

16th March 2025

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT - Year C

Readings and Antiphons

Entrance Antiphon: Cf. Ps 26:8-9
 Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek: hide not your face from me.

First reading: Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

Responsorial Psalm: 27(26):1. 7-8b. 8c-9c. 13-14. R. 1a

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Second reading: Philippians 3:17-4:1

Gospel Acclamation: Mt 4:4b
R. Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father.

From a bright cloud, the Father's voice was heard: This is my beloved Son, listen to him..

R. Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father.

Gospel: Luke 9:28b-36

Communion Antiphon: Mt 17:5
 This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

Funerals and Deaths

Audrey Stephenson RIP - Funeral at Milner Hall (St Peter's) on Monday 17th March at 12.15pm.

Kathleen Glackin RIP

Rex Chester RIP

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



Congratulations to:

Benson Ohiri and Jennifer Obioha and to: Marc Wentworth and Anna Dudziak. Both couples had a beautiful Nuptial Mass, celebrated by Fr Benedict at St Stephen's on Saturday 1st March.

THIS WEEKEND

MASS OF HEALING - SAT 15th MARCH AT 2PM MILNER HALL

All are welcome to join **Mass with Prayer for Healing including the opportunity to receive the Anointing of the Sick** in the Milner Hall, instead of St Peter's Church. Light refreshments will be served in the Pastoral Centre after Mass. **Please spread the word** to anyone you know or think might be interested in coming along. It would be even more wonderful if you could come along with them to help support them on the day.

SECOND COLLECTION - CAFOD - APPEAL & PRAYERS

Please donate to our Lent Appeal as a way of standing in solidarity with those communities that CAFOD serves. **Family Fast Day envelopes** available or donations in the usual way - thank you. More CAFOD info [HERE](#).

Stepping Forward in Love this Lent – Preferential Option for the Poor

Fr Mark writes:

"When the Church talks of the preferential option for the poor, it means that we need always to keep in mind how any decision we make might impact the poor." (Pope Francis, On Fraternity and Social Friendship)

The Church holds that we should all have a special focus on supporting, walking alongside, and sharing with people who are living in poverty. Pope Francis's much quoted phrase about wanting "a poor church for the poor" holds the Catholic social teaching principle of the preferential option for the poor at its heart. Although it includes the charitable support of the Church, both the institution and individual members, for those living in poverty locally and globally, it is also wider than this.

The option for the poor includes talking with, and listening to, those who are living in poverty. It is not just thinking that we know what people want or need, but listening to people, sharing in their suffering, being the "voice for the voiceless" when it is not being heard, whilst enabling the voice, the experience, the needs of people to be heard by others in our communities, society, and the world.

"This is why I want a Church which is poor and for the poor. They have much to teach us. Not only do they share in the sensus fidei, but in their difficulties they know the suffering Christ. We need to let ourselves be evangelized by them... We are called to find Christ in them, to lend our voice to their causes, but also to be their friends, to listen to them, to speak for them and to embrace the mysterious wisdom which God wishes to share with us through them." (Pope Francis, Joy of the Gospel, 198)

I've always been both impressed and challenged by the words of St. Vincent de Paul:



"You will find out that Charity is a heavy burden to carry, heavier than the kettle of soup and the full basket. But you will keep your gentleness and your smile. It is not enough to give soup and bread. This the rich can do. You are the servant of the poor, always smiling and good-humoured. They are your masters, terribly sensitive and exacting master you will see. And the uglier and the dirtier they will be, the more unjust and insulting, the more love you must give them. It is only for your love alone that the poor will forgive you the bread you give to them."

Who are the poor within our own community, whether visible or invisible? How do we work alongside one another, learning and growing through the encounter with each person we meet?

Caritas, love in action, is charity and justice together. With the preferential option for the poor, it is more than charity alone. It is seeking justice at all levels of society. It involves tackling those structures which keep people living in poverty, what St John Paul II termed "structures of sin". It is about enabling people to be part of the decision-making processes which affect their lives. It is enabling all people to play a full and active part in society – something which we are all called to do, as expressed in the guiding principle of participation and community.

Pope Francis has spoken about "the globalisation of indifference", and how it is a grave illness of the world at this time. Despite modern communication technology, we become blind to the reality of the world, hiding from the truth of poverty people suffer all around us. We are called to open our eyes, see what is happening, and take action.

How appropriate that our retiring collection this weekend is for CAFOD – the Catholic Fund for Overseas Development and their annual Lenten Family Fast Day appeal. CAFOD aim to ensure that no one is beyond reach. Our collection is a beautiful way to link our Lenten Fasting with our Lenten almsgiving. Let's also offer some of our Lenten praying for the work of CAFOD and for the many people across the globe whom they serve. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Prayer Corner

Let us pray for those suffering from physical and mental health issues, that our Mass for Healing brings them closer to Christ through our community.



16th March 2025

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT - Year C

WINCHESTER HOSPITAL VISITS

If you, a loved-one, or a friend is in hospital in Winchester and would like a visit, please let the Parish Office know. **Father Benedict usually visits on Sundays and Deacon Tony on Wednesdays.**

If you, a loved one or a friend is in hospital in Basingstoke, Southampton or another hospital outside our Parish, the Parish Office can ask the relevant Parish to arrange for their clergy to visit and to administer Holy Communion.

CATECHISTS LENT DAYS OF PRAYER, FORMATION AND NETWORKING

The Vicariate for Evangelisation will be hosting **three online events during Lent for Catechists across the diocese.** These events offer a chance to connect with other catechists, share experiences, and find inspiration to hand on the faith in our parishes. **Each event will begin at 7:30 PM** and last for one hour. Catechists can choose from the three events based on their area of catechesis:

Thursday 20th March (Marriage Preparation and Baptism)
Thursday 3rd April (Confirmation and RCIA). To sign up for these events, please go to <https://forms.office.com/e/VkCdJlSvZA>.

After signing up, a member of the Formation for Mission Team will reach out shortly with the link to the appropriate meeting. Fr Gaston Afah Forbah, Episcopal Vicar for Evangelisation

Certificate in Catechesis

The Dominican Sisters of St Joseph in Lymington are **offering a 2-year Certificate in Catechesis to equip parish catechists, parents, and grandparents to transmit the Catholic faith to others.** This Certificate is approved by the Bishops' Conference, and offers a formation developed from the 2020 Directory for Catechesis, relevant to the pastoral context we face in our parishes.

It is delivered online in weekly sessions with notes, recordings, and presentations made available to the students.

It is comprehensive in its overview of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and in its practical application to all forms of catechesis.

2 in-person days are offered each year to build up the student's community and fellowship in faith.

Apply now to begin your studies in September 2025.

Download the Brochure.

LENT 2025

Lenten Spiritual Campaign - 'Stepping Forward in Love'

For many of us, **Lent is a beautiful time to "re-set", based on the three pillars of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.** We will again be offering you some wonderful opportunities to journey alongside your fellow parishioners (and guests from elsewhere), as we delve deeper into the mystery of God's love. This is how you can sign up for:

- **Daily Lenten Messages** to gently challenge and inspire you; To sign up click **HERE**
- **Small Lenten Group** opportunities, where you can meet with others to grow in faith together; To sign up click **HERE**
- **A 5-week challenge** with Fr Mark – Practising Fasting; To sign up click **HERE**

Stations of the Cross During Lent

Milner Hall	11:30AM	Fridays during Lent
St Peter's Church (<i>please note that the Stations are currently covered</i>)	4:00PM	Sundays during Lent
St Thomas More's	5:00PM	Fridays during Lent
St Gregory's	5:30PM	Sundays during Lent
St Stephen's	7:00PM	Mondays during Lent

Lectio Divina

Deacon Tony Darlison extends an **open invitation to all to join him on Thursdays during Lent at 9am in the Milner Hall** (immediately after Morning Prayer and finishing in time for the start of the 10am Mass). We'll be looking at the Lent Readings for the next Sunday. Just turn up. All are Welcome.

Lent for Families

This is a beautiful time of year as we 'Step Forward in Love' and journey together as one family. **Each weekend, we will be posting ideas and suggestions for celebrating Lent, Holy Week and Easter.** This information 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.



Family Prayer in Lent

Helen Pope is running a families rosary group at her house during Lent. She is very happy if other families would like to join her on **Sundays at 4pm for rosary and cake.** Please email: hpope@stpeterswinchester.org.uk if you wish to join her, to let her know you will be coming.



Parish Seder Meal

Anyone who attended the Seder Meal two years ago will remember what a fantastic evening it was. So we are repeating it on **Friday 11th April from 7pm in the Pastoral Centre.** William and Maggie Carver are leading the traditional Jewish aspects, and we will provide the food. **The Seder Meal is a special dinner held in Jewish communities to mark the Passover.**

If you would like to attend you will need to book in advance: please send your details (including how many people, and any dietary requirements) to moirar@stpeterswinchester.org.uk. We will be asking for donations to pay for the meal, paid in cash on the night. (If you would like to help with the event in any way please use the same email.) We hope for an effective community-building event, looking at our common heritage – with Licoricia waving to us from across the road!



WINCHESTER STREET PASTORS - RECRUITING NEW VOLUNTEERS

Winchester Street Pastors are recruiting 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 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.

Click **HERE** for the latest Winchester Street Pastors statistics digest 2012 - 2024.

16th MARCH 2025

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT - Year C

Laudato Si Corner:

War on Creation - The prophet Isaiah pictured the desolated Creation without peace because of the lack of justice and the broken relationship between God and humankind. This description of devastated cities and wastelands eloquently stresses the fact that human destructive behaviours have a negative impact on the Earth. **Our hope: Creation will find peace when justice is restored**

There is still hope and the expectation for a peaceful Earth. To hope in a biblical context does not mean to stand still and quiet, but to act, pray, change and reconcile with Creation and the Creator in unity, metanoia (repentance) and solidarity.

The Laudato si' Symbol for 2025: the Garden of Peace

The symbol is characterised by a dove carrying an olive branch bringing life to "the garden of peace".

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/stream/newsletters/full/1/-/>

Bookshop

Thank you very much for your continued support. **Lent books and booklets and St Patrick's Day and Easter cards** are available. Please come along and have a browse



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 latest please**)

Parish Bank details

If you wish to make a payment or 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.

IMPORTANT PARISH ANNOUNCEMENT

Building Works Update - 14th March 2025

It might look as though very little has been happening around the Church this week, and most of the work is on the Sanctuary (Altar Area) and is largely hidden behind the Scaffolding.

As you look on the left-hand side behind the Altar Table, there was a major crack which effectively went from the top to the bottom of the wall, this has been strengthened with the Heli Rods (Twisted Metal Bars) and the plaster around the crack has been chipped away in advance of it being repaired. Then high above the Altar Table, work has also been carried out on the Arch Stonework.

Looking ahead – **we need some support from some able-bodied people to help us move the Church Seats** (Benches) around as we are hoping to re-varnish the Floor in the Church. This will only be possible if we can get some help. We are hoping to do this on **Tuesday 15th and Wednesday 16th of April** – if you can help, it would be really appreciated.

If you can help, please contact Gerard or Sean in the Pastoral Centre in the first instance.

Please click [HERE](#) for the latest 'Sneaky Peeks' photos!

As in previous weeks, if you have any questions please contact Gerard in the Parish Office.

ST PETER'S CENTENARY—PHOTOGRAPHS NEEDED PLEASE

The photographic book to mark St. Peter's Centenary is progressing well. Although the archive is strong on early photographs, **we need more modern pictures covering around the last 25 years, especially of church and parish activities.** Prints (which will be scanned and returned straight away) and digital are acceptable. If you have any that you are happy to contribute, please contact chronicle@stpeterswinchester.org.uk

UPCOMING EVENTS

Pies & Puds lunch event - Wed 19th March - It's time for our monthly lunch event, on **Wednesday 19th March at the Pastoral Centre, 12.45 for 1pm.** We'll be serving home-made pies, all the vegetables you can eat, proper puddings with custard, and vegetarian and G/F options. Then we'll have a very intriguing talk on deep sea fishing, 'how is your fish caught?' with some unexpected aspects. There is no booking or commitment necessary, but do contact moirar@msn.com with any questions or to be added to our mailing list.

Winchester Catholic History Society are having a guided tour in Winchester Cathedral called 'The Riddle of the Bones' on **Wednesday 26th March.** The tour starts at 2.00 pm and lasts for approximately 90 minutes. We learn about the evolution of Old Minster and the present Cathedral, and the scientific investigation of the bones in the Mortuary Chests. Some tickets still available: £15. Further information from win.cath.history@gmail.com

Don Bosco Boy Camp - 26th July to 2nd August 2025 - We are delighted that camp will once again be held this summer for boys who are currently in Year 6 Primary school to Year 11 Secondary school at St. Cassian's, Kintbury. There will be plenty of sport, outings, competitions and fun and games to ensure that boys will have a fantastic time. This will continue to take place within the context of the celebration of the Catholic Faith, including daily Mass and morning prayer. The cost of the camp is £230 (part bursaries may be available on application).

Jubilee Pilgrimage to Lourdes - Aware of the sick within our Diocese and of the sickness that afflicts our world today you are invited to join the pilgrimage to Lourdes this July. In this Jubilee year of hope it will give us the opportunity to hope and pray for the Church. The cost of the pilgrimage this year is £879 per person for a shared room, youth pilgrims can travel at £825. To find out more and to book a place please complete an application form, email,, telephone 07780 221686 or write to Canon PJ Smith at St Edmund's House, Bishop Crispian Way, Portsmouth PO1 3QA.

2025 - Sixth Form Students Leadership Programme

The Christian Heritage Centre at Stonyhurst (CHC)'s **Christian Leadership Formation programme is a fantastic opportunity for students in Year 12 / Lower VI**, and is now open to applications for 2025. **Offering media training, tools for personal development, philosophical and theological study**, and a chance to meet like-minded peers and Catholic academics and public figures, the programme offers a certificate validated by St Mary's University, Twickenham. For more information and to apply: <https://www.christianleadershipformation.com>

Arriving from another country? Wanting help with reading English?

Have you arrived in Winchester from another country? **Would you like help in learning to read, speak, listen and write in English?** If so, then our Sanctuary Welcome Hub (Wed mornings 10 - 12pm) maybe able to help. Or are you willing to give up an hour or two of your time to teach people to read English at the hub on Wednesday mornings? If you fall into any of these categories, please email me lsbrowning@stpeterswinchester.org.uk.

Amendments to location of Mass - due to St Peter's Church Building Works

Mass Timetable	15th March - 22nd March 2025		
SATURDAY – March 15th– Saturday of the 1st Week of Lent	9:00AM	Mass at Milner Hall	Souls of Margaret Chibuzo & Hosara Elvey.
	9:30AM - 12NOON	Extended Confession in St Thomas More Room, Pastoral Centre (Upstairs)	
	2:00PM	SVP Mass of Healing at Milner Hall	
	4:30PM - 5:00PM	Confession in St Peter's Church	
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	Ron Footer RIP
2nd SUNDAY OF LENT - Vigil	8:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	Mary Mayhew-Arnold RIP
	9:00AM	Mass at St Thomas More's	Private Intention
	9:15AM	Mass at St Stephen's	People of the Parish
	10:30AM	Mass at St Peter's	Soul of Nandita Connolly
	11:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	Deceased members of the McCrossan & McCafferty Families
	4:00PM	Stations of the Cross at St Peter's	
	5:30PM	Stations of the Cross at St Gregory's	
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	Intentions of the Way & Corcoran Families
MONDAY – March 17th – ST PATRICK, Bishop, feast	8:00AM - 9:00AM	Morning Prayer followed by Adoration at Milner Hall	
	10:00AM	St Patrick's Day Mass at Milner Hall	The Soul of Dick Robson
	12:15PM	Funeral Mass in the Milner Hall for Audrey Stephenson RIP	
	7:00PM	Stations of the Cross at St Stephen's	
TUESDAY – March 18th – Tuesday of the 2nd Week of Lent	8:00AM - 9:00AM	Morning Prayer followed by Adoration at Milner Hall	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	The Soul of Mary Wheble
	12:15PM	Mass at Milner Hall	Dr Pietro Ligato RIP
WEDNESDAY – March 19th – ST JOSEPH, Solemnity	8:00AM - 9:00AM	Morning Prayer followed by Adoration at Milner Hall	
	10:00AM	Mass at Milner Hall	The Health and Wellbeing of Joseph Jose and his son, Joseph
THURSDAY – March 20th – Thursday of the 2nd Week of Lent	8:00AM - 9:00AM	Morning Prayer followed by Adoration at Milner Hall	
	10:00AM	Mass at Milner Hall	Teresa & Kevin Leeper Diamond W/A.
FRIDAY – March 21st – Friday of the 2nd Week of Lent	8:00AM - 9:00AM	Morning Prayer followed by Adoration at Milner Hall	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	Benefactors
	11:30AM	Stations of the Cross at Milner Hall	
	12:15PM	Mass at Milner Hall	Gillian Symington RIP
	5:00PM	Stations of the Cross at St Thomas More's	
SATURDAY – March 22nd– Saturday of the 2nd Week of Lent.	9:00AM	Mass at Milner Hall	Dr Pietro Ligato RIP
	10:00AM - 12:30PM	First Reconciliations at St Peter's	
	4:30PM- 5:00PM	Confession in St Peter's Church	
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	The Soul of William Meader

Confession - Confession on Saturday 15th March 9:30am - 12 noon at the Pastoral Centre (upstairs - St Thomas More Room) and in St Peter's Church from 4.30pm till 5pm.

No Confession on Saturday 22nd March (morning) except for First Reconciliations (from 10:00am - 12:30pm).

Morning Prayer (open to public), every weekday 8.00am at the Milner Hall, followed by Adoration 'till 9.00am.

IMPORTANT NOTICE - LIVE STREAM - We are unable to Live Stream Services from St Peter's whilst Building Works are on-going in the Church. (but you can still watch previously recorded services on our [YouTube channel](#)).

You can also live stream Mass at Portsmouth Cathedral, please click [Cathedral-Live-Mass](#)