

PETERPOST

Parish of St. Peter and the Winchester Martyrs

Alresford • Stockbridge • Winchester

28th May 2023

PENTECOST SUNDAY – Year A

The Father has much more in store, for you

Fr Mark writes:

At the extended form of the Easter Vigil, the Old Testament Scriptures lead us through salvation history, revealing God's hand at work from the beginning of Creation, through to the Resurrection of Jesus. This is all part of God's eternal plan, to draw us into a covenant relationship with Him.

In a similar way, the Old Testament Scriptures, which we will hear proclaimed at the Pentecost Vigil this weekend, help us to deepen our awareness of the role of the Holy Spirit in the life of the Church, celebrating and shining fresh light on the mystery of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church. They give us an extended opportunity to gather patiently in prayer and welcome the Divine Gift, the Love of God, by which we are adopted as God's children and drawn more and more into the very Life of God.

The first Old Testament reading is the story of the Tower of Babel (Gen 11:1-9). It tells us of the sinful pride and independence from God which leads to disorder. This fragmentation into a babble of different languages is overcome by the glossolalia, or ability to speak in tongues, which is a gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. The Holy Spirit enables the Gospel message to be proclaimed in all languages, bringing about a beautiful unity in diversity.

The second Old Testament reading is the giving of the Law by God on Mount Sinai to the people through Moses (Exodus 19:3-8a, 16-20b). God makes a covenant with his people and consecrates them as a kingdom of priest, a holy nation. Pentecost is originally a Jewish Feast, now celebrated as Shavuot. The present Jewish liturgy says, "This day of the Feast of Weeks is the time of the gift of our Torah", Pentecost taking place 7 weeks or 50 days after Passover. It is surely not a coincidence that in his account of the first Christian Pentecost, St. Luke evokes the theophany of Mount Sinai, where the people witnessed thunder, lightning, fire and tremors of the earth.

The third Old Testament reading tells us of the prophecy of Ezekiel and the word of God which commanded him to speak life into the valley of dry bones (Ezekiel 37:1-14). The crucial moment in this episode is the breathing of the breath of God into the corpses. The *ruah* of God, which could be translated as 'wind' or 'breath' or 'Spirit', is that which brings life and points forward to the 'Johannine Pentecost', when Jesus breathes his Spirit upon his disciples on Easter Sunday and to the "sound like a mighty rushing wind" which the disciples experienced on the day of Pentecost, as recounted by St. Luke.

The fourth and final Old Testament reading is from the prophet Joel (3:1-15) and announces the Spirit of God being poured forth upon all the faithful and turning them into prophets.

'But afterwards, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters' – regardless of gender – 'will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions' – regardless of age. 'Even on my servants' – regardless of rank, race, background – 'both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days.' (Joel 2:28-29)

This is the amazing thing: the Holy Spirit is to be poured out upon everyone! In the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit was given to particular people at particular times for particular tasks. Now we have the promise of the Father: 'I'm going to do something new! And it's going to be not just for particular people at particular times for particular tasks; it's going to be for everyone!' And the people of Israel waited. They think, 'Wow, this is exciting!' But it didn't happen. And they waited hundreds of years. And then, suddenly, with the birth of Jesus, it's like a trumpet sounds and everyone surrounding the birth of Jesus is filled with the Holy Spirit. And at Pentecost, that Spirit is poured out upon the disciples and the Church is born...

The purpose of these Scripture readings, along with the other texts at our Masses this Pentecost weekend, is to illuminate our minds rather than to tell us practically what to do. The Church wants us to broaden the horizons of our faith and embrace the fulness of the Christian mystery.

Wherever we are on our Christian journey, there is always a next step, and there is always more that the Father wishes to give us, to make us more and more like his Son, Jesus, by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit? Are you willing to discern and take that next step which God has in mind for you? Do you desire that more which God desires for you?

Let me conclude with a story:

Once a poor family, two parents and a boy emigrated from southern Italy to the United States. In those days, journeys were by sea and took several weeks. Being a poor family, they had taken their own food for the journey, bread and cheese. After a while, the boy got sick of bread and cheese and began complaining all the time. So, his parents collected what they could and gave him some money to go to the restaurant and have a proper meal. He returned from the restaurant furious and shouted at his shocked parents, "The price of our ticket on the boat included a meal in the restaurant every day and we've been eating bread and cheese all the time!"

Are you living your Christian life on bread and cheese when you could be feasting freely on an abundant meal every day? Are you struggling to live on a diet of rushed prayers, half-hearted devotions and seemingly burdensome spiritual practices when Jesus has paid for you to have a "a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined" (Isa 25:6)? Why don't we sit at the table of the Church and experience something of the "sober intoxication of the Spirit" which the disciples enjoyed at Pentecost..?

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 [Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth](#)

If you are interested in learning more about the Catholic Church, or becoming a Catholic, visit our [Journey in Faith webpage](#).

PENTECOST SUNDAY (Mass of the Day, Year A) 28th May 2023

Gospel Acclamation:

Entrance Antiphon :

The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world and that which contains all things understands what is said, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia!

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.

R. Alleluia!

First reading: Acts 2.1-11

Gospel: John 20:19-23

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 103:1,24,29-31,34. R. Cf. v.30

Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

Communion Antiphon:

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.

Second reading: 1 Corinthians 12:3-7,12-13

Changes to Masses in the Coming Week:
Mass on Monday 29th May is at 10am (as it is a Bank Holiday).
There is no Mass at St Peter's at 9am on Saturday 3rd June. Mass will be held at **Winchester Cathedral at 10am.**



Welcome to George Mahony and Edoardo Whiteside who were baptised at St Peter's Church and to Ludo Beiderbos who was baptised at Tichborne last weekend. May God bless them with His love and grace, today and always.



Congratulations to Patrick Cawley and Beverley Cash, who were married at St Peter's Church on Thursday 25th May. May their lives together bring glory to God and much joy to one another.



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: On the feast of Pentecost, let us pray that our celebrations and vigil mass stir up a joyful faith and awaken in us the graces of our baptism, reinvigorating a new life in us, bringing us closer to Christ in hope and joy



PLEASE PRAY FOR the repose of the souls of those who have died recently:
Fr Brian Croughan RIP
Rory Culhane RIP

Funeral Notices:

Fr Brian Croughan – **Friday 2nd June at 2.30pm** at Sacred Heart, Waterlooville.
Please pray for his family and friends at this difficult time. May God grant them eternal rest.



Prayers for and Congratulations to our Confirmation Candidates receiving the Sacrament this weekend



- Clarissa Nixon
- Emma Moore
- Hector Carter
- Thomas Rakowicz
- Alessio De Stefano
- Sophia Solomides
- Charlie Simmons



Ordination of Tony Darlison

Bishop Philip is looking forward to Ordaining Tony Darlison to the Diaconate at 11:00am on **Saturday 8th July** in Portsmouth Cathedral. All are welcome to attend. If you would like to stay afterwards for a light lunch, rsvp using this link:
<https://survey.sogolytics.com/r/uLnSW7>



Year of the Holy Spirit - Diocesan Life in the Spirit Course (Zoom)



Bishop Philip has announced that this year in the diocese is to be the Year of the Holy Spirit. Do you wonder about what the Holy Spirit is doing in your life? Have you made the time to really consider the issue? Why not come and join the Life in the Spirit course running after Pentecost! This will be held on Zoom from Thursday 1st June until Thursday 13th July at 7.30pm until 9pm. Get involved in Praise and Worship of the Lord. Listen to sound teaching on the Holy Spirit. Meet up with other members of the diocese - and beyond - to discuss what you believe. It is in articulating our thoughts that we really come to know what we do believe. Link to follow soon.

First Holy Communion 2024: Registration now open!

If you are the parent/guardian of a child currently in Year 3, wishing to make their First Holy Communion next year, please contact Rosanne at fhc@stpeterswinchester.org.uk to inquire about the programme, and/or to receive a registration form. If your child is presently in Year 2 but you feel they would be ready next year and you attend Sunday Mass regularly, please do get in touch.

Covenant With The Poor Appeal Next weekend, the Covenant with the Poor team will be appealing for support for 'Rare Charity - changing girl's lives in Malawi'. A link to the appeal leaflet will be on the parish website front page in the CWP section. Please support generously as ever!

CAFOD Did you know that Church teaching says that we should not only support those in poverty but also tackle the root causes of poverty? Pope Benedict XVI said that “Love — caritas — is an extraordinary force which leads people to opt for courageous and generous engagement in the field of justice and peace.” For decades CAFOD has spoken out against injustice. To find out more about our seeds campaign and get involved in tackling the root causes of poverty, please go to cafod.org.uk/latestcampaigns

Bookshop We sell missals, Bibles, Prayerbooks, crosses, rosaries etc. We have a good selection of books, including Alpha books and books about the Holy Spirit. There is a good selection of cards for all occasions, including cards and gifts for First Holy Communion and Confirmation. There are also some **Ordination cards** (and more on order). Many thanks for your support, Susan Henry, Bookshop.



The next **CWL Charity Lunch**, in aid of **PACT (Prison Advice & Care Trust)** will be held on **Friday 2nd June** in the Pastoral Centre at St Peter's Church, 12.00 - 1.30pm. Delicious homemade soups, and lovely puddings for £5. Great place to meet up with friends. Come along and join us.

PARISH PRISON SUPPORT GROUP The parish is setting up this Group to support Fr. JP Coulon in his chaplaincy work for the prisoners and staff at Winchester Prison. There are many ways we can assist Fr. JP Coulon including attending the Saturday Mass in the prison, providing religious information including prayer cards, medals and gospels and offering intercessory prayers for prisoners and staff and their families.

We are holding a meeting in the Parish Centre on **Tuesday May 30th at 7.30pm** to inform parishioners about the prison situation and needs and how we can serve in this ministry. Any parishioner interested is welcome to attend!

Laudato Si Corner

A PENTECOST PRAYER FOR CREATION

Lord our world is ravaged by drought, floods and fire. In a world of plenty, many people are starving because they are unable to sustain themselves from the land. In the meantime our world is getting ever hotter, causing ice caps to melt, oceans to rise and land to turn to desert.

Our actions have caused great harm, but we hold on with hope, knowing that by prayer and action the world could be transformed.

Lord at this time of Pentecost we pray for hope, for strength and for wisdom for all your people. Let us look upon your beautiful creation with fresh eyes. Let us recognise the dangers that threaten us but face them with courage and with renewed purpose. We pray that as a parish and as a church community, alongside the people of the world, we can join together to protect the world around us and work towards a sustainable way of life for all people.

Send out your spirit O Lord and renew the face of the earth.

(Picture opposite shows Children in the Atlas Mountains, Morocco)



St Stephen's Celebration Last Sunday morning we had a lovely Mass led by Father Benedict. It was dedicated to The People of the Parish. After Communion, the Church Choir led by Emma Sharrock, sang “Look at the World” by John Rutter. It sounded so lovely in the church with all the different parts together. Listen to it here:



IMG_8313.MOV

As Mass ended, Father Benedict blessed our newly hung sewn tapestry, with holy water, (the looks on some of the sewers faces as their work of art was splashed with water was a picture). All this finished off the 50th jubilee celebrations of St Stephen's Church, - a bit late due to lock down, but “patience is a virtue”, and “all good things come to those who wait”. It certainly was “worth waiting for”. Mary Alveyn presented Anne Benson, who was the inspiration behind the tapestry, with some flowers, and her lovely ladies, who did all the sewing with her, joined her at the front for a well-deserved applause.



Can you help out in the Pastoral Centre?

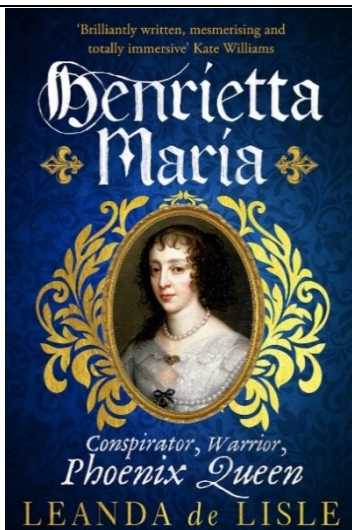
Please can you help in our Pastoral Centre? Indoor or outdoor light domestic tasks for an hour or two a week?

If so, please contact Sean Reidy, our Facilities & Resources Manager at the Pastoral Centre, to find out more about the different options that could suit your availability. Sean's contact details are: Mob: 07825393005, Office: 01962 852804. Email: sean@stpeterswichester.org.uk

WINCHESTER CATHOLIC HISTORY SOCIETY.

The next meeting will take place at WINCHESTER COLLEGE on **Wednesday 14 June** when Leanda de Lisle will be speaking on her new book on Henrietta Maria.

This is at **7.30 pm in Musa**, (the Museum) when Professor Diarmaid MacCulloch, the Honorary President, will be introducing Leanda.



Wanting to volunteer?

Caritas Portsmouth supports parishes and schools to become the 'church beyond walls' to help meet the needs in our local communities. Our volunteer team help make this happen, by running and supporting specific projects, promoting our work within the community and fundraising so we can get new projects off the ground. We would be delighted if you would join us. Visit our website for details

(<https://caritas.org.uk/act/>) or email us at

caritas@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk. Thank you, Jenny LeLean, Caritas Portsmouth.



Dear Parents

NSPCC workshops and assembly

In the past two weeks all our children have been learning how to keep safe and, at an age appropriate level, what abuse is and how to share worries.

In Year 1 we enjoyed watching the NSPCC virtual assembly and had a good discussion around how to make sure we were safe both at school and at home. We all chanted the saying "That's not ok!" We spent some time talking about who our trusted adults are and wrote them on the handprint of the NSPCC mascot Buddy. Year 1 feel safe knowing that they all have people that look out for them and who they can talk to at any time.

Year 2 know to "Speak out and stay safe". Look at the posters we made after our NSPCC workshop.

Year 5 were visited by volunteers from the NSPCC this week. The children discussed keeping themselves and others safe and spoke to the volunteers about their safe adults in the school. The children considered lots of different scenarios and if they were always safe, sometimes safe or never safe.

"It was really interesting. We learnt lots about Childline and how we can use them if we need to." - Arthur C, 5MJ.



We currently have vacancies for a Class Teacher in KS2 (maternity cover), a Class Teacher in KS1 or 2 (maternity cover), a Teaching Assistant and an After School Club Assistant. For further details and an application form please see the Vacancies page on our website: <https://www.stpetershants.co.uk/vacancies/>

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

In case you missed it last week, here are the headlines from the recent **Ofsted report for St Peter's Catholic School.**

At St Peter's, children learn and grow in a happy, secure and nurturing environment. Parents enthuse about how inclusive the school is and value how it welcomes and celebrates children from all faiths and backgrounds. Pupils love coming to school, delight in their learning, and they achieve well.

Passionate and inspiring senior leadership underpins the shared ambition and high standards achieved. As they progress through the school, pupils respond to teachers' high expectations and immerse themselves into all that the school offers. They are supported to gain confidence and become more independent learners, well prepared for their next stages of education.

Staff know each child as an individual, nurturing warm and trusting relationships so that they feel safe and secure. Should any unkindness or bullying occur, leaders take swift and effective action. Pupils show genuine empathy and respect for their peers. They trust staff to resolve any worries they may have.

To read the report in full please go to our website <https://www.stpetershants.co.uk/ofsted-and-performance-data/>

If you would like to visit the school with a view to admissions please make an appointment via the school office for a look around.

COULD YOU JOIN OUR TEAM OF GOVERNORS TO HELP GUIDE THE SCHOOL TO GREATER STRENGTHS? We have a current vacancy and another in the Autumn Term. Please speak to Fr Mark or contact the Chair of Governors via the school office: admin@st-peters.hants.sch.uk

Mass Timetable	27th May 2023 – 4th June 2023		
Date	Mass Times & Intentions		
SATURDAY – May 27th – ST AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY, Bishop, feast PENTECOST SUNDAY - Vigil	9.00 AM	Mass at St Peter's	Dead in cemeteries & Founders
	5.30 PM	Mass at St Peter's	Jerzy Waloski RIP
SUNDAY – May 28th PENTECOST SUNDAY, Solemnity	8.00 AM	Mass at St Peter's	CWL – For all taking Public Examinations at this time.
	9.00 AM	Mass at St Thomas More's	People of the Parish
	9.15 AM	Mass at St Stephen's	People of Ukraine
	10.30 AM	Mass at St Peter's	Intentions of Sindisiwe Mbuli
	11.00 AM	Mass at St Gregory's	Alfonso Rubio Caballero RIP
	5.30 PM	Mass at St Peter's	Philip Cohen RIP
MONDAY – May 29th – The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, memorial	10.00 AM	Mass at St Peter's	Pat Bracken RIP
TUESDAY – May 30th	10.00 AM	Mass at St Gregory's	
	12.15 PM	Mass at St Peter's	Rodel & Liza's Wedding Anniversary & Liza's Birthday
WEDNESDAY – May 31st – THE VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, feast.	10.00 AM	Mass at St Peter's	Steve Smith RIP
THURSDAY – June 1st – OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, the ETERNAL HIGH PRIEST, feast.	10.00 AM	Mass at St Peter's	Private Intentions
FRIDAY – June 2nd – Ss Marcellinus & Peter, Martyrs.	10.00 AM	Mass at St Gregory's	
	12.15 PM	Mass at St Peter's	Soul of Rev Patrick Savage.
SATURDAY – June 3rd – St Charles Lwanga & Companions, Martyrs, memorial. THE MOST HIGH TRINITY SUNDAY - Vigil	10.00 AM	Mass at Winchester Cathedral	Jose Aponte RIP
	5.30 PM	Mass at St Peter's	Molly & John O'Donoghue
<p>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. <i>To participate in any service online (including Morning Prayer & Adoration) or to see the recorded services, go to our YouTube channel</i> ALL SERVICES (INCLUDING MORNING PRAYER) FROM ST PETER'S ARE LIVESTREAMED.</p>			
Useful Contacts			
<p>Clergy: Fr Mark Hogan (Parish Priest) (mhogan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) Fr Benedict Ndikum (Assistant Priest) (bndikum@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) Deacon Martin McElroy (mmcelroy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) Director of Evangelisation and Leadership: Allegra Mutanda (allegra@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) Housekeeper: Sarah Harfield (sharfield@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) Finance and Property Manager: Annette Parr (annette@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) Facilities and Resources Manager: Sean Reidy (sean@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) Parish Administration Manager: Michaela Waterfield (michaela@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) Sacristan: Laurie Howe Caretaker: Richard Phiri Pastoral team – Baptism and First Holy Communion: Rosanne Walker (baptism@stpeterswinchester.org.uk), (FHC@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) Pastoral team – Youth Ministry: Jo Donaldson (youthstuff@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) Outreach Ministry Lead: Mike Elks (mike@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) Volunteer Director of Communications: Lisa Justice (ljustice@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 . PeterCares: petercares@stpeterswinchester.org.uk Prayerline: prayers@stpeterswinchester.org.uk Wedding information – weddings@stpeterswinchester.org.uk Newsletter (deadline for items Wednesday evening): newsletters@stpeterswinchester.org.uk Newsletter list: hello@stpeterswinchester.org.uk St. Peter's School Office: 01962 852820 admin@st-peters.hants.sch.uk St. Thomas More's Stockbridge: please email stm@stpeterswinchester.org.uk</p>			
Diocesan Vacancies			
<p>IT Manager. The Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth is looking for an IT Manager with 3 or more years' experience within IT management. Full Time: 35 hours per week. Based in Portsmouth. Salary: £35 to £40K. Start Date: October 2023. For full Job Description please contact: recruitment@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Closing date for applications: 31st May 2023. Pre-interview phone call 2nd June & Interviews will take place 7th June 2023.</p>			
<p>Christian Aid Jane Hough, a St Peter's parishioner, is to go on her 29th solo cycle ride to raise money for Christian Aid. She plans to ride across France from Bordeaux in the west to Sete on the Mediterranean coast - about 700kms in 2weeks, starting at the end of May. Please support her with your prayers and your sponsorship - https://www.justgiving.com/page/jane-hough-2023?newPage=true</p>			
<p>Parish Safeguarding Minister – If you have any safeguarding concerns or requests, such as help with applying for a DBS check, please contact the Parish, by emailing safeguarding@stpeterswinchester.org.uk or by phoning 01962 852804 (Option 2, followed by Option 1). If there is a concern that someone is at immediate risk of harm, people should be advised to contact 999 for the emergency services.</p>			