

# PETERPOST

The Parish of St Peter and the Winchester Martyrs

*Heart of Hampshire parish with worshipping communities in Winchester, Alresford and Stockbridge*



## WHAT'S INSIDE THIS WEEK:

*Bishop of Portsmouth Pastoral Letter*

*Mass for Pope Leo XIV*

*Traffic Alert! Temporary Access to St. Peters Street*



## IT'S THE HOPE THAT ENCOURAGES YOU

In 1976 a car accident tore open the head of a 21-year-old Chicago young man named Peter. His brain was damaged, and he was thrown into a deep coma. Doctors told Peter's family and friends that he probably wouldn't survive. Even if he did, he'd always be in a comatose state.

**FATHER**

**MARK  
WRITES**

One of the people who heard that frightening news was Linda, the girl Peter planned to marry. In the sad days ahead, Linda spent all her spare time in the hospital. Night after night, she'd sit at Peter's bedside, pat his cheek, rub his brow, and talk to him. *"It was like we were on a normal date,"* she said. All the while Peter remained in a coma, unresponsive to Linda's loving presence. Night after night, for three and a half months, Linda sat at Peter's bedside, speaking words of encouragement to him, even though he gave no sign that he heard her.

Then one night Linda saw Peter's toe move. A few nights later she saw his eyelash flutter. This was all she needed. Against the advice of the doctors, she quit her job and became his constant companion. She spent hours massaging his arms and legs. Eventually she arranged to take him home. She spent all her savings on a swimming pool, hoping that the sun and the water would restore life to Peter's motionless limbs.

Then came the day when Peter spoke his first word since the accident. It was only a grunt, but Linda understood it. Gradually, with Linda's help, those grunts turned into words — clear words. Finally, the day came when Peter was able to ask Linda's father if he could marry her. Linda's father said, *"When you can walk down the aisle, Peter, she'll be yours."*

Cont'd ...

### ST PETER'S CHURCH WINCHESTER

**Sunday Masses:** Saturday Vigil Mass, 5.30pm. Sunday 8.00am, 10.30am and 5.30pm.

Weekday Masses : Monday, Tuesday and Friday 12.15pm. Thursday 10.00am. Mass Pope Leo XIV Tuesday 7.00pm.

Mass Funeral Wednesday at 11.00am

Confessions: Saturday 9.30am to 10.30am and 4.30pm to 5.00pm.

Morning Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration 8.00am Monday to Friday.

### ST THOMAS MORE'S CHURCH STOCKBRIDGE

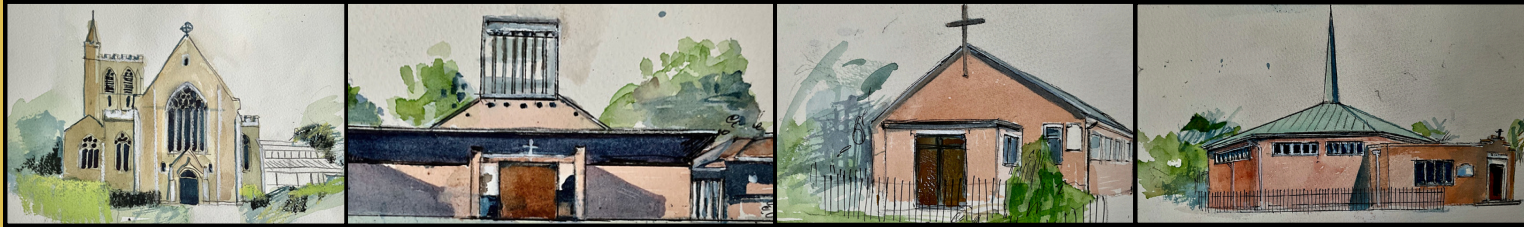
**Sunday Mass:** 9.00am.

### ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH WINCHESTER

**Sunday Mass:** 9.15am.

### ST GREGORY'S CHURCH ALRESFORD

**Sunday Mass:** 11.00am.



Artwork of St Peter's Church, St Gregory, St Thomas More and St Stephen's — kindly provided by Stephen Harte

Two years later Peter walked down the aisle of Our Lady of Pompeii Church in Chicago. He had to use a walker, but he was walking. Every television station in Chicago covered that wedding. Newspapers across the country carried pictures of Linda and Peter. Celebrities phoned to congratulate them. Families with loved ones in comas called to ask their advice. Today, Peter living a normal life. He talks slowly, but clearly. He walks slowly, but without a walker. He and Linda even have a lovely child.

The power of encouragement is amazing. A few simple words or gestures, sometimes offered in passing, sometimes repeated day in and day out, can make all the difference in building someone up and giving them fresh hope. This week, for example, I'm so grateful to have received some beautiful messages of encouragement following the death of my dear school friend, Emma.

In our First Reading this weekend, we read that:

*"Paul and Barnabas returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith."*

Each Jewish synagogue served its Faith community throughout the year as a House of Prayer; a House of Study; and a House of Assembly. When Jesus came, acting as a Teacher, a rabbi, he gathered around him a *talmudim* — a small group of twelve men to travel with him, to share prayer, ministry, Faith, and values. Jesus promised his followers that wherever two or three would gather in his name, he would be present among them.

After his death and Resurrection, Jesus' disciples tried to establish small Christian communities wherever they found a welcome. Paul and Barnabas knew that evangelisation and Baptism were but the first steps in a lifelong process of turning to, and being transformed by, Christ. Hence, in their subsequent visits to Christian communities, they continued to instruct their converts. Already in the first Christian century, believers understood that catechesis is a cradle-to-grave endeavour.

Paul and Barnabas also considered their mission an extension of the small community's outreach to the world. Because of this they were accountable to the Christian community that had sent them. Therefore, they returned to relate all that they had done, careful to credit God for their success and the increasingly universal character of the Church, for it was He who had "opened the door of the Faith to the Gentiles" (v. 27).

My heartfelt desire is for our parish to truly be a community of communities, bound together in prayer, Faith, mutual support and encouragement, service, missionary outreach, and accountability. We may not be called to the same kind of missionary activity as were Paul and Barnabas, but we must be as unselfish in our service of others as were these early Christians.

In what ways do you need to be encouraged this week in your faith? How might you be able to offer encouragement to your fellow Christians to continue in their faith, strengthening their souls?

This Sunday, 18th May, the Inauguration of another Chicago man, Pope Leo XIV takes place in Rome. In some ways, he is the "CEO" of the global Catholic Church, the "Chief Encouragement Officer". Let us pray for him, that he may strengthen our souls and encourage us to continue in the faith through his preaching, teaching and witness.

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**Cf. Ps 97:1-2**

*Sing a new song to the Lord,  
for he has worked wonders; in  
the sight of the nations he has  
shown his deliverance,  
alleluia.*

## FIRST READING

**First reading: Acts  
14:21b-27**

**Responsorial Psalm: Ps 145  
(144):8-9. 10-11. 12-13b. R. cf.1**

*I will bless your name for ever,  
my God and King.*

## SECOND READING

**Revelation 21: 1-5a**

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**R. Alleluia, alleluia**

*A new commandment I give to  
you, says the Lord, that you love  
one another, just as I have loved  
you.*

**R. Alleluia**

## GOSPEL

**John 13:31-33a, 34-35**

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

**Cf. Jn 15:1,5**

*I am the true vine and you  
are the branches, says the  
Lord. Whoever remains in  
me, and I in him, bears fruit  
in plenty, alleluia.*



## MASS FOR POPE LEO XIV

Please join us in prayer for our new Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, at a special Mass on Tuesday, 20th May at 7:00 PM. As he begins his pontificate, we come together as a parish to offer our prayers and support for the journey ahead. Let us gather together in faith and unity on this special occasion.

## BISHOP OF PORTSMOUTH PASTORAL LETTER - POPE LEO XIV

With the wonderful news following the election of Pope Leo, we are pleased to share Bishop Philip's Pastoral Letter ahead of Sunday Mass. Please [Click here](#). As we celebrate this historic moment, we are reminded of the strength of our global faith community. May we unite in prayer and hope, trusting that Pope Leo's vision and dedication will inspire and guide us all in our journey of faith.

## TRAFFIC ALERT! TEMPORARY ACCESS VIA ST PETER'S STREET

Due to ongoing emergency gas works on Jewry Street, access to the church and Pastoral Centre may be affected. To help, the back gate entrance via St Peter Street will be temporarily open while work continues. The works—responding to a gas leak—began on May 12 and may extend into next week due to unforeseen complications and the need for heavy equipment. Please allow extra time when travelling and take care around the area.

## UPCOMING EVENTS:



**Parish Mini-retreat, We Dare to Hope:** You are warmly invited to a parish mini-retreat on the theme of Hope on Sunday 1st June starting at 1:00pm in the Pastoral Centre, led by Deacon Tony, Rosanne Walker and others. Please bring a picnic lunch. All are welcome, young and old, families and singles. We will run separate streams for adults and different age groups of youngsters. We will come back together in the Church at 4:30 for concluding prayers, finishing at around 4:50pm. If you would like to attend you can register your interest by using the QR code (see above to the right) or on the posters in each of our churches. You can also leave your contact details on one of the a sign up sheets which you can find in each of our churches. Lastly, you can [Click here](#) to register. Thank you.

**The May Rosary Chain 2025:** Every year, we offer an opportunity for parishioners to join a chain of prayer. This year, our hope-filled theme is Peace in our World. If you would like to take part, please email [office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) and we will do our best to find a date that works for you. We hope you'll join us!

**Winchester Catholic History Society.** Winchester Catholic History Society. The next meeting of the Winchester Catholic History Society will be on Wednesday 21 May at 6.30 pm in the Parish Centre. Professor John McAleer will be speaking on 'The East India Company: The Corporation that Changed the World'. The East India Company is the story of wealth, power and the pursuit of fortune. Visitors most welcome £7.00 on the evening.

**St Peter's Church** - Please note that from Tuesday 27th May 2025, for three weeks, weekday services will be moving to the Milner Hall whilst we repaint the walls in St Peter's Church. During this time there will be no access to the Church during the week. More details will follow next week.

## FUNERALS & DEATHS

*John Blake RIP. The funeral will take place on 21<sup>st</sup> May at 11.00am at St Peter's Church.*

*Rex Chester RIP. The funeral will take place on 27th May at 12.00 at the church of Our Lady,*

*Warnford - the church is actually off the main road in Warnford Park - see the link here*

*<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/16882/>*

*Fr. Vincent Convery RIP, Richard Luker RIP, Emma Perkins RIP*

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

## BAPTISM

Welcome to Charles Sherborne who was baptised this week. May God bless him with His love and grace, today and always.

## WEDDINGS

Congratulations to Emily Yeoman and Luke Marchant, who were married on Saturday (10<sup>th</sup> May) at St Peter's.

## PRAYER CORNER

Let us pray for all those participating in the Acorn Retreat this weekend, that the seeds initially sown have been well nurtured and that their prayerful encounters with God bring them ever closer to Him in hope and joy.



## UPCOMING EVENTS CONT'D:

**St Peter's Winchester - Hants & IOW Speak Their Name Suicide Memorial Quilt Display:** The beautiful display at St Peter's Winchester has been extended until Friday 30th May. All are welcome to view this moving tribute.

**ADoRE Mini-Retreat for Spiritual Renewal:** 31st May "PILGRIMS OF HOPE – Filled with joy." Including Mass, Adoration, Praise, Prophecy, Prayer for the gifts of the Holy Spirit and inspiring guest speaker Jenny Baker. Face-to-face meeting 10.00-3.30 at St Philip Howard Church, Fareham PO14 1ND - bring picnic to share. Or live-streamed 10.00-1.00 at [bit.ly/ADOREMAY2025](https://bit.ly/ADOREMAY2025) and click on LIVE. No need to register in advance. More information at [www.altonrenewal.com](http://www.altonrenewal.com)



## PARISH NOTES:

**First Holy Communion Information Evening:** Monday, 19th May at 7:00pm in the Pastoral Centre Hall, St Peter's Church. If you're a parent or guardian of a child currently in Year 3 or above and would like them to prepare for their First Holy Communion next year, we warmly invite you to this important information evening. This evening is especially for families who haven't had a child on the programme in the last two years. Most children making their First Holy Communion are in Year 4, but if your child is currently in Year 2 and you feel they'll be ready next year—and your family attends Sunday Mass regularly—please do get in touch. We also welcome enquiries about older children. Contact us at: [fhc@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:fhc@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

**Pies and Puds Cancelled** - Sadly we have had to cancel the usual Pies and Puds lunch event next week, as the Parish requires our space for a funeral. Apologies for inconvenience. If you know anyone who regularly attends, could you please help share this message to those who may not see or receive our newsletter. The next date will be Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June. Hope to see you then.

**Covenant With The Poor (CWP):** Our next appeal (Second Collection) for Covenant With the Poor (CWP) is scheduled for the weekend of 24th/25th May. To learn more or contribute, please click the link: [Covenant-With-the-Poor-Appeal-May-2025](#).

**Ecumenical Service:** There will be an Ecumenical Service - Stations of the Cross on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May, at St. Andrew's, Tichborne, 3.00pm. All are welcome.

**Winchester Basics Bank – Thank You for Your Support:** A heartfelt thank you for your generosity, which raised £310.97 for Winchester Basics Bank. Your support is truly appreciated! Food demand continues to rise, with over 8,000 packs distributed in 2024 - 1,000 more than the previous year. With rising costs and fewer supermarket donations, your contributions make a real difference. At the end of April, we opened a new hub at Badger Farm Community Centre and welcome visitors to our Milland Road site or Winnall warehouse. Thank you for helping us serve those in need!

**Laudato Si Corner:** It is ten years since Pope Francis issued his radical and ground-breaking encyclical, Laudato Si. On Saturday 10 May representatives from across the Diocese met at St Peter's and reflected on what has been achieved and what more needs to be done. It was great to hear about all the work that is being done in different parishes to make us more sustainable, but a reminder too that we have to persevere in our efforts to protect our Common Home. Take a look at CAFOD's reflections on the impact of Laudato Si:

**Join the St Peter's Centenary Team!** Are you a university student keen to gain experience in PR, marketing, or project work? This is a great chance to build your CV and be part of something special at St Peter's! Send your CV to [centenary@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:centenary@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) by June 20 – we'd love to hear from you!

**St. Peter's Catholic Primary School & Little Fishes Pre-School: Newsletter** [Click here.](#)

**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:

Deadline for items for newsletter requests please submit by

[Wednesday mid-day!](#)

### 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 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.

## Mass Timetable

Date	Times	Where	Intentions
<b>Sat 17 May</b> (St Dunstan, Bishop, optional memorial)  <b>Fifth Sunday of Easter - VIGIL</b>	9:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	The Health of Celine Tauro
	9:30 to 10:30AM	Confession at St Peter's	
	4:30 to 5:00PM	Confession at St Peter's	
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	Claire Bryant RIP
<b>Sun 18 May</b> <b>Fifth Sunday of Easter</b>	8:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	The Health of Rev. Brendan James Lane
	9:00AM	Mass at St Thomas More's	People of the Parish
	9:15AM	Mass at St Stephen's	Geraldine Kelly & Dave Lucas and Their Relations
	10:30AM	Mass at St Peter's	Thanksgiving for All. Blessings on Treesa's Family
	11:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	Mary Mayhew Arnold RIP
<b>Mon 19 May</b> <b>Fifth Week of Easter</b>	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's	
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's	The Souls of Primus & Emma Steiert
<b>Tues 20 May</b> <b>Fifth Week of Easter</b>	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's	
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's	Myra Squire RIP
	<b>7:00PM</b>	<b>Mass at St Peter's for Pope Leo XIV</b>	
<b>Wed 21 May</b> <b>Fifth Week of Easter</b>	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's	
	<b>11:00AM</b>	<b>Requiem Funeral Mass</b>	<b>John Blake RIP</b>
<b>Thur 22 May</b> <b>Fifth Week of Easter</b>	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	
<b>Frid 23 May</b> <b>Fifth Week of Easter</b>	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's	
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's	John Snow RIP
<b>Sat 24 May</b> <b>Fifth Week of Easter</b>  <b>Sixth Sunday of Easter - VIGIL</b>	9:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	Dr Pietro Ligato RIP
	9:30 to 10:30AM	Confession at St Peter's	
	4:30 to 5:00PM	Confession at St Peter's	
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	The Soul of Terry Bohle

To participate in any service online (including Morning Prayer & Adoration) or to see the recorded services, go to our [YouTube CHANNEL](#).

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