



TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (C)

22nd September, 2019

Faith of a Fifteen-Year-Old - Week 2 – Stewards

Last week, we were reflecting on how those of us brought up as Catholics can sometimes get “stuck” at the faith we had when we were 15-years-old. We looked at the need to see faith as more than just religious rule keeping in order to avoid punishment and earn our way into heaven, which we can’t do anyway. Faith is the offer of God’s ongoing grace and favour. It’s the opportunity for a relationship with our Heavenly Father, through His Son, Jesus Christ. It’s obedience to the Father’s will, not out of guilt and fear or manipulation but on love and respect for God.

This weekend’s Gospel contains an outrageously challenging parable from Luke: *Jesus said to his disciples: “There was a rich man and he had a steward denounced to him for being wasteful with his property. He called for the man and said, “What is this I hear about you? Draw me up an account of your stewardship because you are not to be my steward any longer.”*

So, this man is super rich. He discovers that his money manager, his steward, is squandering his property. The rich man is saying, “Hand over your keys, pack your bags and go”. He gives him his notice. What the steward does is immediately, the stories suggest urgently, begin to plan for his future.

Then the steward said to himself, “Now that my master is taking the stewardship from me, what am I to do? Dig? I am not strong enough. Go begging? I should be too ashamed.”

The steward is trying to figure out what to do with his future and what is going to be in his best interests. Here’s what he decides.

“Ah, I know what I will do to make sure that when I am dismissed from office there will be some to welcome me into their homes.” Then he called his master’s debtors one by one. To the first he said, “How much do you owe my master?” “One hundred measures of oil” was the reply. The steward said, “Here, take your bond; sit down straight away and write fifty.” To another he said, “And you, sir, how much do you owe?” “One hundred measures of wheat” was the reply. The steward said, “Here, take your bond and write eighty.”

The steward knows that his time to manage the rich man’s money is running out quickly. So, he calls in the master’s debtors and reduces their debt. Perhaps the steward is depriving the rich man of some of his money; perhaps he is shaving off his own commission. In either case, he is reducing what these debtors owed and obviously winning their favour. He does this so that others will employ him once he is out of a job. So that they won’t forget him. He’s taking a short term risk in order to win a long-term reward, a friendship with these debtors. Inadvertently, he also wins back the master’s favour. The parable ends in this way: *‘The master praised the dishonest steward for his astuteness.’*

He commends the man because the steward used the limited time and resources he had in his control for his long-term benefit and for valuing friendship above money. Here are two big insights that we can learn to move us beyond the faith of a fifteen-year-old. Firstly, we’re stewards, not owners of possessions and money. Seemingly, the rich man represents God because everything belongs to him; it’s all his stuff. We’re more like that steward; we manage some of God’s stuff, and we manage it for a time, but only for a time, our life-time. The stuff you have is an opportunity to go deeper in your relationship with God, to go beyond the faith of a fifteen-year-old, just by recognizing and embracing your real role as a steward.

Secondly, you can use your money and possessions as an investment in eternity. The parable concludes with this instruction from Jesus. He says, *‘And so I tell you this: use money, tainted as it is, to win you friends, and thus make sure that when it fails you, they will welcome you into the tents of eternity’.*

When we’re younger, it’s hard to grasp the truth of delayed gratification. Children do what feels good, they want what they want and when they want it because it’s very difficult for them to imagine life beyond today, or even beyond the moment.

As we get older, it becomes easier, at least it should, to see the value of this delayed gratification in many areas of our life, such as keeping fit, eating healthily, investing in your children. These are all expressions of this value: doing something now that might be challenging or difficult or even sacrificial because it brings long term rewards. So, by all means, think strategically, think long term, about your money, think in terms of saving to buy that new car or a bigger house, saving for a dream holiday or an earlier retirement. But don’t limit your horizon to this life! Make sure you’re considering your full future by thinking about your eternal future.

Giving also has short-term benefits, because giving reflects God’s heart and God’s character. God is a giver and so we read throughout Scripture that God is generous, He holds nothing back from us, including His Son. You can’t out-give God. You can’t be too generous.

How do you treat money and possessions? As a means to an end or as a tool to deepen your relationship with God and with his people, especially the poor and the marginalised? As an opportunity to share the generous heart of God?

Fr. Mark

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AND MORNING PRAYER:

Our weekday adoration before the Blessed Sacrament (**Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays**) has now resumed. Also, our Morning Prayer & Adoration (**Mondays & Thursdays, 8-9am**) has also now restarted. All are most welcome.

Have you ever considered a vocation as a Deacon?

Oscott Seminary have introduced a preparatory year for men discerning a call to the Permanent Diaconate. This consists of three sessions (Friday-Saturday) and commences on 8th/9th November. The other dates for this academic year are 24th/25th January and 27th/28th March. Its aim is to help candidates better understand the reality of a vocation to Holy Orders and to discern whether this is what God is calling them to. There will be Parish-based pastoral elements, spiritual formation and intellectual input given through teaching, seminars and discussions. Attendance at these days does not commit an individual to beginning the formation programme, but is part of the overall selection process. For further information, please email Fr Peter Hart as soon as possible on pghart@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or, if you would like to talk to someone from the parish who has taken part recently, please get in touch with Tony Darlison via the parish office.

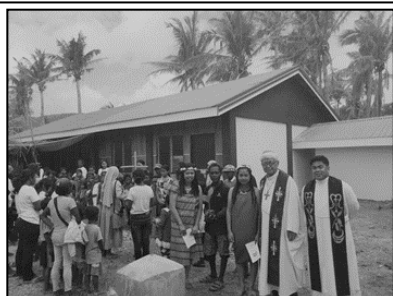
PRAYER CORNER: *Each week, this section will contain an intercession which I hope every parishioner will pray for, during the coming week. In this way, we will all pray to the Lord for the parish’s mission, because “if the Lord does not build... in vain do the builders labour” (Ps 127:1).*

This week’s intention: *“Bless our Ministry Leaders”*

We pray for all who have taken responsibility to lead others in ministry in our parish: may they be given wisdom and perseverance by the Holy Spirit.

We acknowledge with thanks, collections for 15th Sep:	
Average weekly Planned Giving	£3,651.59
Gift Aid envelopes (Actual)	£273.20
Non Gift Aided cash/cheques (Actual)	£1,075.44
Average offering for the week	£5,000.23

Second Collection - Our Covenant with the Poor appeal this weekend is for the school in Santa Ana in the Philippines.



Last September our appeal raised £5,800 to build a new permanent classroom shown in the photograph here. Within three months, the classroom was built by the local community.

Now we wish to help them build a second classroom.

Please support generously as ever!

CAFOD Family Fast day Friday



6th October 2019—St Peter's &

St Thomas More's only

13th October 2019—St Stephen's & St Gregory's only

No one should be beyond reach of the love and support they need to thrive. This Fast Day, CAFOD invites us to fast, pray and give, so we can extend the hand of friendship to the world's poorest people. Fabiano's village in rural Uganda has been devastated by drought. Every day, children would trek miles for water, risking their education – and safety. Donations from parishioners across England and Wales helped install a solar powered water pump in the village. Now Fabiano and his friends can collect water quickly and safely. On Family Fast Day, CAFOD invites us to eat a simple meal for lunch or dinner and give the money we save to help children like Fabiano. Please collect a Fast Day envelope from church this week and give generously or you can donate online at www.cafod.org.uk/fastday

Volunteers for Winchester Churches Christmas Project

2019: Winchester Churches Christmas Project attempts to help those for whom Christmas is a really difficult time. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Helen McTiffin on 01962 849559. Numbers are needed by 5th November, please.

Journey in Faith: Do you know someone (perhaps yourself) who might want to know more about the Catholic Church? Please tell them about the Journey in Faith programme. It is for those seeking answers. For those wanting to know what Catholics believe. Or for those who have been coming to Mass for years, but have never gone up for communion. The Journey in Faith will try and show you more about what we within the Catholic Church believe and do. We will try and answer any questions you might have about our faith, about the Church, about the Journey. Absolutely no commitment is required – we are happy always, to share our journey with you for however long or short a period you choose. Our programme starts on 24 September at 8pm in the Parish Centre, and if you're interested, please speak to Nick Kelly on 07960 797963, email at nick.kelly@sky.com or just turn up!

TODAY'S MASS - LITURGY OF THE WORD

Entrance Antiphon: I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord forever.

First Reading: Amos 8:4-7

Psalm Response: Praise the Lord, who raises the poor.

Second Reading: Second letter of St. Paul to Timothy 2:1-8

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Open our heart, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son, Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 16:1-13

Communion Antiphon: You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Monday: St. Pio of Pietrelcina

Tuesday: Our Lady of Walsingham

Wednesday: Feria

Thursday: Ss. Cosmas & Damian *or* Feria

Friday: St. Vincent de Paul

Saturday: St. Wenceslaus *or* St. Laurence Ruiz & Companions *or* Our Lady on Saturday *or* Feria

WELCOME to Hortense Duggan, Isabelle Mellone and Niamh Sheehan-Philips who were baptised at St Peter's last weekend.

PLEASE PRAY FOR the repose of the souls of those who have died recently. May God grant them eternal rest.

Mary Glasspool - who died on the 4th September. Funeral service on 23rd September at South Stoneham Chapel, 12pm.

Margaret Guppy - Funeral Mass at St. Peter's 30th September, 12:15pm.

EXTRA ORDINARY MONTH OF MISSION OCTOBER

2019: As you have already heard from Bishop Philip, our Holy Father Pope Francis declared October 2019 to be the Extra Ordinary Month of Mission (EMM) to commemorate Pope Benedict XV's apostolic letter 'Maximum illud' issued on 30 November 1919. This has "the aim of fostering an increased awareness of the Missio ad Gentes and taking up again with renewed fervour the missionary transformation of the Church's life and pastoral activity, and to help their communities grow in missionary and evangelizing zeal." As an act of Solidarity with whole Church, on Mission Sunday, 20th October 2019, 2pm Bishop Philip invites you to join him to celebrate Mission Sunday Mass at St. John's Cathedral, Portsmouth, followed by Refreshments in the Discovery Centre.

Further Contact : Fr. Innaiah Maddineni, Diocesan Director, Missio, Tel: 023 9237 6151 or:

imaddineni@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

CHILD PROTECTION AWARENESS:

Saturday 28th September (10.00am – 12.30pm) at:

St. William of York, Upper Redlands Road, Reading. RG1 5JT

Saturday 19th October (10.00am – 12.30pm) at:

St. Thomas More, Exton Road, Iford, Bournemouth. BH6 5QG

VULNERABLE ADULT AWARENESS:

Saturday 28th September (1.30 – 4.00pm) at:

St. William of York, Upper Redlands Road, Reading. RG1 5JT

Saturday 19th October (1.30pm – 4.00pm) at:

St. Thomas More, Exton Road, Iford, Bournemouth. BH6 5QG

To attend either or both of these Training Sessions, contact Hilary via the Parish Office,

or hilary.kemp761@btinternet.com

EVENTS

LAST CHANCE TO SEE BISHOP ROBERT BARRON'S EMMY-NOMINATED FILM - Alongside *Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel: A Different View* exhibition at the Winchester Discovery Centre and the Great Hall, our Catholic community is showing a short film by Bishop Robert Barron at Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel through the lens of faith. Please come to the Parish Centre on Friday afternoon (3pm) on 27th September (entry free) to see this marvellous film.

WINCHESTER CATHOLIC HISTORY SOCIETY - The new Season starts on Monday 7 October when Dr Nicola Tallis will be speaking on Elizabeth's Rival. The lecture starts at 7.30 pm in the Milner Hall and lasts for approximately one hour with questions afterwards. Visitors £5. Students with ID £2.50.

ALPHA AT ST. PETER'S: Our Alpha programme is now underway. It's not too late to join. There are limited places remaining on each and it is OK to join up to and including session 3. Please email alpha@stpeterswinchester.org.uk for more information or to register for a place. There are more Alphas to choose from this time too:



Monday evenings, 7:30pm to 9:30pm St Peter's Pastoral Centre (places available), Thursday lunchtimes, 12 noon to 2pm Milner Hall (1 place still available), Friday mornings, starting **27th September**, 8:45am to 10:45am St Stephen's Community Room (limited places available). Alpha is for everyone. Please come and experience it, if you haven't already and don't be shy about asking a friend, family member or colleague to come and experience it with you - it could be the most important thing that you do for someone! It's not too late to join our Monday evening or Friday morning Alphas - there are a handful of places remaining on each.

ST GREGORY'S

Christians Against Poverty - our next money management course starts on Wednesday 25 September in the Methodist Church, Jacklyns Lane, Alresford. Running again, with support from **Churches Together in Alresford**, on 3 consecutive Wednesdays (25 September, 2 and 9 October) at 7.30pm, the course offers a free, confidential and practical look at money management and debt. Everyone is welcome. Please contact Claire to register on ctia.cap.alresford@gmail.com or 07943 888 450.

Red APF Boxes - If you are a St Gregory's box holder, please bring to St Gregory's for Nan McNamara to empty.

19th October 2019 - Day for Catechists and Children's Liturgy Leaders - Portsmouth Cathedral, 10am to 4pm -

The Dominican Sisters and the Formation for Mission team invite everyone engaged in passing on the faith to children, young people and adults to Portsmouth Cathedral on Saturday 19th October for a day of thanksgiving, celebration and formation where we will discover ways to share our faith in Jesus Christ as his witnesses within our ministries. The day will be led by Fr Mark Hogan, and Mass will be celebrated in thanksgiving for all diocesan catechists. Lunch will be provided.

Register online: <http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/catechists> or phone the Dominican Sisters to book a place: 01590 681874

St Mary's Independent School Open Evening will be held on Tuesday 8th October 6:00 - 9:00 pm - St Mary's Independent School is Southampton's only Catholic all-through co-educational school. We educate girls and boys from 3 to 16 years old on our stunning 17-acre site in the centre of Southampton. No appointment necessary; just come along to find out what makes us so different from other local schools. Details can be found by visiting: www.stmarysindependentschool.co.uk

DEMENTIA-FRIENDLY CAFÉ: Both St Peter's and St Stephen's churches have been issued with certificates from Dementia Friendly Winchester in recognition of amendments to their buildings. It is proposed to open a Dementia-friendly Café in the Milner Hall on Tuesday 24th September at 2pm and the 4th Tuesday of every month thereafter. If you are living with or caring for someone with dementia, you are both invited to drop in for tea, cake and a chat in a safe and relaxed environment. Please contact dementia@stpeterswinchester.org.uk

UNLOCKING THE MYSTERY OF THE BIBLE STUDY COURSE - The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales have designated 2020 as 'The God Who Speaks': A Year of the Word to celebrate the 10th anniversary of *Verbum Domini* - Pope Benedict XVI's Apostolic Exhortation on 'The Word of the Lord', and the 1,600th anniversary of St Jerome, who translated the Bible into Latin. The 'year' will be launched on September 30th 2019 on the feast of St Jerome.

One way we are celebrating the year is with a Bible study course - '**Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible**' by **Jeff Cavins & Sarah Christmyer**. This eight-part study (30-minute videos followed by a time of discussion) provides a great way to understand the Bible, which essentially is a story about the Father's unending love for us - a love that we are called to share with others. You will get a sense of the 'big picture' woven throughout the Scriptures, make sense of the Bible and see how it relates to your everyday life, discover the remarkable connections between the Old and New Testaments and see how the Sacraments, the Church and the entire Catholic Faith is rooted in Scripture...and much more!

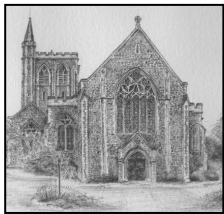
The study will run on Thursday evenings from 31 October to 19 December 2019 inclusive; each session will be from 7:30pm to 9:00pm in the Milner Hall and will be facilitated by Deacon Martin McElroy and Imelda Weingart-West.

If you have any questions or to book a place, please email Rosanne Walker: rosanne@stpeterswinchester.org.uk

Starting this Sunday, our annual mass count will be taking place over the next four weekends. Thank you for your cooperation.



Save paper !! If you would like to receive this newsletter by email, please contact the parish office at office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk



WELCOME TO OUR PARISH

St. Peter's Church, Jewry Street,
Winchester, Hants, SO23 8RY
01962 852804

www.catholicwinchester.org.uk

Email office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk

Parish Priest:	Fr. Mark Hogan
Assistant Priest:	Fr. Tom McGrath
Priest in Residence:	Canon Peter Wilkie
Deacons:	Rev. Gerard Dailly; Rev. Martin McElroy
Sacristan:	Laurie Howe

Senior Pastoral Worker:	Sandra Drower
sandra@stpeterswinchester.org.uk	
Pastoral Worker (Co-ordinator: Baptism & First Holy Communion):	Rosanne Walker
baptism@stpeterswinchester.org.uk	
fhc@stpeterswinchester.org.uk	
Pastoral Worker (Youth Ministry):	Jo Donaldson
youthstuff@stpeterswinchester.org.uk	
Alpha Co-ordinator:	Liz Eastham
alpha@stpeterswinchester.org.uk	

Parish Finance & Admin Manager:	Annette Parr
annette@stpeterswinchester.org.uk	
Parish Facilities Manager:	Sean Reidy
sean@stpeterswinchester.org.uk	
Administration Assistants:	Adam Biernat and Richard Phiri
office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk	

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2019-2020 PROGRAMME:

A reminder that parents of children enrolled on this programme have one last chance to attend the compulsory parents' session on Tuesday 24th September (7-8:30pm in the Milner Hall at St Peter's Church) if they were unable to attend the session in July/August. Please would parents bring their child's Baptismal Certificate and any outstanding yellow parents' options forms and payments for children's books. Any queries please contact Rosanne Walker at FHC@stpeterswinchester.org.uk.



Masses and Liturgies: 21st to 28th September 2019 St. Peter's, Winchester

Masses

Sat 21st	6:00pm	Mass - Deceased Members of the Szymanski Family
Sun 22nd	8:00am	Mass - Austin Emery RIP
	10:30am	Mass - Catherine Doyle RIP
	12:30pm	Baptisms - Gabriella & Jacob Lee
	5:00pm	Evening Prayer and Benediction - Thanksgiving for the Harvest
Mon 23rd	6:00pm	Mass - Intentions of the Neil Family
	8:00am	Adoration & Morning Prayer
	12:15pm	Mass - Mary McNeil RIP
Tues 24th	8:00am	Mass
Wed 25th		NO MASS
Thur 26th	8:00am	Adoration & Morning Prayer
	7:00pm	Edmund Wheble RIP
Fri 27th	12:15pm	Mass - McClean Family RIP
Sat 28th	9:00am	Mass - Simon Dacosta RIP
	10:30am	SVP Annual Conference Mass
	12:30pm	Wedding - Ben Secretan/Anna Valentino

Confessions:

Sat 11:30am - 12:30pm 4:30pm - 5:00pm

Eucharistic Adoration

Tue: 9:00-11:00am, 12:00-1:00pm and 3:00-4:00pm
Wed: 1:00-3:00pm and 4:00-5:00pm
Thur: 9:00am-12:00pm and 2:00-3:00pm

St. Gregory's, Alresford

Sun 22nd 11:00am Mass - People of the Parish

St. Stephen's, Oliver's Battery

Sun 22nd 9:15am Mass

St. Thomas More's, Stockbridge

Sun 22nd 9:00am Mass

Mass at **St. Peter's** on Friday 4th October will be at 9am, rather than the usual time of 12:15.
The next monthly Mass at **St. Gregory's** will be at 10am on Friday 11th October.

St. Peter's Catholic Primary School

Vacancy for Administrative Assistant - The Governors of this friendly and successful school invite applications for the position of Administrative Assistant. All the relevant information and application form can be found on our website. www.stpetershants.co.uk



St. Peter's Catholic Primary School, Oliver's Battery Rd North, Winchester, Hants SO22 4JB

Welcome back to the new academic year.

On Friday we welcomed back to school our tired but happy, smiling Year 6's. They had spent the week on the Isle of Wight at Kingswood where they challenged themselves to participate in adventurous activities and worked well with each other to develop strong relationships and find new friends. Their teachers were proud of the way the whole year group approached the week. A huge thank you goes to everyone who contributed to making the week such a success not least our Year 6 pupils.

At the other end of the school our new Year R children are settling in well. They are quickly learning new school routines and how to work with each other. As of this week they are in school full-time. We welcome Year R children and their parents to St Peter's.

Mrs Megan Hutchins Acting Head Teacher