

28th April 2024

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - Year B

**Readings and antiphons**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Cf. Ps 97:1-2.  
O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

**First Reading:**  
Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31

**Responsorial Psalm:**  
Ps 21:26-28,30-32. R. v.22  
You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly.

**Second reading:** 1 John 3:18-24

**Gospel Acclamation: Jn 15:4,5**

**R. Alleluia, alleluia!**  
Make your home in me, as I make mine in you; Whoever remains in me bears fruit in plenty.

**R. Alleluia!**

**Gospel:** John 15:1-8

**Communion Antiphon:**

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

**Funerals and Deaths**

**Mrs Vernon Bruce RIP** - Requiem Mass at St Peter's on Tuesday 30th April at 2:30pm

**Yvonne Morris RIP** - Funeral Service at The Chesil Suite, Chesil House on Thursday 2nd May 2024 at 2:15pm

**Peter McManus RIP** - Funeral Mass at St Peter's on Friday 10th May at 1:45pm

**Richard Phiri RIP** - Funeral Mass at St Peter's on Friday 17th May at 12:15pm

**Canon Peter Wilkie RIP** - Requiem Mass at Our Lady of Sorrows, Fordingbridge on Friday 17th May at 11:00am

**Janett Finn RIP**

**Alan Barlow RIP**

**Maureen Hams RIP**

Please pray for their family and friends at this difficult time. May God grant them eternal rest.



**A Message from Fr Mark...**

**Pray like this: Abba, Father – Let me walk upon the waters, Thy will be done**

There was, once upon a time, a fish who was taken out of the water and placed on a beach. His gills gasped and his scales rapidly began to dry in the midday sun. This did not a happy fish make.



How would you make him happy? Would you cover him with a mountain of cash? Or would you get him a beach chair and some sunglasses? Do you bring him a good book to read and a martini? Do you wardrobe him in double-breasted fins and people-skinned shoes? Of course not!

So, how would you make him happy? You simply put him back in his element. That's what you do. You put him back in the water. He will never be happy on the beach because he was not made for the beach.

Indeed so, and the same is true for you and me. We will never be happy living apart from the One who made us and saved us. Just as a fish was made to live in water... we were made to live in close and intimate fellowship with our Lord... for our will to be submerged in his will... and nothing can take the place of that.



Jesus uses another image in our Gospel this weekend, of a vine and its branches. When a branch is cut off from the vine, it loses life rapidly. It withers and dies and is just good to be burnt. Attached to the vine, on the other hand, fully connected to the source of its life, the sap flowing freely without blockages or restrictions, and the vine will produce beautiful and abundant and life-giving fruit.

God gives life to us and through us as we learn to swim freely in the ocean of God's love, or we come to abide more fully in the vine, whilst allowing the vine to abide in us. For us to be inside God and have God completely inside us is for us to hand ourselves over, to surrender or submit ourselves completely to his will.

That's not always easy. Sometimes we need pruning – allowing God to remove from us all that is “my will be done”. There can be unhealthy patterns of behaviour or addictions which have become attached to us, or us to them. There can be lies which we've allowed, consciously or otherwise to become a part of us. There may be wounds which we've allowed to fester and become infected. Jesus wants to free us from these, and it can sometimes be painful.



It is, however, when we wholeheartedly say, “Thy will be done”, that our heavenly Father, Abba, can enable us to bear much fruit – the peace and joy and love which others can taste and savour and which offers them hope.

*You call me out upon the waters  
The great unknown where feet may fail  
And there I find You in the mystery  
In oceans deep my faith will stand  
And I will call upon Your Name  
And keep my eyes above the waves  
When oceans rise*

*My soul will rest in Your embrace  
For I am Yours and You are mine*

*Your grace abounds in deepest waters  
Your sovereign hand will be my guide  
Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me  
You've never failed and You won't start now*

*Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders  
Let me walk upon the waters  
Wherever You would call me  
Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander  
And my faith will be made stronger  
In the presence of my Saviour*

*I will call upon Your Name  
Keep my eyes above the waves  
My soul will rest in Your embrace  
I am Yours and You are mine.*

(Oceans (Where Feet May Fail), Hillsong)

Abba, Father, allow my soul to rest in your infinite embrace. Enable me to abide in you and you in me so that I may bear much fruit. Thy will be done.



**Prayer Corner**

**This Week's Intention:**

Let us pray for all those participating in the Acorn Groups retreat this weekend, that those attending, some for the first time, will open their hearts to God's will.



**Laudato Si Corner**

As we enjoy the evident signs of Spring, it is still important to remember that the world's climate is changing significantly. This may be due to many factors, but our modern lifestyles are certainly one of those factors - as are the current instances of increasing conflict in our world. We still need to reduce our harmful impact on the planet. So let us renew our commitment to caring for our Common Home at this time. Contact with nature is important to reinforce this message - so pray for peace in the world, give thanks for springtime, and take comfort from the nature's renewal everywhere.



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**Second Collection - SVP**

SVP provides friendship & support to those in need with this Appeal asking parishioners if they can support the provision of practical help in the form of parcels at Christmas. Yes, it may seem like a long time away, but we need to ensure by early Autumn that we have funds to provide similar numbers of parcels in 2024 as we did last year- around 120. If you are able to support us, even in a small way, we would be grateful. Donations may be made at the back of church by card or cash or sent to the Parish Office marked for the SVP. Gift Aid is welcomed as are regular donations by standing order. Your prayers are also vital to the work of the SVP. We welcome more members, especially from younger age groups. SVP members will be at the back of church after Mass to answer any questions or you can email us on: [svp@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:svp@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)  
**Thank you!**

**Bookshop**

We have a good selection of Bibles, Missals, rosaries, crosses, books and cards for all occasions - First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Open week days during office hours. Thank you for your support, Susan Henry



**Key Contacts**

For a full list of contact details for our Parish, please visit our website:

[www.catholicwinchester.org.uk](http://www.catholicwinchester.org.uk) or email [hello@stpeterswinchester](mailto:hello@stpeterswinchester) to be directed to the correct person.

**Parish Priest:** Fr Mark Hogan

**Assistant Priest:** Fr Benedict Ndikum

**Deacons:** Tony Darlison & Martin McElroy

**Parish Office:**

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

**Finance:**

[accounts@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:accounts@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

**Tel.** 01962852804

**Newsletter:**

[newsletters@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:newsletters@stpeterswinchester.org.uk) (deadline for items for next weekend's newsletter is **Weds evening**)

**Holy Water**

Following the blessing of the holy water at the Easter Vigil, parishioners are encouraged to bring their bottles and refill them from the vat by the sacristy door at St Peter's.



**Courses/Events**

**Join the Jubilee Singers to sing THE LORD'S PRAYER - St Stephen's 9.15am Mass on Sunday 12th May** - Rehearsals at 10.30am on **Sunday 28th April and 5th May**. For more information & access to music, please contact: [ststephens@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:ststephens@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

**Life in the Spirit Sessions for Children Age 8 – 11 (Years 4 - 6)**

Fridays 3:30pm – 4:30pm (Arrival up to 3:45pm) - 5 weekly sessions beginning Friday 26th April in St Stephen's Church (next to St Peter's School). An offering for children in our Parish to grow in faith and love of God, and to welcome the Holy Spirit into your life in a new way! Sign up for those at St Peter's school will be through the school, and those from other schools will be able to fill in a quick form at the first session. For further information or to register your interest, please contact [rosanne@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:rosanne@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

**Covenant With the Poor - Meeting on Monday 29th April at 7.30pm**

There will be a Covenant With the Poor (CWP) meeting in St Peter's Pastoral Centre - St Peter's Room, Winchester, on Monday. All parishioners are invited to attend and fresh faces are particularly welcome. Suggestions for future appeals will be discussed.

**St Peter's Car Park - CLOSURE**

Please be aware that the St Peter's church carpark will be closed during the day of Tuesday 30th April unless you are attending Morning Prayer or the 12.15 Mass, but cars will need to be removed straight afterwards please. Thank you.

**May is a month for devotion to OUR LADY** - Please think about saying some special prayer to her and asking for her maternal help. One good way of doing this would be to come to Mass (including weekday Mass) about 20 minutes early and pray the Rosary (in St. Peter's church a good place to do this would be in the Lady Chapel). If there are others there too you could pray it aloud together and take turns to lead. **"Our Lady Queen of Heaven and Queen of the World, pray for us"**



**Rosary Chain - May**

We are delighted to have two statues of Our Lady touring the parish in a chain of prayer this year. Please be aware that you will need to collect the statue from another person's house. You can join the register by emailing: [lnahajski@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lnahajski@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Year of Prayer - 'Retreat Days' - Our Father in Heaven - Fri 3rd May (evening) & Sat 4th May (all day) - FREE**

In this Year of Prayer for the Church with its particular focus on the 'Our Father', why not join us at **St Peter's Pastoral Centre** for a time of prayer and recollection as we explore what it means to pray 'Our Father in heaven...!'

Friday 3rd May (evening) and Saturday 4th May (all day). Led by [Allegra Mutanda](#).

We are also offering a separate children's stream on Saturday morning and afternoon suitable for ages 7 – 12 with activities split into two age groups.

Please bring a packed lunch on Saturday (children will join their parents for lunch).

This retreat is **free** but please register attendance by Monday 29th April to help with logistics. Visit [www.catholicwinchester.org.uk](http://www.catholicwinchester.org.uk) or click [Year-of-Prayer-Event](#). Alternatively, ring the parish office on 01962 852804.

**Please note:** NO parking available at St Peter's on Saturday 4th May due to a wedding!

**St Peter's Sanctuary Welcome Hub** - takes place every Wednesday from 10.00 - 12.00 in the Pastoral Centre and has been welcoming people from overseas for nearly two years. We would like to extend our hospitality to all in the Parish that would like to come in for a chat and refreshments. There is no need to let us know you are coming, we will be ready to welcome you.

**The Warm Hub** - runs before the Welcome Hub, we serve light breakfast at 9AM. We look forward to seeing you - please spread the word...

**CWL Soup & Pud Lunch at St Peter's**

A Date for your diaries! The next Soup and Pud Lunch at St Peter's is on **Friday 3rd May 2024 from 12 noon until 1.30pm**, in aid of **Samaritans** - so no call goes unanswered. Homemade food. Dietary requirements catered for. Please come and support. Suggested donation £7.

**Thank you to everyone who supported the Cake Sale and Chocolate Tombola at St Gregory's**

- A total of £67 was raised. The next cake sale will be on 5th May after 10:00am Mass at St Gregory's. Contributions welcome - thank you, Imelda Simons.

**There are Swift nesting boxes on St Peter's Tower** - The swifts should be nesting between now and August. Please keep a look out for them and if you see them, let Pat Brockway know via the Parish office; 01962 852804. Thank you.

**Called and Gifted**

Called and Gifted is a process through teaching and discernment in which you discover your own charisms (gifts of the Holy Spirit) which will then help you in your onward journey in faith. **Starting Saturday 22nd June 9am - 4:30pm** - Full details next week!

**News from St Peter's School** - Please find attached this week's newsletter and link for all the latest news: <https://www.stpetershants.co.uk/stream/newsletters/full/1/-/>

| Church Timetable  | 27th April - 4th May |                             |   |
|---|----------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Saturday</b><br><b>27th April -</b><br><b>Of the Fourth week of Easter</b><br><br><b>Vigil Mass</b><br><b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>   | 9:00AM               | Mass at St Peter's          |   |
|   | 9:30AM - 10:30AM     | Confessions at St Peter's   |   |
|   | 4:30PM - 5:00PM      | Confessions at St Peter's   |   |
|   | 5:30PM               | Mass at St Peter's          | Holy Souls                                      |
| <b>Sunday</b><br><b>28th April</b><br><b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>   | 8:00AM               | Mass at St Peter's          | Holy Souls in Purgatory                         |
|   | 9:00AM               | Mass at St Thomas More's    |   |
|   | 9:15AM               | Family Mass at St Stephen's |   |
|   | 10:30AM              | Mass at St Peter's          | Rachael Ward (nee Darlison) RIP                 |
|   | 11:00AM              | Mass at St Gregory's        | People of the Parish                            |
|   | 5.30PM               | Mass at St Peter's          | Hill Family deceased, especially David Hill RIP |
| <b>Monday</b><br><b>29th April</b><br><b>Of the Fifth Week of Easter</b>  | 12:15PM              | Mass at St Peter's          | The Dead in Cemeteries & Founders               |
| <b>Tuesday</b><br><b>30th April - St Pius V,</b> Pope,<br>optional memorial<br><b>Of the Fifth Week of Easter</b>   | 10:00AM              | Mass at St Gregory's        |   |
|   | 12:15PM              | Mass at St Peter's          | Joseph F'sadni RIP                              |
| <b>Wednesday</b><br><b>1st May - St Joseph the Worker,</b> optional<br>memorial.<br><b>Of the Fifth Week of Easter</b>  | 10:00AM              | Mass at St Peter's          | in honour of St Joseph                          |
| <b>Thursday</b><br><b>2nd May - St Anthanasius,</b> Bishop, Doctor of<br>the Church, memorial.<br><b>Of the Fifth Week of Easter</b>  | 10:00AM              | Mass at St Peter's          | John Power RIP                                  |
| <b>Friday</b><br><b>3rd May - Ss PHILIP &amp; JAMES,</b> Apostles, feast<br><b>Of the Fifth Week of Easter</b>  | 10:00AM              | Mass at St Gregory's        |   |
|   | 12:15PM              | Mass at St Peter's          | The Samaritans                                  |
| <b>Saturday</b><br><b>4th May - THE ENGLISH MARTYRS (1535-1680),</b><br>feast.<br><b>of the Fourth Week of Easter</b><br><br><b>Vigil Mass</b><br><b>SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> | 9:00AM               | Mass at St Peter's          | The Dead in Cemeteries & Founders               |
|   | 9:30AM - 10:30AM     | Confessions at St Peter's   |   |
|   | 4:30PM - 5:00PM      | Confessions at St Peter's   |   |
|   | 5:30PM               | Mass at St Peter's          | Klara & Leon Trowski RIP (Anniversary of Death) |

**To participate in any service online (including Morning Prayer & Adoration) or to see the recorded services, go to our YouTube channel.**

**ALL SERVICES (INCLUDING MORNING PRAYER) FROM ST PETER'S ARE LIVESTREAMED.**