

# 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:

***St Vincent de Paul Awareness Month***

***Pilgrimage to Bournemouth***

***Sacramental Programmes***



## FATHER MARK WRITES: I WOULD GIVE MY LIFE FOR THIS: THE COST AND COMMITMENT OF FOLLOWING JESUS

Someone once said to Ignaz Paderewski, the great pianist, "Sir, you are a genius."

He replied, "Madam, before I was a genius, I was a drudge. If I missed practice one day, I noticed it; if I missed practice two days, the critics noticed it; if I missed three days, my family noticed it; if I missed four days, my audience noticed it."

It is reported that after one of Fritz Kreisler's concerts a young woman said to him, "I would give my life to be able to play like that."

He replied, "That's what I gave."

How many of us would love to be great musicians; or artists; or sportsmen/women; or intellectuals; or business leaders? Or perhaps desire this deeply for our children? And are willing to put ourselves through hours and hours of training, day after day, to strive towards this goal?

How does this compare with the time we commit to following Jesus as his disciple? To learning from the master, serving the master, imitating the master, being with the master? Is this a goal for which we strive?

Soren Kierkegaard said that there are a lot of parade-ground Christians who wear the uniforms of Christianity, but few who are willing to do battle for Christ and his kingdom. When it comes to doing battle for the Lord, too many church members are just sitting on the sidelines instead of "standing on the promises of God."

Does Jesus want a large number of "half-way" disciples who are willing to do a "little bit" of prayer, a "little bit" of commitment, a "little bit" of dedication, a "little bit" of love? Or is Jesus looking for disciples who are truly committed to prayer, to discipleship and to being ruled by him as their king?

*These are our usual Mass times. For any changes or special celebrations, please check the back page for this week's full schedule.*

### 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. Wednesday and Thursday at 10.00am.

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.

## CONT'D...

There are, of course, seasons in our life, when all we can do is receive from the Lord, be carried by Him, rest in Him. But there are other seasons when we need Jesus to challenge us, as he does again in today's Gospel:

***"Any of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple".***

Tough words, but words that his apostles took seriously, at least post-Resurrection and post-Pentecost. Andrew died on a cross; Simon the Zealot was crucified; Bartholomew Nathaniel was flayed alive; James (son of Zebedee) was beheaded; the other James (son of Alphaeus) was beaten to death; Thomas was run through with a lance; Matthias was stoned and then beheaded; Levi Matthew was slain by the sword; Simon Peter was crucified upside down; Jude Thaddeus was shot to death with arrows; Philip was hanged.

The demands that Jesus makes upon those who would follow him are extreme. Christianity is not a Sunday morning religion. It is a hungering after God, to the point of death if need be. It shakes our foundations, topples our priorities, pits us against friend and family, and makes us strangers in this world.

The door is narrow. Why should we think we can "drift" into the Kingdom of God? The Christian life is a constant striving to do the will of God as Jesus revealed it. We need to strive because there are forces of evil within us and around us, trying to pull us down.

Ironically enough, churches where people are committed to following Jesus – despite their weaknesses, flaws, imperfections – attract people who want to commit to following Jesus. Integrity and commitment attract others. I know that's the sort of church I'd want to belong to, that I want ours to be.

On the one hand, Jesus makes it very difficult to be his disciple. On the other hand, Jesus is making it impossible to be his disciple by just using only our own abilities. When we confess, "I can't," then we are open for God's "I can." With God's grace everything is possible.

## GODSPEED FATHER BENEDICT

As we say au revoir to Father Benedict, we give thanks above all for his faithful priestly ministry among us. Through his preaching, his presence at the altar, his care in the sacraments, and his pastoral kindness, he has helped to deepen our love for Christ and strengthen us as a parish family. His ministry has been a true gift to our community, rooted in prayer and service, and it leaves a lasting mark on our hearts.

While we will miss him greatly, we send him forward with gratitude, affection, and prayers for the journey ahead. May God bless him richly in his new mission in Guernsey, and may he continue to inspire many through his dedication to the Gospel.

We are also deeply honoured that Archbishop Andrew Nkea of Bamenda, who blesses this moment of transition, will be joining us on Saturday. His presence is a sign of the wider Church's support and a joyful reminder of the bonds that unite us across continents and communities.

Father Benedict's Final Masses in the Parish:

- **Saturday 6th September – 10:00am Mass, Winchester Cathedral**
- **Saturday 6th September – 5:30pm Vigil Mass, St Peter's, Winchester (followed by refreshments in the Pastoral Centre)**
- **Sunday 7th September – 9:15am Mass, St Stephen's, Oliver's Battery**
- **Sunday 7th September – 11:00am Mass, St Gregory's, Alresford**



### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*Cf. Ps 118 [119]:137, 124*  
You are just, O Lord,  
and your judgment is  
right;  
treat your servant in  
accord with your  
merciful love.

### FIRST READING

*First reading: Wisdom 9:13–18b*

**Responsorial Psalm: Ps 90(89):3-4. 5-6. 12-13. 14, 17. R. 1**  
O Lord, you have been our  
refuge, from generation to  
generation.

### SECOND READING

*Philemon 9b-10, 12-17*

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**R. Alleluia, alleluia**

Let your face shine forth on  
your servant, and teach me  
your decrees.

**R. Alleluia**

### GOSPEL

*Luke 14:25-33*

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

**Cf. Ps 41:2-3**

Like the deer that yearns for  
running in streams, so my  
soul is yearning for you, my  
God; my soul is thirsting for  
God, the living God.

## OUTREACH

### St Vincent de Paul (SVP) Awareness Month – Week 1: Friendship at the Heart of Our Parish:

September marks SVP Awareness Month, and each week we'll be sharing how our parish SVP members quietly support those in need.

This week, we focus on the heart of our work: friendship and support. SVP members make regular visits over 400 a year to people in their homes or care settings, offering a listening ear and gentle companionship. Support may be short-term, such as after a bereavement, or continue for many months or years.

We also help organise the Mass with Prayer for Healing and Anointing of the Sick, held twice a year at St Peter's. The next will be at **2pm on Saturday 11th October** - all are warmly invited.

To learn more, refer someone, join us, or donate, please email [svp@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:svp@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) Bank details for donations:

SVP St Peter – Winchester | Acc: 46075542 | Sort Code: 60-60-04

**SVP members will be available after Masses this weekend - do come and say hello!**



**CAFOD:** You are invited to a CAFOD meeting at St Bedes Church Hall Basingstoke on **Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September** from **10:30am to 1:30pm**. Come and hear about the difference your donations are making to communities around the world and CAFOD's work with partners in Southern Ethiopia. A simple lunch will be provided so please book your place by emailing Jo on [jleury@cafod.org.uk](mailto:jleury@cafod.org.uk)



## CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY EVENT

**Celebration Service – Littleton & Harestock Show:** Revd Kevin and the congregation of St Catherine's, Littleton warmly invite you to a special service to celebrate and give thanks for the Littleton & Harestock Show. Where: The Show Marquee, Littleton Recreation Ground. When: **Sunday 7th September, 10:00am**. This year's service will also welcome representatives from the charities supported by the show: Boaz, Winchester Youth Counselling, and Home Start. Everyone is welcome.

## PARISH NEWS



**Parish Photography – Upcoming Masses:** We're refreshing our parish website and communications, and would love to capture the joy and spirit of our community in action. A photographer will be attending selected Sunday Masses to take photos for use across our digital and print media. If you'd prefer not to be included, no problem at all - just let us know in advance by emailing [office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) or speaking to a welcomer before Mass. Pews at the back of church will be designated as a photo-free zone, so feel free to sit there if you'd like to opt out. Photography Schedule:

- **Sunday 14th Sept – St Stephen's (9.15am) & St Gregory's (11.00am)**
- **Sunday 28th Sept – St Peter's (10.30am), Filipino Mass and Sunday 5th Oct – St Thomas More's (9.00am)**

Photos will be taken on behalf of St Peter and the Winchester Martyrs, part of the Portsmouth Diocese, in line with diocesan privacy policies. Thank you for helping us celebrate the life of our parish—your presence makes it all the more special.

**Winchester Catholic History Society:** The new Season's programme for the Winchester Catholic History Society starts on **Wednesday 17 September** when Dr James Ross of the University of Winchester will be speaking on 'Henry VII - A Reassessment'. 6:30pm in the Parish Centre. New members and Visitors, £7.00, most welcome. Enquiries email: [win.cath.history@gmail.com](mailto:win.cath.history@gmail.com)

Looking ahead:

- Wednesday 15 October Mgr Philip Whitmore 'I Have Come to Set the World on Fire: The Founding of the VEC in Rome'.
- Friday 28 November Lord (Chris) Patten 'What Ever Happened to The Global Order?'
- Wednesday 10 December Dr Frances Sands 'Architecture in the Age of Elegance'.
- Friday 30 January Cardinal Timothy Radcliffe 'An Evening with Cardinal Radcliffe'. Further information: [www.winchestercatholichistorysociety.com](http://www.winchestercatholichistorysociety.com)

**St Peter's Church Livestream Notice - Sept 2025:** With the continued use of LiveStream Facilities in St Peter's Church, we would like to draw this notice to your attention. More details are available by [clicking here](#). You will also find the link at the bottom of our Mass timetable.

**We are part of the Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth, Registered Charity Number: 1199568**

## NEW S

## CATECHESIS - SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES

**Sacrament of Confirmation - Preparation:** Bishop Philip has kindly agreed to come and celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation for our young people (under 18) here in the parish Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at 2:00pm at St Peter's Church. Fr Mark would like to invite all our young people (about to start Year 9 and above) to come to an information session, with their parents, on **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September, from 3:00pm to 5:00pm in St. Peter's Pastoral Centre.** If you're planning on attending this session, please fill in [this form](#) or scan the QR code here the right of this notice.



**First Holy Communion Program 2026:** Applications are still open for the 2026 First Holy Communion Programme. Deadline for applications is **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September**, with the final chance to attend the compulsory parents' session being **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September** - 7:00pm to 8:00pm. Children who will be in Year 4 (or above) next academic year may apply, however if your child is presently in Year 2 and you are a regular parishioner and feel they may be ready next year, please do get in touch.

Please [click here](#) to complete the registration form, or scan the QR code here to the right of this notice.

If you have any queries before completing the form, please email me at: [rosanne@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:rosanne@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)



**Journey in Faith – Explore, Discover, Prepare:** Are you curious about the Catholic faith? Do you want to deepen your understanding of Scripture, the Sacraments, and what the Church teaches? Or are you preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation as an adult? Journey in Faith at St Peter's parish in Winchester is a friendly and welcoming programme where you can:

- Reflect on Scripture and the Gospel for Sunday Mass
- Explore the Sacraments and encounter Christ in a deeper way
- Ask questions and share your own faith journey
- Discover how the Church's teachings connect with everyday life

When? Starting **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 7:30 pm.** Where? **St Peter's Parish Centre, Winchester.** How long? About twenty sessions over the year, informal and engaging. Who is it for?

- Adults (18+) preparing for Confirmation
- Those who want to be received into the Catholic Church
- Anyone — Catholic or not — who simply wants to learn more

Interested? Contact Alexis de La Ferrière to register or find out more: [adelaferriere@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:adelaferriere@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

## FORMATION DAYS

**Called and Gifted Diocesan Alumni Day - Saturday 20th September at Pastoral Centre Hall, St Peter's Church, Winchester:** Don't miss out on our Reunion Event. Join us for a day of prayer and fellowship.

The C&G team invite everyone who has experienced the Called and Gifted discernment process to a day of prayer, worship, formation, and sharing at St Peter's, Winchester. Our theme is: *"A house built on rock is not washed away like a house built on sand."* Together, we'll explore how to build our lives more firmly on Christ, guided by the Holy Spirit.

When: Registration from 9:30am | Mass at 10:00am. Where: St Peter's Church, Winchester.

The morning will include prayer, praise and formation on the theme. After a provided lunch, the afternoon will bring a guided meditation, small-group sharing, and a talk on accompaniment in ministry. We'll finish with prayer and worship.

To book, email Joan at [calledandgifted@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:calledandgifted@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) (lunch included, donations welcome; please mention any dietary needs). Parking at St Peter's is limited. Public car parks, Park & Ride, and the train station (5 mins walk) are nearby. If you receive a prophetic word or image for the day, please email the team at [calledandgifted@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:calledandgifted@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).

**NB:** Although Winchester is a great central location, parking at St Peter's is very limited. However, there is plenty of public parking nearby ([click here for a map](#)) with several car parks only a 5 minute walk from St Peter's on Jewry St. In addition, there is a very good Park and Ride service and the train station is also only a 5 minute walk from St Peter's.

## FUNERALS

Frank Parr RIP, Chris Smyth RIP. Please pray for their families and friends at this difficult time. May God grant them eternal rest.

## WEDDINGS

In the coming months, the following couples will be celebrating the Sacrament of Marriage at St Peter's: Daniel Buckey & Ophelia King, Riccardo Bruno & Wing Wai Tam, Nicholas Hennessey & Lily Garlick.

We look forward to their joyful celebrations

## PRAYER CORNER

Let us pray that we will be moved by the work of the SVP to join them in helping care for the poor, vulnerable and marginalised in our community.



## Final Call for Interest: Jubilee Year Pilgrimage to Sacred Heart Bournemouth

**- Saturday 13th September:** Join our parish for a day of grace, reflection, and spiritual renewal as we journey together in faith during this Jubilee Year- a moment marked by prayer, mercy, and pilgrimage (cf. Jubilee tradition and purpose). **Journey of the Day:**



9:45am - Arrive  
 10:00am - Tour of the Oratory Church, with introduction to the Jubilee Holy Year, as Pilgrims of Hope.  
 10:30am - Coffee in Café Neri & visit to the Oratory Shop  
 11:00am - Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration & Confessions  
 12:00pm - Angelus  
 12:15pm - Mass  
 1:00pm - Rosary  
 1:15pm - Lunch in Café Neri. Please pre-book by advising numbers a week in advance.  
 2:00pm - Opportunity to view the Exhibition of Eucharistic Miracles.  
 2:30pm - Talk on S Philip Neri & the Jubilee in Rome / Other spiritual topics / or whatever suits different groups  
 3:00pm - Benediction (or concluding liturgy) with prayers for the Pope's intentions - to gain the Jubilee Year Indulgence (with the other conditions).  
 3:30pm Depart

This pilgrimage is your invitation to step into a day of hope, devotion, and renewal—rooted deeply in our Catholic tradition. Through adoration, prayer, reflection, and fellowship, we'll walk the path together as a community of faith. It's a chance to pause, reconnect, and return home spiritually recharged.

Coach travel: £20 per adult / £5 per child

To book, please [click here](#) to complete a registration form. You can also scan the QR code above.

***We're currently exploring the possibility of minibus options—an update will be announced over the weekend.***



## Parish Centenary Pilgrimage Plans 2026



As part of the Parish Centenary celebrations, planning is underway to offer 3 parish Pilgrimages, led by Father Mark, during the Centenary Year. We would like as many people as possible to take part.

### 1. Camino de Santiago- Ingles route.

Walking the English route from Ferrol to Santiago de Compostela – 119KM/ 75 miles. This will be a 7/8 day trip departing on **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2026** and returning either Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> or Monday 15<sup>th</sup>.

Day 1 Air travel to Santiago De Compostela from London, transfers to Ferroll. Day 2 – 6 walking the Camino Ingles, distances per day vary between 17- 30Km – (11 – 18 miles). The walking is of moderate intensity but a good level of walking fitness will be required to walk these distances every day for 5 days. Accommodation is B&B and dinner in 2/3 star hotels with bag transfer included.

Day 7 – Free day in Santiago de Compostela. Day 8 travel back to London/ Winchester.

Final costs will depend on numbers but anticipated at around £1,100 to include flights, transfers, accommodation in a twin room, breakfast and dinner, bag transfers.

### 2. Parish pilgrimage to the Catholic National Shrine & Basilica of our Lady of Walsingham, Norfolk ([Catholic National Shrine & Basilica of Our Lady, Walsingham](#))

This 2 day trip will depart early on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> August and return late on the 11<sup>th</sup> August.

Day 1 We plan to travel by coach early on Monday morning to Holkham Hall & Estate [Holkham Hall & Estate | Norfolk, England](#) (arriving mid morning) with the rest of the day to enjoy this fabulous Palladian mansion, gardens and parkland. Late afternoon we will travel on the short distance to Walsingham and our accommodation at Elmham House – the Shrine's Pilgrim Hotel, for Mass and supper and a stroll around Walsingham Village and environs.

Day 2 For those able to we will walk the Holy Mile – the last mile of the Pilgrim Way to the site of the Shrine of Our Lady, (coach transfer also available). During the day there will be the opportunity to take part in the daily schedule of worship which includes Sacrament of Reconciliation, The Rosary, Stations of the Cross, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Pilgrim's Mass. We will depart late afternoon for the return journey, stopping en route for a meal before arriving in Winchester circa 9pm.

Cost – depending on numbers for transport from Winchester, accommodation, meals (excluding lunch on day 1 and dinner day 2), entry to Holkham Hall and Gardens circa £200.

### 3. Pilgrimage to Rome & Assisi October 2026

An 8 day visit taking in various locations in Rome, including Mass in St Peter's, a papal audience, and tour of St Peter's. Focus will be on Christian Rome but with opportunities to explore classical Rome. Likely to spend 3/4 days in Rome and 2 full days in Assisi with visits to other sites en route.

Package will include transport from Winchester to London airports, flights accommodation and meals, entry to various locations throughout, transport and a guide. Full itinerary to be confirmed and dates of travel in October 2026 to be agreed once an idea of numbers of interested people is understood.

Indicative costs at this early stage are awaited but likely to be circa £1,500 per person.

A meeting to provide more information and to answer questions is planned for **28th September at 7:00pm at the Pastoral Centre** for anyone interested in taking part in any of these Pilgrimages. For any enquiries/ expressions of interest please contact [pilgrimage@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:pilgrimage@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) (link now corrected - apologies for last week).

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Date	Times	Where	Intentions
<b>Sat 6 Sept</b> (Our Lady)  <b>Sunday VIGIL</b> Week 23 in Ordinary Time	10:00AM	<b>Mass at Winchester Cathedral</b>	Dr Pietro Ligato RIP
	11:00AM to 12:00AM	Confession at St Peter's	
	4:30PM to 5.00PM	Confession at St Peter's	
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	People of the Parish
<b>Sun 7th Sept</b> Week 23 in Ordinary Time	8:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	All Having New Starts
	9:00AM	Mass at St Thomas More's	People of the Parish
	9:15AM	Mass at St Stephen's	For the Repose of the Soul of Joe Hayward
	10:30AM	Mass at St Peter's - <b>Family Mass</b>	John O'Brien RIP
	11:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's - <b>with Grace Notes Choir</b>	
<b>Mon 8 Sept</b> The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's	
	12.15pm	Mass at St Peter's	The Soul of Rev. J. Martin
<b>Tues 9 Sept</b> St Peter Claver	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's	
<b>Wed 10 Sept</b> Week 23 in Ordinary Time	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	The Soul of Rose Margaret Fletcher
<b>Thur 11 Sept</b> Week 23 of Ordinary Time	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	The Soul of Richard Spencer & Celebrating Local Priests
<b>Fri 12 Sept</b> The Most Holy Name of Mary	8.00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's	
<b>Sat 13 Sept</b> St John Chrysostom  <b>Sunday VIGIL</b> The Exaltation of the Holy Cross	9:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	
	9:30AM to 10:30AM	Confession at St Peter's	
	4:30PM to 5:00PM	Confession at St Peter's	
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	Souls in Purgatory

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.**

[St Peter's - Livestreaming Notice September 2025](#)

Deadline for items for newsletter requests 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 [office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) to be directed to the correct person.

Parish Office: [office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

Finance: [accounts@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:accounts@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) Tel: 01962 852804

### 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 (e.g. 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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