

PETERPOST

Parish of St. Peter and the Winchester Martyrs

Alresford • Stockbridge • Winchester

29th NOVEMBER 2020

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Advent is a season of expectant, hope-filled waiting, of Holding On

Fr Mark writes ...

1st Sunday of Advent - Hold On, Your Father is Still Shaping You

They say that a week is a long time in politics. That makes nine months a very long time indeed, not just for politicians but for all of us who have been experiencing the effects of the global pandemic since March. So much has changed and there is so much pain that has been experienced, so much weariness that has accumulated and, in spite of it all, so many blessings that have been offered.

Over these next few weeks, though, I want us to take a step back and view things from a different, broader perspective. I began in March wondering what our centuries-old Cathedral here in Winchester was making of all this; what insights St. Catherine's Hill might offer if she were able to cry out; what wisdom the planets and stars might contribute in these days...

The so-called "Cosmic Calendar" shows the time-scale relationship of the universe and all events on Earth as plotted along a single 12-month, 365-day, year. On this scale, one second corresponds to 438 years; a minute is about 26,000 years; an hour is 1.6 million years; and a day is 38 million years. If the Big Bang takes place at midnight on 1st January, we find that the solar system wasn't formed until 2nd September, just as schools returned after the summer holidays; life on earth began appearing later that month; but dinosaurs didn't show their faces until Christmas Day, primitive humans didn't start using stone tools until about after the 10 o'clock news on New Year's Eve and Jesus wasn't born until 5 seconds before Big Ben strikes midnight and brings in a Happy New Year.

From even "before" 1st January and the beginning of time in the Universe, God the Almighty, Creator of all that is, visible and invisible, planned to send Jesus, his only Son, born of the Virgin Mary, as Emmanuel, God-with-us. Throughout all that time, creation was yearning, the angels were waiting, humanity was holding on until God's plan to save Creation was revealed. From Adam and Eve's fall, through floods and plagues and kings and prophets, God was preparing his people until, in the fullness of time, he sent his only Son to bind the human family to himself with a new bond of love so tight that it can never be undone.

In Jesus, our Salvation is revealed, the Victory is won, Light has conquered darkness. And yet, we still find ourselves in the midst of battle, holding on until Jesus returns in his glory. What are we to do in this 'in between time'? ***We are to hold on - hold on to Jesus our Saviour, keep close to him, our Good Shepherd, who leads us through The Valley of Darkness, knowing that if he is with us then all things will be well, everything will be alright.***

Advent is a season of expectant, hope-filled waiting, of holding on. We know that something is not quite right. The world isn't as it should be (we can see this in our community; our parish; our family; even our own soul) and yet God is present, mysteriously so, waiting to reveal His face. God is up to something very special that we cannot yet see clearly.

Hope:
✠ doesn't mean wishful thinking but is based in reality
✠ requires confidence
✠ engages the heart and requires our desire for something more
✠ is about action

After a year of challenges, changes, suffering, isolation and social distancing, perhaps there's never been a more important time to ask for the gift of Hope as we reflect on the Incarnation; on God's incredible plan to draw as close as possible to us, by becoming one of us. ***In this season, let us "hold on", waiting with patient and eager, hope-filled longing. Let us "hold on" tightly to Jesus Christ and our faith; let us also hold on***

to each other in love. Let us trust that God is with us and will reveal His face to us once more. ***Let us believe in God who alone is capable of making everything alright.***

Is God hiding his face from us?

Have you ever played peekaboo? Most of us have. It's pretty common across many cultures. But, just in case you haven't, or as a reminder...it is a form of play, primarily with a small child. One player momentarily hides his or her face, then pops back into the view of the other, and says, "Peekaboo!"

I was reading recently that peekaboo is thought by many to demonstrate an infant's understanding of 'object permanence'. This, Wikipedia reliably informs me, is the understanding that objects continue to exist even when they cannot be seen, heard, or otherwise sensed. When the person playing peekaboo hides their face, the infant understands that this person continues to exist.

I wonder if God sometimes plays peekaboo with us. The prophet Isaiah perhaps suggests that something akin to this is the case.

For you hid your face from us...

The prophet is aware that the people have sinned, messed up, and that now God cannot be seen, heard or otherwise sensed. And God seems to have hidden his face for a very long time, so that many have forgotten that He's there at all.

And yet, they have this understanding of 'divine permanence' which allows them to know at a deeper level that God still exists, is still there. They learn to hope for God to reveal his face once more and to hope for those good things which their Father has in store for them.

Hold on, your Father is still shaping you.

God does not merely continue to exist but is in fact loving Father:

*And yet, Lord, you are our Father;
we the clay, you the potter,
we are all the work of your hand.*

Even when we cannot see, hear or sense God, it is possible to believe that God still exists as a Father, who has lovingly moulded us and fashioned us as a potter forms objects out of clay. And, what is more, we can trust that Our Father continues to shape us, even in his seeming absence. We can hope that Our Father still sees something beautiful in us and is transforming us more and more, perhaps painfully at times, into the image and likeness of his Son, Jesus.

In what ways do you feel the Father is wanting to re-shape you during this time..? Will you allow the Father to mould you into something more beautiful, into the image and likeness of Jesus, or do you resist..?

Spend some time talking with the Father about this, ask him what he would like to show you today...

Prayer:

Loving God, thank you that you care enough about us to hold us in your hands and to mould and shape us. Help us to hold on, trusting you, as you make us into the beautiful vessels that you intend us to be. Amen.





*Hold on just a little while longer,
everything is going to be alright*

Christmas 2020

Advent and Christmas

From Fr Mark: *We really want this to be a Christmas to Remember for all the right reasons. We want it to be a time when the central message of Christmas – that God-is-with-us and so everything will be alright – is able to penetrate our hearts and minds in a new and deeper way. And we'd love to share our Christmas this year with you and your family, friends, neighbours and loved ones.*

Christmas Masses

At the heart of everything we do is prayer and that beautiful opportunity to listen to and speak with God, and at the heart of our Catholic prayer is the celebration of the Mass. This is our opportunity to connect with God and to connect with each other through our physical and spiritual communion.

As with so much else, things are going to be a little different this year. So, for example:

We will be offering some public masses where people can join with us physically and be in one of our beautiful churches with each other; and we will be offering masses online for people to join in from their homes.

For those coming to one of our public masses, you will need to book in advance, either on our website – www.catholicwinchester.org.uk – or by phone – 01962852804 (booking will open this week, so please book as early as you can); for those of you joining us from home, no booking required!

For those in church we're planning to have some beautiful Christmas music, even if you cannot join in with the singing. For those at home, the music will be just as beautiful, and you can sing to your hearts content.

For those in church, you will be able to receive Holy Communion or a blessing in person; for those at home, you will be able to make a spiritual communion and receive many spiritual blessings.

For those of you with young families, our 4pm masses on Christmas Eve at St. Stephen's and St. Peter's will be especially for you.

Because space will be limited at our masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, we want to encourage those of you who cannot join us in person then to come and be with us for Mass on another day in the Christmas Octave*.

Here's a full list of the Mass times for the Octave:

Christmas Eve (24th)

4pm St. Gregory's; St. Stephen's (families only); St. Peter's (families only)

5pm St. Thomas More

6pm St. Gregory's; **St. Peter's (Livestream only)**

8pm St. Stephen's; St. Peter's (if we have sufficient welcomers/stewards)

10pm St. Stephen's; St. Peter's

Midnight **St. Peter's (Livestream only)**

Christmas Day (25th)

8am St. Stephen's; St. Peter's (if we have sufficient welcomers/stewards/interest)

9am St. Thomas More; St. Gregory's

10am St. Stephen's; St. Peter's

11am St. Gregory's

Midday St. Stephen's; St. Peter's (if we have sufficient welcomers/stewards)

6pm St. Peter's (no booking; first come, first served)

St. Stephen's Day (26th)

10am St. Stephen's (no booking; first come, first served)

5:30pm St. Peter's

Holy Family (Sunday 27th)

8am St. Peter's

9am St. Thomas More

9:15am St. Stephen's

10am **St. Peter's (Livestream only)**

11am St. Gregory's

Midday St. Peter's

5:30pm St. Peter's

Holy Innocents (28th)

12:15pm St. Peter's (no booking; first come, first served)

7pm St. Peter's (no booking; first come, first served)

St. Thomas Becket (29th)

10am St. Peter's (no booking; first come, first served)

7pm St. Peter's (no booking; first come, first served)

6th Day within the Octave of Christmas (30th)

10am St. Peter's (no booking; first come, first served)

7pm St. Peter's (no booking; first come, first served)

7th Day within the Octave of Christmas (New Year's Eve, 31st)

10am St. Peter's (no booking; first come, first served)

7pm St. Peter's (no booking; first come, first served)

Mary, Mother of God (New Year's Day)

10am St. Peter's (no booking; first come, first served)

ALL MASSES WILL REQUIRE YOU TO BOOK IN ADVANCE UNLESS STATED OTHERWISE; ALL MASSES AT ST. PETER'S WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE ONLINE

We will be giving all those who book for mass on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day the opportunity to "give up their seat for a guest". This would be a wonderful gesture of hospitality to any visitors who turn up without a ticket. You will be offered this option when you book your place.

***Christmas Octave**

Although the 'obligation' to attend Mass on Sundays and Holydays of Obligation will remain suspended for the time being, we know that many individuals and families will want to go to Mass, particularly at Christmas. We want to see how we can accommodate as many as possible of those who desire to go to a Christmas Mass. Like Easter, the Nativity of the Lord is one of the two solemnities in the Ordinary Form of the Church's liturgical calendar which has its own Octave. The Church regards each day in an Octave as if it were the solemnity itself. So, for example, the prayers for Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours during the Christmas Octave refer to each day as if it were still Christmas Day. Despite having days within the Octave that are feasts: St Stephen, St John the Evangelist, the Holy Innocents and the Holy Family, and the concluding Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God, each of these days is as the Roman Missal states, a "day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord." This means that, liturgically, each of the days from 25th December to the 1st January is 'Christmas Day'.

I would like to encourage you, therefore, to know that you can come and celebrate the mystery of Christmas at any of the Masses during the Octave days. This will allow you to plan for a day within the Octave when you would like to come to our churches to celebrate their Christmas Mass this year.

There are going to be many other opportunities to celebrate this Christmas – here are just a few of them...
Look out for more details of these, and even more still being planned. We'll be updating these pages of the newsletter every week

Other Public Prayer, Liturgy and Worship

Christmas Crib / Nativity Scene (outdoors - St. Peter's School and St. Peter's Church; indoors, St. Peter's Church, timings to be confirmed)

Pope Francis wrote that the nativity scene is "like a living Gospel rising up from the pages of sacred Scripture."

Travelling Liturgy Starting now with regular posts on Facebook...

Night of Lights An opportunity to PAUSE for a few minutes from the rush of Christmas. ALL are very WELCOME.

Sacrament of Reconciliation - individual Confession (St. Peter's & St. Gregory's, Sat 19th Dec, 10am – midday)

"Blue Christmas Service" (St. Peter's, Mon 21st Dec, 10:30am) This liturgy is for those who are feeling a little "blue" this Christmas.

Advent Mass of Reconciliation (St. Peter's and Livestream, Mon 21st Dec, 7pm)

Zoom Nativity / Carol Service for Families (Tues 22nd Dec, 4pm)

Our wonderful Children's Liturgy of the Word team are offering a Nativity / Carol Service for families. Details soon...

Zoom Christmas Carol Party (Thurs 17th December, 8-9pm – doors from 7:45pm)



Caring for our Neighbours

Covenant with the Poor

Our Covenant with the Poor appeal this Advent is for vulnerable families suffering the effects of domestic abuse. See notice elsewhere in newsletter.

SVP

Our amazing St. Vincent de Paul Society will continue to keep connected with Beneficiaries throughout the Advent and Christmas period, letting them know of opportunities to join in with Christmas celebrations. The SVP will also distribute Christmas food parcels to those who would appreciate them.

Petercares

Our wonderful Petercares team have been reaching out since the beginning of lockdown 1.0 and are going to carry on calling those isolated and in need of a chat and support.

Crib Offerings

It's traditional each year to collect "crib offerings" to support those in need. This year, our crib offerings will go to the "Knights of the Holy Sepulchre".

Pastoral Care for Housebound & those in Care Homes We are trying to make sure they all receive an Advent Calendar this year as a reminder of God's love and our prayers. Our priests are also committing to write to, call or even visit (where possible and safe) as many of our housebound and sick parishioners as possible. If you know of any who are not on our list, please do get in touch (with the permission of the person concerned, where possible).

Advent Calendar in Reverse

Some of us like to open a door of our Advent Calendar each day as we draw closer to Christmas. Fr Mark was particularly enamoured with his "Peppa Pig" version a few years ago (he has a more religious one too!). But an Advent Calendar in Reverse enables us to put something into the calendar rather than taking something out. If you have any of the following items (of good quality) that you could start to gather over the course of Advent, we will let you know the best way to get them to some of those in need through our partnerships with local charities:

Woolly hats; soap; shampoo; toothpaste; combs; chocolates; deodorant; socks; jumpers/sweaters; woolly gloves; long underwear (tops/bottoms of various sizes)

Private Prayer, Learning and Retreats

Discovering More About the Gospels in Advent (Zoom, Tuesday evenings – 1st Dec; 8th Dec; 15th Dec – 7:45pm)

A series of four evening sessions of *Lectio divina*, led by Fr Stephen and Tony Darlison - join with us as we prepare to welcome into our hearts the holy mystery of God coming down to earth at Christmas, by reflecting prayerfully on the Sunday Gospels of Advent. We hope to help one another to listen to God speaking to us through His sacred scripture. If you would like to join us, please register your interest by emailing formation@stpeterswinchester.org.uk

Art for Advent – a Talk by Dr Antonia Whitley (Live on Zoom, Sat 28th Nov, 3pm; replayed Tues 22nd Dec, 7:45pm)

As we enter into Advent and seek to prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus at Christmas, Antonia, an experienced art historian, lecturer and parishioner, will be giving a talk on religious art focusing on paintings of the Annunciation and the Nativity.

If you would like to join us, please register your interest (indicating which date you would like to attend) by emailing: formation@stpeterswinchester.org.uk

"God is with you" Advent Retreat (Pray as you go and / or Sacred Space)

Do you know that God is with you? This retreat is offered by "Pray-as-you-go" - <https://pray-as-you-go.org/article/advent-retreat-2020>

Unshakeable Joy – Daily Advent Retreat with Cardinal Raniero Cantalamessa and Chris Stefanick

This 26-day joy-filled digital retreat starts 29th November. Daily videos and reflections that fit into your busy day. You can access the retreat anywhere – on your mobile, desktop or tablet. Most importantly, you can learn to have joy, no matter the circumstances of your life.

To enrol, follow this link - <https://coaching.reallifecatholic.com/unshakeable-joy>

Mini Advent Retreat Fr Tom Grufferty is leading a small group in an Advent Retreat on Zoom. All are welcome to join for any of the sessions or all of them.

Saturdays from now till Christmas, 17.00 -17.30. They will be following this plan: <https://www.ignatianspirituality.com/advent/>

Things you can do at home

Advent Wreath and Prayers - Bishop Philip invites you to join him as he journeys through Advent this year by having in your home an Advent Wreath. Lighting and praying around it each evening using the prayers, songs and scripture found in the Diocesan Advent Booklet. The booklet, a step by step guide to making your own Advent Wreath, together with Bishop Philip's film of invitation can all be found on the Diocesan website <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/advent-project>

Place Christian symbols / decorations outside your home or in your window

Some are going to place a "Goan star" outside their homes – a quick google search will tell you what these beautiful stars look like and even how to make them!

Others might like to place figures from the nativity scene or a Christmas Crib in their windows... Share on our Facebook page!

Winchester Cathedral Lockdown Poetry Burst

Some of you might be more wordsmiths than budding Michelangelos. Why not submit a poem for this competition by 9th Dec? There are prizes for various age groups. Look on the Cathedral website [Lockdown Poetry Burst - Winchester Cathedral \(winchester-cathedral.org.uk\)](https://www.winchestercathedral.org.uk/lockdown-poetry-burst)...

Print and Share Christmas Cards

We're making a Christmas card available for you to print at home or email out and share with friends, family and neighbours, inviting them to share Christmas with us this year. Coming soon.



Little Ways of Making a Big Difference this Advent... a very important message

We really do have an opportunity to make this year a very special one if we all find something, even a very little something, that we are willing to give of ourselves.

The first and most important thing to ask from you all is your prayers. Please pray that this Christmas we are able to feel a true sense of connection and meaning: connection with families who we may not be able to be with this year, connected as a parish despite the restrictions on being able to celebrate in unison as we usually would, and connected to God. And that this sense of connection will continue to bear fruit into the coming months.

If you feel you may have a little time to spare to help out in the run up to, or over, Christmas there are a multitude of ways you can. Primarily we need to ensure that we are able to hold as many public masses as possible so that everyone who wishes to can attend. In order to do so safely we need welcomers to help with the smooth running of the services and making sure the church is ready to be used again. This would only require a couple of hours of your time and could be done by anyone planning on attending one of our masses. It's very simple and you will be given some basic guidance on what it involves.

If you might have a little more time then we have a few whole-parish projects we hope to be hosting: maybe you're a budding artist or set designer for our outdoor crib and star trail? Perhaps you're a tech wizard who could help with collating and editing a video montage? Or you're a great photographer and can take pictures to add to the video? Or a wannabe influencer who could share some great content on our parish Facebook or Instagram (themes each week – send a photo)? Or just maybe you're the generous type and would like to get involved with one of our giving activities or something more practical? And for people who find themselves at home a lot more at present but would still like to do something, we also need people to write Christmas cards or be part of a team in one of our virtual tea rooms. Take your pick!

Please have a think as to whether there is anything you feel you may have to offer our community this year and if you would like more information - or perhaps you already know exactly what it is you would love to help with. Either way, please contact the Christmas team via editor@spteterswinchester.org.uk



Useful Contacts

Clergy: Fr Mark Hogan (Parish Priest); Fr Anthony Njingo (Assistant Priest); & Fr Stephen Vooght
Deacon Gerard Dailly and Deacon Martin McElroy

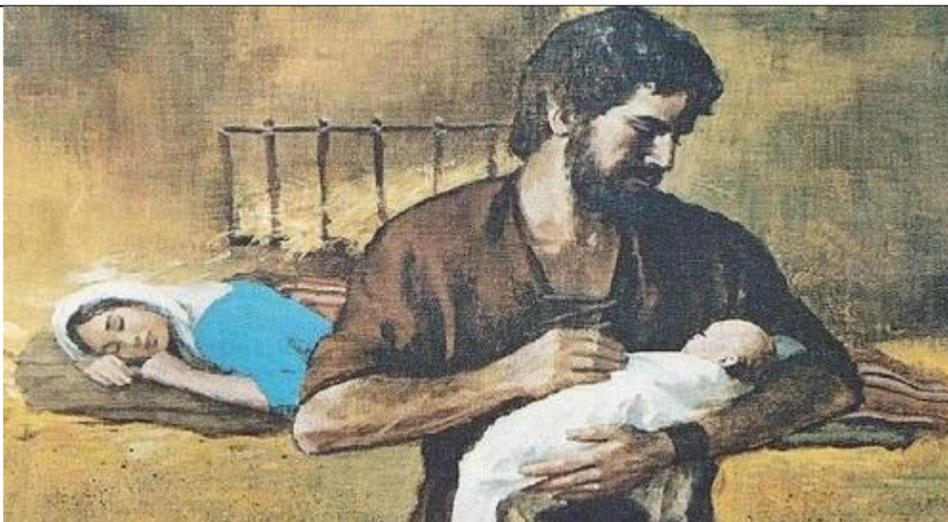
Director of Evangelisation and Leadership: Allegra Mutanda

Finance Manager Annette Parr,; **Facilities and Resources Manager** Sean Reidy

Pastoral team: Sandra Drower, Rosanne Walker, Jo Donaldson

To get in touch with them, and for other general matters, please contact the Parish Office: 01962 852804 / email: office@spteterswinchester.org.uk .

- **PeterCares :** petercares@spteterswinchester.org.uk
- **Prayerline:** prayer@spteterswinchester.org.uk
- **Newsletter:** editor@spteterswinchester.org.uk
- **Newsletter list:** hello@spteterswinchester.org.uk
- **St. Peter's School Office:** 01962 852820
- **St. Thomas More's Stockbridge:** please email christoesrus@hotmail.co.uk



Mass Timetable	November 26 th – December 6 th			
Date	Mass Times & Intentions			Livestream/Public
SATURDAY – November 28th <i>Our Lady on Saturday or Feria</i>	9.00AM	Morning Prayer and Mass	People of the Parish	Livestream only
	11-12 NOON	Adoration – no confessions		Open to Public
	5.30PM	Vigil Mass	Fr Wilson RIP	Livestream only
SUNDAY – November 29th <i>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT</i>	8.00-8.15AM	Morning Prayer		Livestream only
	10.00AM	Mass	Deceased members of the Szymanski family	Livestream only
	11-12 NOON	Adoration & Private Prayer		Open to public
	5.30PM	Mass	People of the Parish	Livestream only
MONDAY – November 30th <i>ST ANDREW (Feast)</i>	8-8.15AM	Morning Prayer		Livestream only
	8.15-9.00AM	Church open for private prayer and adoration		Open to public
	11-12NOON	Private Prayer and Adoration		Open to public
	12.15PM	Mass	David Pollock RIP	Livestream only
	7.00PM	Mass		Livestream only
TUESDAY – December 1st <i>Of the 1st Week of Advent</i>	8-8.15AM	Morning Prayer		Livestream only
	8.15-9.00AM	Church open for private prayer and adoration		Open to public
	10.00AM	Mass	Holy Souls	Livestream only
	11-12NOON	Private Prayer and Adoration		Open to public
	7.00PM	Mass	Christopher & Paul Turner RIP	Livestream only
WEDNESDAY – December 2nd <i>Of the 1st Week of Advent</i>	8-9 AM	Morning Prayer & adoration		Livestream & public
	10.00AM	Mass	Gerald Edwards RIP	Livestream & public
	11-12NOON	Private Prayer and Adoration		Open to public
	7.00PM	Mass	Clive Holland RIP	Livestream & public
THURSDAY – December 3rd <i>Of the 1st Week of Advent & St Francis Xavier (mem.)</i>	8-9 AM	Morning Prayer & adoration		Livestream & public
	10.00AM	Mass		Open to public
	11-12NOON	Private Prayer and Adoration		Open to public
	7.00PM	Mass	William Meader RIP	Livestream & public
FRIDAY – December 4th <i>Of the 1st Week of Advent or St John Damascene (opt. mem.)</i>	8-9 AM	Morning Prayer & adoration		Livestream & public
	10.00 AM ST GREGORY'S	Mass		Open to public
	11-12NOON	Private Prayer and Adoration		Open to public
	12.15pm	Mass	Benefactors	Livestream & public
	7.00PM	Mass	Martin Davy RIP	Livestream & public
SATURDAY – December 5th <i>Of the 1st Week of Advent & Ss Birinus & Hedda (mem.)</i>	10 AM	Mass IN WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL		Public, booking reqd
	11-12 NOON	Adoration & confessions		Open to public
	3.30 PM	Family mass at St Peter's		Public, booking reqd
	5.30PM	Vigil Mass		Livestream only
SUNDAY – December 6th <i>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</i>	8 AM	Mass	Frederick Yard RIP	Public, booking reqd
	9 AM	Mass at St Thomas More's		Public, booking reqd **
	9.15 AM	Mass at St Stephen's		Public, booking reqd
	10.00AM	Mass		Livestream only
	11 AM	Mass at St Gregory's	Deceased members of the Clinton family	Public, booking reqd
	11-11.45 PM	Adoration & private prayer		Open to public
	12 Noon	Mass		Public, booking reqd
	5.30PM	Mass		Public, booking reqd

All at St. Peter's, except where stated. Note 10am mass in Winchester Cathedral on 5th Dec, so no 9am mass at St Peter's
Lockdown is lifted on Wednesday (2nd), so please note that times and arrangements are changed from then on
**To book mass at St Thomas More's Stockbridge (restarting Sunday 6th), email Polly at christoesrus@hotmail.co.uk
All other bookings via website homepage [Home - The Parish of St Peter & the Winchester Martyrs \(catholicwinchester.org.uk\)](http://Home - The Parish of St Peter & the Winchester Martyrs (catholicwinchester.org.uk)), from Monday

Night prayer at 9pm every evening at St Peter's, livestream only

Confessions will be available without booking on Saturdays from the 5th Dec – 10 till 11am, then 4.30-5pm

<p>Readings and Antiphons Sunday 29th November 2020 – 1st Sunday of Advent</p> <p>Entrance Antiphon Cf. Ps 24: 1-3</p> <p>To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.</p> <p>First reading - Isaiah 63:16-17,64:1,3-8 ·</p> <p>Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 79(80):2-3,15-16,18-19 <i>R/ God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.</i></p> <p>Second reading - 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 ·</p> <p>Gospel Acclamation – Ps84:8</p> <p>Alleluia, alleluia! Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help. Alleluia!</p> <p>Gospel - Mark 13:33-37</p> <p>Communion Antiphon - Ps 84: 13</p> <p>The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.</p>	<p>A call to prayer...</p> <p><i>“For me, prayer is a surge of the heart; it is a simple look turned toward heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy” (St Thérèse of Lisieux).</i></p> <p>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (Adoration) will take place in St Peter’s Church when open for private prayer. Below are some ways these times of prayer could be used.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoration & Contemplation. Come as you are. Relax into the reality that God loves you. Speak to Him as if you were speaking to a close friend. Listen, watch, wait. • Intercession. As we come before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, what better place to intercede? For our families and friends, Church and government, health organisations and key workers, the lost and suffering, the end of the pandemic, those seeking God, etc. • Reflecting on Scripture. The gospel for Sunday or another bible passage that is familiar to you. How is God speaking to you through His word? • Lighting a candle. Jesus Christ is the Light of the World, our hope and salvation. In whose life or in which situation, would you like to bring the light of Christ? • Journaling. Keeping a diary of the mix that is your personal and spiritual life and ‘charting’ that journey. What might God be saying or doing in your life at a particular time? Sometimes, it is only when we look back that we see that God was always there. <p>Know that we cannot encounter God and remain unchanged however subtle the encounter. The Church will be open for private prayer with Adoration at the following times (this week):</p> <p>8.15am – 9am, Monday & Tuesday 8am – 9am, Wednesday to Friday (starting with Morning Prayer) 11am – 12noon, every day. (finishes 11.45 Sunday 6th)</p>  <p>To participate online or see the recorded services for Morning Prayer and Adoration or Night Prayer and Adoration, follow on our YouTube channel https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbGgrcbDyLY75pmCAopfLlg/live.</p>
 <p>St. Peter’s Tea Room</p> <p>All welcome to join us for a cup of tea and a chat in our virtual tea room after 10am Livestream Mass. Find the link to join on the Parish Homepage, or on the YouTube channel alongside the links for the words and music.</p>	<p>FLOWERS IN MEMORY AT ST. STEPHENS 2020. 🌸</p> <p>If you would like to bring a white plant in memory of a loved one. Please bring it in a waterproof container with an attached label of the loved one and your own name. We should like them brought either just before 9:15am Mass on Sunday 20th December or at 10am on Wednesday 23rd December. Any difficulties phone Liz T on W. 861918.</p> <p>An invitation to read together Hopkins's "The Wreck of the Deutschland" - Monday 7th December, 18:00</p> <p>Every year, on 7th December, since I first came across the poem as an 18 year old, I have read (aloud) Gerard Manley Hopkins's wonderful poem "The Wreck of the Deutschland" with family and friends. (As you may know, the events in the poem take place on December 7th, the eve of the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception.)</p> <p>Although we can't get together face to face this year, we will be gathering together via Zoom from 6pm on Monday 7th December. The reading should only take around 15 minutes, but we can spend as long as you want talking about the poem!</p> <p>I'd be delighted if anyone wants to share the reading of the poem - it would be good to have at least 2 or 3 voices.</p> <p>If you'd like to join me, please let me know, via email (mmcelroy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) or phone (01962 865169), so that I can give you the details of the Zoom meeting, and also to help you access a copy of the poem.</p>
<p>We are Acceptional</p> <p>We Are Acceptional is a new group for supporting the faith formation of people with additional needs within the Diocese. The group will provide resources, a confidential space to learn and develop skills, and a supportive community, all centrally available. The group is not only for people with additional needs themselves but also for their parents and catechists. The group recently launched and will be coordinated by Jo Donaldson, Sr. Carino Hodder, O.P. and Jeremy Le Lean. If you are interested in joining the group or would like to know more you can contact us via email: acceptional@portsmouthdiocese.org.</p>	<p>JOB CLUB</p> <p>A group of people at Christ Church are starting a job club. It is deliberately open to all, whatever their church affiliation. The group are running the first six week course on Zoom, starting this coming Monday, 23rd November. They are using some material from an established charity called Re:Work, and the material is designed to help people who have lost their job and looking for another in the current lockdown crisis. If you would like to attend, you would be most welcome. There'll be no 'Come to our church' stuff, just great coaching from professional coaches using really good material. The contact details are: hello@winchesterjobclub.co.uk</p>
<p>PRAYER CORNER:</p> <p>Each week, this section will contain an intercession that 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 <i>“if the Lord does not build... in vain do the builders labour” (Ps 127:1) Fr. Mark</i></p> <p>This Week’s Intention Let us pray that as we prepare for Christmas, the Lord will help us to share with everyone the hope, joy, love and peace brought to us by the birth of Christ.</p>	<p>Sunday 29th November- Next weekend the Covenant with the Poor team will be appealing for support for 'Winchester Women's Refuge - play area for children'. You can find a link to the appeal leaflet on the parish website. Please support generously as ever!</p> <p>WORLD GIFTS</p> <p>Wondering what to give as a gift this Christmas? CAFOD have the World Gifts catalogue full of ideas where you can buy a gift which brings happiness and changes lives. The money you spend will make a real difference.</p> <p>You can get a copy of their catalogue at: https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk</p>

**REASONS FOR FAITH
JANUARY – SEPTEMBER 2021**

Be transformed by the renewal of your mind Rom 12:2

Discover the Joy of Learning. Join us for an Adventure in God! The Academy of the Annunciation will have an OPEN EVENING on 8:00pm – 9:00pm Wednesday 9th December 2020 to discuss the Newman Catechetical Certificate. For more information and to register, please visit www.aoa-edu.com Email: enquiries@aoa-edu.com
Phone: 07742 150006

ACADEMY of the ANNUNCIATION
A Catholic Institute for the New Evangelization



Be transformed by the renewal of your mind Rom 12:2

OPEN EVENINGS
8:00pm – 9:00pm Wednesday 25th November 2020
8:00pm – 9:00pm Wednesday 9th December 2020

- ◆ Discover the Joy of Learning
- ◆ Join us for an Adventure in God!

For more information and to register, please visit www.aoa-edu.com
Email: enquiries@aoa-edu.com Phone: 07742 150006



Hats Ahoy !

The ladies of the Winchester branch of the Catholic Women’s League have spent the last few months knitting 47 woolly hats to send to the Apostleship of the Sea to be passed on to the seafarers they support. Along with the hats we have sent some chocolate bars and a Christmas card which includes one of Elizabeth Sherman-Smith’s blessings. During lockdown we have been unable to support our local charities with our usual soup and pud lunches so have utilised our other skills....knitting! So this winter 47 seafarers will have warmer heads and know that someone is remembering them in these difficult days.



St. Peter’s School News....

Dear Parents

EYFS Work:

Here is a glimpse of some of the art projects which have been going on in Year R! Over the past few weeks we have been using our creative area to paint self-portraits, looking carefully at the colour of our eyes, and including details which make us special and unique. Psalm 139:14 'You are fearfully and wonderfully made.'

Dolphins and Turtles have been using shape printing to practise our shapes and patterns. And, we have made some clay pots, which we plan to decorate and use as candle holders.



Best wishes,
Louise Buxton (Miss), Headteacher



Virtual Church Programme - Week commencing 29th November

	Sunday 29 th Nov 1 st Sunday of Advent	Monday 30 th Nov St Andrew, Apostle	Tuesday 1 st Dec Tuesday of the 1 st week of Advent	Wed 2 nd Dec Wednesday of the 1 st week of Advent	Thursday 3 rd Dec Thursday of the 1 st week of Advent	Friday 4 th Dec Friday of the 1 st week of Advent	Saturday 5 th Dec Saints Birinus & Hedda
8-9am	Morning Prayer <i>Live stream only</i>	8am Morning Prayer <i>(Live stream only)</i> 8.15am Public Adoration @ St P	8am Morning Prayer <i>(Live stream only)</i> 8.15am Public Adoration @ St P	Public Morning Prayer & Adoration <i>(ALSO live streamed)</i>	Public Morning Prayer & Adoration <i>(ALSO live streamed)</i>	Public Morning Prayer & Adoration <i>(ALSO live streamed)</i>	
9.20 – 9.50am	Children's Liturgy Online (See website for registration)						
10am	Sunday Mass <i>Live stream only</i>		Mass <i>Live stream only</i>	Public Mass @ St Peter's <i>(ALSO live streamed)</i>	Public Mass @ St Peter's <i>(ALSO live streamed)</i>		MASS AT WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL, PUBLIC
11.15am	St Peter's Tea Room <i>Zoom Virtual room</i>						
11am – 12noon	Adoration – Private prayer @ St Peter's Church	Adoration – Private prayer @ St Peter's Church	Adoration – Private prayer @ St Peter's Church	Holy Hour (Adoration) @ St Peter's	Holy Hour (Adoration) @ St Peter's	Holy Hour (Adoration) @ St Peter's	Holy Hour (Adoration) @ St Peter's
12.15pm		Mass <i>Live stream only</i>				Public Mass @ St Peter's <i>(ALSO live streamed)</i>	
2.55pm		Divine Mercy Chaplet <i>Zoom Virtual room</i>	Divine Mercy Chaplet <i>Zoom Virtual room</i>	Divine Mercy Chaplet <i>Zoom Virtual room</i>	Divine Mercy Chaplet <i>Zoom Virtual room</i>	Divine Mercy Chaplet <i>Zoom Virtual room</i>	
3.30pm							Family Mass @ St Peter's <i>(ALSO live streamed)</i>
5.30pm	Sunday Mass <i>Live stream only</i>						Vigil Mass <i>Live stream only</i>
7pm		Evening Mass <i>Live stream only</i>	Evening Mass <i>Live stream only</i>	Evening Mass <i>Public & Live stream</i>	Evening Mass <i>Public & Live stream</i>	Evening Mass <i>Public & Live stream</i>	
7.45pm			Course: Discovering More about the Gospels in Advent <i>(See website to register)</i>				
8pm		Alpha Online					
9pm	Night Prayer - <i>Live Stream only</i>	Night Prayer - <i>Live Stream only</i>	Night Prayer - <i>Live Stream only</i>	Night Prayer - <i>Live Stream only</i>	Night Prayer - <i>Live Stream only</i>	Night Prayer - <i>Live Stream only</i>	Night Prayer - <i>Live Stream only</i>

To access the Zoom virtual sessions, click <https://zoom.us/j/4388694572>
Alternatively, sign into Zoom and enter Meeting ID: 438 869 4572.
Password: 287520 (may also be required with above link).

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

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

Message from Mary's Meals: 'Throughout this year of many challenges, thanks to our generous supporters, Mary's Meals has continued to say yes to feeding desperately hungry children with a daily meal in a place of education. Now we are delighted to share with you a new opportunity to say yes and provide 43,000 hungry children in Bong County, Liberia, with a life-changing meal at school. From 2nd November until 31st January 2021, donations made to our Double The Love campaign will be matched by the UK government, up to £2 million. Please consider setting a place at our [Big Family Christmas dinner table](#) or buying a Christmas gift card on our [website](#). More information on how to support us can be found at www.marysmeals.org.uk/doublethelove. Thank you'

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 other activities. Look on our website <https://www.catholicwinchester.org.uk/> or email office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk. If you are a student, 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: Hello Calling 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

How can the Catholic community better support its members throughout the process of ageing? The [National Office for Vocation](#) is inviting older Catholics to take part in a survey: the link is here <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/FW7SFTY>
If you took part in an earlier survey - these are different questions, so please do so again. (And, we passed on a message from some parishioners about making it available to those not online, and they are looking into it...)
If you have any further questions or concerns about the research, please contact Eliza Ross (elizaross@sjog.org.uk)