

# 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:

- *Fr Mark's Writes: The Mystery At The Heart Of The Mass*
- *Urgent Appeals - CAFOD & Caritas*
- *Book Now - Centenary Celebrations July '26*



## FR MARK WRITES: REDISCOVERING THE MYSTERY AT THE HEART OF THE MASS

*The Mass is not a puzzle to be solved but a mystery into which we are invited to enter. Over the coming weeks, we'll explore how Christ meets us there and why the Eucharist remains the beating heart of Christian life.*

When we hear the word mystery, many of us think of detective stories, clues to be solved, and questions waiting for answers. My mind tends to move towards Sherlock Holmes and Miss Marple, Doctor Who and Scooby Doo, Professor Plum and the lead piping...But in the language of faith, a mystery is something rather different. It is not a problem to be solved but a reality to be explored. We can say something about it, but not everything.

The Mass is one of those mysteries. It is at the heart of Catholic life, yet no matter how often we celebrate it, we never fully exhaust its meaning. Many of us first learned about Mass as children, and some of those early impressions can stay with us.

Did any of you think any of these things when growing up (or something similar)..?

- When we say "Thanks be to God" at the end of Mass it's because it's finally over.
- You weren't sure why we sang about a woman named "Hosanna," why she was "in the highest," and why we never mentioned her anywhere else in Mass.
- All the sitting, standing, and kneeling was to keep us from falling asleep.

We should mature in understanding, but we should never lose that childlike sense of wonder.

Over the coming weeks, we'll be taking a fresh look at the Mass through this lens of mystery. Most of us arrive at church carrying all sorts of thoughts and concerns: family, work, world events, the endless items on our to-do lists. Yet Mass invites us into something deeper.

The story of the disciples on the road to Emmaus offers a beautiful picture of what happens in every Eucharist. The risen Jesus walks alongside them, listens to them, opens the Scriptures, and finally reveals himself in the breaking of the bread. But there is a crucial moment beforehand. Jesus waits to be invited: "Stay with us." Only then does the deeper mystery unfold.

The Mass follows the same pattern. Christ gathers us together, speaks to us through the Scriptures, feeds us with the Bread of Life, and sends us out renewed in mission. We are not spectators but participants in this encounter.

The great mystery is that Christ is truly present among us. He is present in the community gathered in his name, in the Scriptures proclaimed, in the ministry of the priest acting in his person, and above all in the Eucharist itself. At every Mass, the Lord comes to meet us.

*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.



*"Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."*

**Matthew 11:29**

We have already made the first step when we turn up to Mass. The next step is to offer to Jesus the same invitation offered by the disciples at Emmaus: "Stay with us." As we explore the Mass together in the weeks ahead, my prayer is that we will discover anew the wonder of Christ's presence and allow him to draw us ever more deeply into communion with him and with one another.

## UPDATE FROM FR MARK

Fr Mark is keen to let you all know that Bishop Philip has asked him to take up a new appointment in a parish elsewhere in the diocese from 1<sup>st</sup> November this year. Fr Mark is sad to be leaving so many people that he has come to know and love deeply over the last nine years but trusts that the Lord will guide him and this beautiful parish in the next stages of our journey in faith. More details will be shared at Masses over this weekend across the parish.

## URGENT APPEALS

### CAFOD-DEC Venezuela Earthquake Appeal

Please keep the people of Venezuela in your prayers following the devastating earthquakes that struck on 24th June, causing widespread damage and leaving many families without homes, food, clean water, and basic necessities.

CAFOD is already working through trusted local Church partners to provide emergency shelter, clean water, food, and essential supplies to those most affected. With your support, more families can receive the help they urgently need and begin the long process of rebuilding their lives.

We also ask for your prayers for the Venezuelans within our own parish community, especially those who have lost loved ones or are still waiting for news of family and friends. May they find strength, comfort, and hope in the support of the Church and in God's loving care during this difficult time

If you would like to contribute to the relief effort, donations can be made to the CAFOD-DEC Venezuela Earthquake Appeal by visiting [cafod.org.uk/Venezuela](https://cafod.org.uk/Venezuela), calling 0300 999 0030, or scan the QR code opposite. Thank you for your generosity and prayers as we stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Venezuela during this difficult time.



### Domestic Abuse Awareness and Support

The 2026 World Cup is now underway, bringing communities together in celebration and shared enjoyment of the beautiful game. However, studies have shown that major football tournaments can sometimes be linked to an increase in domestic abuse incidents, often due to heightened emotions, alcohol consumption, and other social pressures.

As a caring parish community, we are encouraged to be mindful of the wellbeing of family members, friends, neighbours, and anyone who may be experiencing difficulties at home. If you have concerns about someone's safety or welfare, please do not ignore them. If someone is in immediate danger, call 999.

Confidential support is available through the National Domestic Abuse Helpline on 0808 2000 247. Information, support resources, and parish materials are also available through Caritas (see the notice board in the Pastoral Centre entrance) or by contacting [caritas@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:caritas@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).

Let us keep in our prayers all those affected by domestic abuse, that they may find safety, support, healing, and hope.

## FAREWELL, THANKS AND HAPPY RETIREMENT - MEMBERS OF FPAC

Two long standing members of the Finance and Property Advisory Committee (FPAC) are standing down this month after a combined 35 years service on the committee. Barry Poffley and Ian Bray were originally appointed to serve when Canon Paul was Parish Priest and have served since then. They have been active members of the committee offering oversight of the Parish finances and advice to our Parish Priest on financial affairs. But they have also been willing to roll their sleeves up and support the office staff in carrying out the financial administration of our parish - whether it's implementing new accounting packages; monitoring and reducing our utility costs; or preparing the financial budget. We thank them both for their service and wish them a happy 'retirement'. Piotr Nahajski - FPAC Chair

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Your merciful love, O God, we have received in the midst of your temple. Your praise, O God, like your name, reaches the ends of the earth; your right hand is filled with saving justice.

### FIRST READING

*First reading: Zechariah 9:9-10*

*Responsorial Psalm: Ps 145(144):1-2. 8-9. 10-11. 13c-14. R. cf. 1*

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

### SECOND READING

*Romans 8:9, 11-13*

*Gospel Acclamation:*

*R. Alleluia, alleluia.*

I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, you have revealed the secrets of the kingdom to little children.

**R. Alleluia**

### GOSPEL

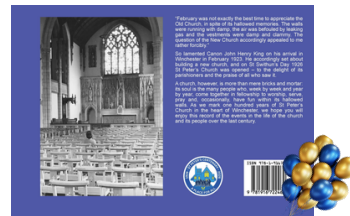
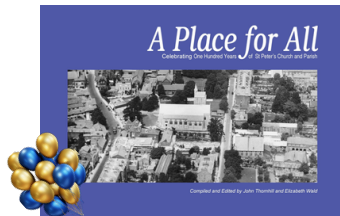
*Matthew 11:25-30*

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:**

*Ps 33:9*

*Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed the man who seeks refuge in him.*

## CENTENARY BOOK - A LASTING PIECE OF HISTORY



If you missed the official launch of our Centenary Book at the Parish Party, there's still time to purchase your copy. Beautifully produced and filled with fascinating stories, photographs and memories, this special publication celebrates 100 years of faith, friendship and community at St Peter & The Winchester Martyrs. It is a wonderful keepsake for parishioners, families and friends, and a lasting record of this landmark year in our parish's history. Copies are available from the parish bookshop and will also be on sale at selected Centenary events throughout July, including the St Stephen's Celebrations (12 July), the Centenary Mass on St Swithun's Day (15 July), and the Former Priests' Gathering and Fr Mark's Silver Jubilee Celebrations (18 July).

Don't miss the opportunity to own this special commemorative book and celebrate our parish's remarkable Centenary journey. Together, we honour our past, give thanks for the present, and look forward with hope to the future

🌟 **New Arrivals in Our Parish Bookshop:** There's always something new to discover in our parish bookshop. We now have a wonderful selection of First Holy Communion and Confirmation cards and gifts, along with fresh stock of the popular YOUCAT Bible and copies of the new encyclical, Magnifica Humanitas. Whether you're looking for a thoughtful present or something to enrich your own faith journey, we'd be delighted to welcome you.



### First Holy Communion, Confirmation and Parish Party Celebrations – Thank You

What a joyful and grace-filled weekend for our parish family!

We give heartfelt thanks to God for our children who received their First Holy Communion and for those who completed their Confirmation journey. These beautiful celebrations were a powerful witness to faith, hope and the living presence of Christ among us. Please continue to keep them in your prayers as they grow in discipleship and deepen their relationship with the Lord.

Thank you to our catechists, clergy, musicians, volunteers, families and all who helped make these occasions so memorable. Your generosity, commitment and prayerful support made the celebrations truly special.

We are especially grateful to Sarah, Terry and Charlotte for providing the wonderful food and refreshments, and to everyone who joined us for the Parish Party. The warmth, friendship and sense of community shared throughout the day reflected the very best of our parish family.

A sincere thank you also to everyone who purchased our Centenary Book. Your support is helping to preserve and celebrate our parish's rich heritage as we journey through our Centenary year. Copies remain available in the bookshop and will also be on sale during our Centenary celebrations.

Together, these moments remind us that our parish is truly A Place for All—a community united in faith, friendship and gratitude, looking forward with hope to the blessings still to come



## GIVING THANKS FOR 25 YEARS OF PRIESTHOOD

Following the recent news that Fr Mark will be leaving us in the autumn, his Silver Jubilee provides a wonderful opportunity for our parish family to celebrate and thank him for his ministry among us.

As part of our Centenary year, we are delighted to mark **Fr Mark Hogan's 25th anniversary of priestly ordination on 21 July 2026**. To celebrate this special occasion, a parish collection is being organised as a token of our gratitude for his faithful service and dedication. If you would like to contribute, any gift, however great or small, will be warmly received and presented to Fr Mark with our prayers, thanks, and best wishes. We hope you will join us in making this a memorable celebration of his Silver Jubilee.

### Donations can be made in the following ways:

- An envelope marked "Fr. Mark Silver Jubilee"
- Using the contactless terminals at St Peter's or St Stephen's
- By bank transfer (please see page 5 for details). Please remember to reference "Fr. Mark Silver Jubilee"



## FUNERALS

**We pray for:** Rev Kevin Bidgood RIP.  
Jennifer Patta RIP - Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July at 2:30pm at St Peter's Church.  
Ann Crisp RIP - Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July at 2:30pm at The Chesil Suite.

**May God grant them eternal rest.**

## PRAYER CORNER

Let us pray for the families in our parish communities, and for those whom we support through our ministries, especially through First Holy Communion and Confirmation preparation.



## PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

**Churches Together in Winchester:** Our annual celebration of Churches Together, to include the formal AGM, will take place at Wesley Methodist church, Fromond Road, Weeke on Thursday 9th July at 7.30pm. Please join us and come and hear about, and pray for, the work of the Churches Together champions and our partner organisations.

**Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions: On Sat 11<sup>th</sup> July**, there will be Eucharistic Adoration in **St. Peter's Church from 9:30-10:30am**, alongside the usual confessions. Eucharistic Adoration is healing because, in the presence of Christ truly there, the Holy Spirit imprints faith, hope, and charity in the soul, drawing you back to God's love, so that confession can complete the work of reconciliation. In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Christ the "physician of our souls and bodies" forgives sin and brings pardon and peace, so your heart is healed, reconciled, and put back on the right path. Confession brings forgiveness and helps you to receive and adore the Lord more fully.

**St Stephen's Annual Celebration: Sunday 12th July** - Join us at St Stephen's Church for our Annual Celebration at the 9:15am Mass on Sunday 12th July. This year, we will also celebrate our newly Confirmed parishioners, giving thanks for this important milestone in their faith journey.

Everyone is warmly invited to stay after Mass for refreshments, games, and fellowship. There will also be an opportunity to purchase Centenary gifts, including the NEW Centenary book, edited by John Thornhill and Liz Wald. As Liz will be attending the Mass, this is a wonderful opportunity to have your copy personally signed – a special keepsake of our Centenary year. We look forward to celebrating with you all!

**Final Opportunity to Book - Centenary Pilgrimage to Walsingham:** There is still time to join our Centenary Pilgrimage to the Catholic National Shrine and Basilica of Our Lady in Walsingham on **10-11 August 2026**, but additional **bookings close on 13 July**. The two-day pilgrimage includes travel by coach from Winchester, a visit to Holkham Hall and Gardens, overnight accommodation in Walsingham and the opportunity to take part in the Shrine's daily programme of prayer and worship. The cost is £203 per person. If you would like to book or find out more, please contact [pilgrimage@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:pilgrimage@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) before the closing date.

**Family Catechism Camp – 5th–6th September** - Families with primary school-aged children are invited to a **Family Catechism Camp in Winchester from Saturday 5th to Sunday 6th September**. Younger and older siblings are also welcome. The camp will begin at 11:00am on Saturday and conclude with a walk to the 9:15am Mass at St Stephen's on Sunday. The programme includes games, catechism sessions, and times of prayer for both children and adults.



Places are limited. There is no attendance fee, although participants will be asked to contribute towards the cost of materials and food. Families will also need to bring their own tents. To register, please complete the online form: [CLICK HERE](#). For further information, please contact Naomi on 07828 106450.

**Please note: This is not a parish event, but families from St Peter's Parish are warmly welcome to attend.** More information from Alexis and Naomi de La Ferriere.

**SAVE THE DATE! Celebration Mass of Marriages at St Peter's: On Saturday 3rd October at 11.00am**, we will celebrate a special Mass marking 100 years of weddings in our beautiful parish church of St Peter's. We warmly invite all couples who were married at St Peter's, whether recently or many years ago — as well as those preparing to be married here — to join us for this joyful celebration. Wherever you are now, in the parish or anywhere in the world, you are very welcome. Please help us spread the word so that everyone who has celebrated marriage at St Peter's feels invited. **More details and information on how to register coming soon!!**



**SAVE THE DATE - Murder Mystery Evening:** Mark your calendars for **Saturday 31st October 2026 at 7.00pm** and join the Geriactors for an evening of mystery, entertainment and good food at Weeke Community Centre. The event is being held in aid of the SVP Christmas Parcels Appeal. Tickets are £20 per person, including a two-course meal, and will be available to purchase in due course. More details will follow, but for now, save the date and get ready for a fun-filled evening!

## ADOREMUS 2026 – A NATIONAL CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Adoremus is a National Eucharistic Congress initiated by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. Its purpose is to deepen our devotion to the Eucharist and to renew and encourage the practice of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament within our communities.

We are delighted to share that the next Adoremus event will take place in London on **Saturday 10th October 2026**. The day promises to be a beautiful and prayerful gathering of Catholics from across the country, featuring Holy Mass, a Eucharistic Procession, and Benediction.

Our parish hopes to offer this special opportunity to attend, allowing parishioners to take part in this national act of worship and witness. Further details on how to book and reserve your place will be shared soon—please watch this space in the coming weeks. To find out more about the day, please [CLICK HERE](#)



## SCHOOL NEWS - ST PETER'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

**Newsletter:** For news and information about our wonderful Catholic Primary School, please [Click here](#)

**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

Please submit newsletter requests by **Wednesday mid-day!** Email: [newsletters@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:newsletters@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

### 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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# A PLACE FOR ALL



## ST PETER'S CHURCH, WINCHESTER CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS – JULY 2026

### A Century of Faith, Prayer and Community



Be part of a truly historic moment as St Peter's Church celebrates 100 years of worship in its present home. This July, we invite you to join us for a once-in-a-generation celebration marking the centenary of the first Mass celebrated in St Peter's Church in 1926. While we honour 100 years in this beloved building, we also celebrate a much deeper story of Catholic faith in Winchester – a story stretching back through the Winchester Martyrs, Bishop Milner's chapel of 1792, and the countless generations who have prayed, served and witnessed to Christ here.

Over three special events, parishioners past and present, friends of the parish and members of the wider community are invited to come together in gratitude for all that God has accomplished through St Peter's and The Winchester Martyrs Parish.

Adding to the significance of these celebrations, we are delighted to welcome Bishop Philip Egan, Bishop Crispian Hollis, clergy from across the Diocese, senior Church leaders, civic representatives and distinguished guests, reflecting the important place our parish holds in the life of the Diocese and beyond.

Whether you were baptised or married here, attended one of our schools, sang in the choir, worshipped with us during your university years, or have recently joined our parish family, this celebration is for you.

#### There's Still Time to Register

Attendance at all events is **free of charge**, but registration is essential to help us plan seating, hospitality and ensure a warm welcome for everyone. In response to requests from parishioners and friends who have not yet had the opportunity to book, we have extended the registration deadline. We warmly invite you to secure your place by scanning the QR code or using the link below.



**Tuesday 14th July at 7:00pm**

**Solemn Ecumenical Vespers for the Vigil of St Swithun**

followed by a simple reception. Please [click here](#) to register:



**Wednesday 15th July at 11:00am**

**Centenary Mass on the Solemnity of St Swithun**

followed by a simple reception. Please [click here](#) to register:



**Saturday 18th July at 5:30pm - A Gathering of Parishioners Past and Present including the Vigil Mass for the 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

followed by a simple reception. Please [click here](#) to register:



#### Parking Information

As large numbers are expected throughout the celebrations, parking at St Peter's Church and the Parish Pastoral Centre will be limited. Accessible parking and a small number of spaces will be reserved for invited guests, clergy and those with mobility needs. Visitors are encouraged to use Winchester city centre car parks or arrange drop-off where possible. If you require assistance, please let us know when registering.

Please [click here](#) to access a map of nearby Winchester city centre car parks.

#### Join the Celebration

This promises to be a joyful, inspiring and unforgettable occasion as we celebrate our rich heritage, give thanks for the present, and look forward with hope to the future. We look forward to welcoming you as we gather as one parish family to mark 100 years of worship, witness and community at St Peter's Church.

Fr Mark Hogan  
Parish Priest

For more details on events and updates, please check the newsletter, visit the 'Centenary' website page or email us on: [centenary@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:centenary@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)



[www.catholicwinchester.org.uk/centenary/](http://www.catholicwinchester.org.uk/centenary/)

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

NEWS | DONATE | CELEBRATE

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

# 14<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME- SUNDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2026 | YEAR A

## MASS TIME TABLE:

Date	Times	Where	Intentions	
<b>Sat 4 July</b> St Elizabeth of Portugal	9:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	Dead In Cemeteries	
	9:30AM to 10:30AM	Confession at St Peter's		
	<b>Sunday VIGIL</b> 14 Sunday in Ordinary Time	4:30PM to 5:00PM	Confession at St Peter's	
		5:30PM	Vigil Mass at St Peter's	Richard Luker RIP
<b>Sun 5 July</b> 14 Sunday in Ordinary Time	8:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	The Souls of David & Julia Connell	
	9:00AM	Mass at St Thomas More's	Frank Hinds for His intentions	
	9:15AM	Mass at St Stephen's	Tricia Wilkinson RIP	
	10:30AM	<b>Family Mass at St Peter's</b>	Marie-Therese Nicholas	
	11:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	Neil Intentions	
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's <b>(Grace Notes Choir)</b>	People of the Parish	
<b>Mon 6 July</b> St Maria Goretti	8:00AM	Morning Prayer, Adoration at St Peter's		
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's	Holy Souls in Purgatory	
<b>Tues 7 July</b> 14 Week in Ordinary Time	8:00AM	Morning Prayer, Adoration at St Peter's		
	<b>10:00AM</b>	<b>Mass at St Gregory's Cancelled</b>		
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's	Fr Joe O'Donnell RIP	
<b>Wed 8 July</b> 14 Week in Ordinary Time	<b>8:00AM</b>	<b>Morning Prayer, Adoration at St Peter's Cancelled</b>		
	<b>11:00AM</b>	<b>Mass at St Peter's</b>		
<b>Thurs 9 July</b> St Augustine Zhao Rong	8:00AM	Morning Prayer, Adoration & Mass at St Peter's		
	10:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	The Soul of Mary Wheble	
<b>Fri 10 July</b> 14 Week in Ordinary Time	8:00AM	Morning Prayer, Adoration at St Peter's		
	<b>10:00AM</b>	<b>Mass at St Gregory's Cancelled</b>		
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's	Richard Spencer & Concelebrating Local Priests	
<b>Sat 1th July</b> St Benedict	9:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	Benefactors	
	9:30AM to 10.30AM	<b>Eucharistic Adoration &amp; Confession at St Peter's</b>		
	<b>Sunday VIGIL</b> 15 Sunday in Ordinary Time	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\*\*](#)