

8th December 2024

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year C

Readings and Antiphons

Entrance Antiphon: Cf. Is 30:19,-30
O PEOPLE of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

First reading: the Prophet Baruch 5:1-9

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 126(125):1-2b.2c-3.4-5.6. R.3

What great deeds the LORD worked for us! Indeed, we were glad.

Second reading: Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11

Gospel Acclamation: Lk 3:4,6

R. Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare the way of the LORD, make his paths straight; all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

R. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

Communion Antiphon: Ba 5:5,4:36

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

Funerals and Deaths

Rev Monsignor Canon Nicholas France MBE, Provost Emeritus, R.I.P.

Roberto Matassa RIP—Funeral Service at Chesil Suite on Thurs 12th December at 11.30am.

Masengu RIP

Nerina Panner RIP

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



Weddings

Congratulations to Jimmy Flynn and Paris Whitehouse, who were married at St Peter's last Monday.



NEW - Edition of the Lectionary

You may already be aware that the Lectionary (which contains the Scripture readings that we read at Mass, including the Psalm and Gospel Acclamation) has changed, from the 1st Sunday of Advent.

The parts of Scripture that we hear will remain the same, but the translation is changing - which means that the words of the readings will change. Deacon Martin explains more about what the changes will mean in practice, in a recording of a presentation he made recently to parishioners. You can watch the recording on our [parish YouTube site](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OMB8Y34LvUU), via the following link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OMB8Y34LvUU>

Baruch 5:1-9; Ps 126(125):1-2b.2c-3. 4-5. 6. Phil 1:3-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

A Message from Deacon Tony...

Advent is a time of preparation for the Lord's coming. At Christmas we will celebrate one of the central mysteries of the Christian faith – the incarnation. 'Incarnation' means 'clothing in flesh'. God the Son, the eternal Word, through whom all things were created and are sustained in existence, becomes a human being.

This changes everything. God loves us so much that he enters into our humanity completely, being born of the Virgin Mary, suffering temptation, undergoing his passion and death. In becoming human God sanctifies our humanity. By his death and resurrection, he opens the possibility of us entering eternal happiness in heaven.

The book of the Prophet Baruch, from which our first reading is taken, opens by declaring that it was written just a few years after the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem and the exile of the people into Babylon. The total destruction of their home and their way of life was in the recent past. There is not much for them to be cheerful about. But Baruch prophesies good times. He tells Jerusalem to arise and stand upon the height and look towards the east and see her children gathered from west and east ... rejoicing that God has remembered them.

Baruch tells us what to do to prepare for his coming - take off the garments of sorrow and affliction. Of course, we cannot always, just by an act of will, simply cast aside pain, grief, or worry, or any other sorrow or affliction. But we can, by our free will to accept his grace, change our attitude to all these things.

We can, by God's grace, cast aside our attachment to worldly things; our sense of entitlement to comfort or pleasure; our sense that any suffering or hardship we are asked to bear is not fair; our sense of self-importance; our obsession with ourselves instead of loving others and loving God. Cast off these garments, and when we do so, we stand naked, so to speak, before God. We have nothing, because all we have comes from Him. If we approach Him with such an attitude of humility, he will, the Prophet Baruch promises, clothe us in garments of righteousness.

John the Baptist, the last of the prophets, says essentially the same thing as Baruch in a different way. He says repent. Turn around and face God.

God made you to be a saint, beautiful and perfect in every way, to share in his heavenly glory with his beloved Son, the Holy Spirit, his Blessed Mother, all the angels and saints for all eternity. And he gives us the choice, always, and especially in Advent, to repent; to cast off the garments of sorrow and affliction and allow Him to clothe us in the garments of righteousness, to cloth us in our right mind, in the beauty and glory that he created us for.

May I offer a practical suggestion? Go to confession. Kneel humbly before Jesus and tell him that you are sorry for any ways you can recall that you have not been the beautiful saint that He made you to be, every time you can remember that you have resisted His grace, that you have allowed yourself to be attached to worldly things more than loving him and loving his other children. Cast off these garments of sorrow and affliction. Tell him that by the free will He has given you, you wish to be clothed in the garments of salvation, and let him bestow on you, by the sacramental grace of confession, his forgiveness.

Holy Heros Advent Adventure (Flocknotes)

Holy Heroes Advent Adventure (Flocknotes) Advent Adventure is a fun and easy way for parents to help their children grow in faith, hope, and charity, while enjoying a more peaceful Advent! For all who sign up, Fr Mark will send an email for each day of Advent (designed to be sent evening before to give time to review and prepare materials for the next day). Links in the emails lead to short videos, printable activities, and more! You can sign up by following this link

<https://stpeterschurch7.flocknote.com/HolyHeroesAdvent> - or by contacting the Parish Office.

For parents who wish to receive daily messages from Fr Mark during Advent and Christmas, please sign up using this link - <https://stpeterschurch7.flocknote.com/PilgrimsofHope>



Advent Lectio Divina

Discover more about the Gospel in Advent - Deacon Tony Darlison invites you to join him for a series of four evening sessions. Mondays: 9 December, 16 December from 8:00pm to 9:00 pm in the Pastoral Centre. If you would like to attend, please contact the Parish Office or email: tdarlison@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk



Prayer Corner

Let us pray for all who volunteer in our parish. May their involvement with parish life – in whatever form - bring them a sense of belonging more fully to our community and to Christ.



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SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year C

St Peter's - Friday 20th Dec

BLUE CHRISTMAS at 10.30am - For many people, there are split emotions as Christmas approaches. Some of us feel keenly the pain of loss, bereavement, separation, hurt or regrets. Others feel anxious or isolated, at a time of material difficulty for many. And many feel alienated by the manifest materialism and secularisation of the season, in a world where so many lack the basics of food, shelter, peace and justice. As a result, many of us find Christmas a difficult time to celebrate, and worry that we have to bury our feelings to make everyone else happy.

Blue Christmas is a short, gentle service to enable us to recognise these more painful parts of our lives and of our world, not to cheer each other up, or wallow in pity, but to offer God the whole of who we are. You are most welcome to come and make use of this space, and pray with us for healing and wholeness



NIGHT OF LIGHT - Friday 20th December from 5.30pm - 8pm - Come and join us at St Peter's as we give thanks to the light, and **celebrate Christ our light**. Let peace and calm find you...

Parish Bank Details

If you wish to make a payment/donation, please use the following details: Parish Bank
Account Name:
CDP St Peter & Winchester Martyrs, Sort Code: **30-93-04**,
Account Number: 00890996 & Reference details (eg offertory, SVP, etc). You can also use the Contactless machine at the back of St Peter's or visit our website.

Contacts

For a full list of contact details for our Parish, please visit our website:
www.catholicwinchester.org.uk
or email
hello@stpeterswinchester.org.uk
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

Finance:
accounts@stpeterswinchester.org.uk

Tel. 01962852804

Newsletter:
newsletters@stpeterswinchester.org.uk (deadline for items for the next newsletter - **Weds PM please**)

Events & News

REMINDER THIS SUNDAY... REMINDER THIS SUNDAY... REMINDER THIS SUNDAY

VOLUNTEERS 'Thank You' Tea Party - Sunday 8th December 2.30-4.30pm

Do YOU volunteer in the Parish of St Peter & the Winchester Martyrs? Then please come along to **Fr Mark's Thank-you tea party in St Peter's Pastoral Centre on Sunday 8th December at 2.30pm**. **Everyone who serves in the Parish is invited for tea and cakes**, as a small measure of appreciation and recognition for all you do. Please let the Parish Office know if you wish to come.



Pies & Puds Christmas Special - Wed 11th December. It's time for our monthly lunch event, on **Wednesday 11th December, at the Pastoral Centre, 12.45 for 1pm**, and it's the Xmas Special. We'll be serving home-made pies, including the legendary and exclusive Turkey Dinner in a Pie, and puddings, and some festive additions. Come on your own or with a partner or friend. There is no booking or commitment necessary, but do contact moiar@msn.com with any questions or to be added to our mailing list.

Winchester Catholic History Society - The next meeting of the Winchester Catholic History Society is on **Wednesday 11 December** when Dr Simon Roffey of the University of Winchester will be speaking on 'The Excavations of St Mary Magdalen Leprosy Hospital, Winchester' in the **Parish Centre**. **Christmas Drinks and mince pies from 5.15 pm**, the AGM at 6.00 pm and the talk at 6.30 pm. All members and visitors (£7.00) most welcome. All enquiries: win.cath.history@gmail.com

CWL Charity Soup & Pud Lunch - The next Charity Lunch will be on **Friday 13th December** (note change of date), in aid of the Salvation Army. Suggested donation £7. All are Welcome.

Advent Retreat with the Sisters of Mary Morning Star - 13th - 15th December at the convent in Lynton, Devon. EX35 6BS. Come and pray with a contemplative community, join us for times of **Eucharistic adoration, singing the psalms, study and lectio divina** and experience the stunning North Devon coastline. An opportunity for women aged 18 - 35 years to come and **experience the joy and the silence of the Blessed Virgin Mary as she awaited the birth of Jesus**. To book or for more info contact the Sisters at: srsmarymorningstar@gmail.com Nearest train station: Tiverton Parkway



Filipino Christmas Party - 14th December 2024 from 5.30pm - late - Everyone invited to join this annual event at Winchester Student Union, Sparkford Road, Winchester, SO22 4NR. The Philippines was hit by 6 cyclones / typhoons consecutively last November with many people from the north and east suffering huge losses - their homes and livelihoods. **DO YOU HAVE ANY RAFFLE PRIZES TO DONATE?** We would like to raise funds to help those suffering in the Philippines. If you would like to donate a prize or purchase raffle tickets, please contact Agnes Sitjar via the Parish Office. Thank you.

Fr Mark's Ultimate Guide to Confession - Which sins do I need to confess? Why do I struggle to forgive myself after God has forgiven me? How do I make a good confession as an adult? If these or similar questions are puzzling you, why not **join Fr Mark for a brief talk and Q&A** about the beautiful sacrament of reconciliation, **Sun 15th December 4-5pm, Pastoral Centre**.

Christmas with Southern Voices Bringing their ruby anniversary season to a close on 21st December in the Chapel of St Cross, Winchester at 7.30pm, SOUTHERN VOICES look forward to celebrating in style with their traditional, festive feast of Christmas carols. **To make it really special, this year they are thrilled to welcome former royal harpist Alis Huws who had the honour of playing at the Coronation**. She will accompany them in Benjamin Britten's iconic A Ceremony of Carols. This will be a real treat and the perfect way to round off a superb year of music-making for the choir. Booking is essential and tickets are now on sale. Tickets: £19 (Age 21 & under, £10) from: southernvoices.co.uk/christmas or telephone 0333 666 3366 (booking fees apply). There will be a retiring collection in aid of the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust.

Lord's Flock - Sunday 22nd December 2-5pm - Pastoral Centre -

The Lord's Flock Catholic Charismatic Community invite you to discover the missing piece about yourself... Join us in our praise and worship, fellowship and bible reflection. **To book your place**, and to help us cater for the early supper we share together, please contact Liza Franco via the Parish Office. ALL WELCOME.



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**Bishop's Pastoral Letter -
Jubilee Year of HOPE**

This weekend we will be sending out by separate cover, the Pastoral Letter from Bishop Philip.

This will be read at all Masses with limited copies available at the back of church.



St Stephen's Travelling Nativity

This Advent, Mary and Joseph are travelling with the little donkey to Bethlehem. On their way they are hoping to find a different inn to stay at every night. **They still need accommodation between 20th and 24th December! Could they come and stay with you?**

The Travelling Nativity will come to you for a night and then you are expected to pass them on to the next family. This is a lovely opportunity to explore the Advent story with your family and even meet other families to have a cup of tea/glass of wine, and pray together during Advent (although we know that people are busy so a get together is not always possible). Please let me know if you would like any further information or to participate and I will add your family to the rota. If you would like to be added please send your name, email address, home address and a contact number by the 25 November. Your details will be shared with others participating in the travelling nativity, let us know if you have any concerns. You can contact me via the Parish Office. Thank you. Lidia Otero



Peterpost - Newsletter

Peterpost newsletter is now being distributed via Churchsuite. We are aware that a number of recipients did not receive the newsletter correctly last weekend. If you do not receive your copy, please complete the details on the link below:

[New Contact Details - ChurchSuite Forms](#)

Parish Prayerline

Our team of intercessors are here 24/7 and would like more to pray for! Please email your prayer requests to: prayers@stpeterswinchester.org.uk

Bookshop

Further deliveries of the **New Sunday Missals** have been received. We have ADVENT calendars, lots of lovely Christmas cards and decorative items in the bookshop. Please call in, or contact Susan Henry via the Parish Office. Thank you.



News from St Peter's School

News from St Peter's School Please find a link to this week's school newsletter for all the latest news... <https://www.stpetershants.co.uk/to pic/news-and-events>

Advent Reflection

The second week of advent focuses on peace. **Peace in Hebrew is "shalom"** and shalom means a state of perfect harmony and balance. God created the world to be in shalom, perfect peace, but that is not the world we live in today. **The coming of Christ brings the promise that shalom will be restored and we can live in peace on earth that surpasses our understanding.**



Events & News - Continued...

CONSULTATION St Anne's Catholic School Admissions Policy. St Anne's Catholic School are consulting on their admission arrangements for 2026/27 to raise their Published Admission Number (PAN) to 210, from 200. The **consultations will run to 23rd December 2024.** The school welcomes views from any interested parties. Please see the school's website for the consultation and information on response: [CONSULTATION: Admissions Policy 2026-2027 | St Anne's Catholic School & Sixth Form College](#)

A Season of Hope: two retreat opportunities to live the time of Advent and Christmas exploring the gift of our Christian Hope. Make time in an atmosphere of silence, with scripture inputs, to deepen your relationship with God, in beautiful surroundings. **New Year Retreat from 28th Dec- 1st Jan.** Organised by the Verbum Dei Community. For more information, please, contact us: verbumdei.iow@gmail.com

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2025...

The first CWL Soup & Pud Lunch is on Friday 3rd January and will be in aid of Winchester Samaritans. Suggested donation £7. All are Welcome.

Save the Date: Baptism Celebratory Mass Invitation. All families who have had their children baptised over the course of the last year in the Parish of St. Peter and the Winchester Martyrs are warmly invited to the annual Thanksgiving Mass. The Mass will be held on **Sat 11th January 2025** at 10:30am in St. Peter's Church, Winchester, celebrated by Fr Mark Hogan. A finger buffet will be provided afterwards. If you would like to join us, **please email rosanne@stpeterswinchester.org.uk by Sat 4th January**, indicating the number of adults and the number of children (over 2) for catering purposes.

Winchester Street Pastors are Recruiting New SCHOOL PASTORS: for Secondary & Primary Schools across Winchester and district. Volunteers are required at Lunchtimes - once or twice a week and will receive relevant online training in either Feb/Mar or Jun/Jul 25. To find out more about being a School Pastor or supporting us in prayer, contact Mark Hibbert-Hingston, by email: winchester@schoolpastors.org.uk. Or tel:07740 288654

Mens' Retreat at Stonyhurst: Men's Spiritual Exercises, 31 March – 5 April 2025— A 5-day version of the Ignatian Exercises offered specifically for men (whether lay or ordained), this retreat will be preached by the Benedictine Monks of St Joseph's Abbey, France. Founded in 1988, this community has retained its charism of a specific apostolate to men and of engaging them through a shortened version of the Ignatian Exercises. One-to-one direction will be offered alongside the talks. Priests are welcome to attend and celebrate their own Mass. For more information and to book: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/mens-spiritual-exercises/>

Pilgrimage to Lisieux (Fri 23rd - Mon 26th May 2025)

The pilgrimage to Lisieux, France will be led by Fr Raffaele Cossa & Fr Mario Toma. We will visit the place where St Therese lived and the surrounding area. Cost: approx £500 per person depending on numbers. **There will be a meeting to present the itinerary and answer any questions on Saturday 23rd November at 2.30pm in St Edward church, Chandlers Ford.** The Pilgrimage is organised with Tangney Tours. Further details & booking form St Swithun Wells Parish Office 023 80273882 or Clare Barkaway at Tangney Tours 01732 886666

World Youth Day pilgrimage to Rome next summer - 2025. We will be going there for the Youth Jubilee, from 28th July to 4th August. During that week, there will be thousands of young people in Rome at the invitation of the Holy Father. We will also be there for the Mass and ceremony at which Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati, Patron of our Youth, will be canonised. The cost includes flights, hotel accommodation, half board, travel in Rome, entrance and participation fees and more. It should be really good! For more information and pre-booking, contact youth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Pilgrim's Progress to Rome, an eight-day trek in Autumn 2025, is a charity fundraising challenge organised by the charity Life. Life supports women in unexpected and crisis pregnancies and those experiencing pregnancy loss. Life are calling all those with "an adventurous spirit and a compassionate heart", to email emilytraynor@lifecharity.org.uk to receive more information.

● Amendments/additions to regular timetable

Mass Timetable	7th December - 14th December 2024		
SATURDAY – December 7th – St Ambrose , Bishop, Doctor of the Church, memorial. SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Vigil	9:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	(Cathedral Mass)
	10:00AM	Mass at Winchester Cathedral	All Souls in Purgatory
	11:00AM - 12 noon	Confession at St Peter's	
	4:30PM - 5:00PM	Confession at St Peter's	
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	Deceased Members of the Hill Family
SUNDAY – December 8th – SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	8:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	Cathy Murray RIP
	9:00AM	Mass at St Thomas More's	Nuala Halpin RIP
	9:15AM	Family Mass at St Stephen's	People of the Parish
	10:30AM	Mass at St Peter's	Claris Paulina - Thanksgiving
	11:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	Peace in the World
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	Soul of Richard Wheble
MONDAY – December 9th – THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY , Joint-Principle Patron of the Diocese, solemnity	8:00AM - 9:00AM	Morning Prayer followed by Adoration at St Peter's	
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's	David Leonard Morgan RIP
TUESDAY – December 10th – St Swithun Wells , Martyr, memorial	8:00AM - 9:00AM	Morning Prayer followed by Adoration at St Peter's	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	Intentions of Rosanne Lynch & Anna Salley and Family
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's	Zana Mbuli Special Intention
WEDNESDAY – December 11th – St Damasus I , Pope, optional memorial	8:00AM - 9:00AM	Morning Prayer followed by Adoration at St Peter's	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	Gillian Barry RIP
THURSDAY – December 12th – Our Lady of Guadalupe , optional memorial	8:00AM - 9:00AM	Morning Prayer followed by Adoration at St Peter's	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	Maria Cheng RIP
	1:30PM	Wedding at St Peter's for Jimmy & Nora	
FRIDAY – December 13th – St Lucy , Virgin, Martyr, memorial	8:00AM - 9:00AM	Morning Prayer followed by Adoration at St Peter's	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	May McCrossan RIP
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's	Soul of Mary Julia Wheble
SATURDAY – December 14th – St John of the Cross , Religious, Doctor of the Church, memorial THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Vigil	9:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	Soul of William Meader
	9:30AM - 12 noon	Extended Confession at St Peter's	
	4:30PM - 5:00PM	Confession at St Peter's	
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	Benefactors

Confession every Saturday 9.30am till 10.30am (except on 7th Dec from 11am - 12noon and on 14th Dec, when it is extended from 9.30am - 12 noon) and 4.30pm-5.00pm at St Peter's Church.


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:

[YouTube channel](#)

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



MASS TIMETABLE	CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES	
MONDAY - December 16th	7:00PM	Reconciliation Service at St Peter's
FRIDAY - December 20th	10:30AM	Blue Christmas Service at St Peter's
	5.30PM - 8:00PM	Night of Light at St Peter's
TUESDAY - December 24th CHRISTMAS EVE 	3:00PM	Children's Mass at St Peter's
	5:30PM	Family Mass at St Peter's
	5:30PM	Vigil Mass at St Stephen's
	8:00PM	Carols and Readings, 8:30PM Midnight Mass at St Gregory's
	10:30PM	Midnight Mass with Carols and Readings at St Peter's
WEDNESDAY - December 25th CHRISTMAS DAY	8:00AM	Christmas Day Dawn Mass at St Peter's
	9:00AM	Christmas Day Mass at St Thomas More's, Stockbridge
	9:15AM	Christmas Day Dawn Mass at St Stephen's
	10:30AM	Christmas Day Mass at St Peter's
	11:00AM	Christmas Day Mass at St Gregory's, Alresford
THURSDAY - December 26th Feast of St Stephen	10:00AM	Mass at St Stephen's