

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:

Small Habits, Sacred Community: Why We Can't Grow Alone

Centenary: Light of the World & St Peter's Pageant
Financial/Parish Report



FATHER MARK WRITES: SMALL HABITS, SACRED COMMUNITY: WHY WE CAN'T GROW ALONE

Real change doesn't happen in isolation. Discover how simple habits and supportive relationships can help you become the person God created you to be.

At the turn of the year, many of us dream of big change. We picture bold resolutions and super-sized accomplishments. But as we've been saying, real transformation rarely arrives in one grand leap; it comes through small, consistent habits—acorns that grow into oaks, dominos that set off a chain of grace. Habits aren't about one distant achievement; they're about how we live today, shaping who we are becoming in Christ.

A habit, remember, is 'a practice undertaken regularly and routinely with little or no effort of the mind or will... an automatic response.' Over time, the cue → routine → reward loop turns intentions into rhythms, and rhythms into character. But this isn't merely self-help. With God's grace, our habits become pathways toward His purpose—tiny, faithful steps that echo the larger call of discipleship.

In Matthew's Gospel we see Jesus step into public ministry:

"From that time on, Jesus began to preach and say, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.'" (Matthew 4:17)

'Repent' isn't a scolding word; it's a hopeful invitation: change your mind, change your direction, step forward in faith. Why? Because with Jesus, the kingdom is near—God has intervened in history. If the world has changed in Christ, then our patterns can change too.

Notice how Jesus calls people, not as isolated individuals, but into community:

"As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw... Peter and Andrew... 'Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.' And at once they left their nets and followed him." (Matthew 4:18–20)

He gathers James and John, Peter and Andrew—ordinary workers stepping from obscurity into significance. Jesus also invites us to change through belief and through practical rhythms, supported by a community that keeps us moving. Habits grow stronger when they're shared; they become attractive when the people around us value them. In the right circle, showing up is half the battle won.

Cont'd...

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.

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

That's why small groups matter. They aren't 'another churchy programme,' but places of encouragement, accountability, and grace. Week by week, you sit with others who are trying, failing, and trying again - who remind you of your identity in Christ and cheer the smallest step forward. Our weekend Masses and our weekly small groups are two sides of the same coin: on the weekend, you sit in rows and listen to the Word proclaimed; in small groups, you sit round a table and listen to one another, applying the Word to life.

And there's more: we are cheered on by heaven itself - the angels and the Communion of Saints, our elder siblings who pray for us from the 'heavenly balcony.' Your daily habit may look ordinary, but heaven thinks otherwise. God is near, not distant; He delights in each step, and He supplies the grace when willpower runs thin.

So, what can you do this week?

- Start that one small habit which reflects the person you want to become in Christ.
- Join a small group this Lent - let others encourage, support, and sustain your growth. If you like, use it as a "trial".
- Commit to showing up, asking daily for grace, and beginning again after setbacks.

Simple habits - putting prayer time before screen time, offering a daily compliment, spending ten minutes each day with Scripture, taking a short walk of gratitude - these become sacred rhythms when rooted in your identity as God's beloved, fuelled by grace and strengthened by a community of faith.

Because in the end, the reason for habits is not merely to accomplish something, but to become someone - a disciple formed by grace, joyful in community and steadily growing fully into the image and likeness of Christ.

SECOND COLLECTION

Second Collection for St John's Cathedral: This Sunday's Second Collection supports St John's Cathedral, our Mother Church, serving one of the most deprived areas in the Diocese. The parish collection currently covers only just over half of the cathedral's weekly running costs, making this appeal more important than ever. Canon James thanks you for any support you are able to give and for standing with the cathedral community at this critical time. For more information about how you can also support the Cathedral 150 Appeal, [click here](#). Online donations can be made by [clicking here](#) or by scanning the QR code on the right here.



A PLACE FOR ALL

Centenary Launch Week: A Celebration of Light, Faith & Community: If you missed our full-page feature in the Hampshire Chronicle on Thursday 22nd January - here's your chance to catch up! Our Centenary Year is finally here, and we're beginning 2026 with a week of joy, creativity, and community at the heart of Winchester. Join us as St Peter's opens its doors for spectacular evenings of light, music, prayer, and parish celebration.

☀️ LIGHT OF THE WORLD - SON ET LUMIÈRE

2nd - 4th February 2026 | 5:30pm - 8:30pm | St Peter's Church: This February, St Peter's comes alive for three unforgettable nights as we launch our Centenary Year with light, music, and celebration. Outside, beams and lasers will shine into the night sky, symbolising hope and the light of Christ over Winchester. Inside, stunning projections reveal the beauty of the church like never before. Each evening features inspiring music: **Mon 2 Feb - Gregorian Chant, Tue 3 Feb - Contemporary Praise & Worship, Wed 4 Feb - Choral Classics.** Explore exhibits, enjoy quiet prayer spaces, and share refreshments in the Pastoral Centre. Free and open to all — bring friends and family!

🎭 ST PETER'S CENTENARY PAGEANT - 'LOCUS ISTE'

6th February 2026 | Performances - 4:00pm & 7:00pm | St Peter's Church: As part of our Centenary celebrations, we invite you to a special production, "Locus Iste - A Gathering in St Peter's Church." Through music, narration, dance, scripture, and contributions from parish groups, this unique Pageant brings to life the story of St Peter's its history, its people, and its place at the heart of Winchester for 100 years. The programme includes choral works such as Hymn to St Peter and Locus Iste, dance pieces depicting key moments in our history, scripture readings, parish group reflections, and a joyful finale with all musicians performing the Hallelujah Chorus.

Refreshments will be served in the Parish Centre - performance approx. 90 minutes (including interval). This free, family-friendly event is open to EVERYONE. We encourage early arrival to secure seating, especially for the evening performance. Tickets are free, but booking is essential:

- Reserve for **4:00pm** performance: [HERE](#)
- Reserve for **7:00pm** performance: [HERE](#)

For more details on events and updates, please check the newsletter, visit the 'Centenary' website page or email us on: centenary@stpeterswinchester.org.uk. You can also pick up a flyer at the back of all churches.



www.catholicwinchester.org.uk/centenary/



St Peter's Catholic Church, Jewry Street, Winchester, SO23 8RY

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PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

Parish Annual Report: We warmly invite you to take a few moments to read this year's Parish Annual Report, please [click here](#) to read the report. It offers a thoughtful reflection on the life of our parish over the past calendar year and includes the Parish Financial Report for the year ending 31 August 2025.

Alongside the report, we would love you to join us for an online Zoom meeting at **7pm on Thursday 12 February**, where we will reflect together, share updates and look ahead as a parish community. Full details and the Zoom link will be shared in advance.

Your voice matters. If you have any questions you would like to raise, please feel free to send them to office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk. We very much hope you will read the report and join us online as we continue this journey together.

Parking at St Peter's Church - A Gentle Parking Reminder: We kindly ask for your help in observing local parking restrictions and remind everyone that we do not have permission to park in Winton House Car Park, where parking notices are in place.

We know parking at St Peter's is limited and apologise for any inconvenience this may cause. Where possible, we would greatly appreciate your consideration in leaving the closest spaces for those who may need them most, and in using alternative parking locations. Thank you for your understanding and kindness.

Winchester Catholic History Society (WCHS) – Upcoming Talks: The next meeting is on **Thursday 29 January at Winchester College - 7.00pm**, an 'Evening with Cardinal Timothy Radcliffe'. Demand for places has been high and this event is nearly fully booked. This is a pre booked talk only and we do not want to be over capacity on the evening. On Thursday 5 February Professor Anna Whitelock will be speaking on her latest book 'The Sun Rising: James I & The Dawn of a Global Britain'. This is a pre booked place only at Winchester College. The College do need to know who is on site for safeguarding purposes and we do not want to be over capacity on the evening. All enquiries win.cath.history@gmail.com

Family Mass – All Welcome 🙏 The next Family Mass will be celebrated on **Sunday 8th February at St Gregory's and St Stephen's**. These Masses offer a joyful opportunity for children and families to come together to pray and worship in a welcoming and relaxed atmosphere. Whether you come regularly or are joining us for the first time, we warmly invite you to be part of this special celebration.

Latin Compline (Night Prayer) 🌙: You are warmly invited to Latin Compline (Night Prayer) on **Friday 13th February**, held in church from **9.00–9.30pm**. Compline is the Church's peaceful night prayer, sung in Latin and offering a calm, reflective way to end the day in God's presence. Those who would like to sing are welcome to arrive at **8.00pm** for rehearsal, but there is no need to take part in the singing - simply come, listen and pray. All are welcome. Come and rest in prayer before the Lord.

CWL Charity Lunch & Thank You: Thank you from the Catholic Women's League to everyone who supported January's Soup & Pud Lunch, which raised £370 for the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Air Ambulance. The next Charity Lunch will take place on **Friday 13th February**, supporting Winchester & District Young Carers, who provide respite, practical support and resources for young carers in our community.

CWL Charity Lunch at St Gregory's & Thank you: A huge thank you to all who came and supported, all who served, all who cooked the soups and puds, for the Charity lunch at St Gregory's on 20th January. A massive £422.01 was raised for the Boaz charity. Thank you all very much!

Praying for healing: workshop 27-28 February 2026 – Fr Mark would love you to join him and a group from the parish at a workshop learning to pray for physical healing in a Catholic context. The workshop is in Northampton Cathedral pastoral centre from **6pm Friday 27 February and all day 28 February**. More details and booking form are [here](#). Please contact Gerard via the Parish Office for more information.

After-Mass Tea & Coffee – Volunteers Needed ☕ Sharing tea and coffee after Mass is a simple but powerful way to build friendship and community. Our lovely team has served faithfully for many years, but is now shrinking due to age and time - and we would love to welcome new helpers. If you enjoy meeting people and being part of a friendly team, even occasional help makes a real difference. The more volunteers we have, the lighter the commitment for everyone. To find out more or to get involved, please speak to one of the team or email office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place.

FIRST READING

First reading: Isaiah 9:1b-4

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 27(26): 1. 4. 13-14. R. 1a

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17

Gospel Acclamation:

R. Alleluia, alleluia

Jesus proclaimed the gospel of the kingdom and healed every affliction among the people.

R. Alleluia

GOSPEL

Matthew 4:12-23

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Cf. Ps 33:6

Look toward the Lord and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed.



OUTREACH

Laudato Si: The Earth's temperature has now surpassed 1.5 degrees C of warming compared to "pre-industrial" levels of the late 1800s. This is clearly caused by the widespread use of fossil fuels - coal, oil and gas - in homes, factories and transport systems. When fossil fuels burn, they release greenhouse gases - mostly carbon dioxide (CO2). This CO2 acts like a blanket, trapping extra energy and causing the planet to heat up. Remembering the words of caution in Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato si'* 10 years ago, let's all do what we can to reduce greenhouse gases and save our world from further temperature rises for the sake of future generations".

COMMUNITY

Churches Together Winchester: Renew Wellbeing Café Open Afternoon: Renew Wellbeing Café invites everyone to an open afternoon on **Monday 2nd February, 2.00–3.30pm, at the Salvation Army Hall**, celebrating two years of supporting wellbeing in our community. Come along to learn more about the cafés, which run at the Salvation Army Hall and at New Life Church, Stanmore. A short video about Renew's work is available - contact Alison at chaplain@winccc.org.uk for details.

MUSIC

Gospel Workshop at St Peter's Church: Join us for an unforgettable Come & Sing Gospel workshop led by international choir leader Tim Uffindell on **Saturday, 28th February - 2.45pm to 5.15pm**. No experience needed - just turn up, have fun, learn a vibrant gospel song and feel the joy of singing in harmony with others. It's low-pressure, high-energy and a brilliant way to build community, boost confidence and discover the power of your own voice. Come ready to laugh, sing and leave feeling AMAZING. For tickets [Click here](#).



DIOCESAN NEWS

The Holy Trinity: Living as God's People: A weekend retreat **Saturday 24 – Sunday 25 January at St Osmund's Parish Centre, Salisbury**. Find out more and to register [click here](#).

Catholic Women's Association (Online): Monthly sessions on living our Catholic faith. **Friday 13th February (7–9pm)** – "Discerning the Will of God." To register [click here](#).

Bosco Boys Camp – Adventure, Faith & Friendship: Calling all boys in Years 6–11! Come and discover the joy, friendship and adventure of the Bosco Boys Camp. First, join us for the Bosco Experience & Reunion Afternoon on **Sunday 22nd February (2–4pm) at St Peter's, Winchester**. This free afternoon is a chance for new boys to "try out" the Bosco spirit, meet the team, enjoy fun activities, and for parents to find out more and sign up for camp. Past campers are also warmly invited to reconnect with old friends.

Then, this summer, the Portsmouth Diocesan Don Bosco Boys' Camp takes place from **Sunday 26th July to Saturday 1st August at St Cassian's, Kintbury**. The week is packed with sport, trips, games, competitions and laughter – all rooted in our Catholic faith with daily Mass and prayer. It's a place where boys grow in confidence, friendship and faith. Cost: £280 (includes all food and activities) For more information, [click here](#) or Or email: dbcamps@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

SCHOOL

St Peter's School Governor Volunteers: St Peter's Catholic Primary School, Winchester, seeks a practising Catholic for the role of Foundation Governor. Please consider joining this important ministry, no educational knowledge is required and full training is provided. Find out more from Fr Mark or any of the current governors. More information is available on the Portsmouth Catholic Academies and Schools website [click here](#) and St Peter's School website [click here](#)

St Peter's Catholic School: [Click here](#) for the newsletter.

FUNERALS

Avril Williams RIP. Winifred Williamson RIP. Please pray for their family and friends at this difficult time. **May God grant them eternal rest.**

BAPTISMS

Welcome to Baptism of Freya Rose Malcom who was baptised at St Peter's May God bless her with His love and grace, today and always.

PRAYER CORNER

Let us pray that our celebration of Christian Unity week will help our parish community to join together with all who love Christ in working and praying for a deeper unity of faith.



Parish Priest: Fr Mark Hogan

Assistant Priest: Fr Pedro José Hernández O'Hagan

Deacons: Tony Darlison & Martin McElroy

CONTACTS:

For a full list of contact details for our Parish, please visit our website:

www.catholicwinchester.org.uk or email

office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk

to be directed to the correct person. Parish Office Tel: 01962 852804

Deadline for items for newsletter requests submit by **Wednesday mid-day!**

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.

MASS TIME
TABLE:

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - SUNDAY 25TH JANUARY 2026 | YEAR A

Date	Times	Where	Intentions
Sat 24 Jan St Francis de Sales Sunday VIGIL Week 3 in Ordinary Time	9:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	For the Soul of the Bristol Family
	9:30AM to 10:30AM	Confessions at St Peter's	
	4:30PM to 5.00PM	Confession at St Peter's	
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	Ella Okon Birthday
Sun 25 Jan Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	8:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	For the Soul of Jacob Cook
	9:00AM	Mass at St Thomas More's	Healing for Frank Hinds
	9:15AM	Mass at St Stephen's (Grace Notes Choir)	Ilting & McCartney Families RIP
	10:30AM	Mass at St Peter's (Cross Keys Choir)	Angela Maria and Nicola Larossi RIP & Mariantonia and Alfred Scappaticci RIP
	11:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	Martin McKenna RIP
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	People of Parish
Mon 26 Jan St Timothy, St Titus	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's (Lady Chapel)	
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's (Lady Chapel)	For the Soul of Eleanor Meader
Tues 27 Jan St Angela Merici	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's (Lady Chapel)	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	Henryk Kras
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's (Lady Chapel)	Tom O'Donoghue RIP
Wed 28 Jan St Thomas Aquinas	8:00 AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's (Lady Chapel)	
	10:00 AM	Mass at St Peter's (Lady Chapel)	Friends & Family of Michael Mayhew Arnold
Thur 29 Jan Week 3 in Ordinary Time	8:00 AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's (Lady Chapel)	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Peter's (Lady Chapel)	In memory of Peter Booth Death heartache no one can heal, love leaves a memory no one can steal.
Fri 30 Jan Week 3 in Ordinary Time	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's (Lady Chapel)	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	Mat'ka Vesekova Intentions
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's (Lady Chapel)	For the Soul of Patrick George McCall & Family
Sat 31 Jan St John Bosco Sunday VIGIL Week 4 in Ordinary Time	9:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	Birthday of Lemuel
	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	People of the Parish

Watch live or catch up later on our **YouTube channel** — all services from St Peter's, including Morning Prayer and Adoration, are livestreamed.
[St Peter's - Livestreaming Notice September 2025](#)

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