



THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (C)

17th November, 2019

Insomnia Week 4 – Fear of Surrendering Control and Security

This weekend I'd like to consider another fear, one which is *less easy* to identify and *more difficult* to describe. We have a fear of the loss of stability, safety, control and security.

This is a fear which accompanies many of us throughout our lives. From birth we look for stability and constantly fear losing it. Young children, for example, look to their parents, to know that everything is OK. This is why they often cry when parents leave the house, unsure of what that absence means. As we grow, our systems and structures provide stability for us: school, sports, schedules. But with each transition in these things, there can be the reintroduction of anxiety.

As adults, we therefore develop islands of stability. It might be your job or your marriage. It could be your man-cave or your car. For many people their church is an island of stability that provides security and brings comfort. That's one big reason why some people get really emotional about any changes at their church. Change the Mass schedule or the music, and that change can bring about major conflict. It can be theology, but it's mostly about stability. We long for it, we cherish it, we defend it.

This is what Jesus is speaking about in the Gospel of Luke today. Luke tells us:

“When some were talking about the Temple, remarking how it was adorned with fine stonework and votive offerings, Jesus said, ‘All these things you are staring at now – the time will come when not a single stone will be left on another: everything will be destroyed.’” (Luke 21:5-6)

Jesus reveals to his astonished disciples that this enormous, incredible Temple going to be totally destroyed. Less than 40 years later, in 70 AD, that is exactly what happened, when the Roman army besieged Jerusalem.

Jesus is telling them that so much of what is familiar is going to be stripped away.

“But before all this happens, people will seize you and persecute you; they will hand you over to the synagogues and to imprisonment, and bring you before kings and governors because of my name” (Luke 21:12)

This is exactly what would happen to the apostles and early Christians. We read about it in Acts of the Apostles. And he's got more:

“that will be your opportunity to bear witness. Keep this carefully in mind: you are not to prepare your defence, because I myself shall give you an eloquence and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to resist or contradict.” (Luke 21:13-15)

In the midst of persecution, with the world falling apart around them, Jesus assures the apostles that this will be an opportunity for them to give their testimony, to share their faith.

What looks like *instability* is, in fact, an *opportunity*. It is an opportunity for the apostles to fulfil the mission Jesus gave them to spread and share the joy of the Gospel. Moreover, he will be there with them, to give them the wisdom they need to do the job he is giving them to do. Again, if you read the Acts of the Apostles, that is exactly what happens. The apostles stand up to the authorities and the religious leaders in an incredible way.

God was *allowing this to happen*. God used Rome's destruction of Jerusalem as a way of jump-starting the growth of Christianity. Jesus had told the apostles to go out into the world and make disciples of all nations but, with a few exceptions, Christianity remained pretty much confined to Jerusalem until

these trials and tribulations came.

The early Christians were forced out into the larger world where they shared their faith, and the faith grew. Their **perseverance** was the key to their success in this challenging time.

Here is the lie we buy: we mistake human structures and institutions as the source of security in our lives. That's a lie. Your security doesn't ultimately rely on your job or your career; your marriage or your spouse; your school or your friends; your bank account or your investments; not even your health or happiness.

Your security is in the Lord, or at least it should be.

When we are threatened with the loss of stability, our fears can be tamed, if we choose to believe that God is with us and still in control. He's always in control. Maybe he's making us uncomfortable, because growth is always outside of our comfort zones. We need to choose Spirit-led change over godless security.

It is precisely in the times of chaos, where it looks like things are most out of control, where providence or God's power and plan are at work. There was no scene more chaotic than the cross. The apostles, in that moment, saw it as the loss of everything. But God saw it differently. In the midst of the chaos of the crucifixion, God hadn't lost control. Actually, he was taking it back. God was saving and redeeming the whole world. In the times of chaos and lack of stability, God may be redeeming you and saving you from a godless security that is keeping you from clinging to him.

The bottom line is this: if there is anything keeping you up at night, you need to be talking to Him, handing yourself over to Him, **surrendering** to Him.

Called and Gifted – Use the gifts you have been given

St Paul writes: *All of us, in union with Christ, form one body, and as parts of it we belong to each other. Our gifts (χαρίσματα – charisms) differ according to the grace (χάρις – ‘charin’) given us. If your gift is prophecy, then use it as your faith suggests; if administration, then use it for administration; if teaching, then use it for teaching. Let the preachers deliver sermons, the almsgivers give freely, the officials be diligent, and those who do works of mercy do them cheerfully.*

One of my key tasks as parish priest is to empower those of you who have been baptised to discover and use the natural and, as importantly, spiritual gifts you have been given by God for the building up of His Kingdom. If you don't know what your spiritual gifts are, or even that there is such thing as a “charism”, why not join me at our Called and Gifted Day next Saturday 23rd November? (more details inside the newsletter.) God has called each and every one of us. He has given us all gifts, which will reveal themselves most fully when we surrender ourselves to Him and allow ourselves to become His instruments.

Fr. Mark Hogan

November – praying for the our departed brothers and sisters –

Please write on a Remembrance Card the name of any loved one who has died and place it in the basket provided on the Sanctuary. We will pray this prayer for them throughout November just before the blessing during Masses:

May the choirs of angels come to greet you.

May they speed you to paradise.

May the Lord enfold you in His mercy.

May you find eternal life.

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: ‘Let us pray that many parishioners will be inspired to participate in the Called and Gifted process, which commences in our parish next weekend.’

We acknowledge with thanks, collections for 10th Nov:	
Average weekly Planned Giving	£3,754.54
Gift Aid envelopes (Actual)	£178.15
Non Gift Aided cash/cheques (Actual)	£865.16
Average offering for the week	£4,797.85

Blessing of Graves - This Sunday, we will be continuing our tradition of prayers for the dead and blessing of graves at 3pm in **Magdalen Hill Cemetery**.

This Sunday after 10:30 Mass there will be an appeal for those in the Philippines in need of humanitarian assistance after the Mindanao earthquakes. People in the affected communities were already vulnerable before the earthquakes and now they are in urgent need of shelter, safe drinking water and food. Mindanao has been shaken by three consecutive earthquakes within the same location on 16, 29 and 31 October 2019, each compounding the effect of the previous one. According to authorities, the death toll from the last two earthquakes is now at 21 with over 400 people injured and an estimated more than 35,000 people displaced. Many families have been left homeless due to the destruction of their houses. Please give as generously as you can. Thank you.

Mass at St. Peter's on Friday 29th November will be at 9am, rather than the usual time of 12:15.

SAFEGUARDING - IMPORTANT NOTICE! Please check Church noticeboards for upcoming training dates

TODAY'S MASS - LITURGY OF THE WORD
Entrance Antiphon: The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.
First Reading: Malachi 3:19-20
Psalm Response: The Lord comes to rule the peoples with fairness.
Second Reading: Second letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians 3:7-12
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to stand with confidence before the Son of Man. Alleluia!
Gospel: Luke 21:5-19
Communion Antiphon: To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK
Monday: Dedication of the Basilicas of St. Peter & St. Paul, Rome *or* Feria
Tuesday: Feria
Wednesday: Feria
Thursday: The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Friday: St. Cecilia
Saturday: Pope St. Clement I *or* St. Columbanus *or* Our Lady on Saturday *or* Feria

PLEASE PRAY FOR the repose of the souls of those who have died recently. May God grant them eternal rest.
John McKendry Funeral Mass Tue 19 Nov 12:30pm
Peggy Jackson Funeral Service Fri 22 Nov 2pm *St. Peter's*
Margaret Roach Memorial Mass Wed 27 Nov 3pm *St. Peter's*

Called and Gifted Teaching Day - St Peter's Pastoral Centre - Winchester - 23rd November 2019 Each of us has been called by God and gifted by the Holy Spirit. These spiritual gifts complement our natural talents and learnt skills. Discovering what we are called to do and what spiritual gifts we have in order to do this is a process of discernment. The Called and Gifted approach helps individuals to explore gifts and to develop insights as they act on using them for the good of others. This may be timely if you would like to make wise choices about the actions you take in your life in service of others. The Teaching day in November is followed by a One to One Discernment Conversation with a trained team member in January. There is also an opportunity to explore your gifts in more depth in the Spring 2020. Please note, the total cost for the day is £43 per participant. Much of this is subsidised by the diocesan Living Our Faith fund, although there is a participant fee of £25 per person to cover the materials given out to keep. Further subsidies are available for anyone who would be otherwise unable to attend. Please book on-line if possible www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/calledandgifted or take a booking form from the back of the church and return to the Parish Office marked "Called and Gifted Day".

Caritas Event "World Day of the Poor" – Sunday 17th November 2019 - "The hope of the poor shall not perish for ever" (Psalm 9:18). On the World Day of the Poor, 17th November, between 1pm and 5:30pm, Caritas Portsmouth are holding an afternoon in St. Peters, Winchester where we can all come together to share experiences and encourage new ideas around the issue of poverty. The event will include a short play by "Staging Faith" on the life of St. Vincent De Paul, and also some personal testimonies of people who have experienced life on the margins. There will be opportunities to network with others and to see what we can practically do to help those in need around us. Come along and let this event be the place where we begin to open our church doors to those in need and be a voice of the voiceless. For further information contact Kevin Gallagher from Caritas at caritas@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 07388994057. **Please be aware that, as a result of the Hall being used for rehearsals for the play throughout the morning, teas and coffees after 10:30am Mass are cancelled this week.** Our sincerest apologies for any inconvenience caused. Normal service will resume next Sunday. Thank you for your cooperation.

Confirmation (Ignite) & Youth Alpha - Please come along to our information session on Sunday 24th November at 4pm in the Parish Centre where we will be discussing our Confirmation programme, Youth Alpha, and Alpha for Parents. Youth Alpha begins on the 1st December, and continues every Sunday during term time from 4-6pm. We play games, have food, watch a video, and engage in discussions relating to our faith! You need to be aged 11-16 to join the Youth Alpha group, and it is essential for those who are considering Confirmation. For more details and to enrol, please contact Jo Donaldson (youthstuff@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

St Stephen's Travelling Nativity - This Advent, Mary and Joseph are travelling with the little donkey to Bethlehem. On their way they are hoping to find a different inn to stay at every night. Could they come to stay at your house? The Travelling Nativity will come to you for a night and then you are expected to pass them on to the next family. This is a good opportunity to meet other families and pray together this Advent. Please let me know if you would like to participate and I will add your family to the rota. You can contact me on joanna2582@hotmail.com Thank you. Jo Solomides

EVENTS

Our ALPHA PROGRAMME guest list is now open for Spring 2020:

- Monday evenings in St Peter's Pastoral Centre, starting 13th January
- Tuesday mornings at St. Gregory's Church Hall, Alresford, starting 14th January
- Thursday lunchtimes in Milner Hall, starting 16th January



For more information or to reserve a place, please email alpha@stpeterswinchester.org.uk

Real Christmas Chalet at Winchester Cathedral Market -

We're very short of volunteers to man the "Real Christmas Chalet" at the market. It would be great if you could find some time to be involved in this very worthwhile event by signing up for one or more of the 2 hour slots, individually or with friends at The Real Christmas Chalet at Winchester Christmas Market - Churches Together Winchester, or directly via bit.ly/realchalet, or by telephone to Lin Brewer on 854454. There is a training session being held on Tue 19 Nov 8-9pm at Winchester Baptist Church. Thank you very much.

STAY AWAKE WITH ME (Mt 26:38) - A TWELVE HOUR VIGIL OF ADORATION OF THE LORD TRULY

PRESENT IN THE BLESSED SACRAMENT, St. Peter's Church, 9pm on Fri 29 Nov to 9am on Sat 30 Nov. Each hour there will be prayers and readings with a focus on a particular aspect of the life and work of our parish. You are warmly invited to come for the whole vigil, or to join us for an hour. Please contact Tony Darlison via the parish office—if you are joining us for any hour after 9pm we will need your contact details so that you can access the church during the night.

Churches Together in Winchester will be holding election hustings on Thursday 5th December at the United Church, Jewry Street, Winchester. Doors will be open at 6.30pm and the proceedings will begin at 7.30pm. Numbers attending will be strictly limited to 300. Bishop Tim will be the Chairman, and it is expected that all candidates declared will be present to answer questions. Please send any question, (applicable to all the candidates) you would like to be considered, by email to winelec2019@gmail.com. Questions should be submitted by 29 November at the latest, and the most popular topics will be selected. Some space will also be allocated to questions on the night.

CONCERT OF CHRISTMAS MUSIC IN AID OF WINCHESTER AND DISTRICT SAMARITANS - ADORAMUS SINGERS (CONDUCTOR: Andy Hayling) 7.30 pm St Peter's Church, Jewry Street 11th December 2019. Tickets £11.00: 01962 713057 or 07437 9919057 donfielder@btinternet.com or candredford@hotmail.com

ST. PETER'S BOOKSHOP - Advent calendars, Christmas cards (including those from the Nightshelter) and Christmas items are now on sale in the bookshop.

BREAKFAST! - Come and join us for a BACON (or SAUSAGE) BUTTIE with tea, coffee etc. after 8am and 10.30am Masses on **Sun 24 Nov** in St. Peter's Pastoral Centre. All proceeds will go to Sr. Maria Gretch's Franciscan Family Centre in Bethlehem.

St Stephen's Community Choir welcome singers to join them for their second service on Sunday 24th November at 9.15am Mass in St Stephen's Church. Following the huge success of the choir for the 50th Anniversary Mass in May this year, the choir have decided to sing Rutter's 'For the Beauty of the Earth' once again for the Feast of Christ the King. If you would like to sing for this service please contact Mary Alveyn mealveyn@gmail.com or Emma Sharrock emma.sharrock@outlook.com. There will be a rehearsal after 9.15am mass on Sunday 3rd November and Sunday 10th November (10.40-11.45am) and a brief run through on the 24th November at 8.30am. We hope to sing for at least 2 services next year so do please feel free to email Mary with your contact details if you are unable to sing this time but would like to do so in the future.

Have you ever considered being a Reader at Mass? We are looking for new readers to join our team of readers, if you would like to find out more please email readers@stpeterswinchester.org.uk - you don't have to commit to every week!

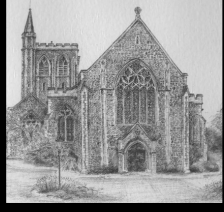
WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL LANTERN PARADE - Thursday 28 November, 6.30pm (participants should arrive between 5.30pm - 6.00pm) The Lantern Parade is back for 2019, but bigger and better than ever! Make your own lantern with Bella Crafts, see the displays in the Cathedral and join a fun family parade starting from the Cathedral and finishing with a stunning fireworks display in the Outer Close. This year's theme is the Christmas story and Winchester Cathedral would be delighted to see as many local churches participating as possible. You can create a lantern in your church or local community centre and all lanterns are welcome, big and small!

Materials can be purchased from BellaCrafts, and a workshop will also be held at Bella Crafts, Fair Oak, on **Sun 24 Nov** 9.30am-12.30pm or 1-4pm. Also after school from **11 Nov** onwards from 3.30pm-5.30pm.

To book a Lantern Workshop, please contact BellaCrafts 023 8051 7054 or visit www.bellacrafts.co.uk For further info & times please visit the Cathedral website: <https://www.winchester-cathedral.org.uk/events/lantern-parade-2019/>

In preparation for Youth Sunday, the Diocese are holding a day of 'Faith Exploration' for those aged 14 - 17 on Saturday the 23rd November. The day will take place from 10am until 5pm and will be at St Joseph's Church in Havant. The cost for the day is £5 which includes lunch, but this should not be a barrier so if cost is a problem then please contact me! We're organising transport to leave St Stephen's Church at 8.30am. Limited seats, so please let me know if you are wishing to travel with the group. For more information and to book a place, please contact Jo Donaldson (youthstuff@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

Winchester Fusion Choir Charity Concert, at St. Peter's, Fri 6th Dec, 7:30pm. Tickets £7.50 and available in the Parish Centre or via email: fusionchoirconcerttickets@gmail.com Ticket sales will support several local charities, including the SVP.



WELCOME TO OUR PARISH

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

www.catholicwinchester.org.uk

There's a space for you here if you'd like to come and get to know us and Jesus a little better; a home away from home. Come and see.

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

This Sunday we welcome Sarah Keogh who will be leading our music at Evening Prayer and 6pm Mass.

Please join Fr. Mark at 9:15am Mass this Thursday, 21st November, at St. Stephen's.

On Sunday 24th November we welcome staff, children and families from St. Peter's School to the 10:30am Mass at St. Peter's.

Readers' Workshops - To mark the **Year of the Word**, the Diocese of Portsmouth is launching Readers' training workshops which are available for parishes to book. The training offered consists of two workshops of three hours each, each run on a separate day, for all church readers and aspiring readers. On completion of the two workshops, the participants are awarded a diocesan recognition.

The workshops offer Liturgical and Biblical formation, as well as practical training, to ensure that the Word of God is read with clarity and conviction. The training ends with a time of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Havant (23 Nov 2019), Winchester (11 & 25 Jan 2020), Christchurch (1 & 2 Feb 2020), Lymington (7 & 14 Mar 2020).

For more details, and to reserve a space, please contact Chris Peacock at readers@portsmouthdioces.org.uk

Masses and Liturgies: 16th to 23rd November 2019

St. Peter's, Winchester

Masses

Sat 16th	6:00pm	Mary Keating RIP
Sun 17th	8:00am	Mass - Margaret Guppy RIP
	10:30am	Mass - Jack Kilroy RIP
	12:30pm	Baptism - Dominic Solivajs
	5:00pm	Evening Prayer and Benediction - Caritas - Option for the Poor
	6:00pm	Mass - For the Benefactors
Mon 18th	8:00am	Adoration & Morning Prayer
	12:15pm	Mass - Living & Deceased Members of the McTernan Family
Tues 19th	8:00am	Mass - Julia Cave RIP
	12:30pm	Funeral Mass - John McKendry
Wed 20th	7:00pm	NO MASS
Thur 21st	8:00am	Adoration & Morning Prayer
	7:00pm	Mass - CWL - Holy Souls & All Deceased CWL Members & Friends
Fri 22nd	12:15pm	Mass - Intentions of the Neil Family
	2:00pm	Funeral Service - Peggy Jackson
Sat 23rd	9:00am	Mass - Special Intention for Ben's Family

Confessions:

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

Tue:	9:00am-3:00pm
Wed:	1:00pm-4:00pm
Thur:	9:00am-1:00pm

St. Gregory's, Alresford

Sun 17th	11:00am	Mass - Rosemary Cannon RIP
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St. Stephen's, Oliver's Battery

Sun 17th	9:15am	Mass - Special Intention for Ben's Family
Sun 21st	9:15am	Mass - Kathy Scott's wellbeing

St. Thomas More's, Stockbridge

Sun 17th	9:00am	Mass - People of the Parish
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The Catholic Women's League meet on Thursday 21st November at 4.30pm for 5.00pm until 6.30pm in the Pastoral Centre, concluding with Mass at 7.00pm. The Theme for the Meeting is 'Advent'.

The Catholic Women's League are holding a **SOUP & PUD lunch**, in the Pastoral Centre on Friday 22nd November, 12.00 noon to 1.30pm in the Pastoral Centre. All Proceeds from the lunch will go to 'The "Friends of the Royal Hampshire County Hospital" in memory of Eileen Gumbrell RIP. Please support.

ST. GREGORY'S - Wed 20 Nov at 2.30pm - Tea & Chat at Nan McNamara's home. Enquiries to 01962 734425.

ST PETER'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, WINCHESTER



Dear Parents,

Well done and thank you to the PTA for a great bonfire night. In spite of the rain earlier in the day on Saturday, the event was well attended, the firework display was fantastic and a good time was had by all. Thank you to everyone who remembered to wear their odd socks yesterday as part of Anti-bullying week, as a reminder that it is ok to be different; be proud of who you are and be accepting of one another. A reminder also that in fact difference can make a community richer and stronger for it. In class this week, children are working on how important it is to be kind to one another and what to do if they or others are feeling bullied either in person or on line. They are considering and discussing the definition of respect, that bullying is a behaviour choice, that we can respectfully disagree with each other i.e. we don't have to be best friends or ways agree with each other but we do have to respect each other and that we all need to choose to respect each other both face to face and online. A key message for all of us is that 'change starts with us'. Both the Anti-Bullying Alliance and Kidscape have a parental support section on their website. The links for these are: <https://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/tools-information/advice-parents/interactive-anti-bullying-information-tool-parents-and-carers> and <https://www.kidscape.org.uk/advice/advice-for-parents-and-carers/>

Mrs Megan Hutchins, Acting Headteacher