

23rd March 2025

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT - Year C

Readings and Antiphons

Entrance Antiphon: Cf. Ps 24:15-16

My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

First reading: Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15

Responsorial Psalm: 103(102):1-2,3-4,6-7,8, 11. R. 8a

The Lord is compassionate and gracious.

Second reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

**Gospel Acclamation: Mt 4:17
 R. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.**

Repent says the Lord, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

R. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.

Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

Communion Antiphon: Cf. Ps 83:4-5

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

Funerals and Deaths

Rex Chester RIP

Please pray for his family and friends at this difficult time. May God grant him eternal rest.



THIS WEEKEND'S APPEAL

Winchester Street Pastors Initiative

Street Pastors are volunteers from local churches who help anyone in need in busy towns or city centres at night. **We are looking for new Street and Prayer Pastors to help us continue our work** in helping, caring and listening on the streets of Winchester on Friday and Saturday nights. For more information please contact winchester@streetpastors.org.uk or www.streetpastors.org/locations/winchester

Click **HERE** for the latest 2012 - 2024 Winchester Street Pastors Statistics Digest.

SINGERS WANTED

Would you like to sing at the **Easter Triduum**? No previous experience required, just the joy of singing! **Come along to the Pastoral Centre 5-7pm next Thursday - 27th March.**



Prayer Corner

Let us pray for our First Holy Communion children, that making their First Reconciliation this weekend will help them to draw closer to Christ in hope and joy.



Stepping Forward in Love this Lent - Call to Community and Participation

Fr Mark writes:

How often do we moan about things in our community, our parish, our world? Yet, how often do we actually do something to improve the situation?

This week, we're looking at another principle of Catholic Social Teaching, the Call to Community and Participation. Pope Francis' encyclical On Fraternity and Social Friendship focuses on the need to think of ourselves not only as individuals but as one human family. Society has often focused on freedom and equality, whilst neglecting fraternity. In *Let Us Dream*, Pope Francis says that "Fraternity will enable freedom and equality to take its rightful place in the symphony."

We are called to be active members of society, he says. The changes in society that we need don't "depend on some unseen mechanism, a future in which humanity is a passive spectator. No: we're protagonists".

Each of us is called to look at the reality of the world in which we live. To pay attention to what is happening. To see how our sisters and brothers are being treated, and how we ourselves are treating others. Reflecting on this, we're called to action; to be a positive presence in our communities. This is how we will put love into action, living out Caritas.

What are my gifts and talents which could be used to the advantage of the wider community?

Community is, in itself, an important concept we need to nurture. We are social beings, who flourish from our relationship with others. Building community, within our parishes and where we live and work, is also important. How might we contribute to these communities?

Pope Francis has warned that we can hide behind virtual communities. Although social media can help us develop community in some ways, it can also hinder our involvement. We need to be able to meet with others to develop more fully as human beings.

As far as we're able, it is our call to help build a better world and be active members of society in order to achieve this. Although it is often easy to find ourselves bemoaning the state of the country, our community, what's happening within our parish, we're called not to simply complain, but to get involved, contribute, and make a positive difference; to be Caritas: love in action.

Elsewhere, Pope Francis says, "A better world can be built also as a result of your efforts, your desire to change and your generosity. Do not be

afraid to listen to the Spirit who proposes bold choices; do not delay when your conscience asks you to take risks in following the Master."

The Gospel tells us constantly to run the risk of a face-to-face encounter with others, with their physical presence which challenges us, with their pain and their pleas, with their joy which infects us in our close and continuous interaction. True faith in the incarnate Son of God is inseparable from self-giving, from membership in the community, from service, from reconciliation with others. The Son of God, by becoming flesh, summoned us to the revolution of tenderness.

In the First Reading which most of us will hear this weekend [not at the 10:30am Mass, where the readings will be from "Year A" and John's Gospel], we hear of Moses encountering the Lord God. The Lord reveals his name to Moses and also that he has seen the affliction of his people and heard their cry. There is a section which is edited out of what we will hear:

"Behold, the cry of the people of Israel has come to me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?" He said, "But I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

Moses can no longer be a bystander; he can no longer hide. The Lord has chosen Moses to lead his suffering people to freedom. The Lord God has seen the 'problem' and He is sending Moses as the 'solution'. When Moses, rightly, asks, "Who am I?", the Lord simply replies, "But I will be with you".

Are there situations where the Lord has seen his people suffering – loneliness, abuse, addiction, violence, discrimination, etc. – and is sending **you** to be an instrument of His healing, mercy and liberation? Are there situations where you know the Lord is asking **you** to stop being a bystander and show His compassion but you're a little afraid or overwhelmed? Are there situations where the Lord is saying to **you**, "Don't worry; I'll be with you"? Will **you** trust Him and step forward in love?

SECOND COLLECTION - National Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham

The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales have approved a special National Collection, to take place in parishes this weekend. **This is dedicated to supporting the Jubilee initiatives and projects at the Catholic National Shrine and Basilica of Our Lady of Walsingham.** These initiatives aim to enhance the Jubilee pilgrim experience and further the spiritual mission of the Shrine. Please make donations in the usual way or directly to: <https://www.walsingham.org.uk/shrine-guide-in-the-jubilee-year/>



23rd March 2025

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT - Year C

Recent Covenant with the Poor Appeal- THANK YOU

As a result of your generosity nearly **£4,400 was raised at our appeal** at the beginning of March to support Firefly International and the life-changing work they do educating Syrian children impacted by war. Firefly are delighted with the amount of money raised - **thank you very much for your continuing support.**

If you're interested in finding out more about the Covenant with the Poor please contact Barry Poffley via the Parish Office. **Our next meeting is on 7th April at 6pm upstairs in the Pastoral Centre.**

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.

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.

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

LENT 2025

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: hpoppe@stpeterswinchester.org.uk if you wish to join her, to let her know you will be coming.



PARISH SEDER MEAL - Ideal for families

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. And a **special message from William & Maggie Carver: they'd love to see children and families there** - it is suitable and enjoyable for anyone over about 7, so don't hesitate to sign up...



STEPPING FORWARD IN LOVE - CALL TO COMMUNITY AND PARTICIPATION...

*Do not be bystanders in life. Get involved! Jesus was not a bystander. Pope Francis, **Christ Is Alive.***

How often do we moan about things in our community, our parish, our world? Yet, how often do we actually do something to improve the situation? #steppingforwardinlove



Certificate in Catechesis - The Dominican Sisters of St Joseph

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.

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>

23rd MARCH 2025

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT - Year C

**Catholic Women's League
Appeal - THANK YOU**

THANK YOU from the CWL to all who supported March's Charity Soup & Pud Lunch, which **raised £350 for Winchester & District Homestart.**



The next Charity Lunch will be held in the Pastoral Centre, 12.30 - 2pm, on Friday 4th April, and money raised will be for CWL Charities.

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

Have you seen our latest stock? Why not come along and have a browse...

Lent books, booklets and Easter cards are available.

Thank You very much for your continued support



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 - 21st March 2025

Steady progress is being made to the current phase of works, and we are told by the Contractors that they are confident that they will complete the planned works in advance of Holy Week.

When you enter the Church this coming weekend, what might you notice:

- Scaffolding into the Pastoral Centre has been removed.
- There might be the lingering smell of fresh paint; yes, work has started on painting the higher levels whilst we still have the scaffolding in place, regrettably this is not visible as it is behind the scaffolding in the Narthex and above the Sanctuary.

Please continue to take care when moving around the Church, and if you have any questions please contact Gerard in the Parish Office in the first instance.

Click **HERE** for the latest 'Sneaky Peeks' photos!

Beautifying St Peter's – 14th to 16th April 2025 - Your Help Please!

The current phase of the building works (Dirty Works) including the removal of all the scaffolding should all be completed by Friday 11 April, just in time for the celebration of Holy Week.

We are currently planning what needs to be done in advance of the Holy Week services taking place, and it is here that **we really do need your help and support.** As a parish we have wonderful teams of cleaners across all our Churches, but we feel the needs of St Peter's currently are such that we need the existing team of cleaners plus many more to help get the church ready.

Can you please give some thought as to how you might be able to help us? We are currently looking to clean the Church and the Sacristy to the best of our ability on Monday afternoon; then on Tuesday to Wax the floor; and on Wednesday to Buff (Polish) the floor.

On the Monday afternoon (14th April), we are looking for volunteers to help us clean every surface in the Church, as we all know that dust gets everywhere! We hope that with an army of volunteers we can get this done in the afternoon. Failing this, the Church might not be as clean as you might have expected it to be.

On Tuesday (15th April) we are looking for around 6 abled-bodied volunteers to help move the Seats (Benches) around to allow the floor to be waxed, please note that the floor will be slippery, it has been suggested the sturdier you are the better.

On Wednesday (16th April) we will be buffing (polishing) the floor, again if there is anyone who has any experience in using these types of machines we would welcome your assistance.

Please could you consider giving some time to help?

Please contact the Office in the first instance and we will pass on your details.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Winchester Catholic History Society invite you to join them on 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

QUIZ NIGHT in aid of Action Medical Research for Children - Everyone is welcome to join us on **Saturday 26th April from 7 - 10pm at the Pastoral Centre Hall, St Peter's Church.** Doors open at 6.30pm, tickets cost £12 pp. Gather your friends and family for a night of brain-teasing questions and exciting prizes. **Let's come together to make a difference and have a blast while doing it!** Come alone or bring your team!
[quiz-night-in-aid-of-action-medical-research-for-children-tickets](https://www.catholicwinchester.org.uk/quiz-night-in-aid-of-action-medical-research-for-children-tickets)

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.

Laudato Si Corner:

In last week's **CAFOD** appeal for family fast day, we heard about Lokho who lives in an area of North Kenya that has faced more than 40 months of drought. Her story reminds us of Jesus' 40 days in the wilderness. Many people today are living with the consequence of drought and desertification – but there is also hope. Our donations will raise money for a simple shade net that protects crops from the harsh climate. This Lent, let us step forward in love towards the poor who are grappling with climate change.



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

Mass Timetable	22nd March - 29th March 2025		
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 in St Peter's Church	
	4:30PM - 5:00PM	Confession in St Peter's Church	
3rd SUNDAY OF LENT - Vigil	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	The Soul of William Meader
SUNDAY – March 23rd – THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT	8:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	Dr Pietro Ligato RIP
	9:00AM	Mass at St Thomas More's	People of the Parish
	9:15AM	Mass at St Stephen's	Mary Spratt RIP
	10:30AM	Mass at St Peter's	Kim Ramussen's Wellbeing
	11:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	Joan Pollard RIP
	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	William Tobias McCall & Family
MONDAY – March 24th – Monday of the 3rd Week of Lent	8:00AM - 9:00AM	Morning Prayer followed by Adoration at Milner Hall	
	12:15PM	Mass at Milner Hall	Thanksgiving for Terris Antonia's 17th Birthday
	7:00PM	Stations of the Cross at St Stephen's	
TUESDAY – March 25th – THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD, Solemnity	8:00AM - 9:00AM	Morning Prayer and Mass at Milner Hall	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	Neil Intentions
	12:15PM	Mass at Milner Hall	Rodel Franco's Birthday
WEDNESDAY – March 26th – Wednesday of the 3rd Week of Lent	8:00AM - 9:00AM	Morning Prayer followed by Adoration at Milner Hall	
	10:00AM	Mass at Milner Hall	Dr Pietro Ligato RIP
THURSDAY – March 27th – Thursday of the 3rd Week of Lent	8:00AM - 9:00AM	Morning Prayer followed by Adoration at Milner Hall	
	10:00AM	Mass at Milner Hall	The Soul of Anthony Fernandes
FRIDAY – March 28th – Friday of the 3rd Week of Lent	8:00AM - 9:00AM	Morning Prayer followed by Adoration at Milner Hall	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	Richard Corbett RIP
	11:30AM	Stations of the Cross at Milner Hall	
	12:15PM	Mass at Milner Hall	Special Intentions of Fikile Mlotswa
	5:00PM	Stations of the Cross at St Thomas More's	
SATURDAY – March 29th– Saturday of the 3rd Week of Lent	9:00AM	Mass at Milner Hall	Patrick G. McCall & Family
	9:30AM - 12noon	Extended Confession in St Thomas More Room, Pastoral Centre (Upstairs)	
	4:30PM- 5:00PM	Confession in St Peter's Church	
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	For Friends & Family of Michael Mayhew-Arnold

Confession - No Confession on Saturday 22nd March in the morning, except for First Reconciliations from 10:00am - 12:30pm (St Peter's). Confession in St Peter's Church from 4.30pm till 5pm.

Confession on **Saturday 29th March (extended) - 9:30am - 12noon** at the Pastoral Centre (St Thomas More Room) and in St Peter's Church from 4:30pm till 5pm.

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**