

# PETERPOST

Parish of St. Peter and the Winchester Martyrs

Alresford • Stockbridge • Winchester

28th January 2024

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

Learning to Know What to Say

## Father Mark writes:

Last weekend is what I would call a mixed weekend.

There was real joy for me as we welcomed Revd Simon Cansdale from Christchurch here in Winchester. Simon and I have been meeting, along with other church ministers in the city, on Zoom and in person, for the last few years and so it was a particular delight to be able to invite him to join us for our worship. He was humble and gracious and generous and spoke beautifully and powerfully.

There was also "fatherly pride" for me to be able to allow Simon to see our community (or at least a part of it). I was able to pause briefly from time to time and see the welcome team making Simon and other guests feel at home; to hear the beautiful music being led by our musicians and sung throughout the church; to witness the seemingly endless procession of 40-50 young children going out for their own Liturgy of the Word and then returning for the Liturgy of the Eucharist with a "net full of fish";

to be barely aware of the altar servers, moving reverently around the sanctuary; to offer Holy Communion and blessings to those who came forward from every tribe and people and nation; to participate in the liturgy, filled with prayer and reverence, awe and wonder.

I was very blessed.

Then, just before I began a baptism soon after (which was another joy, -to welcome Nathaniel, a gift from God into our Church family), I spotted a text message from someone from my first parish in Southampton, asking me to call them back. When we spoke, she shared with me the tragic news that her sister, Chloe, just 27 years old, had passed away that night. I'd known Chloe for pretty much all of my life as a priest, about 22 years. I had prepared her for her first holy communion, and celebrated the funeral Mass for her mother when Chloe was just 7 or 8 years old. I had dipped in and out of Chloe's life ever since, accompanying her through some of those ups and downs. Last autumn I met with Chloe and her sister for dinner and we laughed and chatted and reminisced. Just before Christmas we learnt the sad news that Chloe's auntie, Danielle, had died suddenly, aged just 40 years old. It was only 2 weeks ago, less than a week before Chloe died, that I saw her at Danielle's funeral and Chloe said that she would message me to give an update on her baby Scarlett and her other news. To say that I am heartbroken is an understatement. I cannot even begin to imagine what her sister and family must be feeling.

It was, as I say, a mixed weekend.

In all of this, the questions I am coming back to are these: Lord, what are you trying to say *to* me at this time? Lord, what do you want to say *through* me?

What words do you have for me, Lord, when I seem to have none for myself and even less to offer? In the moments of deep joy and intense pain, help me to be attentive to your voice. Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.

Our Bible readings this weekend remind us that we should have a "listening heart" (Gospel), instead of a "hardened heart" (Responsorial Psalm) or a "divided heart" (Second reading) to welcome the authoritative word of God. Today's first reading tells us that a true prophet like Moses speaks with authority because it is God Who speaks through him.



Moses was about to die. The Chosen People were terrified because they were about to lose the person who had been successfully leading them through the wilderness toward



the Promised Land. They were also going to lose a prophet who had been keeping them informed of the Lord's will. When he died, how would they find out what God wanted of them? How would they know what God wanted to say to them?

God answers the question by promising Moses that He will heed the people's request and raise up for them a prophet like Moses from among their kin. The people were to listen to this prophet because the Lord would put His words into this prophet's mouth, telling the people all that God would command him."

After the Babylonian exile, the Jewish priests began to interpret the words of Moses given in the first reading, namely, "a prophet like me," as referring to one individual, the expected Messiah. This passage is chosen for today's first reading because it refers to Jesus, the "preacher with authority," mentioned in today's Gospel. Jesus is a prophet, anointed by the Holy Spirit, who hears the Word of God and speaks it with authority.

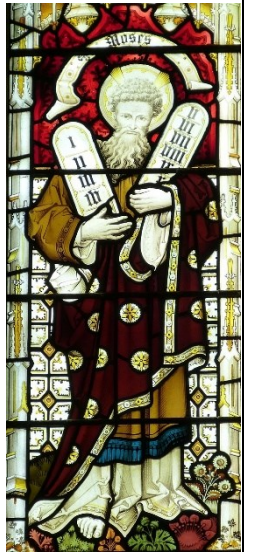
Both Moses and Jesus listened to God and were obedient to Him. You too are a prophet. At least, if you have been baptised, then you were anointed with the oil of chrism and filled with the Holy Spirit and given a share in the prophetic ministry of Jesus. I don't know how often you think about this. I suspect not very often. But it's true. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (which gives a summary of the teachings of the Church), tells us that:

Jesus Christ is the one whom the Father anointed with the Holy Spirit and established as priest, prophet, and king. the whole People of God participates in these three offices of Christ and bears the responsibilities for mission and service that flow from them (#783)

At least part of that role as a prophet is to learn to listen to the voice of God and then to be obedient to it. We pray "Thy will be done" but how can we do the will of the Father unless we know what the will of the Father is?

And how do we know what words to share in times of joy and pain if we are not listening to the Father's heart and learning to have our hearts broken for what breaks his..?

Your homework this week..? Simply to bring this prayer to God: **Lord, help me to hear what you are saying to me. Lord, help me to listen to what you want to say through me.**



**Changes to Masses in the Coming Week.**

**Mass on Saturday 3rd February (St Blaise) will include blessing of throats.**

**Welcome to Our New Room Bookings Assistant** We'd like to extend a warm welcome to Sarah Walker, who joined us this week as our Interim Rentals and Bookings Assistant. Sarah has been generously working in the parish office for the last few weeks as a volunteer and now she will begin on our staff team in this part-time paid role. She has already brought much wisdom, expertise and positivity to the team. Please contact Sarah on [bookings@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:bookings@stpeterswinchester.org.uk).

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year B) – 28<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Ps 105:47  
 Save us, O Lord our God!  
 and gather us from the nations,  
 to give thanks to your holy name,  
 and make it our glory to praise you.

**First reading:** Deuteronomy 18:15-20

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 94:1-2,6-9. R. v.9  
 O that today you would listen to his voice.

**Second reading:** First Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 7:32-35

**Gospel Acclamation:** Mk 11-25

**R. Alleluia, alleluia!**  
 Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,  
 for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children.  
**R. Alleluia!**

**Gospel:** Mark 1:21-28

**Communion Antiphon:** Cf. Ps 30:17-1d.  
 Let your face shine on your servant.  
 Save me in your merciful love.  
 O Lord, let me never be out to shame, for I call on you.



**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 for the successful recruitment of a Parish Operations Manager, enabling us to support our Priests and the mission of the Church to bring people to Christ in hope and joy.



**PLEASE PRAY FOR** the repose of the souls of those who have died recently  
 Carole Embrey RIP  
 Win Bromley RIP  
 Roy Thomson RIP  
 Chloe Donnelly RIP  
 Anna Banyard RIP

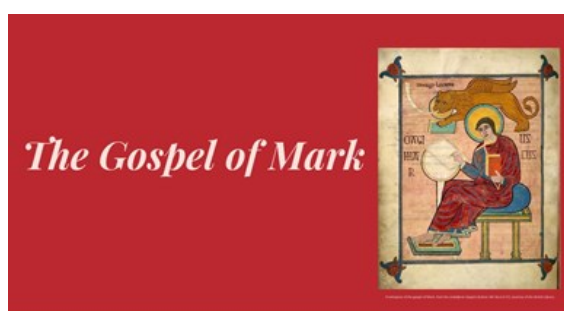
**Funeral Notices:**

Carole Embrey RIP – **Funeral Service at Basingstoke Crematorium on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January at 11.00am.**  
 Roy Thomson RIP – **Funeral Mass at St Peter's Church, Winchester on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February at 12.15pm**  
 Win Bromley RIP – **Funeral Mass at St Peter's Church, Winchester on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February at 12.15pm.**  
 Please pray for their family and friends at this difficult time. May God grant them eternal rest.



**Lent 2024 – Join us for a rewarding spiritual journey**

Have you heard about this exciting opportunity to learn how to listen to God this Lent?  
 Why not sign up for our Lenten Spiritual Campaign, **The Lectio Course** is a five session video series exploring the ancient practice of Lection Divina.  
 It is a free small group resource from 24-7 Prayer which will equip us and the community we are to grow in prayer, discern God's voice and fall in love with the Bible. To register click [here](https://bit.ly/TheLectioCourse) link: <https://bit.ly/TheLectioCourse> Or scan the QR code



**The Gospel of Mark - a new formation series, which you can follow online at your own pace**

Deacon Martin invites you to join him on a journey through the Gospel according to Mark. As you may know, in this liturgical year (which started in Advent), we will be reading Mark's gospel on most Sundays, and also in weekday Masses, during Ordinary Time. Deacon Martin is re-publishing the videos of the presentations he made during the formation series on Mark's gospel, which ran in the spring and summer of 2021. One video will be published each week, allowing you to follow in your own time, and at your own pace, from the comfort of your own home.

You can access the videos (plus an accompanying PDF document with the presentation material) from [our parish YouTube site](#). [Session 1](#) is already there, with its [PDF document](#), for you to get started.  
 You can find out more details in the document that is attached to the email that delivers this week's Peterpost - or if you have any questions, please contact Deacon Martin ([mmcelroy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:mmcelroy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)).

**Christian comment in Hampshire Chronicle**

Those of you who read the local paper may know that there is a Christian Comment column in the Hampshire Chronicle every week: local churches take turns to write it, and St Peters & Winchester Martyrs contributes once a month. The Chronicle has just started putting the Comment online, so if you would like to read the most recent one, [please click here](#). And we'll hope it will be there regularly in future!  
 (We told the Chronicle that it would be widely-read if it went online, so please do click to convince them it is worth the effort 😊😊).



**CWL Soup & Pud Lunch at St Peter's.** The next CWL Charity Lunch, in the Pastoral Centre, will be on **Friday 2nd February** in aid of the **Winchester Beacon Homeless Charity**. All are very welcome to come along and enjoy delicious home cooked food, 12-1.30pm. Suggested donation **£7**.



**Bacon Butties at St Peter's - KEEP THE DATE: Sunday 4th February** for

Bacon Butties (+ trimmings) served by the CWL, after the 8 am and 10.30 am Masses at St Peter's  
 There will also be Cakes for "afters", sold by the Family Fridays Team, after the 10.30am Mass.  
 Donations for both will go to help support the new parish initiative 'Family Fridays'. All welcome. Do come!



**Commissioning of New Pastors last Saturday** Peter Booth (School Pastor), Madeline Ritson (Prayer Pastor for the School Pastors), Viktoria Miller (Street Pastor), Liza Nahajski (School Pastor) and Kate Lovatt (School Pastor) joined our amazing team of Pastors last Saturday. Please keep them in your prayers. Please email [winchester@streetpastors.org.uk](mailto:winchester@streetpastors.org.uk) to find out more about being a street pastor.



**St Stephen's Pastoral Group Meeting.** The next St Stephen's Pastoral Group Meeting will be held on **Monday 5th February at 7.30pm** in the Community Room at **St Stephen's**. All are welcome.

## Laudato Si Corner

I get out of bed every morning worrying about the climate crisis and what it means to future generations. My faith tells me that we need to react to this crisis which affects all people, and particularly poor people, in every country. Our Laudato Si group follows Pope Francis' lead in wanting to give people ideas on how we can live and reduce carbon and methane emissions. Why don't you come and join us? Contact the Parish Office for more details.

**What does it mean to be human? Medical Ethics and Social Care Today** will take place on **Saturday 16th March 2024** from 10.00am at the **ARC, Winchester**.

The Symposium will feature presentations from well-known experts and is led by David Wells, the popular motivational speaker. It is open to people of all faiths and none, specialist and lay, to students and to anyone with an interest in medical and social care. The aim of the Symposium is to bring the Christian Tradition and its values into a constructive and fruitful dialogue with those of other viewpoints. Tickets cost £20, including sandwiches and refreshments, and are available on-line via Eventbrite [here](#)

**BOOKSHOP** We sell Sunday Missals, Children's Missals and Mass books, Bibles, Rosaries, Crosses, gifts and cards for Confirmation and First Holy Communion, Encyclicals including Laudate Deum. And, for the Year of Prayer, we have several copies of the book "**Heaven on Earth**" which includes a chapter by Allegra Mutanda. We are open weekdays during office hours and payment by cheque or cash is appreciated. Many thanks Susan Henry.

**Music Amnesty: Attention all musicians past and present!** - Message from Alastair Ross, our Music Director.

We seem to be very short of music books for choir practices and services! - If you have any books or music from your time as a cantor or in the choir, would you please return them to St Peter's as soon as possible. They can be left on the bookcase in the Sacred Heart Chapel or handed to the Office for appropriate redistribution. Thank you

**Message from St Peter's School:**  
**Thank you!**

Wow! A tremendous '**Thank You**' to everyone at **Team St, Peter's**. Together, as a school, we raised £646.32 to purchase CAFOD World Gifts.

The School Council discussed the various options and decided to prioritise safe houses, chickens and bees. Thus, we have been able to purchase 9 safe houses, 8 chickens and 4 beehives.

Thank you so much for your generous support.

Mrs Woolgar and the School Council



### Year 4 Science

Last week Year 4 were busy investigating liquids and solids in their science learning. The children enjoyed looking closely at the materials and identifying their properties.

They then investigated the viscosity of liquids during the liquid Olympics. Safe to say tomato ketchup, honey and soap will not be winning any medals as their viscosity is too high. However, cooking oil, milk and squash were incredibly quick.

### Year 1 English

Last week Year 1 began their next English unit of work. They discovered a pile of leaves in the class which said, "Belongs to Bear, don't touch!" We discussed where the leaves might have come from and decided they could have come from the woodland. When we went to explore, we discovered a book called "Leaf," hidden amongst the trees. Some of the children even thought they found footprints and claw marks in the trees. We are going to explore the book in class and produce some writing from what we learn. Already we have explored prepositions and have had fun trying to act these out, pretending to be some of the animals from the book.

We currently have a vacancy for a Deputy Headteacher, a Higher-Level Teaching Assistant and a Teaching Assistant. Please see our website for further details: <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](mailto:admin@st-peters.hants.sch.uk).

Best wishes Louise Buxton (Miss) Headteacher



### CAFOD School Volunteers needed.

Do you enjoy working with children and young people? Could you help to inspire and empower children and young people in your local Catholic schools by delivering an assembly or a workshop? Supported by CAFOD with training and all resources provided please consider the role of CAFOD school volunteer. For more information contact Jo Lewry [jlewry@cafod.org.uk](mailto:jlewry@cafod.org.uk) or phone 07710 094447

**The Boaz Project Vacancy** The Boaz Project are looking for a deputy manager at their base in Sutton Scotney near Winchester.

Boaz is a farm-based charity, set up to provide brighter futures for people with learning difficulties (mainly young adults).

The ideal candidate will be sympathetic to the ideals of the charity and have plenty of energy!

Interested? - For more information, please contact the Manager, Stuart Palmer, in the first instance, on 01962 761749 or 07971 688930

### CAFOD meetings

You are warmly invited to come to a CAFOD meeting to find about the difference that your donations make.

**On Saturday 3rd February** at St Philip Howard Church hall, Bishopsfield Road, Fareham PO14 1ND.

A simple lunch will be provided at both meetings so please book your place, so that we have an idea of numbers, by emailing Jo on [jlewry@cafod.org.uk](mailto:jlewry@cafod.org.uk) or phone 07710 094447.

Mass Timetable	27 <sup>th</sup> January 2024 – 3rd February 2024		
Date	Mass Times & Intentions		
SATURDAY – January 27 <sup>th</sup> – St Angela Merici, Foundress. 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Vigil	9.00 AM	Mass at St Peter's	Holy Souls in Purgatory
	5.30 PM	Mass at St Peter's	Tom O'Donoghue RIP
SUNDAY – January 28 <sup>th</sup> – FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME.	8.00 AM	Mass at St Peter's	Soul of Mary Keating
	9.00 AM	Mass at St Thomas More's	Catherine Adams RIP
	9.15 AM	Mass at St Stephen's	Dr Anna Wilson RIP
	10.30 AM	Mass at St Peter's	People of Ukraine
	11.00 AM	Mass at St Gregory's	People of the Parish
	5.30 PM	Mass at St Peter's	Joyce & Mike Lucas RIP & Family Members
MONDAY – January 29 <sup>th</sup> – .	12.15 PM	Mass at St Peter's	Soul of Maureen Marsh
TUESDAY – January 30 <sup>th</sup> –	10.00 AM	Mass at St Gregory's	Mary Ann & Hugh McTernan RIP & Family Members
	12.15 PM	Mass at St Peter's	Neil Intentions
WEDNESDAY – January 31 <sup>st</sup> – St John Bosco, Founder.	10 00 AM	Mass at St Peter's	Soul of William Meader
THURSDAY – February 1 <sup>st</sup> – .	10.00 AM	Mass at St Peter's	The Soul of Archbishop John Henry King
FRIDAY – February 2 <sup>nd</sup> – THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD, feast.	10.00 AM	Mass at St Gregory's	Intentions of Karen & Geraldine Kelly
	12.15 PM	Mass at St Peter's	CWL – The Homeless
SATURDAY – February 3 <sup>rd</sup> – St Blaise, Bishop & Martyr. 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Vigil	9.00 AM	Mass at St Peter's to include blessing of throats.	The Soul of Margaret Merriman
	5.30 PM	Mass at St Peter's	Peter Wyles RIP

**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), every weekday 8.00am at St Peter's followed by Adoration till 9.00am.

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.

### 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 Assistant: Isabelle Guerin: ([accounts@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:accounts@stpeterswinchester.org.uk))

Facilities and Resources Manager: Sean Reidy ([sean@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:sean@stpeterswinchester.org.uk))

Room Bookings & Rentals: Sarah Walker ([bookings@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:bookings@stpeterswinchester.org.uk))

Parish Administration: Alison Young ([office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:office@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)

### Our Parish Operations Manager Vacancy

The Parish of St Peter & The Winchester Martyrs is currently in the process of reorganising its staff team.

We are looking for a highly motivated and dynamic individual to join our parish team as the Operations Manager. The successful candidate will have substantial experience of general operational management in a busy and complex organisation.

Full time: 37.5 hours per week Mon-Fri, but with flexibility to allow at least one Sunday morning per month (approx. 4 hours) and occasional evenings and weekends. Salary: £40-45k

For a full job description and person specification, plus details of how to apply, please contact: [recruitment@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Closing date for applications: Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024, 12 Noon.** Interviews: Fri 1<sup>st</sup> March

#### Parish Operations Manager – Message from Fr Mark

The parish has begun recruiting an "Operations Manager". This is a different and more senior role to the one previously filled by Michaela as Parish Administration Manager. We are looking for another "people person", capable of building and leading teams (paid employees and volunteers), not afraid to be hands-on, whilst supporting me in the day-to-day operational aspects of running the parish. They will be part of the parish leadership team and will play a key role in enabling me to focus on preaching, teaching, sacramental ministry and the pastoral and spiritual aspects of leadership. I cannot overstate how crucial I feel this role is to help me flourish as your parish priest, and you to flourish as my parishioners. Please do bring the post to the attention of those you know who might be interested and pray for a successful appointment.