoint a caring Pre-School Assistant to work in our Little Fishes Pre-School. Previous experience is preferable. We are looking to appoint a flexible, enthusiastic person to join our friendly team of hard-working staff. The successful candidate will be part of a supportive and dedicated team. For more details, please visit the school website: <https://www.stpetershants.co.uk/vacancies/>