

# PETERPOST

Parish of St. Peter and the Winchester Martyrs

Alresford • Stockbridge • Winchester

16<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C

*Story of Your Life #3 - Community Helps You in Your Story*

**Fr Mark writes:**

This is the third message of our series on “the story of your life”. When we began this series recently, we noted that our lives are ultimately a story – with a beginning, a middle and an end. When it comes to our lives, we each make a decision whether to live in our own smaller story or to see ourselves as part of God’s larger story. Living in a smaller story brings fear, worry and anxiety. It leads to the things we regret most. Living in God’s larger story brings joy and blessing, even if it doesn’t always look that way at first.

Today’s message is all about our Lenten Spiritual Campaign, where I will invite everyone in the parish to join a small group for the season of Lent. I want to do everything in my power to convince you that your life will be a better story if you get yourself into one of these Lenten small groups. Small groups like these and our Acorn Groups will be core to who we are as a Church. We believe that small groups such as these are absolutely vital for spiritual growth.

What do I mean by a Lenten small group? Well, I simply mean a group of 6-10 people who will get together each week and discuss the topics we introduce here each weekend. As a church we provide materials, and some questions so members can talk about the weekend message in greater depth as well as discuss the Scripture. Here’s what we want to happen in these groups. We want group members to be sharing how the homily is touching their lives. We want to build up relationships, friendships in faith where we can discuss how God’s word intersects with our day-to-day reality. Small groups are almost essential for spiritual growth and they are an especially important environment if you want to understand your story in the light of God’s larger story. And in these small groups you will have the opportunity to learn from other people’s stories. Because there is a bit of randomness as to who joins a Lenten small group, it actually brings a freedom, so you can share your story without fear of judgment knowing that it is shared in confidence. You also come to know your story better as you hear stories from other people.

There is one other advantage to Lenten small groups. To help us understand that advantage we are going to look at this weekend’s passage from John’s Gospel, where we find Jesus and his disciples at a wedding.

*“When they ran out of wine, since the wine provided for the wedding was all finished, the mother of Jesus said to him, ‘They have no wine.’”*

So there is this wedding and everything is great and then the story turns. There is a problem – they have no wine. In Jesus’ culture, hospitality was everything and so to run out of wine was much more than embarrassing and not a good start to this couple’s marriage. Mary knows what’s going on so she brings the problem to her son. She tells Jesus that they don’t have enough wine, with confidence that he can do something about it. Now up to this point, Jesus had never publicly performed any miracle. But Mary knows who he is and she is asking him to start now. As John, the Gospel-writer, tells us, Jesus does perform the miracle. We discover that he not only has the power to turn water into wine, but he can make it into excellent quality wine. There is a happy ending.

It is at this point that the story turns because Mary knows the couple’s problems. She knows the reality of their story and so she brings their concerns to Jesus, to the Son of God who can do something about it.

All of us have problems in our lives. There are struggles in our story. And often we need help. We need someone either to help us out or to listen to us or to lighten the load or simply to do what Mary did in this story and bring our problem to God in prayer.

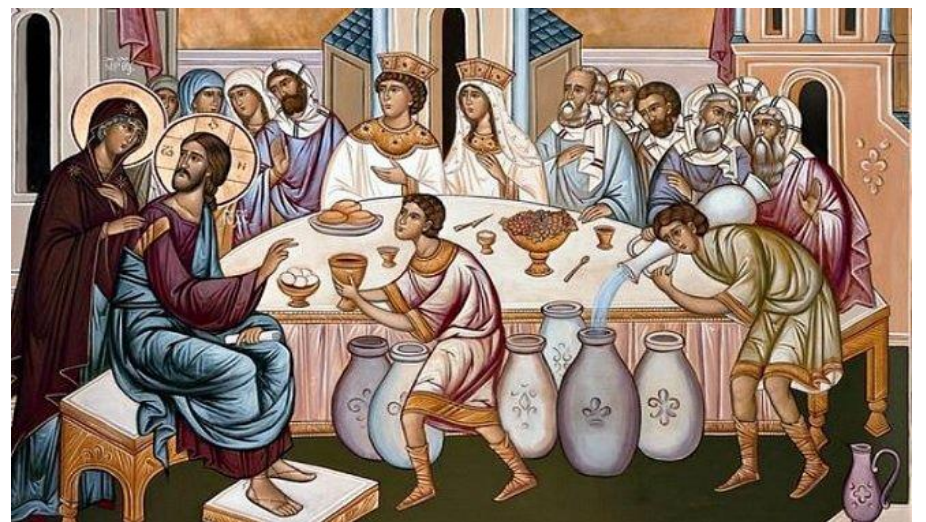
Who knows your story well enough to bring your problems and struggles to Jesus? Who can pray for your problems and struggles? You may think, “Well nobody. Usually I just hide it and hope that it goes away. I usually try and just tough it out on my own.” “Does that work?” “No, it’s just what I do.”

If the pandemic hasn’t taught us that we’re not self-sufficient then perhaps it hasn’t taught us anything at all.

Why not try something different? Why not join an environment where you can be the real you and share your story, share the good and the bad, the joys and the struggles so people can pray for you. I don’t mean that you spill your guts on the floor every week, but just a place to be authentic and acknowledge life isn’t perfect. That’s the environment these Lenten small groups will aim to create.

The whole Gospel story this weekend changes because Mary knew the couple’s problem and brought it before her son. Some of the problems in your life that seem insurmountable, that seem huge, could change because in a small group you would find some people to help you lighten your load, just a bit, and because you would have people praying for you.

Most of us need a small group, and Lent, which begins with Ash Wednesday on 2nd March, is a perfect time to try one out for just a few weeks. The purpose of our small groups is to be spaces that will help us share the joys of our story as well as some of life’s challenges. At times we are going to have problems. We need relationships to carry us. All good stories are marked by relationships. Carve out some time in your schedule this Lent for these supportive, life-giving, story-enhancing relationships.



**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](mailto:office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

## Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C) – 16<sup>th</sup> January

### Entrance Antiphon:

All the earth shall bow down  
before you, O God,  
and shall sing to you,  
shall sing to your name,  
O Most High!

**First reading:** Isaiah 62:1-5

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 95:1-3, 7-10. R.v.3  
Proclaim the wonders of the Lord  
among all the peoples.

**Second reading:** Corinthians 12:4-11

### Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Your words are spirit, Lord,  
And they are life:  
You have the message of eternal life.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel:** John 2:1-11

### Communion Antiphon:

You have prepared a table before me,  
And how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.



**Eucharistic Adoration** - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place on **Monday** and **Friday** next week.



**Mass time change** – please note that Mass will be celebrated at **8am on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January** and not at the usual time of 10am.

## Second Collection Next Weekend – Our Cathedral



Next weekend we take the annual second collection in support of our Cathedral in Portsmouth. Appeal envelopes are available at all Masses for those who do not have gift aided planned giving envelopes for second collections. This collection is the only support our Cathedral receives from the wider Diocesan family.

In response to some of the precautions taken in the previous lockdowns, a 'Give as you Live' page was also created at:

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/cathedral-annual-appeal-1>

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Understandably, we all are aware that these are difficult times for us all, but please give generously to support your cathedral, gift aiding your donation wherever possible.

**A Diocesan Medal for Nan** – Fr Mark recently made a very special visit to Nan MacNamara on the Feast of the Holy Family to award her with a Diocesan Medal. Nan was awarded the medal in recognition of how much she does for other people and the huge amount of work she has done over the years in supporting a wide range of ministries in our parish, particularly in Alresford. From supporting with First Holy Communion, to making countless cups of tea and coffee, organising tea parties for the elderly, using her sewing talents to make gifts for church bazaars, being an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion and taking Communion to the sick...there is so much more that could be listed here! So a huge thank you to Nan for all that she has done and all she continues to do. She is a shining example to us all of how we can and should share our time and talents for the good of others in our community and beyond.



## Prayer Campaign – The Alpha Course

For the next 3 weeks, we invite you to join us in praying daily for the course:

- *for us as a parish*, that God may give us the courage and boldness to invite people we know into this journey of discovering faith.
- *for the team* as they serve and walk alongside people.
- *for the guests*, that God may bless them and speak into their hearts.

There will be a basket near the sanctuary at St Peter's church where you can add the names of all those you would like to invite to partake in Alpha so that we can pray for them each day. Alternatively, text ALPHA PRAYER + name of person to 07825494715 and we'll add their name to the basket.

To register to join the Alpha course, visit

[www.catholicwinchester.org.uk/alpha](http://www.catholicwinchester.org.uk/alpha)

For more information, email

[alpha@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:alpha@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)



**Acorn Groups** Acorn Groups (launched in the parish in April last year) are a community of small groups designed as a continuation of the Alpha experience but with a longer-term focus. They are intended to be a place where members can continue their faith-based friendships and spiritual growth.

The new season of Acorn Groups starts in January and we would love you to join! We begin on Thursday 20th January and meet once a fortnight. As the number of groups increases, we will have additional meeting times available so please do register and choose a day that suits you.

If you would like to register, please use the link <https://forms.office.com/r/A1p3TR5jKE>

Or for more information, please email [acorn@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:acorn@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)



## Churches Together in Winchester

There will be an ecumenical service of evensong at the Cathedral at 3.30pm on 30th January 2022 when our very own Father Mark will be preaching. Please note that this replaces the previously planned Unity Service on Sunday 23 January at 6.30pm.



**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 our Parish Community may have the courage to invite others to Alpha and Youth Alpha so that they may encounter the Lord, bringing them closer to Christ in hope and joy.



**PLEASE PRAY FOR** the repose of the souls of those who have died recently:

Kate Gunner RIP

Bernard Groves RIP

Pamela Henry RIP



# Laudato si Corner



## Discovering More...About our Care for God's Creation

This is the next in our series of 'Discovering More' events, which will take place on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> February. The sessions start at 7.30pm and will be held in the Pastoral Centre. If you would like to book a place, please use the following link or email [office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk).



## JOB VACANCY 2 days a

**week Climate Officer** - hours can increase if we raise more money.

"Building on the work we have been developing with communities we have an exciting opportunity for a **paid part-time role** with the busy staff team and volunteers of Winchester Action on Climate Change.

We need someone to nurture and support this emerging Winchester Climate Action Network (WeCAN) to become a strong sustainable learning network for geographic communities across Winchester district. We hope to extend this role into working with various communities of interest as well."

Advert, job description and

person specification at <https://www.winacc.org.uk/about-us/current-vacancies/>

Closing date midnight 19 January.



## Reducing Food Waste Event Saturday 15th January, 9am to

noon at St. Mark's Church Hall, Oliver's Battery - new monthly workshops and discussions on Sustainability:

- this weekend the focus is 'Reducing Food Waste'
- February's workshop theme will be 'Keeping Warm'

More info here: <https://www.bfobrca.org/sustainability-events-2022-january-reducing-food-waste/>

## Pies & Puds - Wed 19th January

Our next lunch event will be on Wednesday 19th Jan in the Pastoral Centre, 12.45 for 1pm. There'll be a choice of pies, along with vegetarian and gf options, and proper puddings with custard. With the current uncertainty, we're not having a speaker, so will finish a bit earlier than normal - but there will be the usual great conversation, good company, and a warm welcome for everyone. If you've read about us eg in Crosskeys, and wondered, this is a great month to try us out! You don't need to book or commit, but email [moirar@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:moirar@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) with any questions.



**CWL Soup Lunches** – CWL soup lunches for charity will recommence on **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March, 12noon-1.30pm** in the Pastoral Centre, and on the first Friday of the month thereafter. All welcome!

## Tuesdays – Coffee, Cake and Chat

Come and enjoy a coffee, cake and chat in the Pastoral Centre on Tuesday mornings between 10.30am and 12noon. All welcome after Mass, before or after shopping or just call in. Starting on **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January**.



## Monday Movers – NEW CLASS

There's a new, gentle but thorough, Monday Movers class at 11.15am in the Pastoral Centre. It is perfect for men and women over 65 who haven't exercised for a while or have lost confidence in their balance and stability. For more information and to book your place, contact Julia on 07964 361598.

## MASS WITH PRAYER FOR HEALING & SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

**ST PETER'S CHURCH SATURDAY, 12TH FEBRUARY, 3PM**

Anyone who is sick and suffering in any way, emotionally, physically or spiritually, is invited to attend this mass with family and friends.

- all may receive prayer to be spiritually fortified and experience that peace that God alone can give.
- baptised Catholics who have serious or chronic illness, or are frail due to old age, may receive the grace and healing hope provided by the Sacrament.

Everyone welcome. Light refreshments will be available afterwards.

Please register your interest online at <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-peter-and-the-winchester-martyrs/t-lydrnk> or call the parish office on 01962 852804.

If you, or someone you know, would like to attend but will need transport to the mass, please contact the parish office on 01962 852804 by the 1st February 2022.



## Getting to know you...

In this week's section we are featuring our visiting seminarian - he is on a brief placement at St Peter & the Winchester Martyrs, so look out for him over the next week!

**Name:** David Bateman

**Favourite saint:** St John Vianney

**Favourite hymn or worship song:** Alleluia Sing to Jesus

**Connection with the parish?** 5<sup>th</sup> year seminarian at St Mary's

Oscott, doing a Parish placement here for a few weeks

**Which ministries are you involved in?** Observing and participating in everything possible!

**What drew you to the priesthood?** The example of my Parish priest

**Tell us something you are grateful for:** Music!

**Tell us an unusual/little-known fact about yourself:** I love playing the guitar.



Mass Timetable	15 <sup>th</sup> January – 22 <sup>nd</sup> January 2022			
Date	Mass Times & Intentions			Livestream/Public
SATURDAY – January 15 <sup>th</sup>	9.00AM	Mass	Charlotte Johnson Wahl	Livestream, public
	5.30PM	Mass	Intentions of Carmela Kelly	Livestream, public, booking reqd
SUNDAY – January 16 <sup>th</sup>	8.00 AM	Mass	Intentions of Fely Roberts	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	Tommy Kelly	Livestream, public, booking reqd
	11.00 AM	Mass at St Gregory's	John Pollard RIP	Public, booking reqd
	5.30PM	Mass	Margaret Gardiner RIP	Livestream, public, booking reqd
MONDAY – January 17 <sup>th</sup> St Anthony of Egypt, Abbot, memorial	12.15PM	Mass	Frank Burke RIP	Livestream & public
TUESDAY – January 18 <sup>th</sup>	10.00AM	Mass	For the Dead in the Cemeteries	Livestream & public
	10.00AM	Mass at St Gregory's		Public
WEDNESDAY – January 19 <sup>th</sup>	10.00AM	Mass	Souls of the Bristol family	Livestream & public
THURSDAY – January 20 <sup>th</sup>	8.00AM	Mass	Cathy Wade RIP	Livestream & public
FRIDAY – January 21 <sup>st</sup> St Agnes, Virgin, Martyr, memorial	10.00AM	Mass at St Gregory's		Public
	12.15PM	Mass	Mary & Peter Pawlowski RIP	Livestream & public
SATURDAY – January 22 <sup>nd</sup> Our Lady on Saturday	9.00AM	Mass	Patrick & Annie Smith RIP, Phil Smith & the Smith family, Mary Nolan RIP & Josie Smith	Livestream & public
	5.30 PM	Vigil Mass	Thanksgiving for Sr Cecilia & Sr Antonietta	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](http://www.stpeterswinchester.org.uk) - 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.

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

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

Night Prayer (livestream) **Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Thursday this week.**

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** - Any safeguarding concerns or requests for advice can be discussed with Michaela Waterfield in the Parish Office or routed through to the central diocesan safeguarding 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.

## YOU'RE INVITED

Fr Mark is going to the **Big Church Day Out** and he'd love you to go with him! Join him and fellow parishioners on the 3rd and 4th June 2022 with over 30,000 people from across the UK and beyond to worship together in the jaw-dropping surroundings of the Wiston Estate, in the company of some of the best Christian artists in the world., including Catholic Contemporary musician, Matt Maher. There really is something for everyone, of all ages and all tastes (well most tastes!)

HOW DO I BOOK?

Follow the unique group plus link below. You will then be taken to your Group homepage where you can order your tickets. You will then need to create an account or login to your existing account with us. Your card will be charged at midnight on the day of the Group Registration Deadline.

GROUP DISCOUNT

The cheapest way to go to the Big Church Day Out is in a group; the price will keep dropping as our Group grows! Your payment will be taken when our Group closes and we have the lowest price for our Group.

For more info please email the parish office.

This is your unique group plus link: <http://bcdo.group/2022/spwm>

Please click this link to join our group and purchase your tickets to the Big Church Day Out.

We hope you will be able to join us!





Dear Parents

### St Peter's Chess Tournament 2021

On the last day of the Autumn term, Years 5 and 6 Chess Club members took part in our first St Peter's Chess Tournament. We had over 30 participants and the children each played three, twenty-minute games. Their opponents were picked out of a Santa hat so didn't know in advance who they would be playing until they entered the room. They responsibly tallied their own points on their competition cards; one point for check and five for check-mate.

The final was played between the eight players with the most points.

Tension and excitement developed during the twenty-minute final when two players were very close in points. At the end, it was decided that Jamie T and Will D were joint winners with 98 and 97 points respectively. Fantastic play from all the finalists made it a close shave. The children showed maturity and excellent sporty values, encouraging one another and congratulating the winners.

Amazing St Peteronian's, it made the last day of term very exciting for those who participated.

We are now looking forward to the Year 3/4 Chess Tournament at the end of the Spring Term.

Thank you Miss Fletcher for running this club, which clearly the children really enjoy.



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](mailto:admin@st-peters.hants.sch.uk).

Best wishes

Louise Buxton (Miss)  
Headteacher

### Little Fishes Pre-School

We are now taking applications for Little Fishes Pre-School for September 2022-July 2023. Children can attend Little Fishes from when they are 2 years & 9 months old, subject to place availability and we offer opening hours around the school day, during term-time.

You will find full Little Fishes information on the school website, [www.stpetershants.co.uk](http://www.stpetershants.co.uk) including details of parent visits, a virtual tour and the application form. Or contact the school office on 01962 852820 for any queries.

