

PETERPOST

Parish of St. Peter and the Winchester Martyrs

Alresford • Stockbridge • Winchester



TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (C) 25th August, 2019

“Follow Me Through the Narrow Door”

I can still remember my first ever driving lesson. I can still remember the fear which inscribed itself on my dad's face as I approached the Fareham flyover on the way home; and *my* fear as I approached what seemed like the narrowest of openings, between the train track on our left and the roundabout below, through which I had to squeeze his car. Of course, now I look back and realise that actually there's enough space to drive a fairly wide tank along that road. At the time, however, I was probably thinking something about camels and eyes of needles as I breathed in and braced myself at what seemed like 150mph but was probably more like 20!

If you look at a map of the countryside, then, roads look quite narrow compared with the fields and hills around them. But, when you're on those roads, especially once you've been driving for a few years and aren't sat behind the wheel of a tractor, they tend to feel quite spacious and roomy. Again, those of us who need to use satnavs to give us the information which our brains once supplied will be aware that the little car icon on the screen feels a bit lost when it loses its GPS signal and pretends that we're in the middle of Farmer Joe's crop of asparagus or the River Test. It doesn't take much for it to be convinced that we've missed the narrow road by quite a long way.

Maybe it's in this sense that Jesus speaks today of narrow doors or gates or paths. Don't get complacent, he seems to be saying, on the one hand. Just as we might tell a new driver to keep their eyes on the road, their speed down, to check their brakes and their mirrors, so perhaps Jesus is telling us it's not good enough just to convince ourselves that we're being quite nice and turning up to church every now and again to keep ourselves on nodding terms with him, so we'll all be ok. It's not enough just to be Facebook friends with Jesus – he needs to be Our Lord and our Teacher. We need to strive, he tells us, to fight, to concentrate on getting through that narrow gap. But we don't need to do it all by ourselves – as St. Paul reminds us in our second reading, the Father will discipline and train us with his love so that we can stay on course and, like countless Olympic heroes, keep straining for that finishing line.

On the other hand, at the end of this passage, Jesus seems to echo the sentiments of the First Reading, with words of encouragement that there is still room for people of every tribe and nation to reach our final destination, the end of the journey in heaven. That supernatural motorway, that highway to heaven, might be narrow but it still has more lanes than the M25 and there's plenty of room for all who follow him.

Ultimately, the Good News is this: Jesus has already made the way before us to Jerusalem, he has entered by the narrow door, which is the Cross, and he has invited us, all of us, from every nation, to focus on following Him on his Path of Unflinching Love to the eternal joys of heaven.

Fr Mark

Father Brian would like to thank all those who sent cards and gifts last Sunday to mark his 80th birthday. It will certainly be a day to remember! God bless you and thanks to you all.

This Sunday evening we welcome **Sarah Keogh** who will be leading our music for our Mass at 6pm.

FR. STEPHEN VOOGHT: We are delighted to announce that Fr Stephen Vooght will be joining us here in the parish on pastoral placement from the weekend of 7/8th September. The plan is for Fr Stephen to be with us for 1-2 years. Fr Stephen is a priest who has been out of active ministry for some time and will be combining his placement here with studies at the seminary in Womersley. Fr Stephen does not yet have faculties to celebrate the sacraments but hopes to receive them when everything is complete. Please keep Fr Stephen in your prayers and make him feel very welcome when he arrives.

Considering a call to Priesthood? Bishop Philip will be hosting a Vocation Seeker Barbecue with Evening Prayer, for those men, young and older, who may be considering a vocation to the Priesthood, even if tentatively, on Tuesday 27th August at Bishop's House from 7pm. It will be a friendly & relaxed evening. Our Seminarians will be at the gathering too. Our Diocesan Clergy are invited to bring with them anyone in their Parish who may be interested - but don't forget to book! The BBQ is aimed at those aged 16 to 55 (abiding by normal safeguarding procedures if under 18). Anyone hoping to attend, should get in touch as soon as possible to book a place: vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk You can find out more about Vocations to all states of life and ministry in the Church on our fantastic **Vocations Website**, where you can also sign up for their monthly newsletter. And please remember to keep praying for vocations, especially to the Sacred Priesthood.

Over the last year, I've been communicating my vision of what I hope the parish can become, a place where we are "bringing people closer to Jesus Christ in hope and joy". We cannot achieve this without the Lord's help, and without praying for it. That's why I'd like everyone in the parish to pray regularly for the parish and its mission. To help us do this, in Peterpost, over the coming weeks, we're going to publish a Weekly Prayer Intention for the parish, in "Prayer Corner". We'll start by taking a line per week from the Parish Prayer, and as time progresses, we'll have specific intentions for particular activities, or meetings, or groups.

I know that many of you have your own prayer intentions, and many of you already pray for things happening in the parish. But I hope everyone will be willing to join in this initiative, because having the same intention, across the whole parish, will not only bring our common need before the Lord, but also, I hope, bind us together in unity as we pray in common. *Fr Mark*

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: *"...witnessing joyfully to the world in which we live."* We pray that we will share the joy of the gospel with all whom we meet, by our actions and words, so that others are inspired to follow Jesus.

We acknowledge with thanks, collections for 18th August:

Average weekly Planned Giving	£3,651.59
Gift Aid envelopes (Actual)	£1,166.24
Non Gift Aided cash/cheques (Actual)	£324.70
Average offering for the week	£5,142.53

Cake sale at St Gregory's after Mass. Please be generous in your support.

Journey in Faith: Do **you** know someone (perhaps yourself) who might want to know more about the Catholic Church? Perhaps they are just waiting to be asked? Please tell them about the Journey in Faith programme. It is for those seeking answers. For those wanting to know what Catholics believe. Perhaps for parents of children coming to St Peter's School who would like to learn more in order to support them. 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 and all questions you might have about our faith, about the Church, about the Journey. Absolutely no commitment is requested or 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, or just want to know more, please speak to Nick Kelly on 07960 797963, email at nick.kelly@sky.com or just turn up!

On **Saturday 21st September** at 11:30am, we will be celebrating a reunion Mass in St. Peter's for all those who have participated in the Journey in Faith programme since it was begun by Deacon Ted Hogan in 1987. There will also be a celebration in the Pastoral Centre afterwards.

"Some of these I will take as priests and Levites, says the Lord."

Is God calling you to the priesthood? To explore further, contact Fr. John Cooke. vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318 869

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Christchurch are seeking to appoint a new Headteacher. Full details are available on the Government, Dorset and Diocesan Websites. For a comprehensive pack and application form Email b.hincks@stjosephs.dorset.sch.uk or phone 01202 470175. Application forms can be downloaded from the CES website. Closing date 13 September 2019.

The prolife charity **Life** is looking for enthusiastic church and community fundraisers in the Diocese to help us grow our life-saving work with vulnerable mothers.

We want you to help our volunteer fundraisers, manage local events, and develop relationships with community groups. We offer a competitive salary for a full or part-time position based at home. Contact jobs@lifecharity.org.uk for more details.

TODAY'S MASS - LITURGY OF THE WORD

Entrance Antiphon: Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

First Reading: Isaiah 66:18-21

Psalms Response: Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News

Second Reading: Letter to the Hebrews 12:5-7. 11-13

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! If anyone loves me he will keep my word; and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 13:22-30

Communion Antiphon: The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Blessed Dominic Barberi or Feria
Tuesday:	St. Monica
Wednesday:	St. Augustine of Hippo
Thursday:	The Passion of St. John the Baptist
Friday:	Ss. Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line & Margaret Ward or Feria
Saturday:	St. Aidan & All Saints of Lindisfarne or Our Lady on Saturday or Feria

CONGRATULATIONS TO Matthew Swann and Laura Drew who were married in St. Peter's on Saturday.

PLEASE PRAY FOR the repose of the soul of **Anthony Downing RIP**. We have received the sad news that Anthony, who was an altar server here in the parish for many years before moving to Andover, has recently passed away. We will share details of his funeral arrangements when we have more news. May he rest in peace. Please also pray for the repose of the souls of those who have died recently, especially of **Derek Butler**.

VULNERABLE ADULT AWARENESS TRAINING

Saturday 14 September 2019

1.30 - 4.00pm

St. Peter and the Winchester Martyrs
Jewry Street, Winchester. SO23 8RY
CHILD PROTECTION AWARENESS

Saturday 21 September 2019

10.00am - 12.30pm

St. Edward the Confessor,

191 Winchester Road, Chandlers Ford. SO53 2DU

To attend either or both of these Training Sessions, contact Hilary via the Parish Office, or hilary.kemp761@btinternet.com

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. 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 by 31st August, leaving your telephone number and someone will contact you.

EVENTS

Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel: A Different View makes its UK premiere in Winchester this summer (until September 29th):

The exhibition will be on show at three venues across the city: City Space and The Gallery in Winchester Discovery Centre and the Great Hall. The exhibition comes to Winchester after touring major European cities including Copenhagen and, most recently, Amsterdam. Officially licensed by the Vatican Museums, the exhibition will allow unprecedented closeness to the magnificent works which adorn the chapel ceiling, normally 22 metres above visitors' heads. Working in partnership with the Vatican Museums, the frescoes have been photographed, reproduced at high resolution and transferred onto special fabric webs to create highly detailed display panels. This technique allows a true-to-life reproduction of the ceiling and gives visitors a unique opportunity for an otherwise impossible close-up view of his brushwork. **Entry fee is £5 online, £6 on the door.**

St Peter's, Jewry St Winchester will be showing a short film by Bishop Robert Barron on Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel through the lens of faith during the summer. We hope you enjoy the exhibition and can come to the Parish Centre on Friday afternoons (3pm) to see the short film or on 22nd August and 12th September at 7.30 to see a longer version.

Entry is free. All welcome.

Friday 30th August at 6.00pm in St John's Church, Alresford. **'Summer Fun'** - You are invited to come to the performance of 'The Blue Crystal' presented by the young people of Alresford. It will last about an hour: no ticket needed. Do come along to see the culmination of 3 days fun and activities and support all involved in this project. Any further information from Rosie Waring Green 07891 120662



THE WINCHESTER BASICS BANK QUIZ Mayor Councillor Eleanor Bell has graciously agreed to be present at the Winchester Basics Bank quiz and will field her own mayoral team! Kevin Ashman, local resident and captain of the BBC Egghead team will deliver the questions and announce the answers. The quiz will be at Christ Church in Christchurch Road (SO23 9SR) and will start at 7:30pm (please arrive by 7:15pm to be able to start then). Sumptuous two-course meal (choice of meat and vegetarian dishes) and wine will be provided. This is a fundraising event for Winchester Basics Bank. Tickets are £20 per person. Please form your own team of 8 people and register your team with us with any information on dietary requirements by email at chair@winchesterbasicsbank.co.uk You can pay on the evening or in advance by cheque made payable to Winchester Basics Bank and sent to our office at 21a Penton Place, Milland Road, Winchester SO23 0PZ

ALPHA AT ST. PETER'S: Our Alpha programme starts again in mid-September and will run most weeks until early December. 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, starting **16th September**, 7:30pm to 9:30pm St Peter's Pastoral Centre
- Thursday lunchtimes, starting **19th September**, 12 noon to 2pm Milner Hall
- Friday mornings, starting **27th September**, 8:45am to 10:45am St Stephen's Community Room

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! Invitations are available for you to use at the back of all churches.



21 Day Prayer Campaign: You are encouraged to join in this focused period of prayer which starts on Monday 26th August. The campaign is inspired by Jesus' words in Luke 11:02 *'Say this when you pray: Father, may your name be held holy, your kingdom come.'* You are invited to pray at 11:02am each day for the country and more specifically for three people who you would like to explore faith. *Heavenly Father, I pray for the UK. Lord, let Your Kingdom come and Your will be done across this nation. Holy Spirit, come fill me today, that I might share the love and good news of Jesus to those around me. Amen.* Prayer cards will be available at all Masses on the weekend of 25th August. During this time, be open and expectant to see how God might use you.

40daysforlife

Please sign up for 1hour/wk of 6-wk 40daysforlife vigil at BPAS abortion centre, Royal Southants Hospital, Brintons Terrace SO14 0YG (If unable to commit each week, whatever you can much appreciated) ring/text 07535937865, email 40daysforlifesouthampton@gmail.com

Launch event: Tuesday, 17th September (8 days before the vigil starts) 7pm Holy Family Church, Redbridge Hill, Millbrook SO16 4PL See updates 40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/southampton

Did You Know?

St. Augustine of Hippo (*see Liturgical Calendar on page 2*) is the patron of brewers because of his conversion from a former life of loose living, which included parties, entertainment, and worldly ambitions! His complete turnaround and conversion has been an inspiration to many who struggle with a particular vice or habit they long to break. This famous son of St. Monica was born in Africa and spent many years of his life in wicked living and in false beliefs. Though he was one of the most intelligent men who ever lived and though he had been brought up a Christian, his sins of impurity and his pride darkened his mind so much, that he could not see or understand the Divine Truth anymore. Through the prayers of his holy mother and the marvellous preaching of St. Ambrose, Augustine finally became convinced that Christianity was the one true religion. Yet he did not become a Christian then, because he thought he could never live a pure life. One day, however, he heard about two men who had suddenly been converted on reading the life of St. Antony, and he felt terrible ashamed of himself. "What are we doing?" he cried to his friend Alipius. "Unlearned people are taking Heaven by force, while we, with all our knowledge, are so cowardly that we keep rolling around in the mud of our sins!"

God loves each of us as if there were only one of us.

Parish Contacts

Address: St. Peter's Church, Jewry Street,
Winchester, Hants, SO23 8RY
Tel: 01962 852804
Email: office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk
Web page: <http://www.catholicwinchester.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
Baptism & First
Holy Communion: Rosanne Walker
Youth: Jo Donaldson
Pastoral Care: Sandra Drower
Finance/Admin: Annette Parr
Facilities: Sean Reidy
Admin: Adam Biernat & Richard Phiri

We look forward to welcoming you to our Parish

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION AND MORNING

PRAYER: Our weekday adoration before the Blessed Sacrament (**Tuesdays-Thursdays**), as well as our Morning Prayer & Adoration (**Mondays & Thursdays**) will take a temporary pause for the school holidays and will resume again in the 2nd week of September.

Volunteers needed for Winchester Well-Being Lunch

Clubs:

WWB Lunch Clubs, which are held at St Barnabas Church in Weeke on Mondays and in the Baptist Church Hall (Swan Lane) on Tuesdays and Thursdays, are very short of volunteer helpers, especially on Thursdays. If anyone is free from 10am until 1pm, even if it's only once a month, and would be interested going along to help, or to find out more about what's involved, please contact Jo Jackson, Lunch Club Co-ordinator, email: winchesterwellbeing@gmail.com Tel: 07907503421, or Carol Bailey (WinBap Seniors' Ministry Worker) Tel: 01962 868770.

LOURDES: Due to an unexpected vacancy, there is an opportunity for a sick/disabled person to join the Hants & W.Berks Jumbulance Group pilgrimage to Lourdes, Friday 27 September to Saturday 5 October 2019. (The VIP must be able to manage a few walking steps and collapsible wheelchairs only). Mass said daily with our accompanying priest, visits to all traditional areas of the Domaine, plus outings into the Pyrenees.

Cost £800, which included full board, return travel, daily outings, entry, and Insurance. There is no charge for 24/7 care. For more info, contact Hilary on 07740049127 or the Group Leader, Chris on 0788 774 8224. A bursary may be available for anyone struggling with the cost - if interested, please speak in confidence with Fr. Mark.



Masses and Liturgies: 24th to 31st August 2019

St. Peter's, Winchester

Masses

Sat 24th	6:00pm	Mass - Mary Perry RIP
Sun 25th	8:00am	Mass - Hilda Wild RIP
	10:30am	Mass - Barry & Christie - Golden Wedding Anniversary
	12:30pm	Baptism - Nell Magdalena Gower
	5:00pm	NO Evening Prayer and Benediction
	6:00pm	Mass - Rev. Patrick T. Savage RIP
Mon 26th	12:15pm	Mass - William Meader RIP
Tues 27th	8:00am	Mass - Beatrice Johnson RIP
Wed 28th		NO MASS
Thur 29th	11:30am	Wedding Service - Alberto Ferron and Florie Zaggia
	7:00pm	Mass - Lesley McQuirk RIP
Fri 30th	12:15pm	Mass - Fr. Richard Spencer RIP
Sat 31st	9:00am	Mass - Intentions of Patrick & Shelagh O'Donoghue

Confessions:

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

Eucharistic Adoration

Tue: 9:00am - 7:00pm Eucharistic Adoration
Wed: 1:00pm - 8:00pm is suspended until after
Thur: 9:00am - 4:00pm the summer break

St. Gregory's, Alresford

Sun 25th 11:00am Mass

St. Stephen's, Oliver's Battery

Sun 25th 9:15am Mass - Michael Byrnes RIP

St. Thomas More's, Stockbridge

Sun 25th 9:00am Mass - People of the Parish

The bookshop is open after all Masses and during office hours. Please do come and browse.

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.

Wives of prospective candidates will also be supported during these days and are encouraged to attend. 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 pghart@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk