29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - SUNDAY 18TH OCTOBER 2026| YEAR A

PETERPOST

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 Pedro Writes: Living in God's Image***
- ***World Mission Sunday***
- ***Parish Opportunities***
- ***Solemnity of the Blessed Winchester Martyrs – Friday 30th October, 7.00pm***



FR PEDRO WRITES: LIVING IN GOD'S IMAGE

This Sunday we reflect on an important question: To whom does my life truly belong? We find the answer in the Gospel: as some people try to trap Jesus with a difficult political question: should taxes be paid to Caesar or not? Jesus asks to see the coin and points out that it bears Caesar's image. Then He gives His famous reply: "Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God." At first glance, this may sound like a discussion about money and taxes, but Jesus is leading us much deeper. The coin belongs to Caesar because it carries his image. But what carries God's image? We do. Every man, woman, and child is created in the image and likeness of God. So while there are duties we owe to society, our deepest loyalty belongs to the Lord. Our time, our talents, our hopes, our struggles, and our hearts are His.

As we begin a new week, perhaps we can carry one simple question in our hearts: If someone looked at my life, would they recognise God's image shining there? Perhaps I need a little bit of polishing,... the Sacrament of Reconciliation can help, and also some extra prayer time, or perhaps joining a Parish group or ministry to grow in my faith.
The Lord wants us to become living images of His love, let's work on it.

On the 18th October we traditionally celebrate the feast of St Luke, the author of the third Gospel and of the Acts of the Apostles. Through his writings, he skillfully depicted the image of Jesus, especially His mercy, compassion, and love for the poor. According to an ancient tradition, St Luke interviewed the Virgin Mary in person, asking her about the childhood of Jesus to record it in his Gospel. Later, St Luke painted an image of Our Lady holding baby Jesus. Let's ask St Luke to inspire us to become faithful images of God, and paint his portrait in our lives by showing his mercy, love and compassion to all.

A special centenary also takes place today, as we celebrate the 100th anniversary of World Mission Sunday, which was established in 1926 by Pope Pius XI. Since then, once a year, Catholics around the globe come together in prayer, solidarity, and support for the Church's mission work. As St Peter's Church celebrates its centenary on the same year as World Mission Sunday, let us pray specially to St Luke for the mission in our Parish, and for missionaries all over the world.

100

World Mission Sunday: Missionaries of Hope

This World Mission Sunday, we join Catholics across the globe in supporting the work of Missio, the Pope's charity for world mission. Through our prayers and generosity, we stand alongside communities facing poverty, conflict, and hardship, bringing hope through the Church's mission of faith, education, healthcare, and pastoral care.
Our contribution, however small, helps share Christ's love with those who need it most. Together, we are part of a worldwide family of faith, united in the mission to be a beacon of hope for all peoples.
Please support the special Missio collection and keep missionaries and those they serve in your prayers.
Donations: Scan the QR code, click **HERE** or use the contactless machines in church.

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.

OPPORTUNITIES



Could You Make A Difference To Our Parish?: Are you organised, approachable and looking for a rewarding role at the heart of parish life? We're looking for a friendly and capable Parish Administrator to join our busy, supportive Parish Office team. You'll help keep parish life running smoothly, supporting our clergy, parishioners, volunteers and ministry teams. From coordinating bookings and communications to maintaining records and supporting sacramental and liturgical activities, it's a varied role where your contribution really matters!

🕒 25 hours per week over 4 days (or as agreed). 💷 £17,485 per annum | Permanent, part-time Benefits include annual leave, a contributory pension scheme and an employee wellbeing programme. Closing date, 23rd September.

👉 **View the full advert and apply online**, where you'll also find the Parish Administrator Applicant Pack with further details. Alternatively, email your CV and covering letter to **recruitment@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk**, quoting Parish Administrator, Winchester. Know someone who might be just right for this role? Please spread the word!



A Different Way to Give Something Back: There are so many ways to contribute to parish life, and sometimes the skills we use every day are just what is needed behind the scenes! We have two volunteering opportunities supporting our Parish Finance Office. Could one of them be just right for you?

Finance & Gift Aid Support Volunteer: Do you enjoy working with figures and keeping things organised? We're looking for someone with a good eye for detail to help with Gift Aid records and routine financial administration. 🕒 Time commitment: Approximately 10 hours a month, arranged flexibly. No previous Gift Aid experience is necessary. Take a closer look at this role and **click here**.

Parish Collection Counter Volunteer: Could you spare three hours every fortnight? Join our friendly team of collection counters, working alongside another volunteer to count, record and prepare parish collections for banking. 🕒 Time commitment: Approximately 3 hours every fortnight, normally on a Tuesday. We're looking for someone reliable, methodical and comfortable working with others. Find out more about this role please **click here**.

Guidance and training will be provided for both roles. Perhaps one of these opportunities appeals to you, or perhaps you know someone who would be just right for it? Interested or simply curious? We'd love to hear from you! There's no obligation, just an opportunity to find out a little more. **Click here** to email the Parish Office.

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

Pies & Puds lunch - Wed 21st October: It's time for our monthly lunch event, on **Wednesday 21st October at the Pastoral Centre, 1pm.** We'll have pies, all the vegetables you can eat, proper puddings with custard, and vegetarian and G/F options. No booking or commitment necessary, just turn up, but do contact moirar@msn.com with any questions or to be added to our mailing list.

Visit of The Relics of St Gerard Majella & Mass – Thursday 29th October

As part of our Centenary Year celebrations, St Peter's is honoured to welcome the Relics of St Gerard Majella, marking the 300th anniversary of his birth. The relics will be available for prayer and veneration from 1.00pm, followed by Mass with a sermon at 7.00pm and a blessing with the relics afterwards. All are warmly invited to come and pray, seek St Gerard's intercession, and learn more about this much-loved saint. Click the link to read more **St-Gerard-Majella**.

🙏 **Reminder: Solemnity of the Blessed Winchester Martyrs – Friday 30th October, 7.00pm:** Please join us at St Peter's Church for this special Vigil, with guest speaker Austen Ivereigh, Catholic author and commentator. The evening will also mark Fr Mark's final Mass as Parish Priest, giving us an opportunity to thank him for his ministry and service to our parish. All are warmly welcome.

AI and Human Dignity: From UK Regulation to Papal Thought: Artificial Intelligence (AI) is increasingly becoming part of our everyday lives. But what opportunities and challenges does this rapidly developing technology present? Who is responsible for ensuring that AI is used responsibly? And what can Catholic teaching contribute to the debate about AI and human dignity? Join Fr Pedro and Professor Maria Burke for an accessible and thought-provoking evening exploring these questions, including the latest developments in AI, UK government policy and regulation, and the perspectives of the Catholic Church. **Wednesday 11 November 2026, 7.30–9.00 pm at** : St Peter's and the Winchester Martyrs Pastoral Centre. Admission is free and everyone is welcome. No specialist knowledge is required.. There will be an opportunity for questions and open discussion.



CATECHESIS

First Holy Communion Preparation 2027: Applications are still open however they will close end of Sept. Children who are in Year 4 (or above) may apply, however if your child is presently in Year 3 and you are a regular parishioner and feel they may be ready this year, please do get in touch. The **compulsory parents' session will be on Tuesday 3rd Nov at 7pm** in the Pastoral Centre adjoining St Peter's Church, Jewry Street. If you have any queries before completing the form, please email Rosanne Walker at: **rosanne@stpeterswinchester.org.uk** or **fhc@stpeterswinchester.org.uk**. Please find the link (or QR code) to register here on your right: **FHC - 2027**

COMMUNITY

News from Churches Together in Winchester:
Winchester Cathedral: Special Evensong on **Sunday 18th October,** celebrating 290 years of the Royal Hampshire County Hospital.
Winchester Churches Christmas Project: Volunteers and donations needed to support local people and families this Christmas. Help is needed by early November.
Volunteer Treasurers Needed: Churches Together in Winchester and Winchester City of Sanctuary are both seeking volunteer treasurers. Contact the Parish Office for further information. Contact **office@hopewinchester.org**.

Coffee Morning in aid of SWVG - Thursday 22nd October 2026 (9am to 11.00am): Join us at Rick Stein's Restaurant, 8 High Street, Winchester for coffee and cake in support of the Southampton and Winchester Visitors Group, helping local asylum seekers and refugees through the Wednesday Sanctuary Welcome Hub at St Peter's. £5 entry – coffee and cake included. Bring a friend and come along!

If God Is Good, Why Is There Evil?: Join Fr Adrian McCaffery OP for a free public lecture exploring evil and suffering through the teachings of St Thomas Aquinas. An opportunity to explore one of life's biggest questions and discover how faith and reason can help us make sense of suf fering. 📅 **Thursday 22nd October, 6.30pm.** 📍 University of Southampton, Highfield Campus, Building 58, Room 1067..👉 **Click here** for further details.

🏃 **Run for Residents – Westholme Fundraiser:** On **Wednesday 28th October**, a member of the Westholme care team will run a marathon from Alton to Westholme to raise funds for their residents. Donations will help provide Christmas entertainment, days out and additional outdoor shade for residents to enjoy. Every contribution makes a difference! Please support their appeal or cheer on their runner on the day. 👉 **Click here to donate or find out more**

Bamenda News **Bamenda Sunday - 1st November -** As part of the Diocese of Portsmouth's longstanding twinning relationship with the Archdiocese of Bamenda in Cameroon, we will be observing **Bamenda Sunday on 1st November**. This special partnership reminds us of our shared faith and commitment to supporting one another as one global Church. To learn more about Bamenda and this year's appeal, please click the latest newsletter **HERE**. Printed copies will also be available at the back of all our churches.

SCHOOL NEWS - ST PETER'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

🌾 **School Council Harvest Collection:** St Peter's Catholic Primary School Council is collecting food and essential items for Winchester Basics Bank and the Carroll Centre. Donations can be brought into school **until 23rd October**, with suggested items listed on school posters. 💛 Every contribution makes a difference. Thank you for your support!

Newsletter: For news and information about our wonderful Catholic Primary School, please **Click here**.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.

FIRST READING

First reading: Isaiah 45:1, 4-6

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 96(95): 1, 3. 5-5. 7-8. 9-10a, c. R. 7b

Ascribe to the Lord glory and power.

SECOND READING

Thessalonians 1:1-5b

Gospel Acclamation:

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life.

R. Alleluia

GOSPEL

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Cf. Ps 32:18-19

Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls, from death, to keep them alive in famine.

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.

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MASS TIME TABLE:

Mass Date	Times	Where	Intentions
Sat 17 Oct St Ignatius of Antioch	**9:00AM**	**Mass at St Peter's Cancelled**	
	9:30AM to 10.30AM	**Confession at St Peter's Cancelled**	
Sunday VIGIL 29 Sunday in Ordinary Time	**4:30PM to 5:00PM**	**Confession at St Peter's Cancelled**	
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	The Soul of Margaret Merriman
Sun 18 Oct 29 Sunday in Ordinary Time	8:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	The Soul of Beatrice Hew - Tompson
	9:00AM	Mass at St Thomas More's	
	9:15AM	Mass at St Stephen's	Drew and Rebecca Dart
	10:30AM	Mass at St Peter's	People of the Parish
	11:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	The Soul of Peter Louth and Benefactors
Mon 19 Oct St John de Brébeuf, Isaac Jogues & Companions	**8:00AM**	**Morning Prayer, Adoration at St Peter's Cancelled**	
	12:15PM	**Mass at St Peter's Cancelled**	
Tues 20 Oct 29 Week in Ordinary Time	**8:00AM**	**Morning Prayer, Adoration at St Peter's Cancelled**	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	
	12:15PM	**Mass at St Peter's Cancelled**	
Wed 21 Oct 29 Week in Ordinary Time	8:00AM	Morning Prayer, Adoration at St Peter's	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	Maria Jose Fernandes RIP
Thurs 22 Oct St John Paul II	8:00AM	Morning Prayer, Adoration at St Peter's	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	Noel McNicholas RIP
Fri 23 Oct Docesan Day of Prayer & Reparation for Life	8:00AM	Morning Prayer, Adoration at St Peter's	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	The Soul of Julia Cave
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's	The Soul of William Wheble
Sat 24 Oct St Anthony Claret	9:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	Tony Smallbone RIP
	9:30AM to 10.30AM	Confession at St Peter's	
Sunday VIGIL 30 Sunday in Ordinary Time	4:30PM to 5:00PM	Confession at St Peter's	
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	Gordon Cranston

*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**

PRAYER CORNER

Let us pray that, united in Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit, we may share His mission with joy, courage and hope.

