

25th February 2024

Second Sunday of Lent - Year B

**Readings and antiphons:**

**Entrance Antiphon:**

*Remember your mercies, Lord,  
your tenderness from ages past.  
Do not let our enemies triumph  
over us; O God, deliver Israel from  
all her distress.*

**First reading:** Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13,  
15-18.

**Responsorial Psalm:**

Ps 115:10. 15-19. R/ Ps 114.9  
*I will walk in the presence of the  
Lord  
in the land of the living.*

**Second reading:**

Letter from St Paul to the Romans  
8:31-34

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**Mt 17:5**

*R. Praise to you, O Christ, king of  
eternal glory!*  
From the bright cloud the Father's  
voice was heard:  
'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen  
to him!'  
*R. Praise to you, O Christ, king of  
eternal glory!*

**Gospel:** Mark 9:2-10

**Communion Antiphon:**

*This is my Son, my beloved, in  
whom is all my delight: listen to  
him.*

**Funerals and Deaths:**

**Joel Mutanda RIP**

**Barry Lawlor RIP**

**Emilia Nahajski RIP**



**James Walker RIP**

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

**A Message from Fr Mark...**

**Listening to God's Voice  
- Listen to His Son, Jesus**

Perhaps you have heard of the man who wanted to test his wife's hearing. He stood some distance behind her and said, "My dear, can you hear me?" Having received no answer, he moved closer and again whispered, "My dear, can you hear me?" Again, having received no answer he moved right up behind her and softly said, "My dear, can you hear me?" She replied, "For the third time, yes!"

Are there similarities between this story and our communication with God? We often check to see if He is listening, in the hope that He will respond to our needs. In reality, He hears us, but we won't know that unless we're able to hear Him too. Are we able to be attentive to his voice? Do we believe that he is speaking to us, that we are able to hear him?

In real life, it is very often not just God and me in the room. There are so many other voices clamouring for my attention - TV, radio, newspaper, social media, voices of people I love and care for, and who love and care for me, but also voices of people who want to sell me things, voices of people who are more interested in what they can get from me than in what they can do for me.

How do we tell what voices to listen to, whose advice to take, what directives are important, and what we should just let fall on deaf ears? In today's Gospel text, the Divine Voice from the enshrouding cloud offered Peter, James, and John a simple, straightforward instruction:

"This is My Beloved Son; listen to Him."  
The message and mission of Jesus were meant to guide the disciples, informing all their actions, influencing their whole lives, enabling them to filter all else they heard. God's proclamation to those three disciples is the same for all who follow Christ today: Let Jesus be your high-tech hearing aid, filtering and clarifying what you hear and how you respond. Listen to him.

Jesus is the truly obedient One, who does only that which His Heavenly Father wills. Jesus is foreshadowed by Abraham, loved by God, and blessed by Him. Let's pray that we may learn to be obedient to the Father by listening to Jesus and trusting Him. Then let us do whatever the Lord tells us, just as Mary told the servants at the wedding feast in Cana. Let us commit this Lent to being better listeners so that we may know what it is the Lord is telling us to do and then asking for courage to do it.

Lent should be a listening time for each of us. When we learn to listen, our lives become obedient lives, which in turn become fruitful lives as we bring God's love and mercy and compassion and healing into the world. Wouldn't it be a beautiful thing if we were able more clearly to hear God's voice, to have our hearts fed by His words of Love whispered into the secret caverns of our hearts, so that we could see His presence working through us and witness His power and His glory?

*O God, who have commanded us  
to listen to your beloved Son,  
be pleased, we pray,  
to nourish us inwardly by your word,  
that, with spiritual sight made pure,  
we may rejoice to behold your glory.*

**Lent:**

**Stations of the Cross**

**St Peter's** - 4pm every Sunday and 11:30am every Friday during Lent  
**St Stephen's** - 7pm every Monday  
**St Thomas More** - 5:30pm every Friday.  
**St Gregory's** - 5:30pm every Sunday

**"Listening to God's Heart" (Daily Messages)** - Lent is a wonderful opportunity for each and every one of us to grow in our faith and our relationship with the God who loves us. We're inviting you to sign up for a daily email during Lent and Easter (from Ash Wednesday until Pentecost). You can sign up by filling in a [short form here](#) or calling the parish office.

**Lent 2024 - Small Groups** - This is your last chance to sign up for our Lenten Spiritual Campaign, *The Lectio Course* is a five session video series exploring the ancient practice of Lectio 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](#) or scan the QR code on the leaflets at the back of Church.

**Lenten Almsgiving Opportunities** - CAFOD family fast day Lent appeal (2nd Sunday of Lent) and CWP (5th Sunday of Lent).

**Lent for Families** - Each week, suggestions will be available on our website ([click here](#)) for how to live Lent more fruitfully as a family. These will include scripture reflections, Saints' feast days, Lenten activities and suggestions for prayer.

**Vacancies/Volunteering:****Diocesan Vacancies**

Please follow the link for current vacancies throughout the Diocese: <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs>

**An Invitation to Young Musicians - St Stephen's**

The St Stephen's Players are a group of young musicians who play for the 9.15am mass at St Stephen's church on the second Sunday of each month. Players are contacted in advance of the Sunday monthly mass to determine availability. Music is then sent through, and a brief rehearsal takes place at 8.40am before the mass. For more information, please contact

**Emma Sharrock** through [Ststephens@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:Ststephens@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

**Key Contacts:**

For a full list of contact details for our Parish, please visit our [website](#) or email [hello@stpeterswinchester](mailto:hello@stpeterswinchester) to be directed to the correct person.

**Parish Priest:** Fr Mark Hogan

**Assistant Priest:** Fr Benedict Ndikum

**Deacons:** Tony Darlison & Martin McElroy

**Parish Office:**

[office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

**Finance:**

[accounts@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:accounts@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

**Tel.** 01962852804

**Newsletter:**

[newsletters@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:newsletters@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

(deadline for items for next weekend's newsletter is

**Wednesday evening)**

**Courses/Events:**

**Alpha Course** - We kicked off our Alpha course this Tuesday with an incredible atmosphere of joy, vitality, and laughter. It's just the beginning, and it's not too late to be a part of this uplifting journey!

Whether you're seeking answers, friendship, or a good conversation, Alpha is the place for you. And remember, there is still time to invite a friend or family member– it could be the start of a beautiful spiritual journey.

To register click [here](#) or email [alpha@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:alpha@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

**Portsmouth Diocese Don Bosco Reunion** - We are holding a Bosco Experience/Reunion on Sunday 25 February 2024 from 2 to 4pm at St. Peter's Church, Jewry Street, Winchester SO23 8RY. This is for boys currently in year 6 up to year 11. A chance for new boys who want to find out more and for those who have been on camp to meet with old friends. Fun activities and a chance for parents to find out more and sign up for camp. Booking is essential. To find out more please email: [dbcamps@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:dbcamps@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).

**The Winchester Camerata** - conducted by Fr Andrew Moore, is giving a concert in aid of Winchester Bereavement Support at St Paul's Church, St Paul's Hill, SO22 5AB on **Sunday 25th February at 7.00 p.m.** The programme "An Evening in Paris" consists of music by French composers from the 17th to the 20th centuries. Tickets £20 on the door or from [ticketsource.co.uk/winchcamerata](http://ticketsource.co.uk/winchcamerata).

**CWL Soup & Pud Lunch** at St Peter's. The next CWL Charity Lunch, in the Pastoral Centre, will be on Friday 1st March, 12-1.30pm, all are very welcome to come along and enjoy delicious home cooked food, suggested donation £7 (in aid of BOAZ).

**Mass for Healing** This year's Mass for Healing will be at St Peter's Church, Winchester, on **Saturday 9th March at 2pm.** All are welcome.

**Southern Voices celebrate 40 in Style** - Southern Voices launch their ruby anniversary season on **23 March** in the Chapel of St Cross at 7.30pm. The celebration starts with *Spem in alium* by Thomas Tallis, a majestic work, written to impress the court of Queen Elizabeth I. The piece requires eight choirs, each with 5 voice parts. The choir will stand surrounding the audience and numbers will be boosted with past members of the choir.

Booking is essential and tickets are now on sale. You can find out more information and buy tickets on the website: [southernvoices.co.uk](http://southernvoices.co.uk). (Registered charity 1086868)

**Quay of Sea Concert** - Sunday 24th March at 11.15am in the Milner Hall.

Tickets £15.00 available by telephone: 01962 855060. Proceeds to the Ellen Mede Charity

**St George Catholic College Alumni Reunion - 3-5 pm Sunday 28th April 2024**

Did you attend or work at St George Catholic College in the 1960s, 70s or 80s?

To celebrate the school's recent outstanding Ofsted report, we are inviting past pupils and staff in the 60s, 70s or 80s to join us for a reunion afternoon tea and cakes and a tour of the school. Please spread the word and save the date!

Email Jeanine Bonavia at [jbnavia@stgcc.co.uk](mailto:jbnavia@stgcc.co.uk) or call [023 8067 0104](tel:02380670104) to book a place by Friday, 26th April, so we know the numbers attending. All welcome.

**Digital Skills Course for Beginners**

\_GCS (Gateway Central Services, formerly RCS) have just opened a new Digital Skills course for Beginners. The details are as follows:

**Dates to attend:** Fridays 5th, 12th and 19th April - Please note for that 2 of the lessons run in school holidays and so provisions will need to be made for childcare if applicable.

**Time:** 10am – 2pm // **Location:** The Winchester Club, Winchester

If anyone wishes to join, then please email RCS Admin at

[rcsserviceseducation@gmail.com](mailto:rcsserviceseducation@gmail.com) or call [01264359223](tel:01264359223)

**Bookshop** - We have recently received new stock and have a good selection of Lent and Easter items, as well as gifts for First Holy Communion and Confirmation. We are open weekdays during office hours. Many thanks, Susan Henry

**Laudato Si Corner**


At a time when the natural world is beginning to burst into spring, it is difficult to celebrate this sign of the strength of nature, when there are so many national and international issues currently threatening the future of our planet and its people. But we must continue to hope and take action to protect our world and to support its suffering people, remembering, as Pope Francis tells us in his encyclical, *Laudato Si*, para 39: **"How wonderful is the certainty that each human life is not adrift in the midst of hopeless chaos, in a world ruled by pure chance or endlessly recurring circles! The Creator can say to each one of us: "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you" (Jer 1:5). We were conceived in the heart of God, and for this reason "each of us is the result of a thought of God. Each of us is willed, each of us is loved, each of us is necessary".**

**Prayer Corner****This Week's Intention:**

Let us pray that as we journey together during Lent, we may make time to listen to Jesus in the hope that He will transform our hearts and bring us closer to Himself.



 Additions during Lent

 Amendments/additions to regular timetable

Church Timetable	24th February - 2nd March 2024		
<b>Saturday</b> <b>24th February</b> <i>Of the first week of Lent</i>  <b>Vigil - Second Sunday of Lent</b>	10:00AM	Mass at Winchester Cathedral	The Soul of Mrs Gibbs
	11:00AM - 12:00PM	Confessions at St Peter's	
	4:30PM - 5:00PM	Confessions at St Peter's	
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	Holy Souls
<b>Sunday</b> <b>25th February</b> <b>Second Sunday of Lent</b>	8:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	Soul of Margaret Merriman
	9:00AM	Mass at St Thomas More	People of the Parish
	9:15AM	Mass at St Stephen's	
	10:30AM	Mass at St Peter's	Intentions of Rose Connors
	11:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	
	4:00PM	Stations of the Cross at St Peter's	
	5.30PM	Mass at St Peter's	Sunniva Kelly RIP
	5:30PM	Stations of the Cross at St Gregory's	
<b>Monday</b> <b>26th February</b> <i>Of the second week of Lent</i>	8:00AM - 9:00AM	Morning Prayer then Adoration	
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's	Zana Mbuli Special Intention
	7:00PM	Stations of the Cross at St Stephen's	
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>27th February</b> <b>St Gregory of Narek, optional memorial</b>	6:30AM	Mass at St Peter's	James Walker RIP
	8:00AM - 9:00AM	Morning Prayer then Adoration	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's	Parish Prayer Intercessors
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>28th February</b> <i>Of the second week of Lent</i>	8:00AM - 9:00AM	Morning Prayer then Adoration	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	Phelan Family Living & Dead
<b>Thursday</b> <b>29th February</b> <i>Of the second week of Lent</i>	8:00AM - 9:00AM	Morning Prayer then Adoration	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	Intentions of the Neil Family
<b>Friday</b> <b>1st March</b> <b>Religious, Bishop, Feast.</b>	8:00AM - 9:00AM	Morning Prayer then Adoration	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	David & Cecilia Middleditch RIP
	11:30AM	Stations of the Cross at St Peter's	
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's	CWL - BOAZ Project
	5:30PM	Stations of the Cross at St Thomas More	
<b>Saturday</b> <b>2nd March</b> <i>of the second week of Lent</i>  <b>Vigil - Third Sunday of Lent</b>	9AM	Mass at St Peter's	Souls in Purgatory
	9:30AM - 11:30AM	Confessions at St Peter's	
	4:30PM - 5:00PM	Confessions at St Peter's	
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	Intentions of Maggie Prendergast

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.