

PETERPOST

Parish of St. Peter and the Winchester Martyrs

Alresford • Stockbridge • Winchester

3rd October 2021

27th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year B

More than Enough - We Need God and Other People

Fr Mark writes:

Over the last few weeks, we've been talking about when enough is enough. We've talked about this idea of enough and how it is a question that can haunt us. We wonder if we have enough, get enough, do enough, are enough. And if we focus our lives on 'enough', we might be missing out on the real purpose of our lives. Our goal is to follow the Lord. To follow Jesus means to go where he goes, even when that means going to the cross. And that sounds difficult and challenging. But it is better than the alternative in which we worry about making life work out for us all alone and on our own. It is better than the constant feeling of knowing that we don't have enough. Following the Lord to the cross is enough because the cross is more than enough.

Today we are going to look at a passage from the second chapter of the book of Genesis. While people often look at the beginning of Genesis as a kind of fairy tale, it is actually a book of great depth and insight. Genesis helps us to understand eternal truths and the reality of our human condition. When God created the world and everything in it, he pronounced it good. The whole world is created good. There is no sin, no war, no disease. It is a complete paradise.

"The Lord God then took the man and settled him in the Garden of Eden to cultivate it and care for it." Genesis 2:15

All the world is good and God gives the first man, Adam, a job to do: care for and cultivate the garden. Work is a gift from God and he gave it to humanity before anything went wrong in the world. Adam is in paradise. He is in a perfect world. All is good, which makes this next verse somewhat surprising. The Lord God said:

"It is not good that the man should be alone. I will make him a helpmate." Genesis 2:18

This is the only time in the first two chapters that we encounter those words, 'not good'. Despite all that Adam had going his way, living in this creation that is created 'good', something is 'not good'. God recognises a problem in Adam's life that even Adam himself, at this point, does not truly understand. That's our reality. We don't always recognise or appreciate the problems in our life. We can't always see when something is missing from our life that we truly need. What God sees that Adam doesn't see is that: "It is not good...to be alone." God hates loneliness. God hates loneliness because God is not alone, but rather God is Father, Son and Holy Spirit, a communion of persons continually loving one another in an endless, eternal mutual indwelling of love.

Even though Adam has a good relationship with God, that is not enough. That almost sounds blasphemous because so often we are told that all we need is God, but this passage of Scripture seems to challenge that. We need more and God provides us with more. It is not enough just to have a relationship with God. Spiritual growth and health requires more. Unless you're called to the life of a hermit, you will not grow closer to God, you will not become everything God created you to be by just spending time with God in personal prayer or private devotions. Prayer is essential, it's just not enough, it's necessary but not sufficient.

To grow as a follower of Christ, it is not enough for you simply (or not so simply) to come here and attend Mass on the weekend. Mass is crucial.

It is the source and summit of our whole faith, but it's not the whole journey: more is needed. You need friendship in faith. We need friendships in faith, to follow Christ better. We also need them to just live more successful lives. You are not enough - you cannot solve the problems and meet the responsibilities of your life on your own. You will never have enough time, energy and stamina to meet your responsibilities. You can't. You need God and you need other people.

It is amazing the strength and power that comes when there is more than one in a group working together. We see this in physics and in nature. Geese, for example, go further and faster when they fly together in formation than geese flying alone...in fact, 70% further and faster.

It's the same for us: we need friends in faith. We may not see the problem of trying to do life all alone and on our own, but God sees the picture clearly.

"So from the soil the Lord God fashioned all the wild beasts and all the birds of heaven. These he brought to the man to see what he would call them...But no helpmate suitable for the man was found for him." (Genesis 2:19, 21)

Now, didn't God know that none of the animals would satisfy Adam's need for companionship? Of course he did. He knew that, but Adam didn't. As all these animals fail to meet Adam's need for companionship, God is helping him realise that he needs a human relationship. God is heightening his desire for friendship and fellowship, in which he is known and can be known, can love and be loved. Adam recognises that life on his own is not good. So, Genesis tells us,

"The Lord God built the rib he had taken from the man into a woman, and brought her to the man, The man exclaimed: "This at last is bone from my bones and flesh of my flesh." (Genesis 2.22)

Adam finally, at last, understands his situation. And now it is good.

The experience of many parishes is that when people join a small group, like our Acorn Groups, they have an experience not unlike Adam's. They never knew what they were missing. Simply having substantial conversation with other people who actually care about you could be a refreshing experience for many. Talking about what matters to you, what concerns you, what you're currently dealing with: at home, at school, at work, sharing joys and sorrows, hopes and fears. Moreover, simply placing all of it in the context of our faith, to understand better what's going on and to understand our faith better. How many of you have these sorts of conversations during the normal course of the week..?

God wants to put some people around you to help you shoulder your burdens and so you can help share the burdens of others. God wants to put some people around you to share your joys and successes. God wants to put some people around you who 'get' faith in Jesus, with its joys and challenges. God wants to put some people around you who can pray with you and for you.

Today, there is no homework! I'm just, at this stage, trying to plant a seed in your heart and mind...some might call it an acorn...The bad news is you cannot have an entirely successful life all alone and on your own, there are just too many areas to take care of. By yourself, there's never enough you can do.

That's the bad news. The good news is that you don't have to.

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 and other activities. Look at our website <https://www.catholicwinchester.org.uk/>, or our [Facebook page](#) or email office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 3rd October (alternative antiphons will be used at the Vigil Mass)

Entrance Antiphon:

Within your will, O Lord, all things are established,
and there is none that can resist your will.
For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth,
and all that is held within the circle of heaven;
you are the Lord of all.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Your word is truth, O Lord, consecrate us in the truth.
Alleluia!

First reading: Gen 2:18-24

Gospel: Mark 10:2-16

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 127 r.5
May the Lord bless us all the days of our life.

Communion Antiphon:

The Lord is good to those who hope in him,
To the soul that seeks him.

Second reading: Heb 2:9-11

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - Adoration will again take place from 11am – 12noon before the 12.15pm Mass every Monday and Friday at St Peter's Church, starting from Monday 4th October.

Second Collection: Family Fast Day (Friday 1st October)

This annual Harvest collection for CAFOD will take place on the weekend of 2nd and 3rd October. We are encouraged to have a simple planet-friendly meal and donate the savings to helping those most affected by the climate crisis. We pray for all those striving to protect the earth, our common home: that God may strengthen them in their work and inspire us all to be guardians of the precious gift of creation.



Super Welcome Sunday, 3rd October – 10:30am Mass at St. Peter's



Welcome Back! Whether you have been away from our pews for a while, are one of our much loved 'regulars', or are just passing through our doors for the first time, please know you are heartily invited to our church for mass and for teas and coffees after mass in the pastoral centre. **Sunday 3rd October** will officially mark the recommencement of refreshments after **10:30am mass** and we would love you to join us for a cuppa and catch up in the pastoral centre. We look forward to seeing you then! The Welcome and Hospitality Team

A warm welcome awaits at the Pastoral Centre – over the next few weeks, our wonderful team of reception desk volunteers will be returning to the Pastoral Centre, during the week and after some weekend masses. They have been greatly missed during the lockdown period and it is clear that they too have missed being part of the daily hustle and bustle that takes place in the centre. The volunteers will be available to meet and greet visitors and support with any enquiries from 9am-4pm Monday to Friday. There are some days and times that the desk is not yet covered, so if you are interested in volunteering for this fun, varied and interesting role, please speak to Michaela in the parish office for more information.

Bamenda Mass - A mass of thanksgiving for the Portsmouth Diocese Bamenda Committee and the work of Colm Lennon as chair of the group, will be taking place at St Peter's Church on Friday 9th October at 7pm. We offer a warm welcome to the members of the committee, their families and all the Bamendan priests who will be attending this special mass.



Journey in Faith - Do **you** know someone (perhaps yourself) who might want to know more about the Catholic Church? Perhaps they are just waiting to be asked? Please tell them about the Journey in Faith programme. It is for those seeking answers. For anyone who might want to know what Catholics believe. Perhaps for parents of children coming to St Peter's School who would like to learn more in order to support them. Or for those who have been coming to mass for years, but have never gone up for communion. The Journey in Faith will try and show you more about what we within the Catholic Church believe and do. We will try and answer any and all questions you might have about our faith, about the Church, about the Journey. Absolutely no commitment is requested or required – we are happy always, to share our journey with you for however long or short a period you choose. Our programme starts on 5 October at 8pm in the Parish Centre, and if you're interested, or just want to know more, please speak to Nick Kelly on 07960 797963, email at explore@stpeterswinchester.org.uk, or just turn up!

Buildings work update: We apologise for the slow progress and continued disruption to parking along the north wall at St Peter's. Since work started, the builders and their contractors have been hampered by Covid, pings, materials shortages and recently, due to no diesel at the pumps, their deliveries are not arriving! Please bear with us and thank you for your patience. It will be worth the wait!



 **First Holy Communion Programme 2022:** Enrolment on this year's programme is now open for children in Year 4 (or above). Please email Rosanne at fhc@stpeterswinchester.org.uk for more information and registration forms. Deadline for registering your child(ren) is October half term.

Welcome to James Gupta who was baptised in St. Peter's and Amelie Patterson who was baptised during the mass at St Stephen's last weekend. May God bless James and Amelie with His love and grace, today and always.

 **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: Let us pray that we may all embrace this weekend's Super Welcome Sunday. Let everyone experience a true welcome into God's family and may we bring new hope for our wonderful Parish Community.



PLEASE PRAY FOR the repose of the souls of those who have died recently:
Marie-Antoinette Aline Russell RIP
Philomene Salmon RIP

Next weekend: The Covenant with the Poor team will be appealing for support for 'Sisters of St Lucy - school rebuilding in Eritrea'. A link to the appeal leaflet will be on the parish website front page in the CWP section. Please support generously as ever!

Discovering More about the Mass: A series of five online evening sessions led by Tony Darlison and the St. Peter's Formation Team. In this Year of the Eucharist, Bishop Philip invites us to reflect on the mystery of Jesus' sacramental presence in the world in the form of the consecrated bread and wine, truly His body, blood, soul and divinity. Join with us in entering more deeply into this beautiful mystery by discovering more about the Mass - what it is, what happens during Mass, and what can happen to us through our participation in the sacrifice of the Mass.

If you would like to join us, please register on the Zoom link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/joinMeeting/register/tZUqdOGtpzwpGtGuXdromkFysxlK6iSbowQO>

The sessions will begin on Tuesday 12 October at 7.45pm and run every Tuesday for 5 weeks.



The Parish Laudato si group has a vision!
'To Bring People Closer to Jesus Through Care of our Common Home'
After a busy and thought provoking Winchester Green Week, 'Top Tips' have returned! This is one you have heard before, but are you doing it?
Switch off appliances when they are not in use. Leaving electric items such as audio-visual equipment and kitchen appliances on standby uses electricity. If you are not using these appliances turn them off! This includes phone and tablet chargers. This is a "Win Win" as you help save the planet and money.

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

Youth Ministry: Our parish youth group has started up again! We have changed days to a Friday, but we are now meeting every week from 7pm - 9pm 😊 We have a new programme with a variety of topics and projects, and alongside that, we will also have games, snacks and prayer 😊

This group is for anyone aged 11-17 (year 7-13).

(Please email youthstuff@stpeterswinchester.org.uk for more information, and to receive sign up forms)



Did you used to come to Pie Club pre-Covid? We are back soon – with a new name but the same great food, sociability and a talk, once a month. Keep Wednesday lunchtime free on Oct 20th, and look out for more details soon – or email moirar@stpeterswinchester.org.uk now! New people will be welcome too.

Mission Sunday Mass : Bishop Philip will be celebrating Mission Mass (Universal Mission Sunday) on Tuesday 19th October 2021 at 12.15pm at St. John's Cathedral, Portsmouth, followed by refreshments in the Cathedral discovery Centre. There will be a Mission talk after Mass. You are very welcome. For more details please contact : Fr. Innaiah Maddineni at 023 9237 6151 or scsp@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Taize Prayer at Winchester Cathedral – Come along for contemplative prayer with songs, readings and silence. 6-7pm on 24th October and 21st November. Everyone welcome!

ORANGE HEART CAMPAIGN: Seventy years ago, after the horrors of World War II, the UK signed the UN Refugee Convention, giving our commitment to protecting people fleeing persecution. In celebration of seven decades of offering asylum, and in acknowledgement of the enormous contribution of refugees to British society, the Southampton and Winchester Visitors Group, (SWVG), and hundreds of other organisations across the UK are joining the Orange Heart Campaign. The heart was designed in collaboration with refugees and people seeking asylum as a symbol of welcome and support.

SWVG is inviting you to join us by making or printing a heart, available to download here: <https://togetherwithrefugees.org.uk/get-involved/refugee-convention/>, signing it, photographing yourself with it, alone or with friends and family, in a place you love or where you feel at home, and sharing it on social media. The message is "I feel good here, I want refugees to feel good here too". Then send the actual heart to Gail Johnston, Spindle Hill, Love Lane, Twyford, SO21 1FB. The paper hearts themselves will be displayed in December as part of the national event. Caroline Nokes MP, the Hampshire Under-16's swimming team and the Bishop of Southampton have already signed up for a photo, with lots more planned.

This simple expression of solidarity will be a powerful tool to counter negative messages about migrants and refugees, and to show the Government the enormous support from people across the UK for refugees and people seeking asylum.

For more information, please contact Catherine Hartley: catherine.hartley@swvg-refugees.org.uk.



Useful Contacts

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

Fr Anthony Chiatu Njingo (Assistant Priest (cnjingo@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 – Baptism and First Holy Communion: Rosanne Walker (baptism@stpeterswinchester.org.uk), (FHC@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

Pastoral team – Youth Ministry: Jo Donaldson (youthstuff@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: prayers@stpeterswinchester.org.uk

Newsletter (deadline for items Wednesday evening): newsletters@stpeterswinchester.org.uk **Newsletter list:** hello@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 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 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 address for any queries or contact Ruth Attfield, our diocesan safeguarding coordinator on 02394 216486.

Mass Timetable	2 nd October – 9 th October 2021			
Date	Mass Times & Intentions			Livestream/Public
SATURDAY – October 2nd The Holy Guardian Angels, memorial 27 th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Vigil	9.00AM	Mass	Intentions of the Neil family	Livestream, public
	5.30 PM	Vigil Mass	All Souls in Purgatory	Livestream, public, booking reqd
SUNDAY – October 3rd 27 th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	8.00 AM	Mass	Soul of John Joseph Voller	Livestream, public, booking reqd
	9.00 AM	Mass at St Thomas More's		Public, booking reqd *
	9.15 AM	Mass at St Stephen's	People of the Parish	Public, booking reqd
	10.30AM	Mass	The Guardian Angels	Livestream, public, booking reqd
	11.00 AM	Mass at St Gregory's		Public, booking reqd
	5.30PM	Mass	Patricia Smith RIP	Livestream, public, booking reqd
MONDAY – October 4th St Francis of Assisi – Founder, memorial	12.15PM	Mass	Intentions of Alice, Tommy & Louisa Kelly	Livestream & public
TUESDAY – October 5th St Faustina Kowalska, Religious	10.00AM	Mass	Soul of Valerie Bell	Livestream & public
	10.00AM	Mass at St Gregory's		Public
WEDNESDAY – October 6th	10.00AM	Mass	Chloe Williams RIP	Livestream & public
THURSDAY – October 7th Our Lady of the Rosary	10.00AM	Mass	Fabio Estrada Mejia RIP (20 th anniv.)	Livestream & public
FRIDAY – October 8th	10.00AM	Mass at St Gregory's		Public
	12.15PM	Mass	For the Benefactors	Livestream & public
	7.00PM	Bamenda Mass	Thanksgiving - Portsmouth Diocese Bamenda Committee	Livestream & public
SATURDAY – October 9th St John Henry Newman, Religious - Feast	9.00AM	Mass		Livestream & public
	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 - 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

*To book mass at St Thomas More's Stockbridge, email: 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) every Monday – Thursday and Sunday evening from St Peter's, 9.00pm.

Morning Prayer (livestream and open to public) every weekday, Monday to Friday, 8.00am at St Peter' 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

Alpha has begun! This is the Alpha session this week! And yes it is just as interesting and fun and buzz-y as it looks - and you can still sign on for this series (last chance - register on our website <https://catholicwinchester.org.uk/alpha/>)





Dear Parents

Message from St. Peter's School

Student Council

We are so pleased that the Student Council will be re-instated this year in its original form. Most classes have chosen their representatives and we have had our first meeting. When the Student Council was reflecting on the many initiatives it has been involved in, we were all amazed! This year, the Student Council is hoping to run several inspiring events such as:

- Fundraising to support charities
- Environmental projects for our school
- Fun days for Christmas and the end of the year
- Links with the Westacre Care home
- Prayer links within the school



Our first project will be the HARVEST MASS on the 8th of October. We will be supporting both the Winchester Night Shelter and The Winchester Basics Bank. You can help! Every child is invited to bring in non-perishable food items for donation.

Many Thanks in Advance.

Mrs Woolgar and the Student Council

Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men. Colossians 3:23

Harvest

We will be celebrating Harvest Festival during the week commencing 4th October. We will be supporting the Night Shelter and the Basics Bank.

They would be grateful for any of the following:

- tinned fruit and vegetables, tinned potatoes
- tinned meat and fish, savoury rice
- cooking sauces, UHT milk
- porridge, jam
- marmite, custard
- rice pudding, squash
- cleaning products and laundry tablets
- size 6 nappies
- deodorant, shower gel, shampoo
- dog and cat food.



Throughout the week, I will go to the classrooms with Mrs Hinde's shopping trolley to collect any donations before dividing up the harvest goods for both charities and celebrating Harvest with a school Mass.

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 admin@st-peters.hants.sch.uk.

Best wishes

Louise Buxton (Miss)
Headteacher

Job vacancies at St Peter's Catholic Primary School

Breakfast Club Assistant

Hours of work/type of contract: 7.20-8.50am, term time only. Casual work arrangement, paid on a sessional basis
Pay: £25 per session
Start date: ASAP
Closing date: Monday 11th October (midday)
Interview date: Thursday 14th October (pm)

After School Club Assistant

Hours of work/type of contract: 3.30-6.00pm, term time only. Casual work arrangement, paid on a sessional basis
Pay: £38.84 per session
Start date: ASAP
Closing date: Monday 11th October (midday)
Interview date: Thursday 14th October (pm)
For more details, please visit the school website: <http://www.stpetershants.co.uk/vacancies>