

1926 PETERPOST 2026

Centenary Souvenir Edition - 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 Writes: Hearing With Our Hearts**
- **Centenary Celebrations - THANK YOU**



FR MARK WRITES: HEARING WITH OUR HEARTS

God's Word reaches our ears, but it takes root uniquely in each heart that is willing to listen.

Most of us have heard of optical illusions, but there's also something called an auditory illusion. Even in everyday situations, though, it's remarkable how two people can hear the exact same thing and yet walk away with completely different understandings. When you hear the Scripture readings at Mass, it's safe to say that you will hear them in a way that is distinct. They will be the same readings but you will hear something different to the person sat next to you or behind you.

If that is true of *hearing*, then it's even more true of *listening*. When you actively focus and pay attention to what you hear at Mass, you will discover the unique message that the Lord gives you, received with the Church's faith, through the Scripture.

What are you listening for when you come to Mass? Inspiration? Direction? A line to lift you up? The words of Jesus? What are you listening for? What *should* you be listening for? We can all walk away hearing different things, but what's most important is not *what we hear but how we listen*.

After the Introductory Rites, we enter the Liturgy of the Word. **'Liturgy' means the work of the people.** So, it's not a moment for passive spectators. Our work at this point is to listen.

How do we become better listeners? Well, it helps to know what you are listening to.

The Mass is, in large part, the Bible coming to life before us. The prayers, responses, symbols and Eucharist all have their roots in Scripture. The Bible is God's revelation to us. It is our story. Written by many authors over many centuries, it tells of God's relationship with his people and his plan of salvation.

At a typical Sunday Mass, we hear an Old Testament reading, a Responsorial Psalm, a New Testament reading and a Gospel passage. These readings come from a three-year cycle called the Lectionary, which allows us to hear a great portion of the Bible over time.

The Bible really is our story. We realize it's our story because the same God that created Adam and Eve created you and me. We see our own struggles, hopes, failures and victories reflected in the lives of the people we meet in Scripture. Above all, it is our story because Jesus came for each one of us. When we come to Mass, we do not simply hear ancient stories; we hear *our* story.

Our story continues with the 'homily'. Its purpose is not simply to inform but to elicit a response. It determines the direction of the people and the parish. It can make or break your experience of Mass and even change your life. Fr Pedro and the deacons and I spend a lot of time working on messages because we believe in the power of the homily to transform lives.

Listening is hearing with heart. Sound enters through the ears and passes through the mind, but faith asks it to travel further still, from the head to the heart. That is where the Word finds rich soil and takes root.

Like a seed, God's Word needs to be nurtured. We cannot simply scatter it and expect growth. We must make room for it, water it, feed it, tend it and remove whatever prevents it from flourishing. So ask yourself: *What is preventing me from listening to God with my whole heart today?*

Hearing with heart is removing the barriers that keep God's Word from taking root within us.

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.



THANK YOU; SIMPLY, THANK YOU; SINCERELY, THANK YOU

At Jesus's baptism, a voice from heaven, the voice of God the Father, declared: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased".

So, I think that there is good Scriptural precedent for me beaming with love and joy for you, my spiritual children, at the end of a truly beautiful and blessed week. I am so very proud, in the good sense, of the incredible team effort that has made this week one that will last long in the memories of those of us who were able to participate.

St. Peter's Church is looking absolutely stunning, thanks to your time, care and devotion for this special house of prayer and encounter with the Living God. Even more importantly for me, though, was the fact that so many of our guests were able to experience a taste of the hope, joy and kindness of which the Cardinal spoke. And all of this made possible by us trusting in our Heavenly Father's love and letting Him love in us and through us.

Thank you so much to each and every one of you, whether you were able to be with us this week or not, for the part you have played, now matter how small it might seem to you, in making this possible.

With all my heartfelt love and with bountiful blessings,

Fr Mark



Cardinal Vincent Nichols' homily

If you would like to read Cardinal Vincent Nichols' homily, delivered at the Centenary Mass on the Solemnity of St Swithun on Wednesday 15 July at 11.00am, please click the link below:

[St Peter's Church, Winchester Centenary Mass 15th July 2026.pdf](#)

In the News!

St Peter's Centenary celebrations have been featured in the Hampshire Chronicle. We are grateful for the opportunity to share the story of our parish and our Centenary theme, "A Place for All," with the wider community. Please click here to read more:

[hampshirechronicle-winchester-church-holds-special-mass-celebrate-100-years](#)

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO JANE REIDY

As Jane Reidy places her final sunflower and steps down after 17 years leading St Peter's Flower Arranging Team, we would like to offer our sincere and heartfelt thanks for her extraordinary dedication, kindness and creative flair. For nearly two decades, Jane has enhanced the beauty of our church with floral displays that have marked every season, feast day and celebration with grace and sensitivity. Her talent for bringing colour, warmth and meaning to our sacred space has been a blessing to us all.

This week's Centenary celebrations were a fitting finale. Jane and her team created displays that exceeded all expectations, transforming St Peter's into a truly radiant setting for its 100th birthday. We have received countless compliments about the beauty of the church, and many people have commented on how the flowers added such joy and splendour to the celebrations. This achievement was all the more remarkable given the challenges of the recent heatwave. More than her creativity, Jane has given our parish her friendship, commitment and unwavering support. Her contribution has left a lasting mark on St Peter's, and she will be greatly missed.

On behalf of the whole parish community, **thank you, Jane, for 17 years of faithful service.** We wish you every happiness and blessing in the future and hope you know just how much your work has been appreciated and cherished. 🌻 🌺 🙏

If you have a love of flowers, fellowship and serving our parish community, why not consider joining the Flower Arranging Team? Please contact the Parish Office for more information.



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

See, I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to you with willing heart, and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

FIRST READING

First reading: Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 86(85):5-6. 9-10. 15-16a. R. 5a

O Lord, you are good and forgiving.

SECOND READING

Romans 8:26-27

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 13:24-43

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Ps 110:4-5

The Lord, the gracious the merciful, has made a memorial of his wonders; he gives food to those who fear him.

A SPECIAL BLESSING FOR OUR CENTENARY

One of the many highlights of our Centenary celebrations was receiving a special Papal Blessing from His Holiness Pope Leo XIV, bestowed in recognition of the **100th Anniversary of St Peter & The Winchester Martyrs**. It is a wonderful affirmation of our parish's century of faith, worship and witness and a reminder that we are united with the Universal Church in proclaiming the Gospel.

We are delighted to include and share the Papal Blessing with you here. We hope you will take a few moments to read this beautiful message of prayer and encouragement.



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16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME- SUNDAY 19TH JULY 2026 | YEAR A
ST PETER'S CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS - A PLACE FOR ALL



We are delighted to share some of the many photographs taken during our Centenary celebrations at St Peter's.

Tuesday 14 July – Ecumenical Vespers

Wednesday 15 July – Centenary Anniversary Mass - Feast of St Swithun



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More details on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/catholicwinchester>
 We are part of the Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth, Registered Charity Number: 1199568

CONGRATULATIONS TO FR MARK - 25 YEARS OF PRIESTLY ORDINATION

This Saturday, 18 July, at 5:30pm, the parish will celebrate a Special Centenary Mass at St Peter's, which will also mark **Fr Mark Hogan's Silver Jubilee of Priestly Ordination**. Together, we will give thanks for 25 years of faithful service to God and His Church. Celebrations will continue afterwards in the Pastoral Centre, and all are warmly invited to attend. As Fr Mark prepares to leave the parish in the autumn, we also take this opportunity to thank him for his dedicated ministry to St Peter's and the Winchester Martyrs. A parish collection is being organised as a token of our gratitude, and contributions of any size are welcome. **Please join us in celebrating this special milestone and thanking Fr Mark for all he has given to our parish community.**

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"

We also thank everyone who has already sent cards and good wishes. These will be presented to Fr Mark on Saturday along with our prayers, gratitude and best wishes for the future.



PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

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.



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 on how to register in next week's newsletter.

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!

OUR PARISH SHINES BECAUSE OF YOU

As the summer holidays begin, we thank God for the many blessings He has poured upon our parish community. Whether you serve in a visible ministry or quietly behind the scenes, your contribution makes a real difference. From our clergy and staff to volunteers, musicians, catechists, hospitality teams, ministry leads and members, youth and family groups, flower arrangers, cleaners, fundraisers, and so many others, every act of kindness and service helps bring people closer to Jesus Christ in hope and joy.



As families enjoy a well-earned break and time together, may this season bring rest, renewal, and moments to recognise God's goodness in our lives.

Our Centenary Year continues with much to look forward to, including our History Open Days (11-20 September), Centenary Wedding Anniversary Mass (3 October), and Christmas Carol Concert (10 December). Together, these events will celebrate our past, give thanks for the present, and inspire hope for the future.

Wherever the summer takes you, may God bless you and your loved ones, keep you safe, and fill your hearts with peace and joy. Thank you for all you do. Have a wonderful, blessed, and joyful summer.

Fr Mark, Fr Pedro and the Parish Team ☀️🙏

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.



16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME- SUNDAY 19TH JULY 2026 | YEAR A

MASS TIME TABLE:

Date	Times	Where	Intentions
Sat 18 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)
Sun 19 July 16 Sunday in Ordinary Time	8:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	
	9:00AM	Mass at St Thomas More's	People of the Parish
	9:15AM	Mass at St Stephen's	Children & Families of the Parish
	10:30AM	Mass at St Peter's	Paul Spratt RIP
	11:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	For the Intentions of the Way & Corcoran Families
Mon 20 July St Apollinaris	8:00AM	Morning Prayer, Adoration at St Peter's	
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's	
Tues 21 July St Laurence of Brindisi	8:00AM	Morning Prayer, Adoration at St Peter's	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	For the Soul of James Wheble
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's	Clement Artaud de La Ferrière & His Wellbeing
Wed 22 July St Mary Magdalene	8:00AM	Morning Prayer, Adoration at St Peter's	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	The Soul of Stanley Evans
Thurs 23 July St Bridget of Sweden	8:00AM	Morning Prayer, Adoration at St Peter's	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	
Fri 24 July St Sharbel Makhluף	8:00AM	Morning Prayer, Adoration at St Peter's	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's	
Sat 25 July St James	9:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	The Soul of John Henry King
	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	The Soul of Kay & Eric Kearney

FUNERALS

We pray for:

Peter Noel Harding RIP - 6th August, 10.00am at St Gregory's Church.

Michael Benson RIP

May God grant them eternal rest.

BAPTISM

Welcome to Baptism of Flora Athenia O'Neill 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 for all those who belong to or visit St. Peter's Church, giving thanks for 100 years of faith, worship and service to our wider community. May the Lord continue to bless and guide us as we move forward into the future.



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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