

### TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (C)

29th September, 2019

#### Bringing people closer to Jesus Christ in HOPE and JOY

**Our Mission** - It's incredible to think that I've now been with you in this parish for two years and I'm loving it. I've been blessed and humbled and nourished in so many different ways by so many different people. Thank you.

As I look ahead over these next few years, the mission is to help us develop as a parish community. To do this, I would like to propose a common mission for us all, together: bringing people closer to Jesus Christ in hope and joy.

Another way of looking at the mission is to find new ways to release the incredible potential that the people of St Peter's and the Winchester Martyrs have been given, to be the parish God is calling us to be, to be a community where people flourish and blossom, where any visitor will see that we are fully alive and brimming over with joy.

To make that journey we need to come closer to Jesus ourselves and have a sharp focus on bringing other people closer to Jesus Christ. This is what allows us to do so in hope and joy: Jesus alone has the power to transform lives; perform miracles; offer meaning and purpose and hope for people's lives. There are so many wonderful things about our parish. And yet I know we are capable, with God's help, of so much more. And so much more is needed.

Most of us know personally of family and friends who have drifted away from the faith. We are also aware of the global challenges to our Catholic faith (e.g. the very serious scandals, a culture hostile to faith, the fall in numbers of priests and mass attendance in the Western world). Our diocese of Portsmouth has a population of 3.1 million people. Did you know that about 250,000 (almost 10 per cent) are baptised Catholics, and yet only 35,000 (1 in 7) of these are practising?

Many of you took part in our Gallup survey earlier this year and some of the statistics are fairly stark. The survey showed that only 20% of our adult parishioners are "engaged"; with 51% "not engaged" and as many as 29% "actively disengaged".

The clear message to the Church is that what we are currently doing is not working as well as it could be and we need to do some things very differently. That is why, as many of you will know, I have asked for support and help from the Divine Renovation (DR) Network which has had great success in helping parishes like ours become a more dynamic faith community.

**Sharing the Vision** - I have shared with many of you that the vision, which I believe God has placed in my heart, is rooted in the healing of the paralysed man in the second chapter of St Mark's Gospel. Over the last few months I've been trying to elaborate this vision, to imagine what our community might look like in five years' time if we are being faithful to that call. Our parish Evangelisation Strategy Group (ESG) has been helping me to formulate a "vision statement", to try and capture something of the essence of the vision. This vision of the future for our parish gets me excited (and terrified!) every time I think about it.

Our proposed parish vision statement starts with our mission: that our parish will be a place where every day **we are bringing people closer to Jesus Christ in hope and joy.**

This is what we need to do make the vision a reality, just as those four men brought their paralysed friend to Jesus.

Bringing people closer to Jesus Christ is something we, as individuals, families, ministry groups, our school, and the parish as a whole, are called to do, just as those four men

worked together. And we need to allow others to bring us closer to Jesus too.

We do so in HOPE – not just a blind "glass-half-full" optimism – because we know God loves each and every one of his children, we know the power of the Resurrection, and we know God has wonderful things in store for all of us. We do this with JOY – because we have taken on board the Good News; we know what Christ is capable of; how he can make even the desert bloom.

Why? Why bring people closer to Jesus Christ? Why bother?

***So that Jesus can heal our souls and bodies and restore our broken lives by the power of the Holy Spirit.***

In the episode with the paralysed man, Jesus heals the man's soul first through the gift of forgiveness and only then, seemingly in response to the grumblings of the assembled scribes, does he heal him physically. I'm in deep need of healing myself and I've yet to meet anyone in this parish (or elsewhere) who doesn't need God's healing in some way. This will ultimately be through the future resurrection of our bodies but, even now in our parish, God is and will be bringing about extraordinary healing in us and in countless others as yet unknown.

To allow this to happen in the future, it will also be true for our parish that:

***In humble hope we are surrendering ourselves to the Lord.***

***In joy we are praising:***

- ***The Father who holds us as we journey in faith;***
- ***Jesus who transforms us through His Word and Presence;***
- ***The Holy Spirit who fills us and sends us out into the world.***

**The Next Steps** - There is nothing "magical" about the process. It's pretty much a good dose of common sense mixed with a complete reliance on the Holy Spirit – working as if everything depended on us; praying as if everything depended on God. I'm so excited about what this parish could look like in five years' time and the journey which we will be making together.

And the effect could be transformative, when we realise that we are called to be much more than we are; that the parish could be even more than it is; that our parishioners could cease to be consumers and instead experience the JOY of being a true disciple.

The DR support has led me to consider five key stepping stones for this journey, which I believe we as a parish need to recognise and embrace:

**Alpha** which over a hundred of you have already experienced, is our primary "tool", to help us do the main thing of bringing people closer to Jesus Christ in hope and joy and to develop a culture of hospitality;

**Small or Medium-Sized Groups** – where we can come to know each other's name and story and where everyone experiences love and support on their pilgrimage of faith;

**Ministry** – each and every one of us has the opportunity to love as Christ loves and serve as Christ serves, through our various ministries and teams. Here especially is where we recognise Christ in the lost, poor and needy and overcome all obstacles in bringing them to the feet of Christ;

where everyone has the opportunity to love as Christ loves and serve as Christ serves. To which ministry team are you called?

**Discipleship Groups** – these are the various ways in which the young and not-so-young can gather to sit at the feet of Christ, to learn more about Jesus and know him better and grow in love for him through prayer and reflection;

**Prayer and Sacraments** – all of this leads to the source and summit of our faith, which is to discover, rediscover and savour the presence of Christ in his Church - in the sacraments and in our daily prayer, in private and in each other. (Continued on page 2)

*(Continued from page 1)* **Will you join me in this project?**

I would love us to work together, to gain your wholehearted support for this vision, so that we take as many of us as possible on this journey. I will be speaking in more detail about the mission and vision after the evening Mass on 30th October (the Feast of the Winchester Martyrs) and will be looking for your consideration and support. I also hope to find a way for our existing groups to spend time in prayer and discussion around this vision.

God is constantly calling us onwards in our journey towards Him and the fullness of life He promises us in heaven. We see this time and time again in the Bible. My role as leader of this community is to ensure that we are being faithful to where God is asking us to go. In that privileged position, I also, please, need your help, your support, your discernment and your prayers. **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:** *"Bless the communities in which we serve." We pray for all members of our parish, and we pray that more will be guided by the Lord to join us.*

We acknowledge with thanks, collections for 22nd Sep:	
Average weekly Planned Giving	£3,651.59
Gift Aid envelopes (Actual)	£156.40
Non Gift Aided cash/cheques (Actual)	£982.00
<b>Average offering for the week</b>	<b>£4,789.99</b>

**Love your neighbour: "I would like to embrace the whole world in a network of charity." Blessed Frédéric Ozanam, founder of the St Vincent de Paul Society**

In the St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) we are aware that poverty exists beyond where we can see. You may have seen the posters on the parish notice board, which highlight the different ways in which our members support the people in their local community; including in prisons, care homes or in their homes. This can be challenging work, but it is also very rewarding work, seeking and finding those in need, giving our support with compassion, and responding where the need is greatest. If you would like to know more about the SVP or if you are interested in joining the Society, please contact the Parish Office. There will be a second collection at all Masses for the SVP this weekend.

**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](http://www.cafod.org.uk/fastday)

**TODAY'S MASS - LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**Entrance Antiphon:** All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

**First Reading:** Amos 6:1. 4-7

**Psalms Response:** My soul, give praise to the Lord.

**Second Reading:** Second letter of St. Paul to Timothy 6:11-16

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice, says the Lord. I know them and they follow me. Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Luke 16:19-31

**Communion Antiphon:** Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have given me hope. This is my comfort when I am brought low.

**LITURGICAL CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK**

Monday:	St. Jerome
Tuesday:	St. Teresa of the Child Jesus
Wednesday:	The Holy Guardian Angels
Thursday:	Feria
Friday:	St. Francis of Assisi
Saturday:	Our Lady on Saturday or Feria

**WELCOME** to **Gabriella and Jacob Lee** who were baptised at St Peter's last weekend.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Anne-Marie Larbie and Luke Patrick Jones who were married in St. Peter's last week.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR** the repose of the soul of **Margaret Guppy** - Funeral Mass at St. Peter's this Monday, 12:15pm. May God grant her eternal rest.

**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](mailto:imaddineni@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Marriage Care** is looking for qualified counsellors who have gained a Level 4 Diploma in Counselling and have completed a minimum of 100 hours of supervised counselling. Successful candidates will be offered training for our Certificate in Relationship Counselling and we ask you to provide two sessions of counselling per week. If you are interested in joining our team of volunteers please phone 01962 882636. There is a charge for the training.

**CHILD PROTECTION AWARENESS:** Sat 19 Oct (10am – 12.30pm) at St. Thomas More, Exton Road, Iford, Bournemouth. BH6 5QG

**VULNERABLE ADULT AWARENESS:**

Sat 19 Oct (1.30pm – 4pm) at St. Thomas More, Exton Road, Iford, Bournemouth. BH6 5QG

To attend either or both of these Training Sessions, contact Hilary at [hilary.kemp761@btinternet.com](mailto:hilary.kemp761@btinternet.com)

# EVENTS

## TABLE TENNIS IN MILNER HALL

If you play or would like to have a go, contact Mike Bryant, on 01962 865713 or [mikeb1931@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mikeb1931@hotmail.co.uk) If you come to the first session on Thursday 3rd October, wear soft shoes and a dark shirt. Under-18s must be accompanied by an adult. My club and I hope to form a group from members of the Parish, so get in touch. Milner Hall will be open at 7pm.

## WINCHESTER CATHOLIC HISTORY SOCIETY -

The 2019/2020 Season for Winchester Catholic History Society commences on Monday 7 October when Dr Nicola Tallis will be speaking on Elizabeth's Rival.

We are pleased that Professor Diarmaid MacCulloch, the well known historian and presenter has become our first Honorary President. Professor MacCulloch came in July and talked on Thomas Cranmer. Over 280 members, visitors and guests attended the lecture at the Stripe Auditorium at the University of Winchester.

The list of Speakers, topics and dates is shown at the back of the church. The Most Revd Catherine Ogle, Dean of Winchester, will be coming in October 2020 to talk on her role as Dean.

## ALPHA AT ST. PETER'S: Our Alpha programme guest list is now open for Spring 2020:

- Monday evenings in St Peter's Pastoral Centre, starting 13th January
- Thursday lunchtimes in Milner Hall, starting 16th January
- Friday mornings in the St Stephen's Community Room, starting 17th January.



For more information or to reserve a place, please email [alpha@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:alpha@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

Rome, San Giovanni and Assisi - The Parish Pilgrimage to Rome, San Giovanni and Assisi departing Tues 26th Nov still has places available so please do get in touch if you are interested in joining. The Pilgrimage, led by Father Mark, departs from Heathrow on Tues November 26th early am and returns on Tues Dec 3rd late pm. The visit being organised through Tangney Tours includes 3 nights in Rome staying close to St Peters, 2 nights in San Giovanni and 2 nights in Assisi all on a half board basis, return flights, all coach travel in Italy and services of a guide and costs £1,090 based on 2 people sharing. The cost doesn't include transport to Heathrow and back or insurance. Insurance is available at a supplementary cost of £33. Transport to and from Heathrow will be arranged once final numbers are known. For full information and to make reservation please contact Jen Robinson [jennyrobbo7@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jennyrobbo7@hotmail.co.uk) or contact the Parish Office.

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.

## 19<sup>th</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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

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 this Monday, September 30th, 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 unfailing 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!

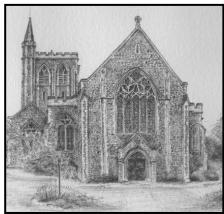
The study will run on Thursday evenings from 31 October to 19 December 2019 inclusive; each session will be from 7:30pm to 9:00pm in the Milner Hall and will be facilitated by Deacon Martin McElroy and Imelda Weingart-West.

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

**CWL** thank all who supported their recent Charity lunch, which raised £180 for the Hampshire Isle of Wight Air Ambulance.

**ST. GREGORY'S:** Cake sale on Sunday 6th October after Mass. Please be generous in your support. **Red APF Boxes** - if you are a box holder, please bring it to St. Gregory's for Nan McNamara to empty.

**ST STEPHEN'S CHILDREN'S LITURGY CAKE SALE:** There will be a cake sale after the 9:15am Mass at St Stephen's on Sunday 13th October to raise funds to allow the team to purchase additional resources for use by the Children's Liturgy group and by children attending Mass. Thank you in advance for your support.



## WELCOME TO OUR PARISH

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

[www.catholicwinchester.org.uk](http://www.catholicwinchester.org.uk)

Email [office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

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

<b>Senior Pastoral Worker:</b>	Sandra Drower
<a href="mailto:sandra@stpeterswinchester.org.uk">sandra@stpeterswinchester.org.uk</a>	
<b>Pastoral Worker (Co-ordinator: Baptism &amp; First Holy Communion):</b>	Rosanne Walker
<a href="mailto:baptism@stpeterswinchester.org.uk">baptism@stpeterswinchester.org.uk</a>	
<a href="mailto:fhc@stpeterswinchester.org.uk">fhc@stpeterswinchester.org.uk</a>	
<b>Pastoral Worker (Youth Ministry):</b>	Jo Donaldson
<a href="mailto:youthstuff@stpeterswinchester.org.uk">youthstuff@stpeterswinchester.org.uk</a>	
<b>Alpha Co-ordinator:</b>	Liz Eastham
<a href="mailto:alpha@stpeterswinchester.org.uk">alpha@stpeterswinchester.org.uk</a>	

<b>Parish Finance &amp; Admin Manager:</b>	Annette Parr
<a href="mailto:annette@stpeterswinchester.org.uk">annette@stpeterswinchester.org.uk</a>	
<b>Parish Facilities Manager:</b>	Sean Reidy
<a href="mailto:sean@stpeterswinchester.org.uk">sean@stpeterswinchester.org.uk</a>	
<b>Administration Assistants:</b>	Adam Biernat and Richard Phiri
<a href="mailto:office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk">office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk</a>	

### **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](mailto:FHC@stpeterswinchester.org.uk).

Mass in the Extraordinary Form will be suspended in October and will resume, as usual, on the 2nd Sunday of the month in November.

**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](http://www.stpetershants.co.uk)

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

Last Friday, Mrs Miles led the whole staff through safeguarding training. The purpose was to ensure that every staff member is knowledgeable about developments in the area of safeguarding and has a good understanding of what their responsibility is, how to ensure that pupils are safe and what to do if they have a concern. Mrs Miles is the safeguarding lead (DSL) for the school; Mrs Hutchins and Mrs Robertson are deputy safeguarding leads (DSLs). If you have any concerns regarding the safety and well-being of children at the school please report your concern to a DSL.

In staff meeting on Tuesday evening, Father Mark worked with teachers to consider what our role is as Catholic educators. We then went on to consider what liturgy should consist of and look like in a Catholic school. It was a good opportunity to share existing good practice and to think about developments for the future such as alternative ways to celebrate worship involving the children. Watch this space ....

On Friday we will be welcoming Father Stephen Vooght into the community of St Peter's School. Father Stephen will come into school each Friday over the course of this academic year to work with individual classes and small groups of children. As part of this work, children will have the opportunity to ask him some of their 'big questions'. He will in turn support children in exploring the answers to such questions.

**Mrs Megan Hutchins, Acting Head Teacher**

### **Masses and Liturgies: 28th September to 5th October 2019** **St. Peter's, Winchester**

#### **Masses**

Sat 28th	6:00pm	Mass - Patrick Doyle RIP
Sun 29th	8:00am	Mass - Rev. J. Martin RIP
	10:30am	Mass - Patrick Doyle RIP
	5:00pm	<b>Evening Prayer and Benediction - For our Filipino Community</b>
	6:00pm	Mass - People of the Parish
Mon 30th	8:00am	<b>Adoration &amp; Morning Prayer</b>
	12:15pm	<b>Funeral Mass - Margaret Guppy</b>
Tues 1st	8:00am	Mass - José Riera-Estela
Wed 2nd		NO MASS
Thur 3rd	8:00am	<b>Adoration &amp; Morning Prayer</b>
	7:00pm	John Joseph Voller RIP
Fri 4th	12:15pm	Mass - Deceased members of the Hill family
Sat 5th	9:00am	Mass - Intentions of the Way family

#### **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 29th 11:00am Mass - Pamela Field RIP

#### **St. Stephen's, Oliver's Battery**

Sun 29th 9:15am Mass - Ted & Joan Kenny RIP (with Baptism for Hugo Slinn)

#### **St. Thomas More's, Stockbridge**

Sun 29th 9:00am Mass - Intention for Canon Peter Wilkie (thanksgiving)

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.

**Our annual Mass count will be continuing over the next three weekends. Thank you for your cooperation.**