



PETERPOST

The Parish of St Peter and the Winchester Martyrs

Heart of Hampshire parish with worshipping communities in Winchester, Alresford and Stockbridge

THE PARISH
OF ST PETER

& THE WINCHESTER MARTYRS

WHAT'S INSIDE THIS WEEK:

- *Fr Mark's Writes: Warm Up For Mass...*
- *Centenary Celebrations & Blessing From Pope Leo XIV*
- *St Stephen's Annual Celebration*
- *Sea Sunday - Stella Maris Appeal*



FR MARK WRITES: WARMING UP FOR MASS AND TO ENTER THE MYSTERY MORE FULLY

Just as our bodies need warming up for exercise, so our hearts, minds and bodies need preparing for an encounter with Christ.

I try to exercise five times a week. On most mornings, I'm either in the gym or out for a run. It's a routine that helps keep both body and mind healthy. These days, though, being a little less young (or chronologically gifted), I've discovered that before any serious exercise I need a good warm-up. As I get older, flexibility doesn't come quite so easily, so I have a routine that prepares me for what lies ahead. Sometimes, in a gym class, the instructor leads everyone through the same movements, helping us not only warm up but also become one group, ready for the session.

There's something similar about coming to Mass.

We can begin preparing during the week by looking ahead to the readings and praying with them. Then, as we come to church, we can become more aware of the Lord's presence. Blessing ourselves with holy water, genuflecting where appropriate, and spending a few moments in quiet prayer all help us arrive more intentionally. It's not about rushing or performing. It's about allowing our hearts to settle so that we are ready to encounter God.

The Church calls the opening part of Mass the *Introductory Rites*. These include the Entrance, Greeting, Penitential Act, Kyrie, Gloria, and Collect. Their purpose is simple: to gather us into one community and prepare us to listen to God's Word and celebrate the Eucharist worthily.

Last week I reflected on the Mass as a mystery to be explored rather than a puzzle to be solved, and on the four ways Christ is present: in the priest, in the people, in the Word, and in the Eucharist. This week I'd like us to think about what God begins to stir within us as Mass begins.

The Entrance chant gathers us. The Church tells us that it fosters unity, introduces the mystery being celebrated, and accompanies the procession. That is why music matters. Whether we sing confidently or simply listen prayerfully, music draws us out of ourselves and helps us become one body. It begins to warm the heart for worship.

Then comes the Greeting. After the Entrance comes the greeting. This isn't just "hello" from the priest but the beginning of a dialogue that sets our minds on what we are doing. The Church gathers at the start of Mass, and the greeting helps make clear the mystery of the Church gathered together. In that dialogue, something happens: we are reminded we are not coming to Mass as isolated individuals. We are coming as a people, responding together to the Lord.

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.



15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME-SUNDAY 12TH JULY 2026 | YEAR A

The Penitential Act and Kyrie invite honesty and humility. We acknowledge our sins, not to dwell on failure, but to open ourselves to mercy. God wants to heal us, and we make room for that healing by coming before him truthfully as we are. The Gloria lifts our gaze. Having asked for mercy, we move into praise and thanksgiving. Even in the midst of weakness and struggle, we recognise that God is worthy of all glory.

Finally, the Collect gathers our prayers together. Our joys, worries, hopes and fears are silently offered to God, and the priest gathers that prayer and offers it to God in the Collect.

A simple spiritual “warm-up” for your week

Perhaps the Introductory Rites can be summed up in three simple words: **sorry, thank you, please.**

This week, why not make those words part of your daily prayer? Begin each day with a brief conversation with Jesus: “Sorry, Lord. Thank you, Lord. Please, Lord.” Maybe you could keep a short journal. It shouldn’t take more than a few minutes.

If we do that, we may find ourselves arriving at Mass already warmed up and ready to encounter Christ more deeply and to enter more fully into the mystery of his love.



A PLACE FOR ALL



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

This week, St Peter's Church celebrates a truly special milestone: **100 years since the first Mass was celebrated** in our present church building. As we give thanks for a century of prayer, worship and service, we also honour the rich story of Catholic faith in Winchester, from the witness of the Winchester Martyrs to the generations of parishioners who have lived, shared and passed on the Gospel in this place.

We are delighted to welcome **Bishop Philip Egan, Bishop Crispian Hollis**, clergy from across the Diocese, civic representatives and distinguished guests. We are especially honoured that **His Excellency Archbishop Miguel Maury Buendía, Apostolic Nuncio to Great Britain**, will join us and bring a special message and **Apostolic Blessing from His Holiness Pope Leo XIV**—a wonderful and historic gift for our parish community.

As we celebrate our past with gratitude and look to the future with confidence and hope, we warmly invite everyone to be part of these joyful celebrations. Whether St Peter's has been your spiritual home for many years, or you have only recently joined us, this celebration belongs to all of us.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who booked in advance, which has greatly assisted our planning and catering arrangements. Although bookings have now closed, **you are still very welcome to attend.** If you have not registered, please do come along—we will be delighted to find a place for you.

- **Tuesday 14th July at 7:00pm** - Solemn Ecumenical Vespers for the Vigil of St Swithun
- **Wednesday 15th July at 11:00am** - Centenary Mass on the Solemnity of St Swithun
- **Saturday 18th July at 5:30pm** - A Gathering of Parishioners Past and Present - including the Vigil Mass

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Please arrive at least 20 minutes before each event to allow time for parking, registration and seating. Please note that parking on site will be available only for those with reserved spaces. Each celebration will be followed by a simple reception. A photographer will be present throughout the celebrations and photographs may be used in parish communications and publicity. Please visit the parish website or contact the office for more details.

SECOND COLLECTION - SEA SUNDAY 12TH JULY

This Sunday we celebrate Sea Sunday, a time to pray for seafarers, fishers and their families, and to give thanks for the vital role they play in supporting our daily lives. We also remember those working in difficult and often dangerous conditions at sea, particularly in areas affected by conflict and instability, including recent tensions around the Strait of Hormuz, a key shipping route for global trade. **This year's collection supports Stella Maris**, the Catholic maritime charity, whose chaplains provide practical, pastoral and spiritual care to seafarers and fishers around the world whenever they need it most. Please [click here](#) to find out more or to make a donation.



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face; I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

FIRST READING

First reading: Isaiah 55:10-11

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 65(64): 10a-d. 10e-11. 12-13. 14.R. Luke 8:8

Some seed fell into good soil and yielded its fruit.

SECOND READING

Romans 8:18-23

Gospel Acclamation:

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

The seed is the word of God, christ the sower; all who find him will live for ever.

R. Alleluia

GOSPEL *Matthew 13:1-23*

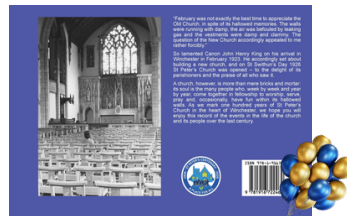
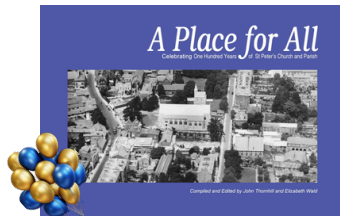
COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Cf Ps 83:4-5

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME-SUNDAY 12TH JULY 2026 | YEAR A

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

🌟 Discover Something Special in the Parish Bookshop!

Looking for a meaningful gift, a Centenary keepsake, or something to enrich your faith journey? Visit our parish bookshop and browse our range of cards and gifts, including Silver Jubilee cards, Centenary memorabilia, the new Centenary Book, the popular YOUCAT Bible, and the Holy Father's latest encyclical, Magnifica Humanitas. 🙏🌟

Pop in after Mass and discover something to inspire, encourage and uplift – while supporting your parish bookshop. 📖

GIVING THANKS FOR 25 YEARS OF FR MARK!

Following the recent news that Fr Mark will be leaving us in the autumn, his Silver Jubilee gives us a wonderful opportunity to celebrate his ministry and thank him for all he has given to our parish community.

This year marks 25 years since Fr Mark Hogan's ordination to the priesthood, and we are delighted to honour this **significant milestone on Saturday 18 July at 5:30pm**. Parishioners, past and present, are warmly invited to join us as we gather in thanksgiving, friendship, and celebration as part of our Centenary Year.

Over the past nine years, Fr Mark has faithfully shepherded our parish with generosity, compassion, humour, and dedication. He has shared in our joys and sorrows, celebrated our milestones, strengthened our faith, and helped build a vibrant community centred on Christ. His Silver Jubilee is not only a celebration of twenty-five years of priestly service, but also an opportunity for us to express our gratitude for the many ways he has touched our lives.

A parish collection is being organised as a token of our appreciation. Any gift, however great or small, will be warmly received and presented to Fr Mark with our prayers, thanks, and best wishes for the future.

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"



A SPECIAL APOSTOLIC BLESSING FROM POPE LEO XIV

As St Peter's Church prepares to celebrate its Centenary in 2026, we are honoured to have received an Apostolic Blessing from His Holiness Pope Leo XIV.

This special blessing marks a significant moment in the life of our parish, recognising one hundred years of faith, worship, service and community. It stands as a powerful reminder of our place within the universal Church and of the Holy Father's prayers for all who call St Peter's their spiritual home. The beautifully framed blessing is now displayed in the Pastoral Centre (Bookshop), and we warmly invite parishioners and visitors to take a moment to view this treasured gift.

As we give thanks for the generations who have built and sustained our parish, we look to the future with renewed hope and commitment to our Centenary theme, "A Place for All."

May this blessing inspire us to continue bringing people closer to Jesus Christ in hope and joy.



FUNERALS

We pray for:

Jennifer Patta RIP - Monday 13th July at 2:30pm at St Peter's Church.
Ann Crisp RIP - Thursday 16th July at 2:30pm at The Chesil Suite.

May God grant them eternal rest.

BAPTISM

Welcome to Baptism of Benedetta Sangio who was baptised at St Peter's church on Sunday 5th July.

May God bless her with His love and grace, today and always.

PRAYER CORNER

Let us pray that this week's Centenary celebrations will be a source of joy, fulfilment and lasting grace for our whole parish.



PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions: On Sat 11th 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!

CWL Soup and Pud Lunch for Charity - A huge thank you to all who came to our lunch last Friday (3rd July) helping us raise **£280.00 in aid of the Winchester Hospice**. Our next lunch for Charity will be on Friday 11th September (*Please note change of date*) in the Pastoral Centre and look forward to seeing you there!

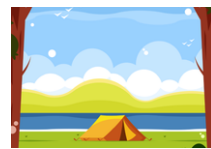
Hearts on Fire - Evening of Prayer and Worship - You are warmly invited to join us on Sunday 19th July at 7pm in the Milner Hall. Come and be part of something truly beautiful: an evening of prayer, Eucharistic adoration, joyful praise and worship music, and quiet time to encounter the Lord. Come and rest in God's presence, be refreshed through prayer and song. All are very welcome.



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 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. More information from Alexis and Naomi de La Ferriere.

Please note: This is not a parish event, but families from St Peter's Parish are warmly welcome to attend.

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!

OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

As part of the Diocese's move towards a fully academised education system, the Edith Stein Catholic Academy Trust is seeking practising Catholics to serve as Directors on its Trust Board - [click here](#) for further information.. The Trust is looking for individuals with experience in areas such as finance, HR, legal, local authority services, audit, compliance, and estates management. Directors play a vital role in shaping the vision, values and future of Catholic education across our region. If you have relevant skills and would like to explore this rewarding opportunity to support young people in receiving an exceptional faith-filled education, please contact Catherine Hobbs, Director of Education, at chobbs@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk for further information

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 or email

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

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:

Date	Times	Where	Intentions
Sat 11th July St Benedict	9:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	Benefactors
	9:30AM to 10:30AM	Eucharistic Adoration & Confession at St Peter's	
Sunday VIGIL 15 Sunday in Ordinary Time	4:30PM to 5:00PM	Confession at St Peter's	
	5:30PM	Vigil Mass at St Peter's	People of the Parish
Sun 12 July 15 Sunday in Ordinary Time	8:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	People of the Parish
	9:00AM	Mass at St Thomas More's	The Soul of Margaret Fletcher
	9:15AM	Mass at St Stephen's	
	10:30AM	Mass at St Peter's	Erinqueta Gonzalez RIP
	11:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	The Soul of William Meader
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	Vincent Okon 12 th Birthday Blessings
Mon 13 July St Henry	8:00AM	Morning Prayer, Adoration at St Peter's	
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's	
	2:30PM	Funeral Mass at St Peter's - Jennifer Patta RIP	
Tues 14 July St Camillus of Lellis	8:00AM	Morning Prayer, Adoration at Milner Hall	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's	John & Mary Perry RIP
	7:00PM	Solemn Vespers at St Peter's - Centenary	
Wed 15 July St Swithun	8:00AM	Morning Prayer, Adoration at St Peter's	
	11:00AM	Mass Solemnity of St Swithun at St Peter's - Centenary	
Thurs 16 July Our Lady of Mount Carmel	8:00AM	Morning Prayer, Adoration at St Peter's	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	The Repose of the Soul of Patricia Ringrose-Voase
Fri 17 July St Bonaventure	8:00AM	Morning Prayer, Adoration at St Peter's	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	The Soul of Lady Mary Mannock
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's	
Sat 18h July Our Lady on Saturday	9:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	All the Souls in Purgatory
	9:30AM to 10.30AM	Confession at St Peter's Cancelled (due to an ordination)	
	4:30PM to 5:00PM	Confession at St Peter's	
Sunday VIGIL 16 Sunday in Ordinary Time	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's - Centenary & Fr Mark's Silver Anniversary	Fr Mark Hogan - Priestly Ordination (Silver Jubilee)

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](#)

