

# PETERPOST

Parish of St. Peter and the Winchester Martyrs

Alresford • Stockbridge • Winchester

27<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Fourth Sunday of Lent - Year C

Seriously God V – Seriously, you’re in my way

Fr Mark writes:

This week, we want to look at the times God doesn’t seem very cooperative. There are irritations in life that come up again and again. Maybe there’s a problem at work and you can’t seem to solve it. You may have a relationship problem that seems like a stumbling block or your issue may be a health issue. And yet no matter what you do, the issue won’t seem to go away. It may seem at times as if God gets in our way or likes to make life difficult.

When those obstacles appear or when God doesn’t seem to be doing what we want him to do, we can start grumbling and complaining, a bit like the religious leaders in this weekend’s Gospel. They are annoyed that the tax collectors and sinners, people whom they thought had no relationship with God, are listening to Jesus.

This was not a one-off occurrence but happened repeatedly. People who were nothing like Jesus liked him and he drew close to them. The religious leaders didn’t like it and they didn’t understand it. In their minds, God was for religious people, Church people. Tax collectors and sinners didn’t fit in the club. Jesus seemed to be doing it just to annoy them. So they grumble and complain about this appeal and attraction that he had.

Jesus then goes on to offer three parables about something or someone who is lost. The third is the most famous – the parable of the Prodigal Son. It is full of rich meaning as it explores the heart of God the Father. Just as the father welcomes home the rebellious son, God the Father will welcome home anyone who starts making their way back to him. Whole books have been written on this parable so we’re not going to cover it all, but are simply going to look at it from the perspective of the older brother. He represents the religious leaders to whom Jesus addresses the parable.

We pick up the parable after the younger brother returns and the father throws the party in celebration of his son’s return.

*‘Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. (Luke 15:25)*

This is where we might find ourselves sympathising with the elder brother. He’s out there merely doing his job. The younger brother is just one big drama and the older brother is simply out in the field doing his job. Maybe you identify with that. The story actually means for us to identify with him.

*“Your brother has come” replied the servant “and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound.” (Luke 15:26)*

We can imagine the servant feeling excited by the huge party the father is throwing. Then he meets the son and shares the news and immediately he would have sensed that something was wrong as the older brother’s face changes...

*He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him. (Luke 15:26)*

These verses reveal a great deal about the heart of the older brother. He becomes angry and refuses to enter his father’s house. That was an insult to his father in itself, made worse because the father has to leave his guests and party to plead with the older son to come into the party. The son is embarrassing his father in a culture where honour and respect for your father were two of the highest values. Then the humiliation and embarrassment increases.

He said to his father in reply, “Look,” (as in “Look you” or “Listen up, mate.”) This is not how sons are to speak to fathers, then or now.

*“Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends”. (Luke 15:29)*

It’s insulting, but also deeply revealing. The elder brother reveals why he worked for the father: not out of love and respect, or even duty and honour. He worked for the father to earn what he then considered his due. He has become ‘entitled’, to use a modern phrase. As far as he was concerned, this father/son relationship was a merely transactional relationship.

*“All these years I have slaved for you.”*

The elder brother has been keeping accounts with his father for a long time and clearly he finds the father actually owing him, heavily in his debt. With the elder brother, it’s not his wrongdoing but his self-righteousness that is keeping him out of his father’s house.

Some of you are thinking, “Well I hear what you’re saying but I still feel like the older brother has a point. It just doesn’t seem fair that the father would throw this lavish party for his irresponsible son. It’s just not fair!”

Well, you are absolutely right, it’s not fair. But please, don’t ever ask for fair. You don’t want fair. The Gospel never pretends to be fair. It is more than fair. You and I are loved by God far more than we know, more than we deserve, more than we’ll ever earn.

Whether we’re currently acting like the younger brother or like the older brother, the Father extends grace and mercy to both sons. The father tells the older son that all he had was available to him at any time. All he had to do was ask, but in that moment it was time to celebrate the return of the younger brother. It was the older brother’s responsibility to stop grumbling and complaining and share in the joy the father experienced at the return of his son.

When they weren’t getting their way and were grumbling, the religious leaders were missing out on the bigger picture of what God was doing, the story of grace. They missed out on the invitation to a celebration and the abundance that comes from living in relationship with God. They missed out on the fact that God was leading people back to him.

In day to day life when we meet problems or obstacles, we can get caught up in the weeds. We stop paying attention to what God is actually doing and the larger invitation to a life of grace.

I don’t know why God is allowing some of the obstacles in your life. But I do know that grumbling and complaining never leads us towards God. I do know that the older brother mentality gets in the way of a fruitful relationship with God. I do know that it is never healthy to get into a mind-set where we think God owes us.



It is God’s good pleasure to give you his kingdom. All that he has is yours. Grumbling and complaining keep us from recognising the good gifts God has for us.

**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)

**Fourth Sunday of Lent (Year C) – 27<sup>th</sup> March**

**Entrance Antiphon:**

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.  
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;  
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

**First reading:** Joshua 5:9-12

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 33:2-7. R.v.9  
Taste and see that the Lord is good.

**Second reading:** 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

**Gospel Acclamation:**

R. Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus!  
I will leave this place and go to my father and say:  
‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.’  
R. Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus!

**Gospel:** Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

**Communion Antiphon:**

You must rejoice, my son,  
for your brother was dead  
and has come to life;  
he was lost and is found.

**Second Collection –** Our Second Collection this Sunday is for the Clergy Assistance Fund, which resources the invaluable work of the Department for Clergy Team. The Team is responsible for looking after the welfare, ongoing formation and personal support of our clergy, from the early days of ordination all the way into retirement. We rely on your commitment and generosity to do this. If you would like to give a gift to this collection, you can donate here: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/clergy-assistance-fund>



**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**

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered throughout the 24 hours.**

**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)**



**Stations of the Cross –** Please note that there is a change to the previous listings of dates for Stations of the Cross at St Peter’s. There will be no Stations on **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March** due to the 24 Hours for the Lord event taking place.



**A Mother’s Day Blessing**

Lord, thank you for all mothers.  
For the new ones, who endure sleepless nights with infants in arms.  
For the busy ones, who juggle the pressures of home and family life.  
For the steadfast ones, who nurture and care for our special vulnerable children.  
For the patient ones, who always seek to forgive and engage with their pre-teens.  
For the persistent ones, who cleverly find new ways to connect with their mini-adults.  
For the mother aunts, who step in to cradle and care for nieces and nephews.  
For all grandmas, who love and support their precious grandchildren.  
For the foster mums that are called to gather and cover the fragile ones.  
For the Sunday mums who care for our children and lead them in faith.  
Thank you Lord for all our beautiful mothers. Help us to support them and keep them in our prayers. May you bless them now on this their special day. Amen.



**Supporting Ukraine**



**Ways to help -** The Diocese, through Caritas, Portsmouth Diocese, is working to keep parishioners and all in the diocese informed as to the up-to-date situation while we wait for the UK Government to clarify the role that faith organisations and other charities will play in the formal response to refugees entering the UK.  
Please look at the Caritas web site news and events page link below.  
<https://caritasportsmouth.org.uk/news-events/>  
This page on the Caritas web site has a lot of information on it and a link to a resources page where we have collected advice and information from a number of other refugee organisations including Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN) and Jesuit Refugee Service. The toolkit link prepared by CSAN is particularly useful.

And a reminder that CAFOD is part of the Distasters Emergency Committee so donations can be sent straight to CAFOD’s Ukraine humanitarian Appeal [Ukraine crisis: How you can help | CAFOD](#)



**Clocks go forward this Sunday** – a gentle reminder that the clocks go forward on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> March. Don’t forget to adjust your alarm clocks!

**Change to Mass Time –** Tuesday morning Mass at St Peter’s Church will now be at **12.15pm every week**.  
Coffee/Cake and Chat has now moved to **WEDNESDAYS, 10am-12noon** (maybe before/after Mass or shopping). All are welcome!

**Rosary for Ukraine in St Peter’s -** Our Bishop encourages us in his pastoral letter to embark on a spiritual campaign of prayer for the Ukraine. In St Peters, we are responding to his invitation to pray the Rosary for Ukraine. Please join us: Saturdays (after 9am Mass), Wednesdays (after 10am Mass), Thursdays (after 10 am Mass) and Mondays and Tuesdays at 11.30 (before 12.15 Mass). We are in the Lady Chapel most days, and in front of the Blessed Sacrament on Mondays.



**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 the 24 hours for the Lord will have restored many people through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, bringing a deep healing, and offering compassion and peace which we can share with others



**PLEASE PRAY FOR** the repose of the souls of those who have died recently:  
  
Philip Gretton RIP  
  
Claire Lantaya RIP  
  
Fr Michael Peters RIP

**Funeral notices:** The funeral mass for Claire Lantaya RIP will take place **on Tuesday 29th March** at 10am in St Peter’s Church. Please keep her family and friends in your prayers at this sad time. May God grant her eternal rest.





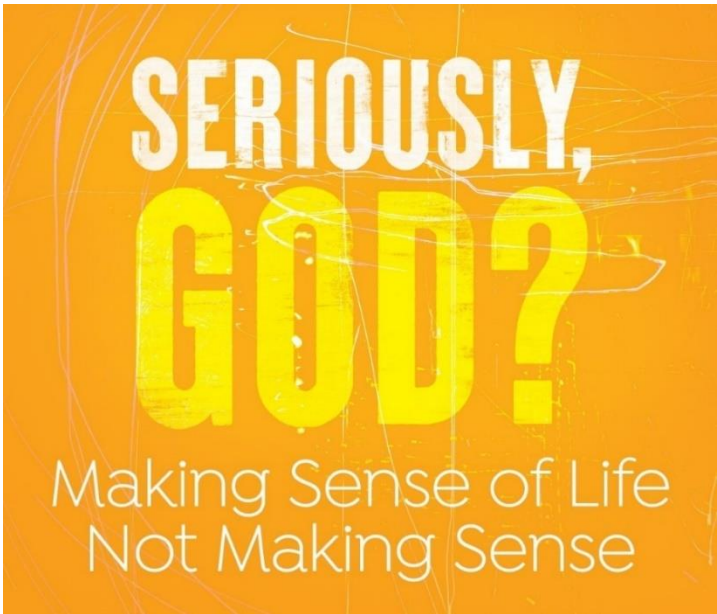


Join us on our journey through Lent,

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, the books have arrived!

We are delighted to say the Seriously, God? books have finally arrived; What a journey they have been on, but worth the wait! If you were unable to join one of our small groups, then pick up a book and read a chapter or two.

There will be a limited number of copies at the back of each Church – first come first served!

Join us in any way you can, it is not too late to participate in this Lenten journey come to mass and listen to Father Mark & Father Anthony, sign up for daily emails which help us step by step to make sense of life not making sense! Our parish website has the details.



Join us on our journey!

**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  
**St. Stephen’s** – Mondays at 7pm  
**St Gregory’s** – Sundays at 5.30pm  
**St Thomas More’s** – Fridays at 5.30pm (from 11<sup>th</sup> March)  
Click on the link below to discover more about the history of Stations of the Cross.  
<https://catholicwinchester.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Stations-of-the-Cross-%E2%80%93-a-brief-History.pdf>



**Living Lent, Holy Week and Easter as a Family** Join us as we journey through Lent with our children! Each week we are posting a few things on the website to help you guide your children. It includes: a brief overview of the Sunday Gospel, saints’ feast days or other notable days to celebrate, colouring sheets, suggested activities, and an invitation to prayer. There is a Lenten Path and Calendar to download too! More activities added each week. **You can find it all in the ‘Lent for Families’ section of the Parish website. Scroll down to click for this week’s offering. You can also look in the ‘Latest News’ section of the Homepage.**  
Wishing you all a continued blessed and grace-filled Lent

**Receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation this Lent** – In addition to the normal times each Saturday, there will be a longer opportunity for confession on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April (9.30am-11am), with extra priests supporting. The parish Lenten Reconciliation Service will be held at 7pm on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April at St Peter’s Church. This beautiful sacrament will also be available to all during the 24 Hours for the Lord event (please see below for details).

**François Lemoyne's 'The Annunciation'** has returned to the city of Winchester after a decade away on loan to the National Gallery. You can see it for free on display in the Winchester College Treasury.

Details are in the link below:  
[https://www.winchestercollege.org/stories/museum-masterpiece-returns?fbclid=IwAR3JY7GQKrrHxgiHY2okA70LsM4KCogUVFUhISRRSMjAbtYW7Yz\\_4SLq7JA](https://www.winchestercollege.org/stories/museum-masterpiece-returns?fbclid=IwAR3JY7GQKrrHxgiHY2okA70LsM4KCogUVFUhISRRSMjAbtYW7Yz_4SLq7JA)



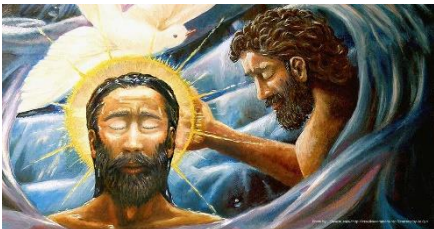
**Holy Week and Easter** – times of services will be shared in next week’s edition of Peterpost.



Praying with and for those preparing to celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation this Easter

For those preparing to be initiated into the Church at Easter, Lent marks the final stage of preparation, the period of Purification and Enlightenment. It begins with the Rite of Election on the First Sunday of Lent. During the season of Lent, the Scrutinies will be celebrated this year at the Sunday evening Mass, on the 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays, in preparation for Claire’s Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil. Please also keep in your prayers Naomi, Charlotte and David who are to be received into the Church at the Easter Vigil (with the Rite of Welcome celebrated for them on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Lent at St. Stephen’s and St. Gregory’s respectively).

The Church asks that, during Lent, all of us parishioners take care to give the elect the example of our own renewal in the spirit of penance, faith, and charity. At the Easter Vigil, we are also asked to attach great importance to renewing our own baptismal promises.



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 the ‘get-to-know you’ meeting in the Pastoral Centre 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](mailto:hello@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)).

Parents: please be sure to bring a completed consent form (available from the office) or fill one in when you drop your children off.

Fr Anthony and Tony Darlison



CWL Charity Soup and Pud Lunch - Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April 12noon-1.30pm in the Pastoral Centre. All are welcome to come and enjoy a delicious bowl of home made soup and pudding, and to share good company. All donations to CAFOD-Caritas-Ukraine appeal.



**Divine Mercy Sunday** – There will be a Mass in honour and thanksgiving for this special feast on **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April at 3pm** in St Peter’s Church. The celebration will include the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and veneration of the image. Refreshments in the Pastoral Centre after.

Contact Gillian via the Parish Office for further details (01962 852804)

**Save the Date – First Holy Communion for children in Year 3** There will be an information evening for parents/guardians of children in Year 3 who wish to make their First Holy Communion on **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May**. More details to follow.

**Winchester Basics Bank appeal** – There will be a collection of goods in support of the Winchester Basics Bank at all masses over the weekend of **26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> March** and the following weekend. Please do consider contributing items, some of which will go to families who were previously entitled to Free School Meals over the Easter break before the scheme came to an end. There is a particular need for UHT milk, small jars of tomato based pasta sauces (not spicy), meat pies (not steak or steak and kidney), instant coffee, loo roll and washing-up liquid. Many thanks!



**Bookshop** – We sell a wide range of books, gifts and cards, including missals, bibles, prayer books, crosses, crucifixes, Alpha books, Lent books, First Holy Communion and Confirmation gifts and cards. We also have Easter cards. The bookshop is open during office hours and after Mass on Saturday mornings. Contact Susan Henry at [bookshop@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:bookshop@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)



Laudato Si Corner



This time last year, I wrote about the decline of swifts in our area and our need to replace some of the traditional nesting sites that have been removed when older houses are renovated. Swifts are loyal to their nest sites and return to them year after year. If a gap in the soffit or hole in a brick has been covered up, then the swift will not breed that year. Fortunately, swifts are adaptable and will use artificial nests such as a swift box or swift brick. Hampshire Swifts provide a number of boxes which suit houses, offices and churches ([Info@Hampshire swifts.co.uk](mailto:Info@Hampshire swifts.co.uk)) As well as providing nest boxes, don’t forget your garden can also provide food for swifts. If you can, leave an area of long grass which provides a good habitat for insects and don’t forget, avoid pesticides. I have heard of someone whose swift box had bumblebees in residence last year!



Many thanks, Kathy

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: Rosanne Walker ([rosanne@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:rosanne@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)), Jo Donaldson ([joanna@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:joanna@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)

Mass Timetable	26 <sup>th</sup> March – 2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2022			
Date	Mass Times & Intentions			Livestream/Public
SATURDAY – March 26 <sup>th</sup>  FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (Vigil)	9.00AM	Mass	Soul of Patrick G. McCall & family	Public
	5.30PM	Mass	Mary John RIP	Livestream, public
SUNDAY – March 27 <sup>th</sup>  FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT	8.00 AM	Mass	Fely Roberts RIP	Livestream, public
	9.00 AM	Mass at St Thomas More’s	People of Ukraine	Public*
	9.15 AM	Mass at St Stephen’s	People of the Parish	Public
	10.30AM	Mass	Elizabeth Fernandez	Livestream, public
	11.00 AM	Mass at St Gregory’s	Joan Pollard RIP	Public
	5.30PM	Mass	Vera Kelly	Livestream, public
MONDAY – March 28 <sup>th</sup>	12.15PM	Mass	Fikile Mlotshwa (birthday)	Livestream & public
TUESDAY – March 29 <sup>th</sup>	10.00AM	Mass at St Gregory’s		Public
	10.00AM	Funeral Mass	Claire Lantaya RIP	Public
	12.15PM	Mass	Moira Gordon RIP	Livestream & public
WEDNESDAY – March 30 <sup>th</sup>	10.00AM	Mass	Gaia Servadio RIP	Livestream & public
THURSDAY – March 31 <sup>st</sup>	7.00AM	Mass	William Tobias McCall & family	Livestream & public
	10.00AM	Mass		Livestream & public
FRIDAY – April 1 <sup>st</sup>	10.00AM	Mass at St Gregory’s		Public
	12.15PM	Mass	Wilfred Lawrence RIP	Livestream & public
SATURDAY – April 2nd  FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT- VIGIL	9.00AM	Mass		Public
	5.30 PM	Mass	All Souls in Purgatory	Livestream, public

All at St. Peter’s, except where stated.

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)

*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. 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.

**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	58
9.15am	SS	150	110
10.30am	SP	381	98
11am	SG	115	63
5.30pm	SP	381	53

Please join St Finian's Primary School on Wednesday evening, 6th April at 7pm to hear the amazing and inspiring **story of Saint Zelig and Louis Martin, parents to St. Therese Lisieux**. Author, lay Carmelite, retired doctor and paediatric psychiatrist, Annette Goulden, will be giving a talk on these recently canonised saints. Annette is an expert on their lives and has written a book on Zelig and Louis called “ Rooted In Love”. She will be talking about this ordinary mother and father who experienced so much in common with parents today including the challenges they faced and will give us inspiration and support on our own parenting journey.

This talk is for parents and individuals, and will inspire you to see how the challenges of being a working parent, running a business or raising a difficult child can be sacramental. Kaaren from Mothers Of Mercy ([www.mothersformercy.com](http://www.mothersformercy.com)) and a parishioner at the Church at Our Lady of The Assumption will be hosting the evening and she invites you to hear Annette talk at St. Finian's School at 7.30pm. Please arrive from 7.00 pm for refreshments.St. Finian's Primary School, The Ridge, Cold Ash, RG18 9HU. Call 07969 890870 for more information.



Dear Parents

**Catholic Social Teaching - Call to Family, Community and Participation**



In our prayer sessions this week, we focussed on participation in KS2 and taking part in KS1. This area of Catholic Social Teaching teaches us that the person is not only sacred but also social. Created in God’s image, we too are social creatures. We are called to live this Trinitarian reality of self-giving love. It is in the community that we are shaped and formed. It is through the community that the dignity of every individual is realized. And it is out of the community that we are sent to love and serve the world.

We find in Pope Benedict XVI’s encyclical, Caritas in Veritate, “The more we strive to secure a common good corresponding to the real needs of our neighbours, the more effectively we love them. Every Christian is called to practice this charity...This is the institutional path - we might also call it the political path - of charity, no less excellent and effective than the kind of charity which encounters the neighbour directly.” If you are to consider this as a focus at home, you may want to share a prayer together.

Loving God,

**We give thanks for our talents. May all people have the chance to participate in the decisions that impact their own lives and in creating a just and peaceful society.**

Amen

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

**Job Vacancies at St Peter’s School**

We currently have vacancies for a Teaching Assistant and a Higher Level Teaching Assistant. If you are interested in applying for any of these posts then please see our website for further details and an application form: <https://www.stpetershants.co.uk/vacancies/>