

PETERPOST

Parish of St. Peter and the Winchester Martyrs

Alresford • Stockbridge • Winchester

20TH SEPTEMBER 2020

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ENVY OR JOY? THE CHOICE IS YOURS

Fr Mark writes ...

Working hard or hoping to be hired? Envious of others or praising God's generosity?

Today's Gospel is one of my favourite parables. But I didn't always like it and that, I think, is because I didn't really get it. It didn't seem just or fair, until I discovered that it invites us into a whole new way of considering what is just and fair, according to the logic of God.

Central to the plot is the landowner, those who were hired at dawn and those who were hired at the eleventh hour. The landowner offers a *denarius* (considered by many to be a "day's wage") to those whom he hires at the beginning of the day. He keeps looking for more workers as the day progresses, promising to pay each "what is right", a fair wage. At the end of the day, the eleventh hour, he finds other workers and instructs them to go into his vineyard, although there is no mention of how much he will pay them.

When the sun sets and it is time to settle up, those who were last get paid first, one *denarius* each. Those who had been working hard in the sun all day long must have thought, "Great! We're going to get paid extra!" They're wrong, however, and find themselves also being offered one *denarius*, the same as the others and exactly what had been agreed at the end of the day. It really doesn't seem fair that someone working twelve times longer than someone else should receive the same wage. Most of us would protest pretty strongly and few business owners are likely to adopt a similar model.

Let's focus on a few key words and phrases to see what they might tell us. We hear that those who came first "*grumbled*" at the landowner. This word reminds us of the Israelites who grumbled against God in the desert. Then we hear them say that they have "*done a heavy day's work in the heat*". Maybe this reminds us of the elder son in the Parable of the Prodigal Son, who tells his Father "*all these years I have slaved for you*".

The landowner also accuses these grumblers of being envious (literally, having "an envious eye") because of his own generosity. The Catechism speaks out very strongly against envy, quoting *St. Augustine who saw envy as "the diabolical sin."*

Like the landowner in the parable, God wants to be generous to those who come last. Maybe those who haven't been hired until the eleventh hour are those considered the "leftovers" in society at that time: the blind, the lame, the prostitutes, the tax collectors, exactly the sort of people on the peripheries for whom Jesus went looking. There's nothing to suggest that they were deliberately avoiding work. All we know is that no one has hired them, no one has called them. Those of us who have ever experienced rejection or being ignored or cut off might have some inkling as to how they would be feeling as the day reached its close.

My hope and dream for this parish is that grumbling and envy are banished and that we learn day by day how to rejoice more and more when God's beloved sons and daughters hear the call to labour in the vineyard of the Lord.

What does it mean in this case to labour in his vineyard, to do the work of God?

In John's Gospel (John 6:28-29), Jesus is asked by the crowds what they must do to perform the works of God and he replies, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent." In other words, we do God's work when we believe in Jesus. To believe in Jesus requires commitment and action. It is to hand ourselves over to him, to surrender to him, to place our lives in his hands, freely, out of love. To work in the vineyard of the Lord is to become the feet and hands, the voice and ears of Jesus, obedient and faithful to the will of the Father.

This leads to at least two other forms of work: liturgy and works of mercy. Liturgy, or the "work of the people", is public worship of God, as we celebrate and are drawn into the Paschal Mystery (the life, death and Resurrection of Jesus). The "works of mercy" are charitable actions by which we come to the aid of our neighbour in his or her spiritual and bodily necessities. Instructing, advising, consoling, comforting are spiritual works of mercy, as are forgiving and bearing wrongs patiently. The corporal works of mercy consist especially in feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and imprisoned, and burying the dead.

Believing in Jesus, surrendering our will and our lives to him, leads us to worship God and to serve Christ who reveals himself in the poor and vulnerable. This is what it means to do God's work, to labour under the "sweet yoke of the Gospel".

With which character(s) in our Gospel today do you find yourself most closely aligned?

Welcome..... If this is your first time with us, or first time reading the newsletter, then you are particularly welcome. Please get in touch - we'd love to tell you about everything that's going on here, and invite you to join us. Just to start you off, elsewhere in the newsletter you will find our services, our virtual church timetable, and an invitation to Alpha. Look on the website <https://www.catholicwinchester.org.uk/> or email office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk . If you are here for the new University term, say hello! We'd love to link up with you. We have a facebook page for young people which is a great place to start: www.facebook.com/groups/3316441145103881/

Staying connected Fr Mark wants to make sure we keep connected as a Parish, and to this end a team of parishioners will be calling round to people to pass on his good wishes and to try to make sure our contact details are up-to-date. Being able to reach out to each other has been even more vital in the time of the pandemic, so we hope everyone will understand and be happy to take the call. Of course you should always be careful on the phone – no-one from the Parish will be asking you anything sensitive. If you have any questions or issues contact the Parish Office: 01962 852804 or email office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk

Alpha Online – YOU ARE INVITED. YOU ARE WELCOME...

Join us on this Monday 21st September as we start our next Alpha Online series. Still hesitating? Give it a try and let God surprise you!

To register, visit www.catholicwinchester.org.uk/alpha

The course will run online Mondays from 8pm - 9.15pm. **Starts Monday 21st September 2020.**

If you would like to invite a friend to join Alpha but are unsure who to invite or why, please watch this short clip

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O15wAFuky1w> or send them this invitation <http://bit.ly/AlphaOnlineWinchester>



Date	Mass Times & Intentions	Livestream/Publ.
SATURDAY – September 19th <i>St Januarius (opt. mem.) or Our Lady on Saturday or Feria</i>	9.00AM	Public & Livestream
	5.30PM Intentions of the Neil Family	Public & Livestream (booking required)
SUNDAY – September 20th TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	8.00AM Holy Souls RIP	Public & Livestream (booking required)
	10:00AM People of the Parish	Livestream only
	11:00AM St Gregory's	Public (booking required)
	12:00Noon	Public & Livestream (booking required)
	5:30PM Margaret Blake	Public & Livestream (booking required)
MONDAY – September 21st <i>St Matthew (FEAST)</i>	12:15PM Founders	Public & Livestream
	7:00PM The Smith Family	Livestream only
TUESDAY – September 22nd <i>Feria</i>	10:00AM The Blake Family	Public & Livestream
	10:00AM St Gregory's	Public
	7:00PM	Livestream only
WEDNESDAY – September 23rd <i>St Pio of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio) (mem.)</i>	10:00AM	Public & Livestream
	7:00PM	Livestream only
THURSDAY – September 24th <i>Our Lady of Walsingham (mem.)</i>	10:00AM	Public & Livestream
	7:00PM William Meader RIP	Livestream only
FRIDAY – September 25th <i>Feria</i>	10:00AM St Gregory's	Public
	12:15PM	Public & Livestream
	7:00PM Christopher Turner RIP; Paul Turner RIP	Livestream only
SATURDAY – September 26th <i>Ss Cosmas & Damian or Our Lady on Saturday or Feria</i>	9:00AM	Public & Livestream
	10:00 AM MASS for Diocesan SVP	Public & Livestream
	11:00 AM St Stephen's	Public, see note below for info
	5:30PM Joan Pollard RIP	Public & Livestream (booking required)
SUNDAY – September 27th TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	8.00AM	Public & Livestream (booking required)
	10:00AM McClean Family RIP	Livestream only
	11:00AM St Gregory's	Public (booking required)
	12 NOON People of the Parish	Public & Livestream (booking required)
	5:30PM	Public & Livestream (booking required)
All at St Peter's church except where stated Morning Prayer & Adoration 8am (every weekday - public & livestream)		Night Prayer 9pm (every day – livestream only) Reconciliation/ Confession – Saturday morning, 11-12, afternoon 4.30-5pm. No booking necessary.

Mass at St. Stephen's Fr Mark will celebrate mass in St. Stephen's Church at 11am on Saturday 26th September. This will be our first public mass there since March. We will not be taking bookings for this mass but numbers will be limited as we "test out" our systems and procedures. All being well, we will be able to begin to celebrate public mass at St. Stephen's on a Sunday from some time in October.

Please book early for Sunday masses

Fr Mark writes: "It's been so very lovely seeing people's faces back at masses, even though tinged with sadness that for many this is, rightly, not yet possible. Thank you to those of you who have been joining us on the weekdays to give space for others to come on Sundays. I'd like to encourage those of you coming on Sundays (including Saturday evening) please to book in as early as possible - that way we can "manage the numbers" better and even offer an extra mass if there is a demand."

Readings and Antiphons

Sunday 20th September 2020 – **25th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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 for ever.

First reading - Isaiah 55:6-9

Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 144(145):2-3,8-9,17-18

The Lord is close to all who call him.

Second reading - Philippians 1:20-24,27

Gospel Acclamation - cf. Lk 19:38,2:14

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessings on the King who comes,
in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven
and glory in the highest heavens!
Alleluia!

Gospel - Matthew 20:1-16

Communion Antiphon - Ps 118: 4-5

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

Advance warning

Next weekend the Covenant with the Poor team will be appealing at all masses for support for 'Water Harvest - Drip Irrigation projects to beat Covid-19 impact'. Please support generously as ever, by donating using the blue envelopes or by bank transfer to the parish bank account with the reference **CWP**. A link to the appeal leaflet with full details is on the parish website front page.

Re-Opening Churches and the Pastoral Centre

We're delighted that masses have resumed at St. Gregory's and below are details of St Thomas More, Stockbridge and St. Stephen's, Winchester re-opening. We're developing risk assessments and looking at a timeline for phased re-opening the Pastoral Centre.. We will keep you informed as we go forwards.

- **St. Gregory's, Alresford** We have carried out a risk assessment of St. Gregory's Church, and there is now a regular 11am Mass on Sundays. (PLEASE BOOK via our website or by phoning the office). There will be weekday masses when Bishop Peter is available (no booking required) – next one will be Tues 22nd Sept. Thank you for your continued patience as we try to keep everyone safe
- **St. Stephen's, Winchester** We're having our first mass at St. Stephen's on Saturday, 26th September, at 11am, and hope soon, possibly even next week, to announce our phased re-entry into the church there for more masses.
- **St Thomas More, Stockbridge:** We are pleased to say that St Thomas More church in Stockbridge is about to reopen.

On Monday 28th September we will open the church from 10-12noon for private prayer. This will give you the opportunity to see the changes and find out how we can attend Mass safely and fulfil the COVID-19 requirements.

On Wednesday 30th September and Wednesday 7th October we will have Mass at 10am. Our weekly Sunday Mass at 9am will resume on 11th October.

Booking for Mass is essential as St Thomas More church can only accommodate 28 parishioners. To book telephone 01264 861397 and leave a message including your phone number and we will get back to you. Or email christoesrus@hotmail.co.uk
Booking will close 24 hours before the respective Masses.

We look forward to welcoming you back!

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).

Fr. Mark

This Week's Intention – Let us pray that everyone in our parish will hear and respond to Bishop Philip's invitation to 'come back to the Lord' who is truly present in our churches, whilst continuing to pray for those who are still unable, for whatever reason, to be there physically.

PLEASE PRAY FOR the repose of the souls of those who have died recently:



Brendan Walsh RIP
Ruth Patterson RIP

Children's Liturgy Online

Our weekly Children's Liturgy is up and running again now via our online Zoom platform. The sessions take place at 9:30am - 9:50am on Sundays, so you are then free to join in with the 10am livestreamed Mass if you wish.

To make the sessions as secure as possible, you will need to pre-register here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUpd-CgqDsjHdFJalMzv9TVFB4lu-9cEITv>



Please note! Everyone needs to register for the new session! You will receive a new email with individual joining link.

You will then receive an email with an individual ID (please don't share this with anyone) and a few safeguarding reminders.

Links for colouring sheets are put up in advance on the Children's/Young People's page on the website:

<https://www.catholicwinchester.org.uk/for-young-people-now/>
We look forward to seeing you there!

Morning Prayer and Adoration (8-9am, Monday to Friday)

Since lockdown, Fr Mark and Fr Stephen have been leading Morning Prayer and Adoration nearly every day, available for you to follow on our YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbGgrcbDyLY75pmCAopfLlg/live>. It is now possible for you to join us in person. The church is opened just before 8am and each person attending is asked to leave their name and contact details (for track and trace purposes).

Morning Prayer is a beautiful part of the "Liturgy of the Hours", the Church's daily offering of prayer in response to the Lord's command to pray without ceasing. We give thanks to God the Father and intercede for the salvation of the world. The service lasts about 15 minutes. We will offer the prayers before the Blessed Sacrament (the Body of Christ, or Sacred Host, visible to us on the altar, in what is called a 'monstrance'). The Blessed Sacrament will then remain exposed (visible) for a period of personal, silent prayer. On some days the Blessed Sacrament will remain on the altar until just before mass; on others we will end our formal time of prayer with a litany of praise to God and Benediction (when the priest or deacon blesses those present with the Sacred Host in the monstrance). Those attending will be asked to wipe down the area in which they sit and any surfaces with which they may have come into contact.

If you would like to join us, you would be very welcome. We will still be livestreaming the prayers, so you can see what the service looks like from the comfort of your own home before venturing into the church if you feel unsure. If you would like to find out more about Eucharistic Adoration, or would like to commit to an hour each week as part of our parish rota, please contact Tony Darlison via the parish office (office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk or 01962 852804)

Welcome to Fr Anthony

Fr Anthony is now with us, and many of you will have seen him last weekend. He's now away for a short time, but will be back soon and taking a full role in the parish. We're all looking forward to getting to know him



Bishop Philip writes...

This autumn, we bid farewell to Mgr. Tom McGrath, another of our best-known and best-loved priests, who is retiring. Mgr. Tom was an especial support and personal help to me in my early days here in Portsmouth as he was one of the Vicars General, a post he held from 2005 until 2013. It was always good to tap into his wisdom, knowledge and long experience.

He will be especially remembered and loved for his work as chaplain to the Royal Hampshire County Hospital. Grateful for his service of the Lord and His Church, we wish him every grace and blessing in the years ahead, with good health and much joy. He is retiring within our Diocese and will continue to assist in various ways, so we look forward to seeing him often in the years ahead.

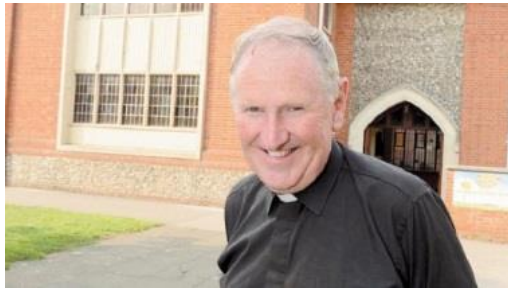
Here at St Peter's & the Winchester Martyrs We are now collecting for a retirement gift for Fr Tom. Payment can be made either through the donate option on the website or directly into our parish account:

Account Name: PRCDTR St Peter & The Winchester Martyrs

Sort Code: 30 93 04

Account No: 00890996

Whichever way you choose, please make sure you mark or reference the donation 'Fr Tom'.



Thank you to Sandra Drower (Senior Pastoral Worker)

On behalf of the parish, Fr Mark would like to offer an enormous "thank you" to Sandra Drower, who has decided to step back from her role as our Senior Pastoral Worker after six years in post. Sandra has offered excellent support to our parish pastoral workers, and has been responsible for establishing and supporting much wonderful work in our neighbourhood groups. The hospitality group, the Night of Lights, the "24 hours for the Lord" are just a few examples of the many blessings brought to us through Sandra's expertise, wisdom and dedication. Sandra will be with us in her role until 31st December and we're delighted that she will remain a fully committed member of our parish and very much part of our community life beyond as we move forward.



St. Peter's Tea Room



All welcome to join us for a cup of tea and a chat in our virtual tea room after 10am Livestream Mass - we'd particularly love to meet any students who are arriving in Winchester for the start of the new University year. Find the link to join on the Parish Homepage, or on the YouTube channel alongside the links for the words and music.

Children and Families

We're very conscious of some of the extra strains imposed upon children and families over recent months. We also know that the current masses, where no congregational singing is allowed and with the other differences, can make it more challenging for many of our children to engage and participate. We are actively thinking through what more we can do to support our children and families in worship (beyond our excellent Children's Liturgy of the Word) but any ideas are always welcome via our parish email address – office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk Hopefully we will have some news to share soon.



First Holy Communion 2021

We are now taking registrations for anyone who wishes their child(ren) to prepare to make their First Holy Communion in July 2021. Children should be in Year 4 (or above). For further information and application forms please email Rosanne Walker at fhc@stpeterswinchester.org.uk The deadline for registration is October 20th which is the last Parents' Compulsory Session with Fr Mark.



Journey in Faith

The Journey in Faith is hoping to start on Tuesday evenings in October. If you're not a Catholic, but want to learn more about what the Church believes and does, please call or email Nick Kelly (nick.kelly@sky.com 07960 797963)

St Peter's on the radio: The 10am Mass at St Peter's on this Sunday (20th) will be recorded and broadcast by Winchester Radio at 6pm on Sunday, with a repeat on Tuesday evening at 8pm. It's on 94.7FM across Winchester and the immediately-surrounding villages, or online via the Winchester Radio website or the UK Radioplayer app on your smart device. A great chance to listen in for anyone who is not online but has a radio - please think if you know anyone who might like to hear about it.

BOOKSHOP : The bookshop will open again when the Pastoral Centre opens. We have good stocks of Bibles, Missals, Prayerbooks, Books, including Alpha books, Rosaries, Crosses, cards etc. If you would like to buy anything or order anything before we open then please contact me, on 07760300708 or by email at sue.hnr@gmail.com. Thank you for your support, Susan Henry, Bookshop.

Second Collections 2020 We have received guidance from the Bishop's Conference this week. There will be fewer collections than usual, but they will still be supporting the usual causes. To relieve the pressure on parishes, there will be an online giving page for each collection. There is a **Second Collection for this weekend, 19th – 20th September:** it is the rescheduled **Pontifical Good Friday Collection to support Christians in the Holy Land.** The online giving page can be found here: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/second-collection-for-supporting-christians-in-the-holy-land-1> If you wish to donate by cheque or cash, please place in a clearly marked envelope (with Gift Aid details if you're a tax payer) and put in with the normal Sunday collection.

If you can read this message you don't need it: Peterpost has been going out from different email addresses recently (for good reasons...), and this has meant it has ended up in people's junk or spam folders. If you ever seem to have missed one, it's always worth checking there. But do contact us with any problems, and we can always send it out to you again editor@stpeterswinchester.org.uk

Winchester Green Week 27 September to 4 October 2020

Winchester's annual festival to celebrate & promote sustainable living. A week of events for everyone, organised by local communities, environmental groups, educational institutions, faith groups, local authorities and businesses in the Winchester District.

If you are concerned about God's Creation, our common home, and want to live simply and sustainably, join with others during this week, and find out more ways to respond through prayer and action. A more just and sustainable future can be created by all of us **doing more together**.

See www.winchester-green-week for details of events.



SVP –

Just a reminder that it is SVP awareness month, so do look out next week for an informational flyer. There will be a special mass for the Diocesan SVP in St Peter's on Saturday 26th September.

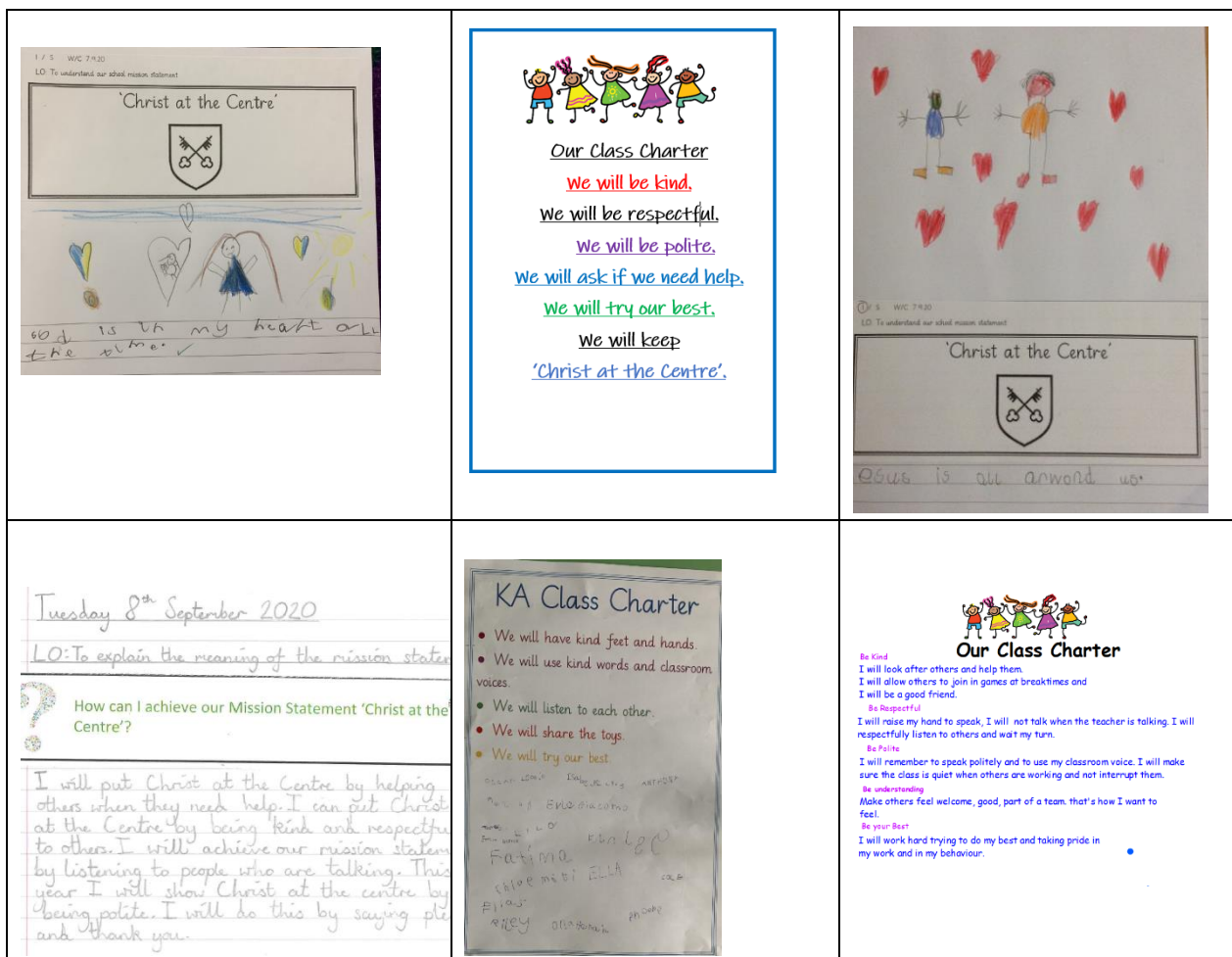
If you'd like to find out more about SVP or their work, you can visit their website - <https://www.svp.org.uk/> or contact Marion via the parish office (office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk or 01962852804)

Message from St. Peter's School:

Dear Parents

'Christ at the Centre'

Last week we revisited our Mission Statement in class, thinking about what we value in school and how we behave. We have been talking about what it is to show good manners, what a 'St Peteronian' is and what it means to have the St Peter's Polish. Here is some of the work from our children...



Meanwhile we have begun our new R.E. unit of work looking at 'Creation'.

'God looked at everything he had made, and he was very pleased.' Genesis 1: 31

Over the next few weeks, the children will be learning about Creation from our diocesan 'God Matters' RE scheme. Our youngest children will be thinking about how God created the world, how they can look after his creation and the different ways in which we can give thanks to God.

In lower KS2, children will be describing how we are made in the 'image and likeness' of God and the joy this brings to believers, as well as learning about the importance of Jesus' baptism and baptism today. The oldest children will be thinking about how the words of the Gospel and the ten commandments influence our lives today and will be engaging and responding to questions of life, such as 'Is it easy to be a Person of God?'

Best wishes

Louise Buxton
(Miss), Headteacher

Virtual Church Programme - Week commencing 20th September 2020

	Sunday 20 th Sept 25 th Sun in Ord. Time	Monday 21 st Sept St Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist	Tuesday 22 nd Sept	Wed 23 rd Sept St Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)	Thursday 24 th Sept Our Lady of Walsingham	Friday 25 th Sept	Saturday 26 th Sept	
8am	Public Mass @ St Peter's Church (ALSO live streamed)	Public Morning Prayer and Adoration (ALSO live streamed)	Public Morning Prayer and Adoration (ALSO live streamed)	Public Morning Prayer and Adoration (ALSO live streamed)	Public Morning Prayer and Adoration (ALSO live streamed)	Public Morning Prayer and Adoration (ALSO live streamed)	9am – Public Mass @ St Peter's Church (ALSO live streamed)	
9.20 – 9.50am	Children's Liturgy Online (See website to register)							
10am	Sunday Mass Live stream ONLY		Public Mass @ St Peter's Church (ALSO live streamed)	Public Mass @ St Peter's Church (ALSO live streamed)	Public Mass @ St Peter's Church (ALSO live streamed)			
11.15am	St Peter's Tea Room Zoom Virtual room							
12noon	Sunday Mass @ St Peter's Church (ALSO live streamed)							
12.15pm		Public Mass @ St Peter's Church (ALSO live streamed)					Public Mass @ St Peter's Church (ALSO live streamed)	
2.55pm		Divine Mercy Chaplet Zoom Virtual room	Divine Mercy Chaplet Zoom Virtual room	Divine Mercy Chaplet Zoom Virtual room	Divine Mercy Chaplet Zoom Virtual room	Divine Mercy Chaplet Zoom Virtual room		
5.30pm	Sunday Mass @ St Peter's Church (ALSO live streamed)							Vigil Mass @ St Peter's Church (ALSO live streamed)
7pm		Evening Mass - Live stream ONLY	Evening Mass - Live stream ONLY	Evening Mass - Live stream ONLY	Evening Mass - Live stream ONLY	Evening Mass - Live stream ONLY		
8pm		Alpha Online (See website to register)						
9pm	Night Prayer - Live Stream ONLY	Night Prayer - Live Stream ONLY	Night Prayer - Live Stream ONLY	Night Prayer - Live Stream ONLY	Night Prayer - Live Stream ONLY	Night Prayer - Live Stream ONLY	Night Prayer - Live Stream ONLY	

All public Masses at St Peter's Church are also livestreamed. For further details, visit our [website](#). The virtual sessions take place on the online platform Zoom. These can be accessed through the following link <https://zoom.us/j/4388694572>

Alternatively, open your Zoom app (if installed), enter or copy/paste the **Meeting ID: 438 869 4572** then click 'Join'. **Password: 287520.**

[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO PARTICIPATE IN MASS ONLINE](#)

[Click here if you wish to see recorded services](#)