

# PeterCares – *Supporting each other*



The Parish of St Peter and the Winchester Martyrs

## What is PeterCares?

- Is a simple telephone befriending ministry
- Is there to support us when we work our way through times of aloneness and loneliness
- Is there when we would really appreciate someone to listen to us non-judgmentally, in confidence and with care, compassion and kindness

## Who can use PeterCares?

- Any adult in the parish – young and older; living alone or with others; studying, retired, employed and unemployed; regular and not so regular Mass attenders
- Anyone who associates themselves with the parish and who requests a call

## How does PeterCares work?

- It is run by a core team made up of a coordinator and three practice supervisors.
- The core team meet every week to ensure the smooth running of the ministry
- The coordinator links with the clergy, the Senior Leadership Team and parallel ministries, e.g., the SVP, the Ministry for the Sick and the Housebound, and the Intercessory Prayer Team
- The practice supervisors link directly with individual callers and provide ongoing support and a key reference point for them
- Callers respond to specific requests for a call made by parishioners.
- Caller/ parishioner contact may comprise a single or multiple contacts depending on need and what is agreed between the caller and the parishioner being called.

## Who are the PeterCares callers?

- Volunteers from the parish community who have explored with the core group both their wish to serve in this ministry and the fit between their skills and experiences and the nature of this service
- Are DBS checked and have undergone safe guarding training
- Receive regular ongoing practice supervision

### What will the PeterCares callers do?

- Provide a confidential listening service for any parishioner who requests a call
- Listen with compassion and without judgement
- Offer a 'sounding board' on which to bounce around possible solutions to problems
- Offer to chat when a good chat will make all the difference
- Assist with accessing needed information
- Serve as an important link between the parish and those in the community by passing on requests for:
  - receipt of Holy Communion at home
  - prayers by the Intercessory Prayer Team
  - candles to be lit in St Peter Church
  - delivery at home of hard copies of PeterPost
  - visits from the clergy
- With their permission pray with or for the person called, and offer the opportunity to talk more generally about faith.

### How do I learn more about, or get in touch with, PeterCares?

- The ministry is heavily reliant on 'word of mouth advertising' – parishioners themselves becoming versed in the nature of the Ministry and passing on relevant information to others for self-referral or to gain permission to refer.
- PeterCares only responds to referrals and once permission has been obtained from the parishioner to be called
- Parishioners can be referred by contacting PeterCares themselves or through the clergy, a family member, a neighbour, or another ministry
- PeterCares can be contacted through:
  - The parish office on:  
01962 852804
  - The PeterCares' coordinator at:  
[petercares@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:petercares@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

Your queries will either be dealt with directly or you may be put in touch with one of the practice supervisors.