

10th March 2024

Fourth Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday) - Year B

**Readings and antiphons:**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Cf. Is 66: 10-11.  
*Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.  
Be joyful, all who were in mourning,  
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.*

**First reading:** 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23

**Responsorial Psalm:**

Ps 136:1-6. R. v.6  
*O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not!*

**Second reading:**

Letter from St Paul to the Ephesians 2:4-10

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Jn 3:16  
*R. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!  
God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son;  
everyone who believes in him has eternal life.  
R. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!*

**Gospel:** John 3:14-21

**Communion Antiphon:**

Cf. Ps 83:4-5  
*Jerusalem is built as a city bonded as one together.  
It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,  
to praise the name of the Lord.*

**Funerals and Deaths:**

**Emilia Nahajski RIP**

**James Walker RIP**

**Claire Bryant RIP** - Funeral Mass at St Peter's, Monday 18th March 10am.

**Maria Jose Fernandes RIP** - Funeral Mass at St Peter's, 21st March at 12:30pm



**Annabelle Dailly RIP**

**Mary Prosser RIP** - Funeral Mass at St Peter's, 23rd March at 2pm

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

**Baptisms:**

*Please pray for **Tom, Charlotte,** and all candidates who are preparing to be Baptised, Confirmed, or received into the Church this Easter.*



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

**Actions Speak Louder than Words**

Throughout the ages, many, including St. Anthony of Padua, have claimed that "actions speak louder than words". There is much truth in this, even considering the fact that the volume of our speech is not always an accurate indicator of the truth of what we are saying. What we communicate with our actions needs just as much interpretation as what we say with our lips.

We've been reflecting this Lent on how to listen to God as He speaks to us from his heart. I'd like to suggest that we can learn much by looking at what God does as well as what God says. This weekend's Gospel gives us a wonderful opportunity to do just this. John 3:16, has been called a summary of the whole Gospel. In fact, one translation allows us to discover the very word, 'Gospel', hidden within:

*"God so loved the world that He gave His Only-begotten Son, so that whoever believes in Him should not Perish but have Eternal Life." - Jn 3:16*

One of our Eucharistic Prayers, addressed to the Father as always, expresses this gift of Love beautifully:

*"For you have given us Jesus Christ, your Son, as our Lord and Redeemer. He always showed compassion for children and for the poor, for the sick and for sinners, and he became a neighbour to the oppressed and the afflicted.  
By word and deed he announced to the world that you are our Father and that you care for all your sons and daughters."*

The ultimate announcement of the Love of God comes in the Mystery of the Cross and the death and Resurrection of Jesus.

***"We have enough reason to trust God, because when we look at the cross, we understand how much Jesus loved us. It is wonderful to be able to come to Jesus! That's why God made Him – to be our bread of life, to give us life! And with His life comes new life! New energy! New peace! New joy! New everything! And I think that's what brings glory to God, also, and it brings peace."* - St. "Mother" Teresa of Kolkata**

This Lent, will I allow God to speak to me personally of His immense Love, announced through the free gift of Jesus and His life, death and resurrection?

One wonderful Lenten way to deepen my sense of what God is saying to me personally through the Passion of Jesus is to pray the stations of the cross. I'd highly recommend it. There are lots of versions available and you can find one [here](#), led by Cardinal Vincent Nichols, reflecting on the Stations in Lourdes.

Or simply come back to this key text from our Gospel, personalised, whilst gazing at an image of Jesus crucified. Maybe print it and put in on your fridge or memorise it:

*"God loves **me** so much  
That He gave **me** Jesus  
So that if **I** believe in Him, **I** will not die,  
but **I** will have eternal life  
For God sent Jesus to **me**  
Not to condemn **me**  
But so that **I** might be saved through Jesus."*



**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.

**Lenten Almsgiving Opportunities** - Clergy Assistance Fund (4th Sunday of Lent) 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>

**Vacancy for a Deputy Head****Teacher at St Peter's School:**

Please see our website for further details:

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

Please note: **the closing date is 15th April 2024.**

**Bookshop** - We have a good selection of Bibles, Missals, rosaries, crosses, books and cards for Lent and Easter, as well as gifts and cards for First Holy Communion and Confirmation and items for Divine Mercy. Open weekdays during office hours. Thanks for your support, Susan Henry

**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:**

**Extended Confessions - Saturday 9th March** - During the season of Lent, God asks us to prepare our hearts and purify our souls so that we are ready to receive Our Lord in His glorious coming at Easter. For this reason, confessions this Saturday 9th will be available for an extended period (9:30am-12:00pm). As Catholics, we are particularly obligated to go to Confession during periods of preparation (i.e. Lent and Advent), so please make use of the extra time on offer this weekend.

**Mass for Healing - Saturday 9th March** - Mass with prayers for healing and sacrament of the anointing of the sick takes place at 2pm tomorrow. Refreshments will be available after Mass for anyone who wishes to join us. All are welcome, particularly those suffering with their mental, spiritual or physical health or any who are in distress of any kind.

**Winchester Catholic History Society** - The next meeting of the Winchester Catholic History Society will be held on **Wednesday 20th March at 7.00pm** at **Winchester College** when Professor Gerard Kilroy will be speaking on Cardinal Pole. Visitors most welcome. **£7 on the evening.** All enquiries to [win.cath.history@gmail.com](mailto:win.cath.history@gmail.com)

**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 Peter's Sanctuary Welcome Hub** - takes place every Wednesday from **10.00 - 12.00** in the Pastoral Centre and has been welcoming people from overseas for nearly two years. We would like to extend our hospitality to all in the Parish that would like to come in for a chat and refreshments. There is no need to let us know you are coming, we will be ready to welcome you.

**The Warm Hub** - runs before the Welcome Hub, we serve light breakfast at 9AM. We look forward to seeing you - please spread the word...

**Appeals/Giving:**

**This week's second collection - The Clergy Assistance Fund** - The Clergy Assistance Fund contributes to the work of the Department for the Clergy Team, responsible for looking after the welfare, ongoing formation and personal support of our clergy. This includes the provision of spiritual direction, counselling, appraisal, ongoing formation and practical advice. The team organises retreats, ministerial formation days, courses and sabbaticals.

It looks after the junior clergy, the overseas clergy and especially the retired clergy. On-line donations can be made by using the following link:

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/clergy-assistance-fund-second-collection-2024>

**Family Fridays - Donate-A-Plate** - Thank you to all who supported and donated to our appeal. If you missed last weekend it's not too late to make a donation, please click [HERE!](#) Or visit the [website](#) and go to Support/ Donate - Family Fridays 2024. For more information, please email: [familyfridays@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:familyfridays@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

**Diocese launches FREE Will Scheme** To mark national Free Wills Month, the Diocese has partnered with market-leading solicitors and will-writing providers to offer anyone over 18 to easily write or update a basic simple or mirror Will for free. Whether you would like to write your Will in person, online or over the 'phone you will be expertly supported through the process. You are under no obligation to leave the Diocese a gift in your Will, but a gift of this kind is an opportunity to make a lasting gift to God and His Church. It is following in the footsteps of all those whose generosity in generations past has bequeathed us the Church we know and love today.

To find out more please email: **Alasdair Akass** (Head of Communications and Fundraising): [aakass@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:aakass@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Laudato Si Corner**

Beauty for Franciscan theologians and philosophers is the ultimate and most intimate knowing of God. Saint Bonaventure and Blessed John Duns Scotus teach that the beauty and diversity of creation nourish us through suffering and loss. When we've run out of purpose, when memories of war sicken us, when Earth is attacked with unparalleled savagery for coal, gas, oil and profit, when poverty runs rampant and extreme wealth for very few soars, when friends betray us, and everyone we love lives far away ... then, still Beauty endures, and helps us make it through.

**Prayer Corner**

**This Week's Intention:** Let us pray for all who minister to families, children and young people in our parish, that they may help nurture a sense of belonging and a closeness to Christ through our community.



| Church Timetable  | 9th March - 17th March 2024 |   |  |
|---|-----------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Saturday</b><br><b>9th March</b><br><b>St Frances of Rome - optional memorial</b><br><br><b>Vigil - Fourth Sunday of Lent</b><br><b>(Laetare Sunday)</b> | 9:00AM                      | Mass at St Peter's  | Sindisiwe Mlotshwa Special Intention     |
|   | 9:30AM - 12:00PM            | <i>Extended Confessions at St Peter's</i>                           |  |
|   | 2:00PM - 3:00PM             | <i>Mass For Healing at St Peter's</i>                               |  |
|   | 4:30PM - 5:00PM             | <i>Confessions at St Peter's</i>                                    |  |
|   | 5:30PM                      | Mass at St Peter's  | Claire Grounsell (awaiting a new kidney) |
| <b>Sunday</b><br><b>10th March</b><br><b>Fourth Sunday of Lent</b><br><b>(Laetare Sunday)</b>   | 8:00AM                      | Mass at St Peter's  | Recovery of Tess Murphy                  |
|   | 9:00AM                      | Mass at St Thomas More  | People of the Parish                     |
|   | 9:15AM                      | Mass at St Stephen's  | Liz Slinn RIP                            |
|   | 10:30AM                     | Mass at St Peter's  | Sanjay & Katherine 10th Anniversary      |
|   | 11:00AM                     | Mass at St Gregory's  |  |
|   | 4:00PM                      | <i>Stations of the Cross at St Peter's</i>                          |  |
|   | 5:30PM                      | Mass at St Peter's  | Maria Jose Fernandes RIP                 |
|   | 5:30PM                      | <i>Stations of the Cross at St Gregory's</i>                        |  |
| <b>Monday</b><br><b>11th March</b><br><b>Of the fourth week of Lent</b>   | 8:00AM - 9:00AM             | <i>Morning Prayer then Adoration</i>                                |  |
|   | 12:15PM                     | Mass at St Peter's  | Holy Souls in Purgatory                  |
|   | 7:00PM                      | <i>Stations of the Cross at St Stephen's</i>                        |  |
| <b>Tuesday</b><br><b>12th March</b><br><b>Of the fourth week of Lent</b>  | 6:30AM                      | Mass at St Peter's  | For the Dead and Founders                |
|   | 8:00AM - 9:00AM             | <i>Morning Prayer then Adoration</i>                                |  |
|   | 10:00AM                     | Mass at St Gregory's  |  |
|   | 12:15PM                     | Mass at St Peter's  | James Walker RIP                         |
| <b>Wednesday</b><br><b>13th March</b><br><b>Of the fourth week of Lent</b>  | 8:00AM - 9:00AM             | <i>Morning Prayer then Adoration</i>                                |  |
|   | 10:00AM                     | Mass at St Peter's  | Roy Thompson RIP                         |
| <b>Thursday</b><br><b>14th March</b><br><b>Of the fourth week of Lent</b>   | 8:00AM - 9:00AM             | <i>Morning Prayer then Adoration</i>                                |  |
|   | 10:00AM                     | Mass at St Peter's  | Intentions of the Neil Family            |
| <b>Friday</b><br><b>15th March</b><br><b>Of the fourth week of Lent</b>   | 8:00AM - 9:00AM             | <i>Morning Prayer then Adoration</i>                                |  |
|   | 10:00AM                     | Mass at St Gregory's  |  |
|   | 11:30AM                     | <i>Stations of the Cross at St Peter's</i>                          |  |
|   | 12:15PM                     | Mass at St Peter's  | The Soul of Joannis Wells                |
|   | 1:30PM                      | <i>Reconciliation service for St Peter's School at St Stephen's</i> |  |
|   | 5:30PM                      | <i>Stations of the Cross at St Thomas More</i>                      |  |
| <b>Saturday</b><br><b>16th March</b><br><b>Of the fourth week of Lent</b><br><br><b>Vigil - Fifth Sunday of Lent</b>  | 9:00AM                      | Mass at St Peter's  |  |
|   | 9:30AM - 10:30AM            | <i>Confessions at St Peter's</i>                                    |  |
|   | 4:30PM - 5:00PM             | <i>Confessions at St Peter's</i>                                    |  |
|   | 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.

# Holy Week and Easter Mass Times

|  |         |   |
|--|---------|---|
| <b>Tuesday 26th March</b>                      | 7:00PM  | Reconciliation Service at St Peter's                |
| <b>Thursday 28th March<br/>Maundy Thursday</b> | 7:30PM  | Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper at St Peter's     |
|  | 8:00PM  | Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper at St Gregory's   |
| <b>Friday 29th March<br/>Good Friday</b>       | 9:45AM  | Family Way of the Cross at St Peter's               |
|  | 9:45AM  | Stations of the Cross at St Stephen's               |
|  | 12:00PM | Stations of the Cross at St Peter's                 |
|  | 3:00PM  | Celebration of the Lord's Passion at St Peter's     |
|  | 3:00PM  | Celebration of the Lord's Passion at St Gregory's   |
| <b>Saturday 30th March<br/>Holy Saturday</b>   | 9:00AM  | Office of Readings and Morning Prayer at St Peter's |
|  | 12:00PM | Polish Blessing of Easter Food at St Peter's        |
|  | 7:00PM  | Easter Vigil at St Peter's                          |
|  | 8:00PM  | Easter Vigil at St Gregory's                        |
| <b>Sunday 31st March<br/>Easter Sunday</b>     | 8:00AM  | Easter Sunday Mass at St Peter's                    |
|  | 9:00AM  | Easter Sunday Mass at St Thomas More's              |
|  | 9:15AM  | Easter Sunday Mass at St Stephen's                  |
|  | 10:30AM | Easter Sunday Mass St Peter's                       |
|  | 11:00AM | Easter Sunday Mass St Gregory's                     |
|  | 5:30PM  | Easter Sunday Mass at St Peter's                    |

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