

# 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:

*Covenant With the Poor (CWtP)  
Parish Mini Retreat, We Dare to Hope  
The May Rosary Chain 2025*



## FATHER MARK WRITES: KNOWING WHAT WE'RE DOING AND WHERE WE'RE GOING GIVES US HOPE

There's a story told of a family who, when their children were younger, had an au pair. One time the children were having a big row in an upstairs bedroom. The au pair ran upstairs, and what she meant to say is: 'What on earth are you doing?' but she hadn't quite mastered all the English idioms. So, what she actually said is: 'What are you doing on earth?'

Now, it's not what she thought she was saying but actually that's a great question to ask! What are you doing on earth?

In other words, 'Where have I come from? Where am I heading? Who am I? What's the point of my life? Is there any real meaning and purpose to life? Where am I heading?' These are what you might call like the first-order questions of life.

If we don't know what we're doing, or if we don't know where we're going, then life can seem particularly hopeless. We need a reliable guide, someone who can reveal to us our destination and then help us to do what we need to get there.

### Jesus Reveals Heaven as Our Destination

Our readings this weekend speak into this. Our second reading picks up where last Sunday's left off – describing the heavenly Jerusalem as a breathtakingly beautiful city, with people gathered around the Lord God Himself, with Jesus the Lamb alongside Him. This is our destination. This is where we're heading: to that beautiful city where all pain is removed and all our deepest desires are fulfilled in Him. When we get there, we won't need torches or lights to see clearly because "the glory of God" gives the city light and "the lamp is the Lamb".

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, Wednesday and Thursday at 10.00am. Tuesday, and Friday 12.15pm.

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

Morning Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration 8.00am Monday to Friday.

**Note: From Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May Morning Prayer, Eucharistic Adoration and Weekday Masses will be in the Milner Hall.**

### ST THOMAS MORE'S CHURCH STOCKBRIDGE

**Sunday Mass:** 9.00am.

### ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH WINCHESTER

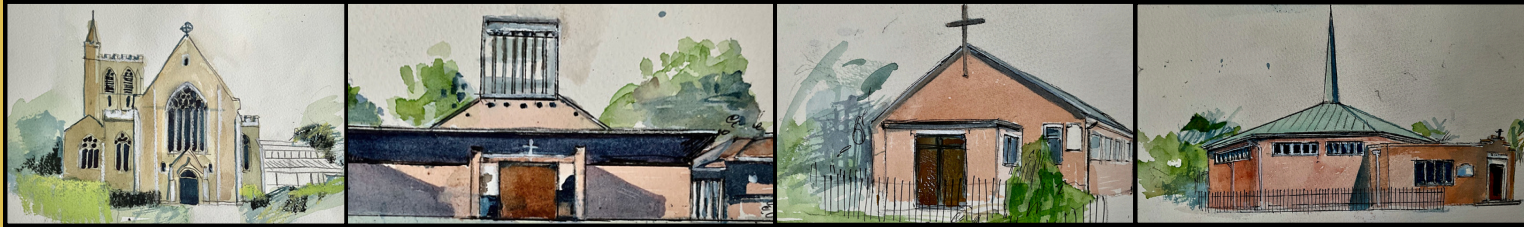
**Sunday Mass:** 9.15am. **Ascension Thursday** at 10.00am

### ST GREGORY'S CHURCH ALRESFORD

**Sunday Mass:** 11.00am.

**Weekday Masses:** Thursday and Friday at 10.00am

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

This knowledge that heaven is our final destination can help us when we're feeling lost or hopeless, or in the dark, or alone. If we can keep heaven as our goal then it can help us to resist and ignore the voices of those sirens who would lead us astray, down paths of ruin and destruction.

### The Holy Spirit as Our Guide

Then our Gospel speaks of the promise of Jesus to give us a guide, so we can know what to do and which path to follow.

"The Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you."

We can ask the Holy Spirit to guide us and lead us and teach us. What does God want me to do? Most of us want to do what He wants us to do but we don't always know how. The Holy Spirit can help us.

Assuming that we're discerning between two things that are good (so, for example, "robbing a bank" isn't one of the options), we ask the Holy Spirit to lead us to the Lord's will, and to help us to be patient. It's not a magic trick or ChatGPT but rather a process based on a relationship, and the Lord will reveal to us what He wants to reveal in His own timing (even, especially if that wouldn't be our own timing). It's important that we give our hearts to the Holy Spirit, that we surrender control of our hearts, so we can then become aware of and attentive to, what He is doing within our hearts.

The Holy Spirit is also at work in the lives of others whom we trust and who are themselves open to the Holy Spirit in their walk with the Lord. They can sometimes see things in us that we cannot see ourselves.

We ask the Holy Spirit to bring peace and clarity. One simple way of doing this, for example, when discerning between A or B, is to say to the Lord, "Lord, I'm going to do A. I think you're calling me to do this" and then see how this decision leaves us feeling. Do we find peace or do we find our hearts unsettled, anxieties, etc.? Maybe do this for one week and then for the next week, say, "Lord, I'm going to do B. I think you're calling me to do this". Then we go with whichever one seems to be bringing more peace. And then we pray for more peace, a peace which the world cannot give, beyond all understanding. Then we make a first step forward, with the Lord a lamp to our feet, just illuminating the next step or two...

"Lord, we want to be faithful to you and what you are doing in our life. We ask that you would come with your Holy Spirit. Lord, we believe that you have a will for us, that you have a desire for our life and we want to be faithful to that. Move in our hearts so that we may know what you are asking of us. Let us know a peace, a peace that comes with being faithful to you, a peace that comes with moving in your grace, walking where you want us to walk, following where you lead. Come, Lord, with your grace and your peace. Holy Spirit, lead me; Holy Spirit, guide me."

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**Cf. Is 48:20**

*Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.*

### FIRST READING

**First reading: Acts 15:1-2, 22-29**

**Responsorial Psalm: Ps 67(66): 2-3. 5. 6, 8. R. 4**

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

### SECOND READING

**Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23**

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**R. Alleluia, alleluia**

If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him.

**R. Alleluia**

### GOSPEL

**John 14: 23-29**

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

**Cf. Jn 14: 15-16**

If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia.



*"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you."*

*(John 14:23-29)*

## COVENANT WITH THE POOR

Covenant With the Poor (CWP) is supporting RedTribe - a charity dedicated to preserving Maasai traditions while providing education and sustainable resources in rural southern Kenya. Their current appeal aims to raise £3,000 to establish five farms at Maasai Academy in the Loita Hills, home to 350 children and 18 teachers. The farms will help feed students and reduce reliance on costly external suppliers, improving food security and nutrition. Protected with chain-link fencing, they will provide a long-term solution to rising costs and fragile food systems. As the only charity in this remote region, RedTribe relies on donor support to continue its vital work. Donations can be made in the usual way - offertory, contactless machine, and envelopes. To learn more or contribute, please [Click here](#).

## 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. It will start at 1.00pm and finish at 5.00pm. 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.



## 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!

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**The Ascension of the Lord: Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> May - Holy Day of Obligation. See Mass timetable.**

**Building Works - St Peter's Church:** Next Tuesday (27 May'25) we will be moving into the second period of works which will be focussing on repainting of St Peter's Church. It is anticipated that this work will take 3 weeks (ending 13 June'25), and it is hoped that we can start on the Sanctuary (Altar Area) first and then work backwards towards the Main Entrance. During the next phase of the work, there will be some scaffolding around the Church, and the Scissor Lift will also be in place. Your assistance and co-operation in taking care when moving around the Church would be very much appreciated. If there are any questions please contact Gerard via the Parish Office.

**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 10.00am to 1.00pm 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)

**St Peter's School Summer Fête & Raffle – Saturday 7th June, 12-3pm:** Join the fun at St Peter's School! Enjoy BBQ & international food, bar, cakes, toys, games, a juggler, and more — free entry! Can't attend? Support the school by entering the online raffle – over 60 prizes worth £2,000+! Top prizes include: Four-ball at Royal Winchester Golf Club, overnight stay at Winchester Royal Hotel, spa day for two at Winchester Hotel & Spa. There will be no physical ticket sales as in previous years so, please [Click here](#) to get yours. Or scan the QR code on one of the posters. Draw will take place at 2:30pm on the day! All proceeds support St Peter's PTA projects benefiting pupils directly. Thank you.

**Jubilee Pilgrimage 2025:** Join the Jubilee Pilgrimage 2025, a remarkable journey through Belgium, Switzerland, Luxembourg, Italy, and France—rich in sacred sites, spiritual encounters, and unforgettable moments. Limited spots available - only 7 until 28<sup>th</sup> May. Email Fr. Marcin Drabik - [mdrabik@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:mdrabik@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) to register.

## FUNERALS & DEATHS

*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*

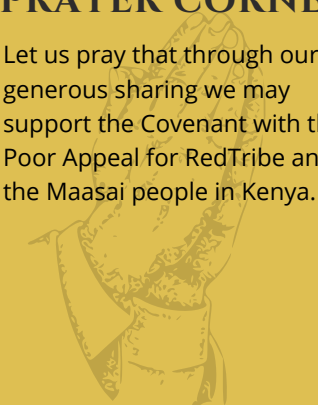
*Please pray for their families and friends at this difficult time. May God grant them eternal rest.*

## BAPTISM

Welcome to Baptism of Chloe Thevanayagam who was baptised this week. May God bless her with His love and grace, today and always.

## PRAYER CORNER

Let us pray that through our generous sharing we may support the Covenant with the Poor Appeal for RedTribe and the Maasai people in Kenya.





## UPCOMING EVENTS CONT'D:

**Big Church Festival:** Fr. Mark is going to the Big Church Festival this year and he'd love you to go with him! Join him and fellow parishioners on the 22nd to 24th August 2025 with over 30,000 people from across the UK and beyond to worship together in the beautiful surroundings of the Wiston Estate (West Sussex) in the company of some of the best Christian worship artists in the world including Brandon Lake, Phil Wickham and Martin Smith. There really is something for everyone, of all ages and all tastes (well most tastes!) You can attend for the whole 3 days or just dip in for a day, as you prefer. There will be Mass on the Sunday morning. Check out the website for more info here

<https://www.bigchurchfestival.com>. How do I book? If you decide you want to come, we'd encourage you to join our "St. Peter and the Winchester Martyrs Group", which will give you big savings. The price will keep dropping as the group grows. Payment is not taken until midnight on the **"Group Discount Deadline" which is the 30th June 2025**. This means we have until then to populate our group to bring our ticket costs down! Our group will still stay open right up until August 20th at midnight. Any online bookings after 30th June 2025 will be charged at the group discount deadline rate. [Follow this link](#) to book - [Big Church Festival 2025](#). We look forward to us having a wonderful time there together!

**Laudato Si':** Challenges all of us to deepen our understanding of our relationship with all of creation, listening more to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor. For many this has a big impact on how we live out our faith. The Southern and Northern Diocese environmental groups have invited Austin Ivereigh the writer and journalist to speak at our special [celebration Zoom](#) to reflect on journey so far and the road ahead. It should be an interesting talk, so please join if you can on Wednesday 4th June, 7-9pm. You can book [here](#). The next chapter of Laudato Si' begins with us.

**Novena to the Holy Spirit:** The time from the Ascension of the Lord through to Pentecost is a beautiful time to pray a Novena to the Holy Spirit. In 1979, Pope St. John Paul II reminded us that Church invites us to pray the novena to the Holy Spirit: "Year after year, the Church in her liturgy celebrates the Lord's Ascension on the fortieth day after Easter. Year after year, she spends also that period of ten days from Ascension to Pentecost in prayer to the Holy Spirit. Let us try to persevere in this rhythm of the Church." There are lots of versions available but you can find one example [here](#). Let's unite in prayer during these 9 days.

**Holy Spirit Day:** The Vicariate for Evangelisation is also working with Charis Portsmouth to host a **Holy Spirit day on Saturday 7th June at English Martyrs Church, Reading** starting with a 9:30am Mass and finishing with lunch. All are welcome, whether you are attending the Novena or not. To register, [click here](#) or email [ffm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:ffm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).

**Jubilee Pilgrimage to St. Edmund's, Southampton – Weds 11th June:** Fr Mark would like to invite you to join him on a pilgrimage walk from St. Peter's Church in Winchester to St. Edmund's Church in Southampton on Weds 11th June. We will leave at 9:30am and aim to arrive in Southampton between 3-4pm, to walk through the Holy Doors and celebrate Mass. The distance is about 15 miles. If you'd like to join us, or need more information, please contact the office or fill in [this form](#).

**Shroud of Turin Exhibition comes to Portsmouth: From 1st to 14th June, St John's Cathedral** will host an inspiring exhibition featuring life-sized replicas of the Shroud of Turin. Widely believed by many to be the burial cloth of Jesus, the Shroud continues to captivate both faith and science. The exhibition includes informative displays exploring the image, bloodstains, and how they align with the Gospel accounts. [Click here](#) or on the image for more information.



## PARISH NOTES:

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

**Spirit Empowerment Seminar:** Join us for a two-day Retreat & Spirit Empowerment Seminar this weekend, led by Sis. Techie Rodriguez, founder of The Lord's Flock Catholic Charismatic Community. Come for praise, worship, and inspiring teaching—free registration on the day and food provided. Christ Church, Chineham RG21 8LT. Sunday 25th May, 2–8 pm. For more info, contact Liza Franco at 07487 527640

**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!

**Rosary & Divine Mercy Devotion:** An invitation to join every Sunday at St Peter's Church from 2:40pm to 3:05 pm. All are welcome.

**St. Peter's Catholic Primary School & Little Fishes Pre-School:** Newsletter please [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.

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## Mass Timetable

Date	Times	Where	Intentions
<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	
	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
<b>Sun 25 May</b> <b>Sixth Sunday of Easter</b>	8:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	Neil Intentions
	9:00AM	Mass at St Thomas More's	
	9:15AM	Mass at St Stephen's	
	10:30AM	Mass at St Peter's	People of the Parish
	11:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	
	2:40PM	Rosary & Divine Mercy Chaplet at St Peter's	
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	Intentions of the Corcoran & Way family
<b>Mon 26 May</b> (St Philip Neri) <b>Sixth Week of Easter</b>	10:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	The Souls of Richard Spencer & Celebrating Local Priests
<b>Tues 27 May</b> (St Augustine of Canterbury) <b>Sixth Week of Easter</b>	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at Milner Hall	
	12:15PM	Mass at Milner Hall	Friends & Family of Michael Mayhew Arnold
<b>Wed 28 May</b> <b>Sixth Week of Easter</b>	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at Milner Hall	
	10:00AM	Mass at Milner Hall	Mike & Carol Roe Giving Thanks for 37 Years of Marriage
<b>Thur 29 May</b> <b>Holy Day of Obligation</b> <b>(The Ascension of the Lord)</b> <b>Sixth Week of Easter</b>	7:00AM	Ascension Mass at Milner Hall	
	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at Milner Hall	
	10:00AM	Ascension Mass at St Gregory's	Benefactors
	10:00AM	Ascension at St Stephen's	
	12:15PM	Ascension Mass at Milner Hall	
	7:00PM	Ascension Mass at Milner Hall	
<b>Frid 30 May</b> <b>Sixth Week of Easter</b>	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	Sonny McTernan RIP & Family Living and Deceased
	12:15PM	Mass at Milner Hall	Lisa Francis Birthday
<b>Sat 31 May</b> <b>Sixth Week of Easter</b> (The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary)  <b>Seventh 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	Health & Wellbeing of Joseph & Elsy

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.**