

PETERPOST

Parish of St. Peter and the Winchester Martyrs

Alresford • Stockbridge • Winchester

14th January 2024

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

2024 – Year of Prayer

Father Mark writes:

As we move beyond our “Year of the Holy Spirit” here in the parish and diocese, we gracefully transition into the Year of Prayer to be marked across the Universal Church. Every twenty-five years, the Church holds a Jubilee Year, with the next due to be celebrated in 2025.

Pope Francis encourages us:

*“In this time of preparation, I would greatly desire that we devote 2024, the year preceding the Jubilee event, to a great “symphony” of prayer. **Prayer, above all else, to renew our desire to be in the presence of the Lord, to listen to him and to adore him.** Prayer, moreover, to thank God for the many gifts of his love for us and to praise his work in creation, which summons everyone to respect it and to take concrete and responsible steps to protect it. Prayer as the expression of a single “heart and soul” (cf. Acts 4:32), which then translates into solidarity and the sharing of our daily bread. Prayer that makes it possible for every man and woman in this world to turn to the one God and to reveal to him what lies hidden in the depths of their heart. Prayer as the royal road to holiness, which enables us to be contemplative even in the midst of activity. In a word, may it be an intense year of prayer in which hearts are opened to receive the outpouring of God’s grace and to make the “Our Father,” the prayer Jesus taught us, the life programme of each of his disciples.” (emphasis mine)*

Our readings this weekend lend beautifully to the beginning of this very special year ahead, a time in which we can ask Him to help us become better at **listening to Him**, at **spending time in His presence** and **adoring Him**.

Listening

The first reading tells of the call of the young boy, Samuel, into the Lord’s service. One commentator wonders, “Was it really a call, was it the old prophet calling, or just the wind in the pillars of the Temple? He [Samuel] has all the directness, willingness and simplicity of a child, the sort of qualities needed for the Kingdom of God. Often, however, in the same way we do not know whether an ‘inspiration’ is really the call of God or our own imagination. Prayer and advice help in discerning the genuine call from a madcap scheme!”

The advice of the old man, Eli, to the young Samuel is worth us heeding too:

“Say, “Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.”

How many times can we simply lie down or sit down and say to Jesus, “Speak Lord, your servant is listening” and then be quiet long enough to learn to hear and recognise his voice, letting no word of His fall to the ground.

Spending time in the Presence of Jesus

The Gospel contains that beautiful call of Andrew and another disciple as told by St. John. “Rabbi, where do you live?” they ask Jesus. “Come and see” he replied. Then the two “stayed with him” (or dwelt or abided or remained with him – Greek ‘menw’) the rest of that day.

Jesus invites us too. “Come and see” he says to you and to me. “Come and see who I am, where I spend my time, what is important to me. Come and learn from me. Come and simply remain and rest in my presence”. He is asking for our time, perhaps our most precious commodity. How will you respond this year to his invitation?



Adoring

The Catechism of the Catholic Church speaks of adoration in this way:

“Adoration is the first act of the virtue of religion. To adore God is to acknowledge him as God, as the Creator and Saviour, the Lord and Master of everything that exists, as infinite and merciful Love. ‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve,’ says Jesus, citing Deuteronomy.

To adore God is to acknowledge, in respect and absolute submission, the ‘nothingness of the creature’ who would not exist but for God. To adore God is to praise and exalt him and to humble oneself, as Mary did in the Magnificat, confessing with gratitude that he has done great things and holy is his name. The worship of the one God sets man free from turning in on himself, from the slavery of sin and the idolatry of the world.” (Catechism 2096-7)

Is this not the attitude of the Psalmist, who says, “Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will”? Of the Psalmist who says, “He put a new song into my mouth, praise of our God”!

Are we able to share these words of submission: “Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will”? Can our daily routine, our weekly rhythm be built on a desire to serve God as the true Lord of our lives? To give him praise?

“Our Father”

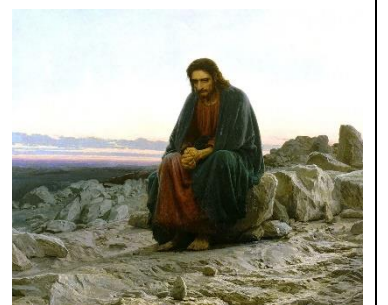
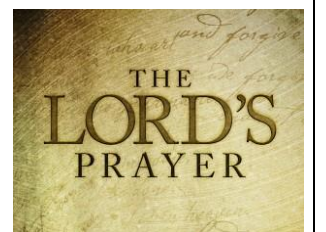
Pope Francis would like us to make the “Our Father” our own “life programme”.

We will spend time this year discovering together what that might mean and giving you opportunities to be better pray-ers.

One such opportunity begins this week. Why not join Allegra for her online Prayer Course, starting this Monday 15th January, from 7-8:30pm. You will not only explore different forms of prayer, but will have the opportunity to practise praying together. The course consists of seven sessions, and includes: Praying with Scripture (bible), Intercession, Silence, and Journaling prayer. To register for the course, visit <https://bit.ly/LordTeachustoPray>

Prayer, of course, is not possible without the involvement of the Holy Spirit. In particular, it is only because we have been adopted as God’s children by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit that we can dare to call God “Our Father”. Let us ask the Holy Spirit in this year to continue to guide and prompt all our prayers.

Come, Holy spirit, come.



Changes to Masses in the Coming Week.

The 9.15am Mass at St Stephen’s on Sunday 14th January is a Family Mass.

On Wednesday 17th January, there is no Morning Prayer and Mass will be at the later time of 12.15pm.

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year B) – 14th January 2024

Gospel Acclamation:

1 S 3:9; Jn 6:68

Entrance Antiphon: Ps 65:4
All the earth shall bow down before you, O God,
and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!

R. Alleluia, alleluia!
Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:
you have the message of eternal life.
R. Alleluia!

First reading: 1 Samuel 3:3-10,19

Gospel: John 1:35-42

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 39:2,4,7-10 R. vv.8,9
Here I am, Lord!
I come to do your will.

Communion Antiphon: Cf. Ps 22:5
You have prepared a table before me,
and how precious is the chalice which quenches my thirst.

Second reading: First Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 6:13-15,-17-20



Welcome to Cecilia and Davi Maturano-Smith, who were baptised at St Peter’s Church last weekend. May God bless them with His love and grace, today and always.



Congratulations to Jenina Maceda & Reynel Dan Galicinao, who were married at St Peter’s Church on Wednesday. May their lives together bring glory to God and much joy to one another.



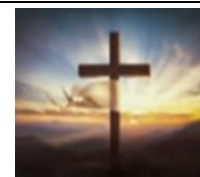
PRAYER CORNER: Each week, this section will contain an intercession that I hope every parishioner will pray for during the coming week. In this way, we will all pray to the Lord for the parish’s mission, because “if the Lord does not build... in vain do the builders labour” (Ps 127:1) Fr. Mark
This Week’s Intention: Let us pray for the work of all our parishioners for unity of the faith, that our efforts will bear fruit and we will all reach a deeper unity with our fellow Christians in our shared love of Jesus Christ.



PLEASE PRAY FOR the repose of the souls of those who have died recently:
Marion Smith RIP
Win Bromley RIP
John Wilson RIP
Ian Parker RIP
Carole Embrey RIP

Funeral Notices:

Marion Smith RIP – **Funeral Mass at St Peter’s Church, Winchester on Monday 22nd January at 10.00am.**
Carole Embrey RIP – **Funeral Service at Basingstoke Crematorium on Tuesday 30th January at 11.00am.**
Please pray for her family and friends at this difficult time. May God grant her eternal rest.



Family Fridays - CAKE SALE this Sunday – 14th January

Please support our cake sale in aid of Family Fridays taking place after Sunday Masses - **St Stephen’s @ 9.15 am and St Peter’s @ 10.30am.**

Families are making cakes and selling in aid of our new parish family initiative. Please could we ask people to bring cash to donate to this worthy cause and merrily munch after Mass in the respective parish halls.

Want to know more about us?

A new initiative for families, particularly those with primary school aged children, coming together in friendship and faith to support each other and share a meal. By offering a hot meal and a welcoming environment, we hope that it gives our families time to decompress, talk about their needs and share in the support that our community offers. This takes place at St Peter’s school from Friday 12th January 5-7pm and is run in conjunction with the school. Further information and applications to the group are welcomed by emailing Helen at: familyfridays@stpeterswinchester.org.uk or Alison Horsley at St Peter’s Catholic Primary school.

PLEASE KEEP US IN YOUR PRAYERS AND SUPPORT US IF YOU CAN - THANK YOU!



Allegra will once again be leading her online course on prayer themed '**Lord, teach us to pray**'.

Pope St John Paul II once said that ‘our Christian communities must become *genuine “schools” of prayer*, where the meeting with Christ is expressed, not just in imploring help but in thanksgiving, praise, adoration, contemplation, listening and ardent devotion, until the heart truly “falls in love” (NMI 33). But we know that prayer can be a challenge. Why pray? How? Through these sessions, we will not only explore different forms of prayer, but we will have the opportunity to practise together that way of praying, helping us grow closer to Christ. Includes: Praying with Scripture (bible), Intercession, Silence, and Journaling prayer.

Online from Monday 15th January 2024. Time: 7pm-8.30pm. To register for the course, visit:

<https://bit.ly/LordTeachustoPray>

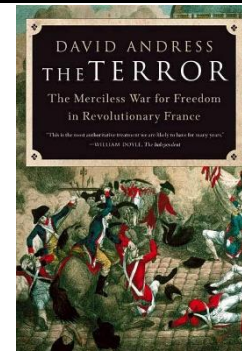
Winchester Catholic History Society Meeting on Wednesday 17th January

The next meeting of the Winchester Catholic History Society will be on Wednesday 17 January 2024 at 6.30 pm in the Parish Centre. Professor David Andress will be speaking on his famous book on the French Revolution - ‘The Terror in the French Revolution: What? Why! When?’

The French Revolution marks the beginning of the modern political world. It was here that the political forces of conservatism, liberalism and socialism began to find their modern form. But the Terror was a brutal and complex Civil War.

New members most welcome. Visitors £7 on the evening.

PLEASE NOTE THE NEW STARTING TIME OF 6.30 pm.



Interim Finance Assistant - The appointment of Isabelle Guerin on an interim, PT employment contract (up to 6 months, 21 hours per week) has now been confirmed by HR and Isabelle will be starting next Monday 15th January at 1pm.

Isabelle is a parishioner (usually attends St. Thomas More’s Church), an experienced accountant, and has had a similar role at her previous parish before moving to the Winchester area around eighteen months ago. Please make her welcome and keep her in your prayers.

CWL Soup & Pud Lunch at St Peter’s. THANK YOU from the CWL to all who supported their January Soup & Pud Lunch, this event raised the wonderful amount of £250 for PACT (Prison Advice & Care Trust), the money will be used to support families of prisoners. The next CWL Charity Lunch, in the Pastoral Centre, will be on **Friday 2nd February** 12-1.30pm, all are very welcome to come along and enjoy delicious home cooked food, suggested donation **£7.**





Ananias Accompaniment Course

A five-session online course commences on Wednesday 17th January 7-9pm. Learn about accompaniment, the journey into relationship with Jesus, and how this can help us to sensitively accompany others on their journey. Please contact Liza Nahajski if you would like to join this course: lnahajski@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

St Peter's Cleaning Teams.

Pam Freeborn stepped down from being the head of the church cleaning teams on January 1st and she has been very bravely replaced by Sue Hume (Team E). In future, please call Sue if you have any problems, (tel no: 01962 884257 or Mob 07734749014).

Pam would like to sincerely thank all those who devote their time and energy to keeping St Peter's clean, some of whom have been doing it for many years! It's not glamorous or even noticed, but it's necessary and honourable. So, a million thanks to you all. Pam

And a million thanks to you Pam, for your dedication and commitment to St Peter's for such a very long time – You will be sorely missed!

Pies & Puds lunch event Wed 17th January

It's time for our monthly pie lunch... on **Wednesday 17th January** at the Pastoral Centre, 12.45 for 1pm. We'll be serving home-made pies, all the vegetables you can eat, vegetarian and gluten-free alternatives, and proper puddings with custard. Lunch, social time, and a talk from **Hampshire Search & Rescue**. Everyone is made welcome, and you can come on your own or with a partner or friend. There is no booking or commitment necessary but do contact moirar@msn.com with any questions or to be added to our mailing list.



Laudato Si Corner

Climate change brings risks for the peace and security of the world. As we see images of floods at home and conflict and bloodshed in other parts of the world, like the Ukraine and the West Bank, the world seems much less secure to all of us, with vulnerable, poorer populations suffering the most.

Against this background, this year Pope Francis' message for Peace Sunday highlights the potentially dangerous impact of the use of Artificial intelligence for peace in our world. Worrying military applications of AI are being developed, posing threats to human lives, human rights, and wellbeing.

Pope Francis calls us to be vigilant to guard against AI being advanced to fuel injustice, inequality and conflict, rather than being developed to serve humanity and protect our common home.

Let us pray that as we develop technology, that violence and discrimination does not take root, that injustice and inequality will not be fuelled, and that we all seek to reduce the impact of climate change on the Earth and its people and contribute to peace and justice in what is our common home. Amen.



Message from St Peter's School:

Stella Maris – Christmas love for the seafarers

The charity wrote to me this week...

"Thank you for all that you and the staff, children and families do to support seafarers at Christmas (and Easter)! I attach a couple of photos of seafarers receiving the Christmas gifts recently. This is the thank you we are sending out next week to the parishes who also supported this Stella Maris appeal. Please look at our new end of year video we made, which includes showing the gifts from St Peter's school being given out at Easter and Christmas:

"Our seafarers enjoyed an abundance of Christmas gifts thanks to the great support offered by the many local parishes that responded to our Stella Maris Southern Ports appeal. Please would you pass our huge thanks to all your parishioners who contributed so generously in their prayers, efforts and gifts. All go together to make a positive difference in the lives of seafarers at Christmas who, year after year, are separated from friends and family.

We have put together a video to look back on our activities in the past year and provide information at the end for anyone who would like to learn more or volunteer their services to Stella Maris. Please click the link below:

<https://youtu.be/EQIZNrrqhAI>

*With many thanks for keeping seafarers in mind and wishing you and all your parish a Happy New Year
Charles Stuart & Gregory Hogan"*

Year 5 RE

Year 5 have been focusing on Christmastide in RE. We have been looking at the gospel of Matthew and considering the role the Magi played in the Nativity story and how their journey continued afterwards. We have been using role play to help us understand the decisions that the Magi made and consider how they would have felt at the time.



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.

Best wishes

Louise Buxton (Miss) Headteacher

St Peter's School has a vacancy for a Deputy Headteacher in September 2024.

St Peter's is a school built on strong Catholic ethos and values. We deliver high quality, rounded education, focussing not only on individual academic excellence, but also on each pupil's spiritual, moral, physical and emotional development. We have a strong leadership team; dedicated teaching and support staff; supportive governors, who all work well together with shared purpose. We are seeking a like-minded professional to complete our team for September 2024. For more details on the role, including the application form, please visit the school website at:

<https://www.stpetershants.co.uk/vacancies/>



Mass Timetable	13 th January 2024 – 20 th January 2024		
Date	Mass Times & Intentions		
SATURDAY – January 13 th – St Hilary, Bishop & Doctor of the Church. 2 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time – Vigil	9.00 AM	Mass at St Peter's	Jeanette Witcher RIP
	5.30 PM	Mass at St Peter's	Joss Datson RIP
SUNDAY – January 14 th – SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME.	8.00 AM	Mass at St Peter's	Fernanda Ramos RIP
	9.00 AM	Mass at St Thomas More's	People of Ukraine
	9.15 AM	Family Mass at St Stephen's	
	10.30 AM	Mass at St Peter's	Carmel Lynch RIP
	11.00 AM	Mass at St Gregory's	People of the Parish
	5.30 PM	Mass at St Peter's	Well-being of Jacqui Squire
MONDAY – January 15 th – .	12.15 PM	Mass at St Peter's	For the Founders
TUESDAY – January 16 th – .	10.00 AM	Mass at St Gregory's	Intentions/Well-being of a brave lady
	12.15 PM	Mass at St Peter's	Elijah's 4 th & Mixim's Birthdays
WEDNESDAY – January 17 th – St Anthony of Egypt, Abbot.	12.15 PM	Mass at St Peter's	For the Dead in Cemeteries
THURSDAY – January 18 th –	10.00 AM	Mass at St Peter's	The intentions of Rafa Yeoman.
FRIDAY – January 19 th – St Wulstan, Religious, Bishop	10.00 AM	Mass at St Gregory's	
	12.15 PM	Mass at St Peter's	Gabriele Maschio RIP
SATURDAY – January 20 th – St Fabian, Pope, Martyr. 3 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time – Vigil	9.00 AM	Mass at St Peter's	Souls of deceased members of the Bristol Family
	5.30 PM	Mass at St Peter's	Mary & Peter Pawlowski 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. **There is no Morning Prayer on Wednesday 17th January.**

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.

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

Closing date for applications: Friday 9th February 2024, 12 Noon. Interviews: Fri 1st 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.

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

ONLINE WEEK OF GUIDED PRAYER



A Week of Guided Prayer online, 22nd - 26th January 2024

- with daily guidance to help us reflect on the NEWNESS that God wants to bring us this New Year, and to help us live our daily life with a greater awareness of God's presence. Led by the Verbum Dei Community. For more information, please contact: verbumdei.iow@gmail.com

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 or phone 07710 094447

ADoRE spiritual mini-retreat - 27th January 10am-1pm "Chosen to be holy – transformation by the Holy Spirit."

Including Mass, Adoration, Praise, Prayer for the gifts of the Holy Spirit and inspiring guest speaker **Charles Whitehead KSG.**

Please register for the Zoom meeting in advance at bit.ly/ADOREJAN2024 More information at www.altonrenewal.com

Lords Flock Celebration – on Saturday 20th January 2024.

General Assembly & Prayer meeting on January 20th 2024 from 2.30pm in the Pastoral Centre.

Please confirm your attendance to Liza Franco (on 07487 527640) - for catering purposes.