

**6<sup>TH</sup> April 2025**

**FIFTH SUNDAY of LENT - Year C**

## Readings and Antiphons

**Entrance Antiphon:** Cf. Is 42:1-2  
Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

**First reading:** Isaiah 43:16-21

**Responsorial Psalm:** 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 3:8-14.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Joel 2:12-13

**R. Glory to you, O Christ, Son of the living God.**

Even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, for I am gracious and merciful.

**R. Glory to you, O Christ, Son of the living God.**

**Gospel:** John 8:1-11

**Communion Antiphon:** Jn 8:10-11

Has no one condemned you, woman? No one, Lord. Neither shall I condemn you. From now on, sin no more.

## Funerals and Deaths

**Violet Freeston RIP**



**Nicola Mancini RIP**

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

## EMERGENCY APPEAL

**CAFOD's Myanmar Earthquake Appeal to provide water, food, solar lights, mosquito nets and water purification tablets to those devastated by this disaster.**



Your generosity will extend far and wide and will help the Catholic Church in Myanmar bring comfort and relief to families who are in urgent need. Donate at [www.cafod.org.uk/myanmar](http://www.cafod.org.uk/myanmar)

## Prayer Corner

Let us pray that as we move towards Easter, we will take the opportunity to experience the healing of God's forgiveness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.



## Solidarity, Peace and Hoping that God will Do a New Thing

### Father Mark writes:

This week, we will be taking time to reflect on the Catholic Social Teaching Principles of Solidarity and Peace.

The word 'solidarity' is used a lot but may not always be easy to comprehend. In Pope St John Paul II's letter, 'On the social concern of the Church', he states, "[Solidarity] is not a feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress at the misfortunes of so many people, both near and far. On the contrary it is a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to the common good; that is to say, to the good of all and of each individual because we are all really responsible for all."

Again, the principle of human dignity – our shared family made in God's image and likeness – calls us to not just feel sorry for others when we open our eyes and see the needs of the world, but to commit to action. We all have a responsibility to one another.

"In today's world, the sense of belonging to a single human family is fading, and the dream of working together for justice and peace seems an outdated utopia. What reigns instead is a cool, comfortable and globalized indifference, born of deep disillusionment concealed behind a deceptive illusion: thinking that we are all-powerful, while failing to realize that we are all in the same boat." (Pope Francis, On Fraternity and Social Friendship).

"We are all in the same boat" – all of us. Wherever we are. Whatever our age. Whatever our circumstances. We are all responsible for one another, those close by, and those far away. All of our actions have consequences locally and globally. From how we treat people we meet in the street, to the coffee we buy in the supermarket. It is how we live out Caritas, love in action.

"When I speak of solidarity, I mean much more than the promotion of philanthropic works or financial assistance to help those who lose out. Because solidarity is not the sharing of crumbs from the table, but to make space at the table for everyone." (Pope Francis, Let Us Dream).

Flowing from solidarity is the promotion of peace. In the Beatitudes we're told, "Blessed are the peacemakers". But how can we be peacemakers? If we are to live in solidarity with one another we must want the peace of all. Pope Francis warns us that "until exclusion and inequality in

between peoples are reversed, it will be impossible to eliminate violence" (The Joy of the Gospel, 59). Indeed, it is individualism, the opposite of solidarity, which is the cause of so much violence (see The Joy of the Gospel, 99).

Peace is not just the absence of conflict. It is the way we treat one another. It is the respect we afford to our fellow human beings. It is enabling all people to flourish and live their lives to the full. It is being open to true dialogue with our neighbours, whatever their beliefs, however different they may seem to us. It is using the eyes of love to see our neighbour and putting love into action.

In what ways do we need to seek peace in our own lives, our families, our community? How do we build a community in solidarity with one another? How do we become peacemakers?

"There is also a need for peacemakers, men and women prepared to work boldly and creatively to initiate processes of healing and renewed encounter." (Pope Francis, On Fraternity and Social Friendship).

Our Gospel this weekend has Jesus being presented with a woman caught in the act of adultery (I won't be the first to point out that there were presumably two people caught in this act!). According to Mosaic Law, she should have been stoned to death. Jesus's interrogators wanted to know, as they tried to trap him, what did Jesus think about this?

After a brief pause, whilst he spent time writing on the ground with his finger, Jesus says, "Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her." One by one, they left, beginning with the oldest, until Jesus is able to say to the woman, "Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more."

I would say that Jesus here acted in solidarity with the woman, not offering a "feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress" but rather "a firm and persevering determination to commit [himself]...to the good of all and of each individual". I would say that Jesus here sought peace, not just an absence of conflict or violence but enabling this woman to flourish. As she was dragged out of bed, her fate probably seemed to have been sealed, her hopes must have drained away...until she encountered Jesus, acting in solidarity with her, seeking peace, and "doing a new thing".

Will you let Jesus do a "new thing" in, to and through you this week as you seek to enter into deeper solidarity with your neighbour and look for the peace which only Jesus can give?

## MASS TIMES

### Sunday Masses:

St Peter's: Sat 5.30pm, 8am, 10.30am & 5.30pm on Sundays.  
St Gregory's: 11am on Sunday.  
St Stephen's: 9.15am on Sunday.  
St Thomas More: 9am on Sunday

### Weekday Masses:

Monday, Tuesday and Friday at 12.15pm (**Milner Hill until Maundy Thursday**)  
Wednesday & Thursday at 10am at Milner Hall  
Tuesday & Friday at 10am at St Gregory's.



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**Life in the Spirit Seminars -  
from 26th April '25 (9-14 yrs)**



Come and explore what it means to live your life in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Sessions will include games, praise, teaching, discussion, and prayer.

This is a 5-week course which will run until Pentecost.

**Saturdays 10.30am - 12noon  
Milner Hall at St Peter's Church  
Age: 9-14 yrs**

For more information or to sign up please contact Rosanne:  
[rosanne@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:rosanne@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

**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 for your continued support

**News - 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/-/>



Don't forget the school summer fete - 7<sup>th</sup> June - click **HERE**.

**Parish Prayerline**

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](mailto:prayers@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](mailto:chronicle@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

**LENT 2025**

**Journey in Faith Candidates to be received into the Church at Easter**

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

**Candidates:** Raphael, Dee, Thomas, Natalie, Lucy, Matt

**Catechumens:** Kerensa, Emma, Svetlana, Cecilia, Michael, Elizabeth, Eloise

**Adult Catholics being confirmed:** Jacob, Martina, James, Aquila

**Orthodox making a public confession of faith:** David

**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](mailto:hpope@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) if you wish to join her, to let her know you will be coming.



**PARISH SEDER MEAL - Ideal for families**

There are still a few places left for the **Parish Seder Meal, to be held in the Pastoral Centre on Friday 11th April at 7pm**, so if you've been dithering or procrastinating, now is the time to sign up! Email: [moirar@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:moirar@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) with numbers and dietary requirements. **Families very welcome.** The Seder Meal is a special dinner held in Jewish communities to mark the Passover. We will be asking for donations to pay for the meal, paid in cash on the night.



**Upcoming Events**

**Charity Lent Lunch in aid of Unit 12 the Pantry**, on Friday **April 11th, 12pm to 2pm** in Itchen Abbas. Felicity Urquart is hosting this lunch and requests you contact the Parish Office for more details. Please come along if you can!

**"Love Hopes all things..." (1Cor13:7) - is the title for the Easter Triduum Retreat** at the Verbum Dei centre, on the Isle of Wight, 17- 20 April. An opportunity to live the Easter Triduum in prayer, experiencing Christ's love and hope for us in his death and resurrection. For more information, please contact us: [verbumdei.iow@gmail.com](mailto:verbumdei.iow@gmail.com) and [www.uk.verbumdei.org](http://www.uk.verbumdei.org).

**Charity Lunch at St Gregory's, Alresford —Tuesday 29th April 2025.** Come and support the BOAZ Project (who help adults with learning difficulties at their farm based near Sutton Scotney) at a Soup and Pud Lunch in St Gregory's Church Hall from 12.30pm to 2pm. All welcome. Donations gratefully received.

**Winchester Street Pastors Initiative** - Street Pastors are volunteers from local churches who help anyone in need in busy town 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](mailto:winchester@streetpastors.org.uk) or [www.streetpastors.org/locations/winchester](http://www.streetpastors.org/locations/winchester)

**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! Book tickets by clicking the link: [quiz-night-in-aid-of-action-medical-research-for-children-tickets](https://www.actionmedicalresearch.org.uk/quiz-night-in-aid-of-action-medical-research-for-children-tickets)

**Significant Anniversaries Mass**—Are you celebrating a 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th or an anniversary over 60 years? If so Bishop Philip would like to invite you to a Mass of celebration on Saturday 21st June at 11am at St Bede's Church, Basingstoke. This will be followed by a buffet lunch. Please send an email to: [anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) to request a form to complete and return. Please upload a copy of your wedding photograph when you return the form, or post a copy of the photograph with your completed form, to St Bede's Parish Office, Popley Way, Basingstoke, RG24 9DX.

**Diocesan Formation Days for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion & for Readers.** Further formation days will be running on 3rd May and 18th October 2025 at St Bede's Church in Basingstoke. Anyone interested is encouraged to register via: [liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).

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### Laudato Si Corner

Date for your diaries: **The next Winchester Mass Cycle Ride is due to take place on Saturday 26 April 2025.** Designed to promote safer routes around the city centre for all, you can join from various routes leading into the city finishing in a mass tour of the one way system and that arrives at Abbey Gardens! **It's great fun and well-marshalled so all the family can join in.** For more information see: <https://cyclewinchester.org.uk/rides/mr8/>

### ASSISTED DYING BILL

Your Voice Matters: **Help Us Oppose the Bill in Parliament this April.**

Please find cards at the back of church which can be forwarded to your local MP. We are attaching the Pastoral Letter with more information.

**Pastoral-Letter-Assisted-Suicide-5-6-April**

### Gift Aid on Easter Offerings

All donations, including Gift Aid where applicable, given at Masses on Easter Sunday (including the Easter Vigil), other than those by regular standing order, will be used exclusively to support the priest(s) appointed to the parish.

### 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.

### Contacts

For a full list of contact details for our Parish, please visit our website: [www.catholicwinchester.org.uk](http://www.catholicwinchester.org.uk) or email [hello@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto: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](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 the next newsletter - **Weds PM latest please**)

### IMPORTANT PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **Building Works Update - 4th April 2025**

Doesn't time just fly, I can't believe that this is going to be my last update for the time being relating to the Building Works in St Peter's at least for Phase 1! When you come along to St Peter's this weekend, the scaffolding has all gone, and we are getting ready for the final rush to have everything ready in the Church to help us celebrate Palm Sunday and Holy Week back in St Peter's Church. Once again, we would like to thank you for your continued patience and support over the last number of weeks, and hope that you will acknowledge that the Church is starting to look a little lighter and brighter as we start to move forward into Holy Week and the Easter Season, before we come back for the next phase. The work this week has been in the Sacristy and on the Bell Tower Roof which is largely invisible to the majority. We are extremely delighted with the works that have been carried out to date, and special thanks to the Contractors for enabling us to have access to Church at the weekends throughout. I will return sometime later with more updates as to the next stage, but for now have a wonderful Holy Week and Easter Season when it arrives.

Click [HERE](#) for the last 'Sneaky Peeks' photos for now!

#### **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.

#### **The White House - (St Peter's)**

Dear friends,

As you know, for some years now a small working party has been working on what should be done with the White House.

We do not need the building for our Parish mission and **the building is in need of structural repairs running to hundreds of thousands of pounds.** The working party has consulted with surveyors, estate managers and architects and conducted a significant piece of work assessing multiple options for the building. The working party has also sought input from the diocese and from Parish leadership groups. **The conclusion of all this work is that the Parish should seek to sell the building on the open market.** We have taken legal advice on how this could be done to protect the interests of the Parish when the building is sold and are now in a position to appoint agents to start marketing the property.

We are aware that the building will have important memories for parishioners, including playing a role as home to the Sisters, and as a much-loved nursery, and so this has not been an easy conclusion to reach.

We will be letting the broader parish community know about our plans starting next weekend but, given your previous interest and input to our deliberations, I wanted to let you know in advance. As this is a significant change to our buildings, we are creating an opportunity for Parishioners to learn more about the studies that have been carried out and to ask questions about the proposals. **I will be available in the Parish Centre after 10:30 Mass on Sunday 6th April. We will also be available via a Zoom meeting on Tuesday 8th April at 7pm ([please register here if you would like to attend](#)).** Alternatively, you can email any comments or questions to me.

As ever, I am grateful for your interest and your input. Please do let me know if you have any comments.

With my very best wishes,

Piotr Nahajski - Chair, Finance and Property Advisory Committee



Mass Timetable	5 <sup>th</sup> April - 12 <sup>th</sup> April 2025		
<b>SATURDAY – April 5th – Saturday of the 4th Week of Lent.</b>	9:00AM	Mass at Milner Hall	The Soul of Rev J Martin
	<b>9:30AM - 12noon</b>	<b>Extended Confession in St Thomas More Room, Pastoral Centre (Upstairs)</b>	
	4:30PM - 5:00PM	Confession in St Peter's Church	
<b>5th SUNDAY OF LENT - Vigil</b>	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	James Murphy's health & recovery
<b>SUNDAY – April 6th – FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT</b>	8:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	De Pietro Ligato RIP
	9:00AM	Mass at St Thomas More's	Margaret Cole RIP
	9:15AM	Mass at St Stephen's	Marisa Yu RIP
	10:30AM	Mass at St Peter's	Souls of Jack & Teresa Laishley
	11:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	People of the Parish
	<b>4:00PM</b>	<b>Stations of the Cross at St Peter's</b>	
	<b>5:30PM</b>	<b>Stations of the Cross at St Gregory's</b>	
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	Intentions of the Way & Corcoran Families
<b>MONDAY – April 7th – Monday of the 5th Week of Lent</b>	8:00AM - 9:00AM	<b>Morning Prayer followed by Adoration at Milner Hall</b>	
	12:15PM	Mass at Milner Hall	The Soul of Anne Wheble
	<b>7:00PM</b>	<b>Stations of the Cross at St Stephen's</b>	
<b>TUESDAY – April 8th – Tuesday of the 5th Week of Lent</b>	<b>8:00AM - 9:00AM</b>	<b>Morning Prayer followed by Adoration at Milner Hall</b>	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	
	12:15PM	Mass at Milner Hall	The Souls of Peter & Kathleen Cook
<b>WEDNESDAY – April 9th – Wednesday of the 5th Week of Lent</b>	8:00AM - 9:00AM	<b>Morning Prayer followed by Adoration at Milner Hall</b>	
	10:00AM	<b>Mass at Milner Hall</b>	Deceased Members of the Fumani Family
<b>THURSDAY – April 10th – Thursday of the 5th Week of Lent</b>	8:00AM - 9:00AM	<b>Morning Prayer followed by Adoration at Milner Hall</b>	
	10:00AM	<b>Mass at Milner Hall</b>	Dr Pietro Ligato RIP
<b>FRIDAY – April 11th – Friday of the 5th Week of Lent</b>	8:00AM - 9:00AM	<b>Morning Prayer followed by Adoration at Milner Hall</b>	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	Loreto Alison RIP & Graham Malcolm Hill RIP
	<b>11:30AM</b>	<b>Stations of the Cross at Milner Hall</b>	
	12:15PM	<b>Mass at Milner Hall</b>	The Soul of Elizabeth Smith
	<b>5:00PM</b>	<b>Stations of the Cross at St Thomas More's</b>	
<b>SATURDAY – April 12th – Saturday of the 5th Week of Lent</b>	<b>9:00AM</b>	<b>Mass at Milner Hall</b>	Laura Elliott's wellbeing
	<b>9:30AM - 12noon</b>	<b>Extended Confession in St Thomas More Room, Pastoral Centre (Upstairs)</b>	
	4:30PM - 5:00PM	Confession in St Peter's Church	
<b>PALM SUNDAY of the Passion of the Lord - Vigil</b>	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	Souls in Purgatory

**Confession - Saturdays (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](#)

# HOLY WEEK SERVICES AND EASTER

## MASS TIMES

  
 THE PARISH OF ST PETER  
 & THE WINCHESTER MARTYRS



MASS TIMETABLE	HOLY WEEK AND EASTER MASS TIMES	
<b>Monday 14th April</b>	7:00PM	Parish Lenten Reconciliation Service at St Peter's Church
<b>Thursday 17th April Maundy Thursday</b>	7:30PM	Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper at St Peter's Church
	8:00PM	Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper at St Gregory's Church
<b>Friday 18th April Good Friday</b>	9:45AM	Family Way of the Cross at St Peter's Church
	9:45AM	Stations of the Cross at St Stephen's Church
	12noon	Stations of the Cross at St Peter's Church
	3:00PM	Celebration of the Lord's Passion at St Peter's Church
	3:00PM	Celebration of the Lord's Passion at St Gregory's Church
<b>Saturday 19th April Holy Saturday</b>	9:00AM	Office of Readings and Morning Prayer at St Peter's Church
	12noon	Polish Blessing of Easter Food at St Peter's Church
	8:00PM	Easter Vigil at St Gregory's Church
	8:30PM	Easter Vigil at St Peter's Church
<b>Sunday 20th April Easter Sunday</b>	8:00AM	Easter Sunday Mass at St Peter's Church
	9:00AM	Easter Sunday Mass at St Thomas More's Church
	9:15AM	Easter Sunday Mass at St Stephen's Church
	10:30AM	Easter Sunday Mass at St Peter's Church
	11:00AM	Easter Sunday Mass at St Gregory's Church
	5:30PM	Easter Sunday Mass at St Peter's Church.

### The Parish of St Peter and the Winchester Martyrs:

- St Peter's Church - 29 Jewry Street, Winchester, SO23 8RY
- St Stephen's Church - Oliver's Battery Road, Winchester, SO22 4JB
- St Gregory the Great's Church - 1 Grange Road, Alresford, SO24 9HB
- St Thomas More's Church - High Street, Stockbridge, SO20 6HD