

PETERPOST

Parish of St. Peter and the Winchester Martyrs

Alresford • Stockbridge • Winchester

6th March 2022

First Sunday of Lent - Year C

Seriously, God II – When God says No

Fr Mark writes:

We are in the second week of a new message series for Lent called, “Seriously, God? Making sense when life doesn’t make sense”. It’s a series that makes complete sense for the time we are in.

Today, we are going to look at when God says, “No” to things that seem like good things. Maybe sometimes it seems like that is all God ever says. “You are not allowed to do this” and “Don’t do that” and “No, you can’t have that because God said so”. If it was fun or a good time, then that meant God was against it. Or maybe you see God and Church as a big obstacle to your freedom.

There’s no doubt that there are some “no’s” in Scripture. In the Gospel of Luke we read about Jesus being tested in the desert. Jesus reveals why God will tell us “no” by saying “no” to the temptations of the devil. He shows us the values of God’s heart that lie behind the no’s and what God wants for us.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days. (Luke 4:1)

You may or may not believe in the devil, a being, a personality bent on causing evil in the world. Personally, I think it makes sense when you look at the news for 30 minutes or even 5 minutes. There is so much evil in the world that it’s hard not to believe there is a being who intentionally wants to bring pain and suffering into the world. And to quote the film *The Usual Suspects*, “The greatest trick the devil ever pulled was to convince us he didn’t exist.” Temptation, though, doesn’t always mean you are outside of God’s will. Often temptation comes to us when we are doing what God want us to do, just as it came to Jesus.

During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry. Then the devil said to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.’ (Luke 4:3-4)

The first temptation Jesus faces is to meet a legitimate need in a legitimate way. God chose to become human and have creaturely needs like us. We need food, shelter, clothing, companionship...The temptation for us will be to meet those needs in a way that makes our needs the highest priority in life. And when we do, we ultimately enslave ourselves to those needs. You have seen people whose needs had become central in their lives. They couldn’t say no to something or they had put that need above everything and everyone else and it enslaved them. They became addicted to alcohol or unhealthy food or prescription drugs. You may know someone who became addicted to pornography.

Jesus teaches us to say no to some things because they have the capacity to enslave us to our physical needs such that we start to meet these needs in unhealthy ways. So Jesus says no to this temptation.

But Jesus replied, ‘Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone.’ (Luke 4:4)

Jesus gives us a further reason why God will sometimes say “no” to our physical needs. We do not live by bread alone. Jesus quotes the book of Deuteronomy, which tells us that we do not live by bread alone but by every word that comes from the mouth of God. Beyond our physical needs we need to be nourished by God’s word and by a relationship with God. God tells us to say no to our physical needs so we can meet our deeper soul need for relationship with him. When we put our need for God first, then our physical needs can be met in a healthy way.

Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, ‘I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, then, and it shall all be yours.’ (Luke 4:5-7)

The second temptation is devil worship. The real temptation here is perhaps to compromise with evil. Power and authority were given to humanity who then handed over that power and authority when they ate the forbidden fruit. As a result, evil still has some authority or a hold on this world. The temptation of evil is to bow down just for a second and then carry on with life. Compromise with evil just this once and then you can go back to normal. Compromise with evil and then you can have the promotion. Look away from what you value and what you think is important just this once. Compromise your integrity just this once. Just tell this one lie and then you can go back to telling the truth. Fudge this number and then no one will know. Cover this up and everything will be ok...

This is a lie that we buy. The truth is that once we surrender to evil, it gets its claws into us. It calls us to bow down again and again. We live enslaved to it. The one time compromise can grow and become an habitual way of acting. And the deeper we get the more enslaved we become and the less free we are to act with integrity and honesty and truth.

Jesus shows us a different way, a way that feels harder at first but is much simpler and easier in the long run. He does not allow evil in at all, he makes no compromise with it.

But Jesus answered him, ‘Scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.’ (Luke 4:8)

Then he led him to Jerusalem and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. ‘If you are the Son of God,’ he said to him ‘throw yourself down from here, for scripture says:

He will put his angels in charge of you to guard you, and again: They will hold you up on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.’ (Luke 4:9-11)

The temptation here is perhaps to win over the crowd. Jesus had come to win humanity back to a relationship with God the Father. Would he lead people and win hearts or would he use methods that would make him popular but really wouldn’t change lives?

In our nature, we all like to be liked. If we are not careful we can become enslaved to this desire. Rather than being true to the person God has created us to be, we perform our way into being liked. Eventually this enslaves us. We become like puppets on strings and it is exhausting. People who are truly free and truly admired are comfortable in their own skin. They are comfortable with people not liking them and do not need to go to great lengths to please people. This is Jesus. He teaches us to say no to the need for popularity.

But Jesus answered him, ‘It has been said: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.’ (Luke 4:12)

God says, “no” because he wants us to live in freedom. God wants us to live in freedom as his sons and daughters and not enslaved to (i) our desires, (ii) the devil or (iii) demanding people, who don’t care about us.

This week identify which of those three temptations is the biggest for you. Pray for the grace to say “no” to them and “yes” to the freedom of God. God teaches us to say no to those things because they will enslave us. Saying “no” to temptation and sin allows us to live in freedom. God gives us no’s so that we can be free to love him and love others.

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

First Sunday of Lent (Year C) – 6th March

Entrance Antiphon:

When he calls on me,
I will answer him;
I will deliver him and give him glory,
I will grant him length of days.

First reading: Deuteronomy 26:4-10

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 90:1-2, 10-15. R.v.15

Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

Second reading: Romans 10:8-13

Gospel Acclamation:

R. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
Man does not live on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
R. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

Communion Antiphon:

One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes forth
from the mouth of God.

Second Collection - Today the Covenant with the Poor team was scheduled to be appealing at all masses for support for 'A Nursery for a Catholic school in Uganda'. This has been postponed for a few weeks, and meanwhile an appeal will be now made for the Cafod Ukraine appeal as a matter of extreme urgency. Many thanks in advance for supporting this appeal.

Help for Ukraine - In light of the situation in Ukraine, CAFOD has – in partnership with its sister Caritas agencies in Ukraine, Poland and Moldova – committed £100,000 on behalf of the Catholic community in England and Wales. As a parish, we would like to contribute to this appeal and so our second collection this weekend will now be for CAFOD and their emergency response work in Ukraine.



A Prayer for Ukraine

Loving God,
we pray for the people of Ukraine,
for all those suffering or afraid,
that you will be close to them and protect them.



We pray for world leaders,
for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices.

We pray for the world,
that in this moment of crisis,
we may reach out in solidarity
to our brothers and sisters in need.

May we walk in your ways
so that peace and justice
become a reality for the people of Ukraine
and for all the world. Amen.

Offertory collection (cash) – From the weekend of 12th/13th March, it is our intention to recommence the collection process in advance of the Offertory. We have recently purchased new collection bags with an extended handle for the avoidance of concerns relating to Covid-19.

Please keep in your prayers all the members of our Parish Journey in Faith Group who will be participating in the Rite of Election in Portsmouth Cathedral this Saturday (5th March) as part of their preparations for receiving Sacraments this Easter.

Mass at Winchester Cathedral – On **Saturday, 5th March**, the morning Mass will be held at 10am in Winchester Cathedral. Everyone is welcome to this very special Mass - no booking required.

Change to Mass Time – From **Tuesday 8th March**, the morning Mass at St Peter's Church will now be at **12.15pm every week**. Coffee/Cake and Chat will be moving to **WEDNESDAYS**, starting on **9th March, 10am-12noon** (before or after Mass or shopping). All are welcome!

St Stephen's Children's Liturgy: The team are very excited to welcome families back to this from 6th March. Going forward sessions will run during term time on the 1st, 3rd and 4th Sundays of the month (on the 2nd Sundays children remain in church for the Family Mass). Children of all ages are welcome, but the message is aimed at those in Years R - 4. We ask that children in Year 1 and below are accompanied by an adult.

A Deeper Understanding of Welcome - You are welcome to join a special online conference on **Thursday 10th March, 6 til 8 pm**. The event – it's free to join - promises to be a thought-provoking evening of ideas and inspiration on how to reach out to and welcome everyone to life in Jesus Christ and the community of His Church. It is open to everyone but will be especially appropriate to those involved in the Ministry of Welcome, church greeters, those supporting adults and parents of children in sacramental programmes, small group leaders and parish leadership teams. The topics include: hospitality; meeting people where they are; the gift of listening; and accompaniment. We will be sharing what is happening in the diocese to welcome those on the margins, the digital audience, those who are isolated and those who are hard to reach, recognising welcome is not limited to the church door on a Sunday. Do join us on Zoom on Thursday 10th March 2022 6-8pm. To register (free) click on this link: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/booking/t-nlzdqr> for more details, contact Liza on lnahajski@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.



Welcome to Luca Savellano who was baptised in St. Peter's Church this week. May God bless Luca 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 that people will have rich conversations, form faith based friendships and bring each other closer to Christ through their participation in the Seriously, God? Lenten Spiritual Campaign.

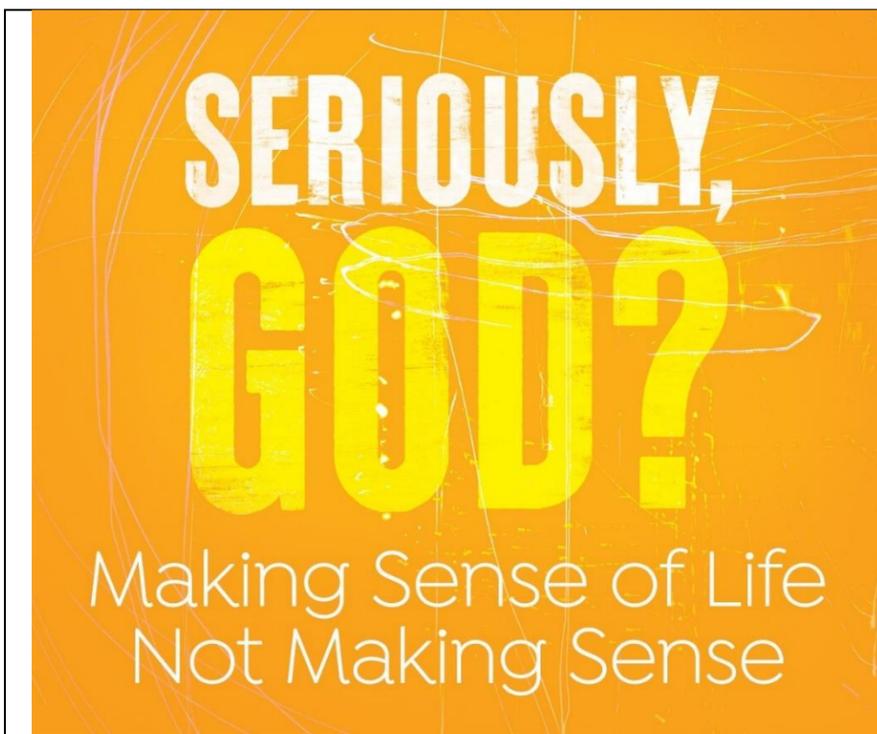


Join us on our journey through Lent,

Experience the wonder of renewal through guided small groups

Come to Mass to listen to the message from Father Mark & Father Anthony

[Sign up for daily emails](#) to support your journey



Seriously, it's not too late to join us in our whole parish spiritual journey through lent – Seriously, God? There are still a few days left to register and join one of the small groups either online or in person. This is a wonderful opportunity to strengthen our faith, explore different perspectives, open our hearts, listen to God and prepare the way for Easter. If you have any questions and would like to speak to someone before you register, please email hello@stpeterswinchester.org.uk
All welcome - Register [here](#)
If you would like to form your own group please email hello@stpeterswinchester.org.uk we can provide you with the details, the book and support.

Join us,
all invited,
all welcome,
free!

Early Morning Mass – thinking about taking on something extra in Lent? How about getting up (a little/a lot) earlier and attending the 7am Mass every Thursday at St Peter's Church. What a fantastic way to start your day and to commit some additional time each week to God!



Stations of the Cross

St Peter's – Fridays at 11.30am and 7pm (Please note that on Friday 25th March, the evening Stations of the Cross will take place at 8pm.)
St. Stephen's – Mondays at 7pm
St Gregory's – Sundays at 5.30pm
St Thomas More's – Fridays at 5.30pm (from 11th March)
[Click here](#) to discover more about the history of **Stations of the Cross**.



Led Eucharistic Adoration For Families

Saturday March 12th at 3pm

Theme: Lent – Getting Closer to Jesus
Please join us for a short time of led Eucharistic Adoration as we journey through Lent. It is a perfect opportunity to pause in our busy lives, to pray with Jesus and to grow closer to Him and His love for us.



Although it is aimed at those families with children of primary school age, all are very welcome!



Living Lent, Holy Week and Easter as a Family

Join us as we journey through Lent with our children! Each week we will be posting a few things on the website to help you guide your children. It will include: a brief overview of the Sunday Gospel, colouring sheets, saints' feast days or other notable days to celebrate, suggested activities, and an invitation to prayer. There is a Lenten Path and Calendar to download too! You can find all this in a dedicated section of our Parish website. More activities will be added each week. Wishing you all a blessed and grace-filled Lent! There will be a Lenten Path and Calendar to download too! More activities will be added each week. Wishing you all a blessed and grace-filled Lent!

24 Hours for the Lord - Vigil of Eucharistic Adoration

Come and join us in celebrating The Mercy & Compassion of God



7.00pm Friday 25th March – 7.00pm Saturday 26th March
St Peter's Church, Jewry Street, Winchester. All warmly welcomed!



From the official message of Pope Francis for Lent 2022: "Let us not grow tired of doing good" (Gal 6:9)



Laudato si Corner



We are coming to the end of Fairtrade Fortnight. In these busy and uncertain times, it's easy to not give much thought to exactly how the food we purchase comes to be. Despite farming being among the largest employers in the world, millions of workers on these farms struggle to feed themselves and their families. Often farmers won't receive a fair price for the food and items they produce. The Fairtrade Foundation aims to correct this and create an environment in which trade benefits are shared equally and justly.



To support Fairtrade and ensure a fair deal for farmers, there are small but impactful actions you can take to support the Fairtrade campaign.

- ❖ Buy Fairtrade products from your local supermarket - make sure they have the logo on them.
- ❖ If you cannot find a Fairtrade item in your store, speak to or email the Manager to ask them to stock it.
- ❖ Try to buy at least one Fairtrade item in every weekly shop - chocolate, coffee, tea, wine, sugar and lots more .

Thank you!

Calling everyone who might like to be an Altar Server

Perhaps the Lord is calling you to this wonderful ministry to serve on his holy sanctuary and help everyone who comes to Mass to adore God with reverence and love.

Have you made your First Holy Communion and would like to become an altar server? Have you previously been an altar server and have missed serving during the pandemic?

Please consider saying 'yes' to God's invitation to serve. Now is such a good time to come forward as we start to prepare for our Holy Week Liturgy.

If you would like to serve, or are not sure but would like to know more, please come along to one of the 'get-to-know you' meetings in the Pastoral Centre at 3:00pm to 4:00pm on Saturday 12 March and at 3:00pm to 4:00pm on Saturday 26 March. Alternatively, if you cannot make the meeting, please register your interest at the Parish Office (01962 852804, or e-mail hello@stpeterswinchester.org.uk).

Fr Anthony and Tony Darlison



Getting to know you...

Name: Rosanne Walker

Favourite Saint? Too many to choose just one, but Mary, St Thérèse of Lisieux, St Teresa of Avila, Mother Teresa, St Francis of Assisi, St Francis de Sales, St Francis Xavier, Padre Pio, St Pope John Paul II, St Faustina, the Curé d'Ars and St Maximilian Kolbe have all played a significant part in my journey of faith. If I really had to choose one, it would have to be Mary.

Favourite hymn or worship song? I find this an impossible question, since music has played such an important part in my life since a very young age and has and continues to be so instrumental in my prayer life. I have a rather eclectic list of favourites, ranging from hymns like 'Praise My Soul the King of Heaven', through 'Ave Verum' (either of Mozart or Mawby will do!) and Taverner's 'The Lamb', to worship songs such as, 'Yet not I but through Christ in me' and 'Light of the World'.

How long have you been connected with the Parish? Since 2015

Which ministry(ies) are you involved in? Baptism, First Holy Communion, Children's Liturgy, Family Ministry, Formation, Music

What drew you to your ministry? The desire to use my gifts, and to be involved in bringing others to know God's love and the truths of our beautiful Catholic faith.

If we wanted to talk to you about your ministry, which Mass would we usually find you at? St Peter's 10:30am

Tell us something you are grateful for.... The gift of faith, my family, the sacraments, music, books and more books!

An unusual/little-known fact about yourself? I played the bassoon for the Queen when I was 14; she enjoyed a 7 course banquet whilst our wind quintet had pork pies, but she did come and spend some time with us afterwards which was very gracious of her



Portsmouth Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2022 – The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from Monday 18th to Friday 22nd July 2022, flying from Bournemouth Airport. The cost of the pilgrimage is £675 per person (based on 2 people sharing a room). Single rooms are available at a supplement. As before, the pilgrimage will be supported by the Youth of the Diocese. Those aged 15-35 volunteer to support the pilgrimage by helping with music, the liturgy, companionship for our pilgrims, and physically supporting those in need by pushing wheelchairs etc. The cost for a youth pilgrim is £575 and the parish may be able to support financially or otherwise – please contact Jo Donaldson for details youthstuff@stpeterswinchester.org.uk

Booking forms and further information can be found on the diocesan website at <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/lourdes>.



Dear Parents

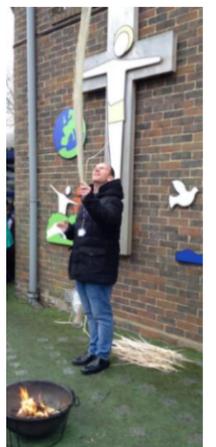
Burning of the Palms

In preparation for Ash Wednesday, Father Mark led the children in a liturgy of the burning of palms. He used fronds from last year's Palm Sunday, burning them to create ashes, ashes similar to what we used at Wednesday's Distribution of the Ashes service. Children and staff commented on how meaningful the liturgy was for them.

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



Mass Timetable	5 th March – 12 th March 2022			
Date	Mass Times & Intentions			Livestream/Public
SATURDAY – March 5th	10.00AM	Mass at Winchester Cathedral		Public
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (Vigil)	5.30PM	Mass	All Souls in Purgatory	Livestream, public
SUNDAY – March 6th FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT	8.00 AM	Mass	Lilian Rankin RIP (1 st anniv.)	Livestream, public
	9.00 AM	Mass at St Thomas More's	People of the Parish	Public*
	9.15 AM	Mass at St Stephen's		Public
	10.30AM	Mass	Bishop Crispian Hollis	Livestream, public
	11.00 AM	Mass at St Gregory's	Del Hunter RIP	Public
	5.30PM	Mass	Philomena Holohan RIP	Livestream, public
MONDAY – March 7th	12.15PM	Mass	Ron Footer RIP	Livestream & public
TUESDAY – March 8th	10.00AM	Mass at St Gregory's		Public
	12.15PM	Mass	Pauline Kelly RIP	Livestream & public
WEDNESDAY – March 9th	10.00AM	Mass	Neil Intentions	Livestream & public
THURSDAY – March 10th	7.00AM	Mass		Livestream & public
	10.00AM	Mass	General Sunith Rodrigues	Livestream & public
FRIDAY – March 11th	10.00AM	Mass at St Gregory's		Public
	12.15PM	Mass	Fely Roberts RIP	Livestream & public
SATURDAY – March 12th SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT- VIGIL	9.00AM	Mass	Rose & Jimmy Connors	Public
	5.30 PM	Vigil Mass	K J Joseph RIP	Livestream, public

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.

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

Adoration every Monday and Friday 11.00 till 12.00noon.

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) **Monday to 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 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 Counts - As you will have seen in the recently revised Mass schedule and guidelines, we are no longer required to book in for Masses in our parish. We understand that some people may still have concerns and so going forward, we will share the information we have on numbers attending the different masses (and the capacity for that church building) in order for people to make an informed judgement on which one they would feel most comfortable attending. Please see the table below for the average mass counts from the last 3 weeks.

Mass	Church	Capacity	Attendance
Saturday 5.30pm	SP	381	65
8am	SP	381	45
9am	STM	98	48
9.15am	SS	150	90
10.30am	SP	381	98
11am	SG	115	39
5.30pm	SP	381	53

Mill Hill Missionaries
National Novena to St Joseph
 10 - 18 March 2022



The image above is a detail from a stained-glass window in our former Mill Hill house in Kilkenny, Ireland—courtesy of Fr. James O'Connell, MNM.

NOVENA MASSES
will be celebrated at
St Joseph's Church Maidenhead*
&
Herbert House Freshfield Liverpool

*Masses from St. Joseph's Church will be available to view on Zoom, via the Mill Hill website: www.millhillmissionaries.com/novena.

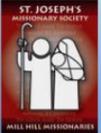
Invitation to join us in Prayer

If you would like to receive a Novena booklet please send a stamped self-addressed envelope to:

Novena Director
6 Colby Gardens
Maidenhead
Berkshire
SL6 7GZ

Or email: novenamhm@gmail.com

For more information about the Mill Hill Missionaries, please visit our website: www.millhillmissionaries.com



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