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WITH BLESSINGS FOR A JOYFUL AND HOLY CHRISTMAS FROM FR MARK AND DEACON MARTIN

PETERPOST

Parish of St. Peter and the Winchester Martyrs

Alresford • Stockbridge • Winchester

25 th December 2022 & 1 st January 2023	Christmas Day MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD	
Lift Un Your Eyes and Lat the Infinite Look Back at You in Love		

Lift Up Your Eyes and Let the Infinite Look Back at You in Love

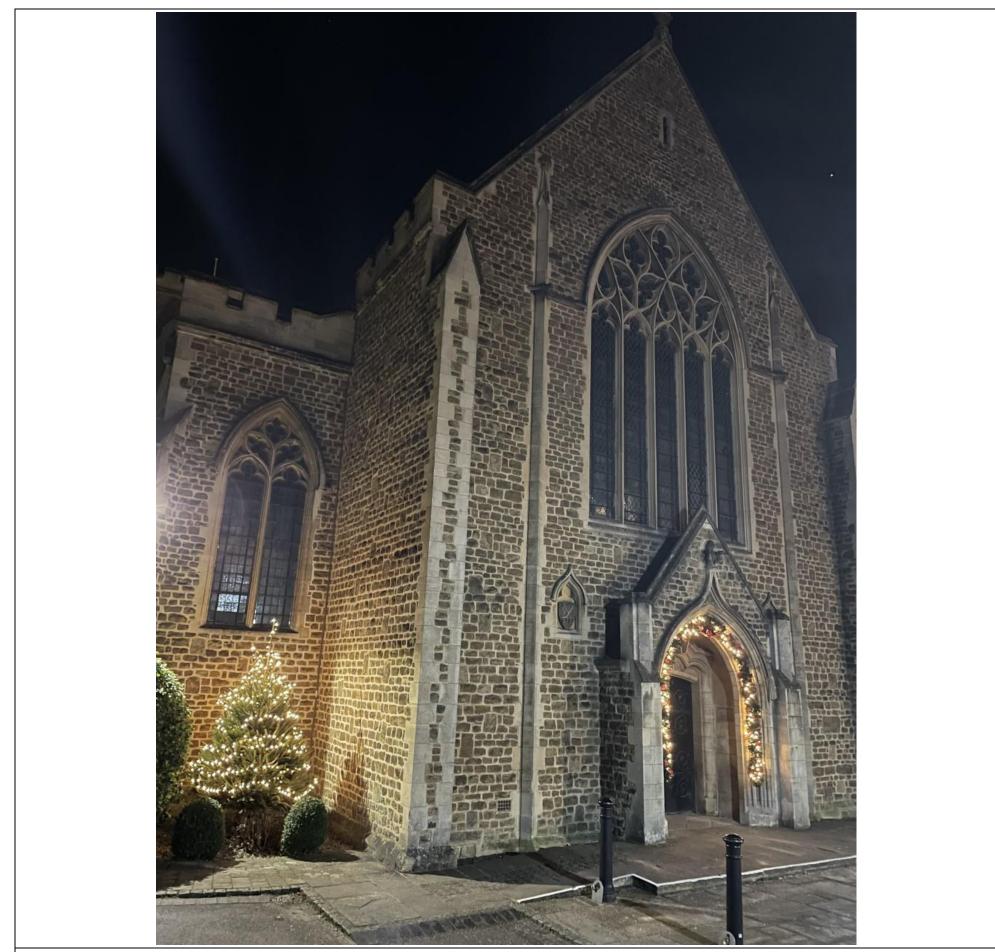
Fr Mark writes:	
The story is told of Franklin Delano Roosevelt entertaining guests at the White House. After a late dinner he invited his guests outside to walk beneath the brilliant nighttime sky. After a silent, reverent stroll Roosevelt said, "I guess we've been humbled enough now. Let's go inside." When we take time to be silent and still and to lift up our eyes, it's amazing what we can see and what we can experience. We see things which we've never noticed before. We see beyond the walls of our own existence and the limits of our own finite nature. We see God and we can begin to experience His gaze, looking at us with pure, undeserved, freely given, infinite love. The shepherds lifted their eyes to see an army of angels one starry night, before hurrying into Bethlehem where they lifted their eyes once more to behold their God, lying in a feeding trough. <i>Friends, look with your eyes;</i> <i>there, in the cradle, this newborn. This is our God!</i>	I've been told that after a mother has smiled for a long time at her child, the child will begin to smile back; she has awakened love in its heart, and in awakening love in its heart, she awakens also recognition. As you gaze upon the Christ-child this Christmas, as you lift up your eyes and behold your God, just lying there, needing to be loved - allow Him to gaze at your beautiful face, to look deep into your eyes, and to slowly awaken Love in your heart. Christmas Wishes This Christmas, as with every Christmas, we celebrate something beautiful: God sent his Son Jesus, born of the Virgin. Born in a stable, wrapped in swaddling clothes, He died on the cross for us. Raised from the dead he sent the Holy Spirit to be with us always.
Here is the one we were expecting! God has come, after all, to free us from the chains that bind us, from evil and the evil one, from cruelty that bares its claws, from pride that fills its belly! God has come, after all, to save us! Jesus has come to change our hearts!	So, to our guests and visitors, our neighbours and friends, parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, mums, dads, husbands, wives, uncles, aunts, cousins, brothers, and sisters; to anyone who serves another with love, to our families and extended families, to teenagers and young adults and to all the children, to our beloved parishioners;
Friends, look with all your love: there, in the cradle, this newborn. It is Jesus, our brother! Here is the one we were expecting!	to all our brothers and sisters in Christ, to those of the Jewish faith, the first to receive word of God, to all people who believe in our one God, to those of you from other faith traditions, and to those who are not sure about faith at all; to those of you who have every reason to rejoice, and to you who cannot,
(from the Cradle – a Prayer for Today)	to all of you who gather with your family, to those with an empty seat at the table this year, and to you who are alone;
Later, the Magi would arrive, bringing their gifts, and they too would behold their God:	remembering those who cannot be with us, those who serve far away, those who are working and serving others this night, those who are suffering or are in pain, those who have died and those who mourn:
A stable's a good place for revelations. Some of the most profound discoveries are made in back rooms, half by accident, by people half-exhausted, looking for something else. Just as we felt like giving up, when the whole thing had become ridiculous and had gone on much too long, and we were blaming	 Peace, goodwill and abundance in the New Year; grace, goodness and all good things, and I pray that the same Holy Spirit will fill you with hope and joy this Christmas. May God bless you, and all your loved ones, now and always, Fr Mark and the Parish of St. Peter and the Winchester Martyrs.

and had gone on much too long, and we were blaming everybody else for our mistakes, we came upon the unexpected answer *in the most unlikely place:* a speechless, thoughtless, helpless child who just lay there, needing to be loved.

(from The Epiphany)



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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/. We are part of the RC Diocese of Portsmouth

If you are interested in learning more about the Catholic Church, or becoming a Catholic, visit our <u>Journey in Faith webpage</u>.

INVITATION FROM Fr MARK TO BE PART OF CHRISTMAS & MASS AND SERVICE TIMES

If you receive the newsletter by email, or have the printable version delivered, you should have received the list of all Christmas Mass times, and there is a timetable at the end of the newsletter. There are also flyers in the back of all churches listing them, so you can take one home and attach

it to your fridge.

You can also find the times at the top of the <u>homepage of the website</u>, or by <u>clicking on this link</u>. All services from St Peter's will be livestreamed (<u>click here</u> to take part in any service) and this year there is no need to book!





INVITATION FROM Fr MARK TO BE PART OF CHRISTMAS

Children's Nativity Mass (St. Peter's, Winchester, 3pm, Sat 24th Dec) This is our first Mass of Christmas and is pitched particularly at our young children (pre-school and Key Stage 1) and their families. It will include traditional carols suitable for children and people of all ages.

Family Christmas Vigil Masses (St. Stephen's, Winchester, and St. Peter's, Winchester, 5:30pm, Sat 24th Dec)

These Masses (one in St. Stephen's and the other at the same time in St. Peter's) tend to be our busiest of the Christmas Festivities, so please do come along in plenty of time. The readings and homily are pitched at our slightly older children (Key Stage 2 and upwards) and their families but everyone is welcome. Lots of familiar carols to join in with too and a great way to begin celebrating the birth of Jesus.

Christmas Night Mass at St Gregory's (Carols and Readings 8pm, Mass 8:30pm, Sat 24th Dec) The community of St. Gregory's, Alresford invite you to join them for this beautiful Mass. We begin with carols and readings at 8:30pm, followed immediately by Mass, using the prayers and readings of "Midnight Mass".

Christmas Night Mass with Carols and Readings (St. Peter's, Winchester, 10:30pm, Sat 24th Dec) Come and join us for this traditional Christmas Mass. We begin with carols and readings at 10:30pm, followed immediately by Mass, using the prayers and readings of "Midnight Mass", with all the beauty and solemnity you would expect. We aim to finish about midnight.

Christmas Dawn Mass (St. Peter's, Winchester, 8am, Sun 25th Dec) For those who are early risers, a simple yet beautiful and dignified way to begin Christmas Day. Using the prayers and readings of "Christmas Mass at Dawn".

Christmas Day Mass (St. Thomas More's, Stockbridge, 9am, Sun 25th Dec) The community of St. Thomas More's, Stockbridge invite you to join them for their celebration of Christmas Mass. Using the prayers and readings of "Christmas Mass during the Day".

Christmas Day Mass (St. Stephen's, Winchester, 9:15am, Sun 25th Dec)The community of St. Stephen's, Winchester invite you to join them for their celebration of Christmas Mass. Using the prayers and readings of "Christmas Mass during the Day".

Christmas Day Mass (St. Peter's, Winchester, 10:30am, Sun 25th Dec) The final Christmas Mass of the day in St. Peter's. Using the prayers and readings of "Christmas Mass during the Day".

Christmas Day Mass (St. Gregory's, Alresford, 11am, Sun 25th Dec)

The community of St. Gregory's, Alresford invite you to join them for their celebration of Christmas Mass. Using the prayers and readings of "Christmas Mass during the Day".

[For the avoidance of doubt: there is no evening Mass on Christmas Day, nor on New Year's Day, Sunday 1st January 2023.]

Mass for the Feast of St Stephen (St Stephen's, Winchester, 10 am Mon 26th) Celebrating the patronal feast of the church, and also celebrating, and thanking God for, our wonderful altar servers – St Stephen is their patron. All are welcome at this lovely post-Christmas Mass, a joyful occasion every year.

MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD 1st January 2023

······································	Gospel Acclamation:	
Entrance Antiphon:	R. Alleluia, alleluia!	
Hail, Holy Mother,	At various times in the past	
who gave birth to the King,	and in various different ways,	
who rules heaven and earth for ever.	God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets;	
First reading: Numbers 6:22-27	but in our own time, the last days,	
	he has spoken to us through his Son.	
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 66:2-3, 5, 6, 8. R.v.2	R. Alleluia!	
O God, be gracious and bless us.	Gospel: Luke 2:16-21	
Second reading: Galatians 4:4-7	Communion Antiphon:	
	Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and for ever.	

Mass, confession and prayer time changes

Please note the following changes to this week's timetable:

Sunday 25th December – No 5.30pm Mass at St Peter's.

Monday 26th December – No Morning Prayer or Mass at St Peter's. Mass at St Stephen's at 10.00am.

Tuesday 27th December –No Morning Prayer at St Peter's. Mass at St Peter's and at St Gregory's at 10.00am.

Wednesday 28th December – No Morning Prayer or Mass at St Peter's.

Sunday 1st January – No 5.30pm Mass at St Peter's.

Monday 2nd January – No Morning Prayer at St Peter's?

Wednesday 4th January – No Mass at St Peter's.

Thursday 5th January – No Morning Prayer at St Peter's.

Friday 6th January – No Morning Prayer at St Peter's.

Feast of the Epiphany on Friday 6th January 2023 – Epiphany is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses will be celebrated at 10.00am at St Gregory's, and at 12.15pm and 7.00pm at St Peter's.

Vocations - Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord "He gave power to become children of God." If you think you may be called to share the Father's love as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life, contact Cn. John Cooke. <u>vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk</u> or call 01329 318 869.

Clergy Christmas Collection Our Christmas Collection celebrates and gives thanks to our Parish priests for all the dedication, guidance and care they give across our Parish. Fr Mark is very grateful for all your Christmas gifts and for the Christmas collection which forms a large part of his annual salary; however, he's also aware that there is no assistant priest requiring support this year and that many of you will be struggling more than usual with the cost of living. He asks therefore, that if you wish to donate to the Clergy Christmas Collection, you do please give less than you usually would this Christmas. There are several ways to make an offering: You can donate via contactless, the website, cash/cheque in the collection basket, or via this link: Portsmouth Diocesan fundraising for St Peter & The Winchester Martyrs | Give as you Live Donate. If you choose to donate via the website, please use the reference "Christmas" against your donation at: Donate. With every blessing for a wonderful Christmas.



The Night of Light last weekend at St Peter's was as successful as ever, with parishioners and passers-by coming to light candles and find a moment of peace. It was a wonderful experience, making the most of the church's being in the city centre. The peaceful loving candlelit atmosphere gave everyone a moment of calm in the middle of everything that's going on.

Christmas Crib Offering Our annual Christmas Crib Offerings this year will

be given to the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre (KHS). They fund many works which support the Christians living in the Holy Land, thus ensuring they survive and the Holy sites are still populated by Christians. Thank you in advance for your generosity.





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 Christmas celebrations are both uplifting and spirit-filled, may they offer hope and bring joy to everyone who comes to honour the birth of Christ.

Funeral Notices:

Mary Talbot RIP – Friday 6th January 2023 at 12 noon, at St Gregory's. Matthew Leeming – Friday 27th January 2023 at 2pm, at St Peter's.

Please pray for their family and friends at this difficult time. May God grant them eternal rest.



PLEASE PRAY FOR the repose of the souls of those who have died recently: Matthew Leeming RIP Mary Talbot RIP **Dorothy Felton RIP**



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YEAR OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Our Parish Year of the Holy Spirit began at the start of Advent, and Bishop Philip has similarly called for a Diocesan Year of Prayer to the Holy Spirit to begin on 1st January. Those who received Fr Mark's Advent messages will be very aware of the importance of this, and we hope you have all had a chance to read and join in with our Parish Prayer to the Holy Spirit. We will be using this throughout the year - there are cards in all the churches which you are welcome to take home, and you can always find it on our website here.

There are big plans for the whole year, including Lent groups, a Parish retreat, and new and exciting offerings for our children and families – keep watching for more in the New Year. And we are delighted to announce that there will be an online study series from Tony Darlison, coming soon - three evening online sessions on **Discovering More About the Holy Spirit**, a chance to delve deeper into what the Church teaches about the Holy Spirit. Look out for full details in our next edition.

PETERPOST CHRISTMAS EDITION – This Christmas Peterpost is a double issue, taking in the weekend of the 31st/1st as well, (so do keep it somewhere safe!). Back to normal on the weekend of 6th of Jan.

St Peter's Church 'Warm Hub' - Pastoral Centre, Winchester:

Every Wednesday from 10am -12noon - offering light breakfast (cereals/toast, jam), tea, coffee & cake. This is a safe, friendly environment for those seeking warm sanctuary, refreshments, companionship and support with sign posting to key social/community services. We kindly ask our ministries and parishioners to assist us in the following:

- Prayers - "Let us pray for those effected by the cost-of-living crisis and financial hardship. May our Warm Hub provide safety, sanctuary, and much needed support during these difficult times".

- Pastoral Support - Winchester community of churches and other organisations have a comprehensive itinerary of Warm Hub events throughout the week - please see list at the back of all churches and in the Pastoral Centre.

Donations and volunteers are always appreciated!

- Practical Support – For those who may be experiencing financial hardship or know someone who might be, our parish has received awareness training provided by the Winchester Citizens Advice Bureau team about where to find support on the CAB website. If you would like to find out more, please contact Michaela@stpeterswinchester.org.uk or phone 01962 852804.

Alternatively, very helpful information is available on the Winchester City Council 'Cost of Living Advice' page, see

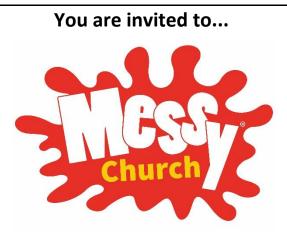
https://www.winchester.gov.uk/cost-of-living;

and on the Citizens Advice Bureau website, see http://www.citizensadvicewinchester.org.uk

Epiphany Party at St Stephen's - Sunday 8th January 2023 in the hall after 9:15am Mass.

Christmas party dress (optional). All children to be accompanied by an adult. Please bring a contribution to the snack table. Volunteers for the craft and snack tables needed.

PILGRIMAGE to LOURDES 2023. ACROSS, (the Jumbulance Group who specialise in taking people who find travel difficult any other way) are planning a Pilgrimage to Lourdes from the Winchester/Southampton area, on 13th to 22nd July 2023. For more information, either as a VIP or as a Helper, contact Marianne, the Group Leader on <u>mwanstall@btinternet.com</u>, or Hilary, via the Parish Office.



What is it?

Fun, faith and fellowship with crafts, refreshments, activities and liturgy based on a Biblical theme

When?

Mondays 1:30 - 3pm from Jan 9th 2023

Where?

Pastoral Centre Hall, St Peter's, Jewry Street

Who is it for?

No age limit! Everyone welcome

Who to contact?

Louisa: messychurch@stpeterswinchester.org.uk

or call the Parish Office: 01962 852804

CWL SOUP AND PUD LUNCH in aid of Winchester Trinity Centre.

The CWL will be having their next Charity Lunch on Friday 6th January, food will be served from 12.00noon to 1.30pm, in the Pastoral Centre. All are very welcome to come and enjoy a home cooked Lunch, cost £5.



Laudato Si Corner Chistmas 2022



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The Laudato Si group wish everyone a joyful, peaceful and sustainable Christmas and New Year!

Over the course of this year members of the group have:

- Invited parishioners to sign a New Year's pledge to take care of our common home
- Contributed to the Winchester Movement Consultation and made our views known on other local issues
- Attended a question and answer session with Alok Sharma, chair of COP27, that was hosted by Winchester MP Steve Brine
- Prepared a series of pieces for Peterpost on saving costs and energy, based around the 'Live Simply' theme
- Promoted the Green Homes Fair that took place in the Pastoral Centre
- Organised a quiz for Winchester Green Week
- Put on two showings of 'the Letter', a film about a group of climate activists from various parts of the world visiting Pope Francis in Rome, attended by around 60 people

Are you taking action this year to have a greener Christmas? If so, let us know what you have done on the parish facebook page or by email below.

And if you would like to join our Whatsapp group or get involved in another way, please email mslinn@stpeterswinchester.org.uk. It's easy to feel hopeless about the future but as Fr Mark reminded us recently: 'hope changes <u>everything'</u>.

Vacancy for a part time Parish Administrator to support all pastoral work in the Parish of Our Lady of Lourdes and St Swithun's, Waverley Road, PORTSMOUTH

Hours of work: Part time 16 hours per week – Tuesday to Friday 9 am to 1 pm. Salary: £12 per hour.

Experience and Qualifications required for role:

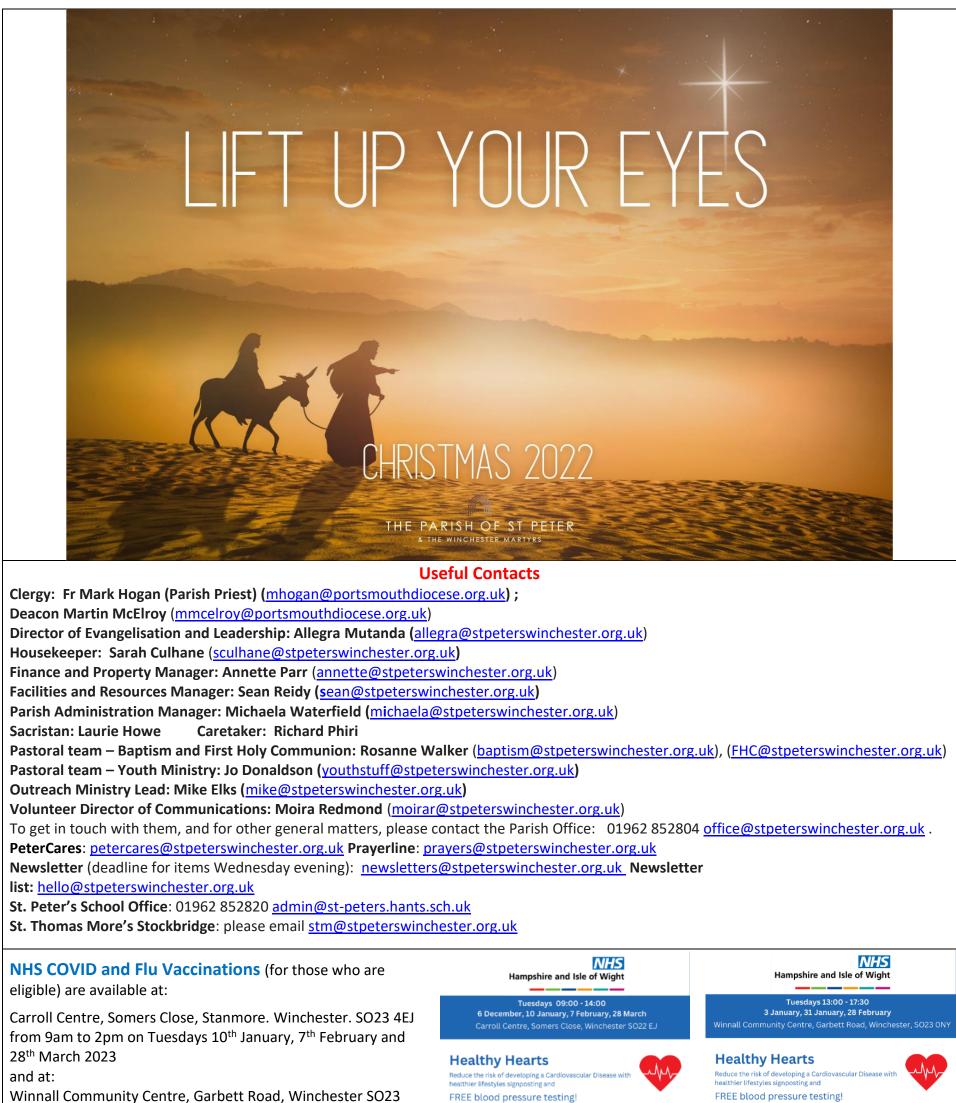
- First class organisational skills including the ability to prioritise work, balance conflicting priorities, monitor progress and exercise judgement
- about chasing progress as necessary.
- Advanced proficiency in use of Microsoft Office including Word, Excel, Powerpoint and Publisher.
- Understanding of Data Protection legislation.
- Excellent interpersonal skills and the confidence to deal with people at every level.
- Excellent communication skills both written and verbal.
- Able to effectively manage a high- volume workload.

Personal Attributes:

- Ability to work effectively as part of a team.
- Excellent support skills.
- Understanding of and commitment to equality of opportunity and good working relationships.
- Able to work on own initiative, organising and prioritising own workload to set deadlines.
- An ability to maintain high degree of confidentiality and trust.
- Good time keeping.
- Positive and flexible approach to work.

Closing date for applications: 12 noon on Friday 13th January 2023.

For Job Description and details of how to apply please contact: <u>recruitment@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk</u>



Winnall Community Centre, Garbett Road, Winchester SO23 ONY from 1pm to 5.30pm on Tuesdays 3rd, 31st January and 28th

Covid Vaccinations

Covid Vaccinations

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February 2023. Just come along. No need to book.



Mass Timetable	24 th Decem	ber 2022 – 30 th December 2022	2	
Date	Mass Times & Intentions			
	3.00 PM	Early Family Mass at St	Christina & William Browne RIP	
	3.00 FIVI	Peter's		
	5.30 PM	First Mass of Christmas at St	Austin Emery RIP	
CATURDAY Descentes ofth		Peter's		
SATURDAY – December 24 th THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD - Vigil	5.30 PM	First Mass of Christmas at St	Amelia Stone RIP	
THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD - Vigit		Stephen's		
	8.30 PM	Midnight Mass at St	Intentions of the Neil Family	
	10.20 DM	Gregory's	Soul of William Mooder	
	10.30 PM	Midnight Mass at St Peter's	Soul of William Meader	
	8.00 AM	Mass at St Peter's	Recovery of James Murphy	
	9.00 AM	Mass at St Thomas More's		
SUNDAY – DECEMBER 25 th THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD	9.15 AM	Mass at St Stephen's		
	10.30 AM	Mass at St Peter's	Rosie O'Connor RIP	
	11.00 AM	Mass at St Gregory's		
MONDAY – December 26 th	10.00 AM	Mass at St Stephen's		
ST STEPHEN, the First Martyr, feast.				
	10.00 AM	Mass at St Gregory's		
TUESDAY – December 27 th	10.00 AM	Mass at St Gregory's	Alfred Fernandez RIP	
ST JOHN, Apostle, Evangelist, feast.	10.00 AIVI			
WEDNESDAY – December 28 th				
THE HOLY INNOCENTS, feast.				
THURSDAY – December 29 th	10.00 AM	Mass at St Peter's	Intentions of the Neil Family	
ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY, solemnity.				
FRIDAY – December 30 th	10.00 AM	Mass at St Gregory's		
THE HOLY FAMILY of JESUS, MARY &	12.15 PM	Mass at St Peter's	For The Dead & Founders	
JOSEPH, feast.				
Mass Timetable	31 st December 2022 – 7 th January 2023			
Date	Mass Times & Intentions			
SATURDAY – December 31 st MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD, -	9.00 AM 5.30 PM	Mass at St Peter's Mass at St Peter's	Soul of Richard Spencer and concelebrating local priests. Thanksgiving for Ben's Family	
Vigil	5.50 8101	iviass at St Felel S		
0	8.00 AM	Mass at St Peter's	For the souls of the Polidano Family	
	9.00 AM	Mass at St Thomas More's		
SUNDAY – January 1 st	9.15 AM	Mass at St Stephen's		
MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD,	10.30 AM	Family Mass at St Peter's	Recovery of Izzy's Dad.	
solemnity	11.00 AM	Mass at St Gregory's		
	No 5.30 PM	Mass		
MONDAY – January 2 nd -	10.00 AM	Mass at St Peter's	Anna Grogan RIP	
Ss Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen,				
Bishops, Doctors of the Church.	10.00 454	Mass at St Crosser's		
TUESDAY – January 3 rd	10.00 AM 12.15 PM	Mass at St Gregory's Mass at St Peter's	Potor W/vlos PIP	
WEDNESDAY – January 4 th	12.12 11		Peter Wyles RIP	
THURSDAY – January 4	10.00 AM	Mass at St Peter's	For Souls in Purgatory	
FRIDAY – January 6 th –	10.00 AM	Mass at St Gregory's		
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD, solemnity	12.15 PM	Mass at St Peter's	Tim & Helen Casey RIP	
	7.00 PM	Mass at St Peter's	For the Founders.	
SATURDAY – January 7 th –	9.00 AM	Mass at St Peter's	Holy Souls in Purgatory	
THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD - Vigil	5.30 PM	Mass at St Peter's	All Souls in Purgatory	
Confessions every Saturday 9.30am till 10.30am and 4.30pm-5.00pm at St Peter's Church – booking not required.				
Morning Prayer (livestream and open to public), 8.00am at St Peter's followed by Adoration till 9.00am. There will be no Morning Prayer on 26 th ,				
27 th or 28 th December 2022, nor on 2 nd , 5 th		-	You Tubo about a	
To participate online or see the recorded services for Morning Prayer & Adoration, go to our <u>YouTube channel</u> ALL SERVICES (INCLUDING MORNING PRAYER) FROM ST PETER'S ARE LIVESTREAMED.				
ALL SERVICES (INCLUDING MOKNING PRAYER) FROM ST PETER'S ARE LIVESTREAMED.				