

# 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:

**Return and Be Healed - Lessons from the Fall: Why We Need Healing**

**Alpha: A Safe Space to Ask Questions**

**A Parish Alive with Music**



## FATHER MARK WRITES: RETURN AND BE HEALED - LESSONS FROM THE FALL: WHY WE NEED HEALING "WHY WE HURT, AND WHY JESUS HEALS"

Why do we need healing? Genesis offers a deeper answer than you might expect - and an even deeper hope.

Last week we began exploring three beautiful, surprising truths about healing: that healing was **central** to Jesus' ministry, that it requires **toughness as well as tenderness**, and that it involves a certain mystery (we must trust rather than control). This week, the Book of Genesis helps us understand why we need healing and why Jesus' healing work is so necessary, so hopeful, and so universal.

Genesis tells us that we were created from the dust with barely credible intimacy:

*"The LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life..." (Genesis 2:7)*

Just take a moment to imagine that tender scene...God did not speak humanity into existence from afar; He **formed** us, lovingly, personally, intimately. Love is the origin of your life, and love is your destiny.

So, God lovingly creates humanity and then he builds the perfect environment for us, a place with no suffering, sickness, disease, shame, or fear. There is only goodness. (c.f. Genesis 2:8-9)

But then comes the serpent, a subtle and crafty beast, planting a question that still echoes today:

*"Did God actually say...?" (Genesis 3:1)*

It begins so gently but it is a cunning tactic, to undermine God. Then Eve in her reply misquotes the command, saying that God had forbidden both eating the fruit and touching it, and suddenly she is sliding toward distrust. This is how wounds often begin: **tiny agreements with the Evil One**, half-truths we swallow without noticing.

We make these same sorts of agreements.

- About others: "Yes, s/he really is impossible..."
- About ourselves: "I'm unlovable... beyond repair... only valued if I perform..."
- About God: "He's holding something back... He can't be trusted..."

And these lies wound us. They distort our identity, warp our relationships, and silently shape the way we live and love.

*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.

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT - SUNDAY 22ND FEBRUARY 2026 | YEAR A

One of the really freeing and healing moments for me 18 months ago was when I prayerfully invited God to show me some of the lies that I had come to believe: lies about myself and lies about God and my relationship with Him. And then I asked Him to replace these lies with truth.

One of the biggest lies was the belief that I knew what was best for the people I love, and that if God didn't act according to my plan, He was letting me, and them, down. The truth I received in exchange for the lie was: "Your Heavenly Father loves the people you love even more than you do." Most days, I believe that truth, although it's a work in progress and there are times when I slip back.

Genesis 3 shows us what happens when humanity chooses pride over trust. The wounds come quickly:

**Physical wounds:** "they knew they were naked" (3:7). The body itself becomes a place of shame, frailty, and illness.

**Spiritual wounds:** "the man and his wife hid themselves" (3:8). We run from God, even though He comes searching, calling out tenderly, "Where are you?" (3:9).

**Inner wounds:** fear, shame, anxiety (3:10).

**Relational wounds:** blame, distance, conflict (3:12).

This first sin is not only the "original sin" — it is also the **original wound**. It shattered human wholeness, and we inherit both the wound and its effects.

Now, I really want you to hear this clearly: **your wounds are not your fault**. They are not your fault, but they are your responsibility. We must choose how we respond to them.

Pride denies our wounds or tries to heal them apart from God, through self-reliance, performance, or even playing the victim. Humility does the opposite: it names the wound honestly and brings it into the light of God's love. Humility opens the heart and lets the Healer set us free.

God is your Healer. Whether through prayer, the sacraments, community, counselling, or medicine, **He is always the One who heals**. And He delights to do so.

This Lent, may we hear again His gentle question "Where are you?" - and take the brave step of answering honestly and returning to Him, our Healer.

## NEW ALPHA COURSE

A warm meal, a welcoming room and a safe space to explore life's big questions: The next Alpha course begins on **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February** with an evening meal at **7:15pm**.

You might have someone you're close to – a close friend or someone in the family, who you have been praying for and who you would love to bring to Church.

Alpha is a great opportunity to invite people to 'come and see' – ask them to just come and try it, without any obligation to commit to anything.

Alpha is more than just a course – it's a journey of discovery. Many people find Alpha to be a turning point in their lives: some encounter faith for the first time, others deepen their relationship with Christ, and everyone is free to explore questions that really matter.

If you know someone who is simply curious, or even just open to the idea that God might be real, Alpha provides a space to explore those thoughts without judgement. If you're going to invite a friend, why not come along too? Why not give it a try? If interested please send an email to [alpha@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:alpha@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)



## MUSIC



**Come & Sing Gospel Workshop!** Join us for an unforgettable Come & Sing Gospel workshop at **St Peter's Church on Saturday 28 February, 2.45pm-5.15pm**, led by international choir leader Tim Uffindell. No experience needed - just come along, learn a vibrant gospel song and experience the sheer joy of singing together. It's relaxed, uplifting and guaranteed to leave you smiling, energised and feeling AMAZING. Come as you are - you already have everything you need: your voice! For tickets [Click here](#).



## ENTRANCE ANTIphon

When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

## FIRST READING

*First reading: Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7*

*Responsorial Psalm: Ps 51(50): 3-4. 5-6b. 12-13. 14, 17.R. cf 3a*

Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.

## SECOND READING

*Romans 5:12-19*  
*Gospel Acclamation:*

Glory and praise to you, O Christ.

## GOSPEL

**Matthew 4:1-11**

## COMMUNION ANTIphon:

**Mt 4:4**

One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.



## MUSIC CONT'D

**SPWM Youth Choir:** We are excited to announce that a new parish-wide Youth Choir is being formed, and we are inviting young people aged roughly 8-16 to get involved. This is a wonderful opportunity to make new friends, grow in confidence, and use your voice in worship and celebration across the parish. If you'd like to find out more, come along to our next launch and information event on **Saturday 7th March, 12:00noon to 1:00pm** in Milner Hall. Parents and family are very welcome to attend and take part too. For more information or questions, please email: [music@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:music@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

### 🎵 FR ANDREW MOORE'S CENTENARY CONCERT – A NIGHT OF SACRED BEAUTY

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2026 | Performance (revised time): 7:00pm | St Peter's Church:** The Winchester Camerata, conducted by Fr Andrew Moore, will be giving a concert in St Peter's as part of our centenary celebrations on **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00 p.m.** The programme includes works by Bach, Mozart, Vivaldi, Britten and others, including Fr Andrew, and will reflect the liturgical and spiritual life of a church. Tickets are £20 (£5 for students) and are available by [clicking here](#). Scanning QR code or purchasing at the door.

**Notice:** evening Mass will be celebrated at **5:00pm**.

All proceeds from the event will support Trinity Winchester a charity dedicated to helping people experiencing homelessness. Come and share in an evening of music that lifts the soul and shines light into our community.



## LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES

**Stations of the Cross – Walking with Jesus this Lent:** Throughout Lent, you are warmly invited to participate in the Stations of the Cross, a beautiful and prayerful way to walk with Jesus on his journey to the Cross and to reflect more deeply on his love for us. This traditional devotion offers a gentle space for silence, prayer and contemplation in the midst of busy lives. Stations will take place across the parish as follows:

- **Mondays at 7.00pm at St Stephen's,**
- **Wednesdays at 11.00am at St Thomas More**
- **Fridays at 11.30am at St Peter's**
- **Sundays at 5.30pm at St Gregory's.**

All are welcome to come and pray together as we journey through Lent.

**Pray Together This Lent with Hallow:** As part of our parish Lenten journey Return and Be Healed, we invite you to join our parish prayer community on the Hallow app. This will allow us to pray together each day through the Lent Pray40: The Return challenge, wherever we are. It's a simple way to stay connected in prayer throughout Lent. If you are new to Hallow, please follow these instructions:

- [Click on this link](#) on your phone, tablet or computer
- Search for our parish by name (St. Peter and the Winchester Martyrs" or post code (SO23 8RY)
- Choose whether to redeem the 6-month parish trial (followed by 25% discount) or to skip and access the free version (we can always give you a discount code later)
- Follow the instructions to create an account
- Sign up for the "Lenten Challenge" – Lent Pray40: The Return
- Start praying with our parish community!
- If you're already on Hallow, simply search for our parish on the "Church" button at the bottom of the page and sign up for the Lenten Challenge.

**Tip:** Fr Mark suggests going to Settings - General - Privacy & Sharing and turning off "prayer completion sharing" until you're familiar with the app. Whether you're new to prayer or already have a routine, this is a gentle and supportive way to pray with your parish community throughout Lent.

**London Jesuit Centre - Ignatian Spirituality – Sacrifice, Eucharist and the Cross (Online evening course): Begins**

**Wednesday 26 February (4:00pm & 8:00pm):** Join Dr Hugh Burling for this thought-provoking course exploring the deep connections between sacrifice, the Eucharist and the Cross. Together we'll reflect on what it really means to call Jesus both High Priest and Lamb of God, how He understood His own death at the Last Supper, and how the sacrificial language of the Mass helps us grasp the mystery of salvation. Drawing on Scripture and the rituals of ancient Israel, this course offers a rich and accessible way to deepen your understanding of Christ's saving work. [Click here](#) to access the course. for details.

## FUNERALS

Barbara Craze RIP - Friday 27th February, 1:30pm at St Peter's. Paul Gardner RIP. Please pray for their family and friends at this difficult time.  
**May God grant them eternal rest.**

## BAPTISM

Welcome to Baptism of Patrick Anthony Crumlish, who was baptised at St Gregory's church this week. May God bless him with His love and grace, today and always.

## PRAYER CORNER

Let us pray for all those taking part in the new season of Alpha, that their experience may encourage an open and joyful exploration of faith, leading them closer to the Lord.



## PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

**Thankyou from the CWL (Catholic Women's League)** Thank you to all who supported February's Soup & Pud Lunch, which raised £340 for Winchester Young Carers. The next Charity Lunch on **Friday 6th March**, will be for Winchester GoLD (Go Learning Difficulties), who enable adults with Learning Difficulties to live life to the full.

**SVP Healing Mass & Anointing of the Sick:** All are warmly invited to a special SVP Mass with Prayers for Healing and the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick on **Saturday 21st March at 2.00pm at St Peter's Church**. A time of prayer, comfort and hope, followed by light refreshments in the Pastoral Centre. If you need transport, please email . Please email [SVP@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:SVP@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) if you would like to attend but require transport.

**Parish Consultation - Proposed Sale of the White House:** Please [click here](#) for further information.

## PILGRIMAGE

**Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2026** **Join the 2026 Pilgrimage to Lourdes** ✨ Bishop Philip warmly invites you to join the 2026 diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes, taking place from **Monday 6th July to Friday 10th July**, departing from London Heathrow. Pilgrims will stay at the Hotel La Solitude, just moments from the Sanctuary, offering comfortable ensuite rooms, shared meals, and a welcoming base for this special journey. The pilgrimage includes visiting places connected with St Bernadette, taking part in the main pilgrimage celebrations, moments of quiet reflection, and opportunities to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick. It is a beautiful opportunity to grow in faith, encounter God, and share in prayer with others.

The parish also has a limited fund available to offer financial support for assisted pilgrims or their carers (such as young helpers) who might otherwise be unable to take part. If this would help you, please speak to one of the priests or contact the parish office in confidence.

This pilgrimage is a chance to grow in faith, encounter God, and share a journey with fellow pilgrims.

✉ Email: [lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

📝 Booking Form: [Click here](#)



**Lent Resources in the Parish Bookshop:** As we prepare for the holy season of Lent, our Parish Bookshop is also well stocked with a thoughtful range of prayer books, Lent booklets, Stations of the Cross, Bible devotionals, and Bibles to support your journey of prayer and reflection. You'll also find a lovely selection of crosses, rosaries, and seasonal cards, including St Patrick's Day and Easter. Whether you're looking for something for yourself or a simple gift for someone else, these resources can help make Lent a more prayerful and meaningful time.

## YOUTH

**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](mailto:dbcamps@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

## SCHOOL

**St Peter's Catholic School:** For news and information about our wonderful Catholic Primary School, please [Click here](#) for the newsletter.

**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](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 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 **FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT - SUNDAY 22ND FEBRUARY 2026 | YEAR A**

TABLE:

Date	Times	Where	Intentions
<b>Sat 21 Feb</b> After Ash Wednesday  <b>Sunday VIGIL</b> First Sunday of Lent	9:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	
	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	Carmella Campbell
<b>Sun 22 Feb</b> First Sunday of Lent	8:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	The Soul of Edmund Nicholson
	9:00AM	Mass at St Thomas More's	Gillian Symington RIP
	9:15AM	Mass at St Stephen's	Lidia Otero RIP
	10:30AM	Mass at St Peter's ( <b>Music Group</b> )	People of the Parish
	11:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	The Soul of Margaret Merriman
<b>Mon 23 Feb</b> of the 1 <sup>st</sup> Week of Lent	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's <b>Lady Chapel</b>	
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's, <b>Lady Chapel</b>	For the Dead in Cemeteries
<b>Tues 24 Feb</b> of the 1 <sup>st</sup> Week of Lent	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's <b>Lady Chapel</b>	
	10:00AM	<b>Mass at St Gregory's (Cancelled)</b>	
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's, <b>Lady Chapel</b>	Maria Jose Fernandes RIP
<b>Wed 25 Feb</b> of the 1 <sup>st</sup> Week of Lent	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's <b>Lady Chapel</b>	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Peter's, <b>Lady Chapel</b>	Family & Friends of Michael Mayhew-Arnold
<b>Thur 26 Feb</b> of the 1 <sup>st</sup> Week of Lent	8:00 AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's <b>Lady Chapel</b>	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Peter's, <b>Lady Chapel</b>	Alice Jonsdttir - For Family Intentions
<b>Fri 27 Feb</b> of the 1 <sup>st</sup> Week of Lent	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's <b>Lady Chapel</b>	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	The Soul of Beatrice Hew Tompson
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's, <b>Lady Chapel</b>	Sunniva Kelly RIP
	1:30PM	<b>Funeral Mass - Barbara Craze RIP at St Peter's</b>	
<b>Sat 28 Feb</b> of the 1 <sup>st</sup> Week of Lent  <b>Sunday VIGIL</b> Second Sunday of Lent	9:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	Phelan Family, Living and Dead
	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	Victor Okon 50 <sup>th</sup> Birthday

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](#)