

# PETERPOST

Parish of St. Peter and the Winchester Martyrs

Alresford • Stockbridge • Winchester

27<sup>th</sup> August 2023

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

Are we a Church that follows?

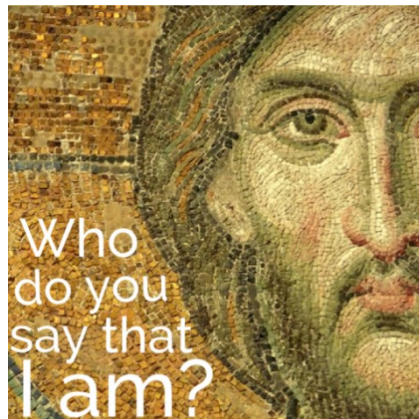
## **Pope Francis writes:**

[Today's] Gospel sets before us the question that Jesus posed to his disciples: "Who do you say that I am?" (Mt 16:16). This is the essential and most important question of all: Who is Jesus for me? Who is Jesus in my life?

Peter's answer can be summed up in one word: follow. Peter knew what it was to follow the Lord. On that day in Caesarea Philippi, Peter responded to Jesus' question with a fine profession of faith: "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God" (Mt 16:16). An impeccable, precise, exact and, we could even say, perfect "catechetical" answer. Yet that answer was itself the fruit of a journey. For only after the thrilling experience of following the Lord, walking with him and behind him for some time, did Peter arrive at the spiritual maturity that brought him, by grace, by pure grace, to so clear a profession of faith.

The same evangelist, Matthew, tells us that it all began one day when, beside the Sea of Galilee, Jesus walked by, called Peter and his brother Andrew, "and immediately they left their nets and followed him" (Mt 4:20). Peter left everything behind to follow the Lord. The Gospel stresses that he did so "immediately". Peter did not tell Jesus that he would think it over; he didn't calculate the pros and cons; he didn't come up with alibis to postpone the decision. Instead, he left his nets and followed Jesus, without demanding any kind of guarantee beforehand. He was to learn everything day by day, as a disciple, a follower of Jesus, walking in his footsteps. It is not by chance that in the Gospels the last recorded words of Jesus to Peter were: "Follow me" (Jn 21:22). Follow.

Peter tells us that it is not enough to respond to the question – "Who is Jesus for me" – with a faultless doctrinal formula or a set of preconceived notions. No. It is only by following the Lord that we come to know him each day, only by becoming his disciples and listening to his words that we become his friends and experience his transforming love. That word "immediately" is also meaningful for us. Many other things can be postponed in life, but not following Jesus; where he is concerned, we cannot hesitate or come up with excuses. We need to be careful, too, because some excuses are disguised as spiritual, as for example when we say, "I am not worthy", "I don't have it in me", "What can I do?" This is one of the devil's ploys: it robs us of trust in God's grace by making us think that everything depends on our own abilities.



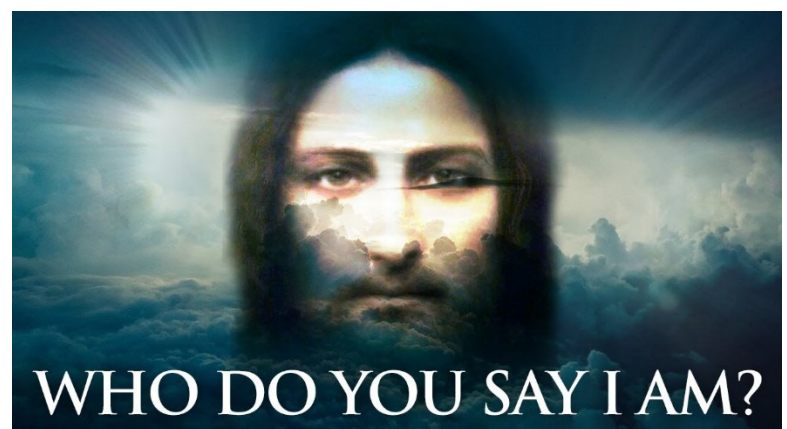
To detach ourselves from all earthly forms of security, "immediately", and to follow Jesus anew each day: such is the charge that Peter sets before us today. He invites us to be a "Church that follows". A Church that strives to be a disciple of the Lord, a lowly servant of the Gospel. Only in this way will the Church be capable of dialoguing with everyone and becoming a place of accompaniment, closeness and hope for the men and women of our time. Only in this way will those farthest from us, those who often regard us with diffidence or indifference, come to realize, in the words of Pope Benedict, that "the Church is the place of our encounter with the Son of the living God and thus the place for our encounter with one another" ([Homily for the Second Sunday of Advent, 10 December 2006](#)).

Pope Francis, Homily, Solemnity of Ss. Peter and Paul, 2023

Today, we hear Jesus' question directed to each one of us: 'And you, who do you say I am?'. To each one of us. And each one of us must give not a theoretical answer, but one that involves faith, that is, life, because faith is life! 'For me you are ...' and then to confess Jesus. An answer that demands from us too, as from the first disciples, inward listening to the voice of the Father and consonance with what the Church, gathered around Peter, continues to proclaim. It is a matter of understanding who Christ is for us: whether he is the centre of our life, whether he is the goal of our commitment in the Church, of our commitment in society. Who is Jesus Christ for me? Who is Jesus Christ for you, for you, for you ...? An answer that we should give every day.

But beware: it is indispensable and praiseworthy that the pastoral care of our communities be open to the many forms of poverty and plights that are everywhere. Charity is always the high road of the journey of faith, of the perfection of faith. But it is necessary that works of solidarity, the works of charity that we carry out, not divert us from contact with the Lord Jesus. Christian charity is not simple philanthropy but, on the one hand, it is looking at others through the very eyes of Jesus and, on the other hand, it is seeing Jesus in the face of the poor. This is the true path of Christian charity, with Jesus at the centre, always. May Mary Most Holy, blessed because she believed, be our guide and model on the path of faith in Christ, and make us aware that trust in him gives full meaning to our charity and to all our existence.

Pope Francis, Angelus Address, 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2020



**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). 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](#).

**TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year A) – 27<sup>th</sup> August 2023**

**Entrance Antiphon :** Cf. Ps 85:1-3  
Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me;  
save the servant who trusts in you, my God.  
Have mercy on me, O Lord,  
for I cry to you all the day long.

**First reading:** Isaiah 22:19-23

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 137:1-3,6,8. R. v.8  
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,  
discard not the work of your hands.

**Second reading:** Romans 11:33-36

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**R. Alleluia, alleluia!**  
God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself,  
and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled.  
**R. Alleluia!**

**Gospel:** Matthew 16:13-20

**Communion Antiphon:** Cf. Ps 103:13-15  
The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord,  
you bring forth bread from the earth  
and wine to cheer the heart.

**Changes to Masses in the Coming Weeks:**

There is no Morning Prayer on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> August and Mass is at 10am at St Peter's, (as it is a Bank Holiday).

There will be no 10am Mass at St Gregory's on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September and no 12.15pm Mass at St Peter's. The Funeral Mass for Michael Etherington is at 11am at St Peter's.

The 9am Saturday Mass at St Peter's will be replaced with the 10am Mass at Winchester Cathedral on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September and morning Confession will be from 11am to 12 noon at St Peter's.

**Please note:** There will be no weekday Masses at St Gregory's in September, apart from on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September, when Mass will be at 10am, as usual.



**Welcome to** Yeslyn McAslin who was baptised at St Stephen's and to Margot Donnelly-Leek who was baptised at St Peter's Church, last weekend. May God bless them with His love and grace, today and always.



**Congratulations to** Francesca Ferguson and Ben Lindfield, who were married at St Peter's Church on Thursday. 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:** In our Year of the Holy Spirit, let us pray that he will strengthen us in God's love and guide us into truth, bringing us closer to Christ in hope and joy.

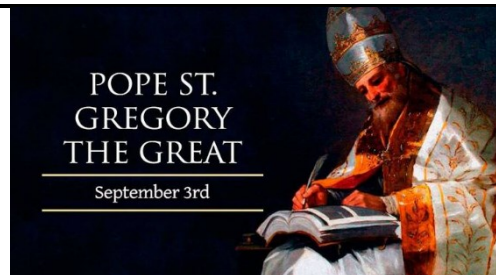


**PLEASE PRAY FOR** the repose of the souls of those who have died recently:  
Michael Etherington RIP

**Funeral Notices:**

Michael Etherington RIP – at St Peter's, Funeral Mass on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023 at 11:00am.

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



**The Solemnity of St Gregory** will be celebrated at **St Gregory's, Alresford at 11am on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.**

The Mass will be followed by light refreshments. All are welcome.

**Annual Mass for the Tichborne Family on Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> September at 6.00pm.** Fr Mark will be celebrating Mass at St Andrew's Church, Tichborne, one of only three Anglican churches in the country which incorporates a Catholic Chapel. During the Mass we remember the deceased members of the Tichborne Family, who worked diligently, and at great personal risk, to keep the Catholic faith during the reformation. All are invited! (Sadly, the Rev Christopher Durrant, Rector of St Andrew's is unable to join us this year).

**Confirmation Registration is now open**

Registering for Confirmation is now open for the 2023-2024 cohort. You can register and find out more information via this link: <https://catholicwinchester.org.uk/confirmation-2023-2024/>

You can also email [youthstuff@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:youthstuff@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) directly to chat.

The course starts in September and lasts an academic year. All sessions take place on a Sunday afternoon from 4pm-5:30pm.

The Confirmation course is for anyone in years 9-13 (age 14-17). 😊

**Catholic Women's League Charity Soup & Pud Lunch – has been moved to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September.**

Please make a note in your diaries that the next CWL Charity Lunch will now be on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September.

Please do come and support.





**CAFOD** Come and find out about CAFOD's work on **Saturday 16th September at St Michael & All Angels Leigh Park** .

CAFOD Portsmouth is hosting a meeting so that volunteers and supporters can find out more about our work on Saturday 16th September at St Michael & All Angels Church Hall, Dunsbury Way, Leigh Park PO9 5BD from 10:30am to 1:30pm (lunch is provided). At this meeting Sara Moreno from CAFOD's Partner SIEMBRA in Colombia will speak about her work with human and environmental rights defenders. Everyone is welcome but please book so that we have an idea of numbers by emailing Jo Lewry on [jlewry@cafod.org.uk](mailto:jlewry@cafod.org.uk)



### **Our new Seminarian Parish Placement is Ryan Hawkes.**

Ryan joined us for 4 weeks on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> August. He will be staying until Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September, before he returns to the Venerable English College in Rome to continue his training for the priesthood. His great passion is music, - playing the organ and writing music as well as singing. He will be a real asset to our Parish during his all too short stay.

### **Important message for all parish volunteers from Fr Mark!**

Please save the date: We are planning a Thankyou party in St. Peter's Pastoral Centre on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October in the afternoon. Everyone who serves in the Parish is invited for tea and cakes, as a small measure of appreciation and recognition for all you do - we want to reach every single person who contributes, no matter how big or small that contribution may seem. More details nearer the time, but for now, please put the date in your diary. Any questions, contact [moirar@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:moirar@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)



**Options Wellbeing Trust** is a charity that is committed to helping people from Hong Kong with their wellbeing and mental health in Southampton and Bournemouth either in person, over the phone or via our Telehealth online platform.

We are delighted to offer confidential, **FREE** wellbeing check-ins and counselling to Hong Kongers settling in Southampton and Bournemouth with a range of trusted, qualified and experienced counsellors.

Options Wellbeing's aim is to help Hong Kongers understand and feel more comfortable and in control of their emotions surrounding their move the UK, who may be feeling displaced, anxious or stressed, feeling a sense of loss or trauma as well as experiencing isolation, loneliness or guilt having left key social and support networks behind.

We provide people with the skills, tools and strategies to manage unhelpful emotions and behaviours so they can better cope, manage and support themselves, as well as feel more connected, access the support they need, settle in their communities well and thrive with all they aspire to achieve.

A leaflet (in Chinese) is available [here](#) or from the Parish Office.

### **St. Peter's Centenary - 2026**

It seems like a good time to flag up that we are now only three years away from marking the centenary of our beloved church. We want to make this as memorable and significant a year in the Parish as it was in 1926.

We have formed a small committee to oversee the plans for the event. We have taken on board the input we received last year and have had some ideas ourselves but we are really keen for this to be a parishioner-led event. This means we want to hear from you on how we should celebrate the centenary year across the whole parish.

We have set up the email address [centenary@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:centenary@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) so you can send us your ideas and we look forward to hearing from you over the summer.

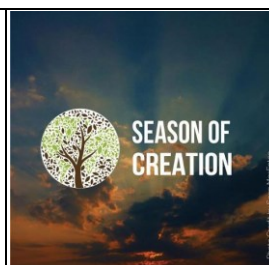
At this stage we already have some projects planned for the year that you may be able to help us with:

(a) We will produce a book covering the history of the parish over the past 100 years, a Centenary Chronicle so to speak, and we would welcome your contributions, stories and photographs. Get in touch with anything you think relevant to the Chronicle by emailing [chronicle@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) - we want to make this as much as possible a history of the people of the parish since 1926.

(b) As it is the centenary celebration of a faith community, we want to record 100 Faith Stories or Journeys in Faith as experienced by parishioners of all ages. To get in touch and share your faith story get in contact with us at [100stories@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:100stories@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

If you would prefer to get in touch on any of the above by phone, please contact the Parish Office on 01962 852804.

**An online seminar exploring strategies for all Catholics to fulfil their mission to bring people closer to Christ** by bestselling author Sherry Weddell will be presented by the Diocese in partnership with the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales on Tuesday **21st November**. Tickets are £10 per person from <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/engaging-the-disengaged-how-to-accompanynon-religious-persons-tickets-646139539>



**The Season of Creation** runs from 1st September to 4th October, the feast day of St Francis of Assisi. The theme is 'Let Justice and Peace Flow' Amos (5:24). To help, Caritas has created a specific webpage to share ideas, resources and events. Further information can be found on the Season of Creation website. <https://seasonofcreation.org/>

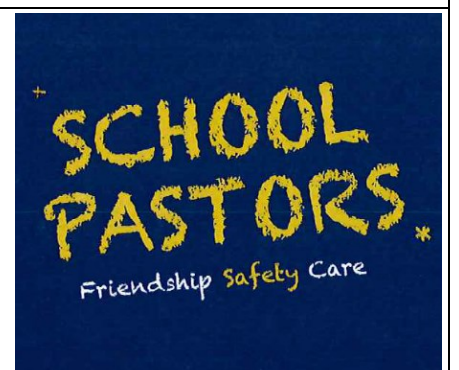
### **SCHOOL PASTORS**

Could **YOU** spare a daytime hour or two, once or twice each week during term-time, to be a volunteer School Pastor in and around one of the schools in Stanmore?

**You would :**

- Receive relevant online training (this autumn)
- Wear an identifying uniform
- Operate with another volunteer as a pair
- Build relationships with staff, parents and pupils at 'your' school
- Witness a change in the atmosphere of the school and the surrounding area as you spend time there and pray for the school and the area

To find out more, contact Mark Hibbert-Hingston by email : [winchester@streetpastors.org.uk](mailto:winchester@streetpastors.org.uk) or 07740 288654



Mass Timetable	26 <sup>th</sup> August 2023 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2023		
Date	Mass Times & Intentions		
SATURDAY – August 26 <sup>th</sup> Blessed Dominic Barberi 21 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Vigil	9.00 AM	Mass at St Peter's	Intentions of Carmela Burton.
	5.30 PM	Mass at St Peter's	Alessandro Patel's exam results
SUNDAY – August 27 <sup>th</sup> - Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time.	8.00 AM	Mass at St Peter's	People of the Parish
	9.00 AM	Mass at St Thomas More's	People of Ukraine
	9.15 AM	Mass at St Stephen's	
	10.30 AM	Mass at St Peter's	Souls of Patrick George McCall & Family
	11.00 AM	Mass at St Gregory's	
	5.30 PM	Mass at St Peter's	Otto Marcus Bingeris RIP
MONDAY – August 28 <sup>th</sup> – St Augustine of Hippo, Bishop, Doctor of the Church, memorial.	10.00 AM	Mass at St Peter's	
TUESDAY – August 29 <sup>th</sup> – The Passion of St John the Baptist, memorial	10.00 AM	Mass at St Gregory's	
	12.15 PM	Mass at St Peter's	
WEDNESDAY – August 30 <sup>th</sup> – Ss Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line & Margaret Ward, Martyrs.	10.00 AM	Mass at St Peter's	
THURSDAY – August 31 <sup>st</sup> – St Aidan, Bishop, & All Saints of Lindisfarne.	10.00 AM	Mass at St Peter's	
FRIDAY – September 1 <sup>st</sup>	10.00 AM	No Mass at St Gregory's	
	11.00 AM	Funeral Mass at St Peter's	Michael Etherington RIP
SATURDAY – September 2 <sup>nd</sup> – Our Lady on Saturday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Vigil	10.00 AM	Mass at Winchester Cathedral	Soul of James Wheble
	5.30 PM	Mass at St Peter's	

**Confessions** every Saturday 9.30am till 10.30am and 4.30pm-5.00pm at St Peter's Church – booking not required. **However, on 2nd September morning Confession will start at 11am (after the 10am Mass at Winchester Cathedral).**

**Morning Prayer** (livestream and open to public), every weekday 8.00am at St Peter's followed by Adoration till 9.00am. **There is no Morning Prayer on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> August.**

*To participate in any service online (including Morning Prayer & Adoration) or to see the recorded services, go to our [YouTube channel](#)*

**ALL SERVICES (INCLUDING MORNING PRAYER) FROM ST PETER'S ARE LIVESTREAMED.**

**International Justice Mission (IJM) MUSIC CONCERT & ART AUCTION** on 21st September 2023 from 7pm to 10pm at Thornden Hall, Chandler's Ford, featuring: Elena Piccione (Pianist), Lidia Ciubuc (Composer, Pianist & Radio Journalist), Ionel Manciu (Violinist) and Calin Huma (Composer)

Visit <https://www.thorndenhall.co.uk/whats-on> to purchase tickets - £40 pp



### Caritas: The Illegal Migration Act

Please support the [REFUGEE COUNCIL'S CAMPAIGN](#) against the "Illegal" Migration Bill which threatens to end asylum claims in the UK and to lock up children for deportation. It's quick and easy to [sign at this link](#). Today people throughout the UK are praying for a fair and compassionate asylum system. To find more information contact: [lsbrowning@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:lsbrowning@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

### Diocesan Vacancies

**FLEET AND CHURCH CROOKHAM PARISH SECRETARY** – The Parish of The Holy Trinity and Our Lady, Fleet & Church Crookham has a vacancy for a full-time Parish Secretary.

Please contact [recruitment@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) for a job description and details of how to apply. **Closing date Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September.**

### Useful Contacts

Clergy: Fr Mark Hogan (Parish Priest) ([mhogan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:mhogan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk))

Fr Benedict Ndikum (Assistant Priest) ([bndikum@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:bndikum@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk))

Deacon Martin McElroy ([mmcelroy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:mmcelroy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk))

Deacon Tony Darlison ([tdarlison@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:tdarlison@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk))

Director of Evangelisation and Leadership: Allegra Mutanda ([allegra@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:allegra@stpeterswinchester.org.uk))

Parish Music Team Leader: - Alastair Ross ([aross@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:aross@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)).

Housekeeper: Sarah Harfield ([sharfield@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:sharfield@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 – Baptism and First Holy Communion: Rosanne Walker ([baptism@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:baptism@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)), ([FHC@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:FHC@stpeterswinchester.org.uk))

Pastoral team – Youth Ministry: Jo Donaldson ([youthstuff@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:youthstuff@stpeterswinchester.org.uk))

Outreach Ministry Lead: Mike Elks ([mike@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:mike@stpeterswinchester.org.uk))

Volunteer Director of Communications: Lisa Justice ([ljustice@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto: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](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)

**Wedding information** – [weddings@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:weddings@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)