

# PETERPOST

The Parish of St Peter and the Winchester Martyrs

Heart of Hampshire parish with worshipping communities in Winchester, Alresford and Stockbridge



## WHAT'S INSIDE THIS WEEK:

***Choose The Way of Life and Blessing***

***Centenary Kick-off***



## FATHER MARK WRITES: CHOOSE THE WAY OF LIFE AND BLESSING

*"There are two Ways, one of Life and one of Death, and there is a great difference between the two Ways."*

These are the opening lines of the [\*\*Didache\*\*](#), a first century Christian catechism used to teach new Christians the essence of the Christian Faith. The Way of Life is the WAY Jesus IS, and JESUS IS the only WAY that leads to eternal life.

Today's Gospel is from the beginning of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus's great teaching to his disciples and the crowds. This opening section has been given the name, 'the Beatitudes', because Jesus names eight blessings. These in turn point out eight ways in which we can welcome God into our lives and commit to God's ways. They are the paths to true happiness and the 'values' of the Kingdom of God and are lived out fully in Jesus. When we become more Christ-like, when we live by his values and not those of the world, then we are choosing the Way of Jesus, the Way of Life, which leads to eternal blessing in heaven.

Over these next few weeks, our parish is providing some beautiful opportunities for all to receive and offer blessings. Do spread the word!

### **Light of the World – A Place for All**

*Jesus is "the Light to enlighten all peoples" (c.f. Luke 2:32). In the darkness of winter, we long for light - light that warms, guides, and gives hope. Jesus is that Light and this week, we invite you to encounter that light in a new way in St. Peter's Church.*

For three evenings, our church will be transformed into a place of beauty and wonder. Stunning illuminations will bring to the building to life in a new way whilst choral music and Gregorian chant will lift hearts heavenward. It is more than an event - it is a celebration of 100 years of this building welcoming people from all nations and allowing them to experience the Light of Christ's Love. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity.

Jesus calls us to be light-bearers too. In next Sunday's Gospel, He will say to us: "You are the light of the world". We do this as individuals and as a parish - through ministries like SVP and the Welcome Hub, and in partnership with others, such as through Basics Bank and Street Pastors. Every act of love pushes back the darkness.

The cross keys of St Peter speak a quiet truth – each and every person who comes through the doors of our churches has been given the keys to these places of encounter. The invitation is to come in, pray, rest, and know you are loved.

*Cont'd...*

*These are our usual Mass times. For any changes or special celebrations, please check the back page for this week's full schedule.*

### **ST PETER'S CHURCH WINCHESTER**

**Sunday Masses:** Saturday Vigil Mass, 5.30pm. Sunday 8.00am, 10.30am and 5.30pm.

**Weekday Masses:** Monday, Tuesday and Friday 12.15pm. Wednesday and Thursday at 10.00am.

Confessions: Saturday 9.30am to 10.30am and 4.30pm to 5.00pm.

Morning Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration 8.00am Monday to Friday.

### **ST THOMAS MORE'S CHURCH STOCKBRIDGE**

**Sunday Mass:** 9.00am.

### **ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH WINCHESTER**

**Sunday Mass:** 9.15am.

### **ST GREGORY'S CHURCH ALRESFORD**

**Sunday Mass:** 11.00am.

## FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - SUNDAY 1ST FEBRUARY 2026 | YEAR A

St. Peter's Church is open daily (usually from about 8am until dusk) but this **Monday 2nd – Weds 4th February, we are opening the doors wide from 5:30–8:30pm**. Entry is free and everyone is welcome. Bring a friend and step into the light. Please don't miss out!

### Lent 2026 – Return and Be Healed

Can you believe that it is nearly the beginning of Lent, this sacred time that is gifted to us each year? Ash Wednesday is the 18th February – less than 3 weeks away! This year we want to focus on the call from the Lord, “Return to me with all your heart” (Joel 2:12), so that He can give us the healing for which we so dearly long.

This year we will offer on this theme:

- **Sunday homilies and Peterpost articles;**
- **Daily email messages;**
- **“Healing the Whole Person” Small Groups**, using [materials from the John Paul II Institute](#), with videos from Dr Bob Schutts and Sister Miriam Heidland.

As a special centenary gift, we are also **partnering with Hallow** – The #1 Prayer App in the World, that helps users deepen their relationship with God through contemplative prayer.

More details on all this and sign-up opportunities next week!

## SECOND COLLECTION

**Second Collection – Racial Justice Sunday - 1<sup>st</sup> February:** This Sunday's Second Collection supports Racial Justice Sunday 2026, led by the Bishops of England and Wales. This year's theme, “Whoever loves God must also love his brother” (1 John 4:21), reminds us that faith and justice must go hand in hand. Bishop Paul McAleenan encourages all parishes to be places of welcome, dignity, and fairness for all. Your support helps the Church continue this important work of promoting racial justice in our communities and beyond. [Click here](#) for more information.

## PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

**Parish Annual Report:** We warmly invite you to read this year's Parish Annual Report -please [click here](#), which reflects on parish life over the past year and includes the Financial Report to 31 August 2025 – please click here to read the report. You are also invited to an online Zoom meeting at 7pm on Thursday 12 February, where we will reflect together and look ahead as a parish community. Full details and the Zoom link will be shared in advance. If you have any questions, please email [office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk). We hope you will read the report and join us.

**Parking at Winton House – Important Notice (St Peter's Church):** We wish to reiterate last week's message regarding parking at Winton House. Parishioners are advised that there is currently no authorised permission for us to park in this location. Anyone choosing to do so does so entirely at their own risk.

We have been informed that at least one parishioner has already received a Penalty Notice after parking at Winton House on a Sunday morning. Unfortunately, this confirms that there is a genuine risk of further notices being issued. At present, we therefore ask all parishioners to refrain from parking at Winton House. While discussions are ongoing with the tenants to explore whether permission might be granted in the future, this remains work in progress, and no approval has yet been given.

Alternative parking is available at: Discovery Centre; Tower Street; St Peter's Street; River Park; Cattle Market; and the Park and Ride. Please [click here](#) for a city map. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation, and for taking this request seriously.

## DIOCESE

**Notice of Mass Time Change in Whitchurch:** Please note that the Sunday Mass time at St John Fisher Catholic Church, Whitchurch, has changed from 9.00am to 8.30am. This information is shared for those who may occasionally find this helpful, particularly parishioners who sometimes attend Mass in Whitchurch.

## SCHOOL

**St Peter's School Governor Volunteers:** St Peter's Catholic Primary School, Winchester, seeks a practising Catholic for the role of Foundation Governor. Please consider joining this important ministry, no educational knowledge is required and full training is provided. Find out more from Fr Mark or any of the current governors. More information is available on the Portsmouth Catholic Academies and Schools website [click here](#) and St Peter's School website [click here](#)

**St Peter's Catholic School:** [Click here](#) for the newsletter.

### ENTRANCE ANTIphon

Save us, O Lord our God! And gather us from the nations, to give thanks to your holy name, and make it our glory to praise you.

### FIRST READING

*First reading: Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13*

*Responsorial Psalm: Ps 146(145):6c-7. 8-9b-10. R. Mt 5:3*

Blessed are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

### SECOND READING

*1 Corinthians 1:26-31*

*Gospel Acclamation:*

*R. Alleluia, alleluia*

Rejoice be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.

*R. Alleluia*

### GOSPEL

*Matthew 5:1-12a*

### COMMUNION ANTIphon:

*Cf. Ps 30:17-18*

Let your face shine on your servant. Save me in your merciful love. O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.



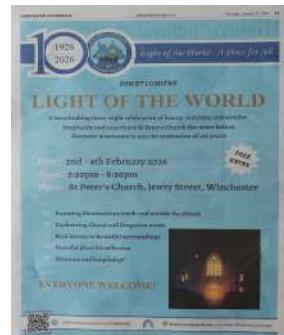
# A PLACE FOR ALL

## CENTENARY NEWS

### ★ Our Centenary Begins! ★

If you missed our full-page feature in last Thursday's Hampshire Chronicle, here's the headline: St Peter's Centenary Year is officially underway - and we're launching 2026 with light, joy and celebration! On Monday, St Peter's opens its doors for unforgettable evenings of light, music, prayer and community at the heart of Winchester. It's a moment 100 years in the making - and everyone is invited to be part of it.

Join us as we honour our past, celebrate our present and step boldly into the next century of St Peter's story.



### ★ LIGHT OF THE WORLD - SON ET LUMIÈRE

**2nd - 4th February 2026 | 5:30pm - 8:30pm | St Peter's Church:** Be part of three unforgettable evenings as St Peter's lights up for a unique Centenary celebration of music, prayer and community.

**Outside:** Beams and lasers will shine into the night sky - a powerful symbol of hope and the light of Christ over Winchester.

**Inside:** Stunning projections will reveal the beauty of the church like never before, transforming the space into an immersive experience of colour, story and reflection.

Each evening features inspiring music:

- Mon 2 Feb – Gregorian Chant
- Tue 3 Feb – Contemporary Praise & Worship
- Wed 4 Feb – Choral Classics

Explore exhibits, enjoy quiet prayer spaces, and share refreshments in the Pastoral Centre. Free and open to all - bring friends and family!

### ST PETER'S CENTENARY PAGEANT - 'LOCUS ISTE'

**6th February 2026 | Performances - 4:00pm & 7:00pm | St Peter's Church:** "Locus Iste – A Gathering in St Peter's Church." Through music, narration, dance, scripture, and contributions from parish groups, this unique Pageant brings to life the story of St Peter's - its history, its people, and its place at the heart of Winchester for 100 years. The programme includes choral works such as Hymn to St Peter and Locus Iste, dance pieces depicting key moments in our history, scripture readings, parish group reflections, and a joyful finale with all musicians performing the Hallelujah Chorus.



Refreshments will be served in the Parish Centre - performance approx. 90 minutes (including interval). This free, family-friendly event is open to EVERYONE. We encourage early arrival to secure seating, especially for the evening performance. **Tickets are free, but booking is essential:**

• Reserve for **4:00pm** performance:  
Click [HERE](#) OR [SCAN QR CODE](#)



• Reserve for **7:00pm** performance:  
Click [HERE](#) OR [SCAN QR CODE](#)



For more details on events and updates, please check the newsletter, visit the 'Centenary' website page or email us on: [centenary@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:centenary@stpeterswinchester.org.uk). You can also pick up a flyer at the back of all churches.



## HEAR FR MARK ON WINCHESTER RADIO

You can hear Fr Mark on Winchester Radio this week talking about the launch of the Parish Centenary! He appears in the charity's 'Winchester Now' weekly news and community programme and podcast. Broadcast on air Friday 30th January at 6pm and 10pm. Repeated 10am on Saturday 31st January. OR you can listen via the charity's website - just head to:

<https://winchester.radio/winchester-now/>



And listen to new Episode 166.

Last week's episode also contains guests from the St Peter's Welcome Sanctuary Hub, and also how you can support the Parish as a volunteer during this special Centenary year. If you missed it, listen here:

<https://winchester.radio/2026/01/23/episode-165-23-01-2026/>



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



St Peter's Catholic Church, Jewry Street, Winchester, SO23 8RY



## MUSIC

**Compline:** Due to centenary celebrations, Compline will no longer take place on Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> February but will instead now take place on **Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> February - 9.00pm to 9.30pm or 8.00pm rehearsal**, for anyone who would like to sing.

**SPWM Youth Choir!** We are excited to announce that a new parish-wide youth choir is being formed. We are looking for those roughly in the 8 – 16 age group to be members. Anyone interested in finding out more is invited to a fun launch event on **Saturday 14th Feb 12.00pm - 1.00pm at St Peter's Church**. Parents and family are very welcome to attend and to participate! If you have any questions, please email [music@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:music@stpeterswinchester.org.uk)

**Gospel Workshop at St Peter's Church:** Join us for an unforgettable Come & Sing Gospel workshop led by international choir leader Tim Uffindell on **Saturday, 28th February - 2.45pm to 5.15pm**. No experience needed - just turn up, have fun, learn a vibrant gospel song and feel the joy of singing in harmony with others. It's low-pressure, high-energy and a brilliant way to build community, boost confidence and discover the power of your own voice. Come ready to laugh, sing and leave feeling AMAZING. For tickets [Click here](#).



## OUTREACH

**CAFOD:** Want to know how your vital donations are helping our brothers and sisters overseas? Want to know what we're going to be doing next? If you want to know how you can bring about life changing difference to people living in poverty who face social, economic and environmental injustice in the world, then come and join our Lent Fast Day Briefing, to learn more. All are welcome! St. Peter's Pastoral Centre, Saturday, 31<sup>st</sup> January 10:30am- 12:30am. Refreshments served from 10am.

## COMMUNITY

**Churches Together Winchester: Renew Wellbeing Café Open Afternoon:** Renew Wellbeing Café invites everyone to an open afternoon on **Monday 2nd February, 2.00–3.30pm, at the Salvation Army Hall**, celebrating two years of supporting wellbeing in our community. Come along to learn more about the cafés, which run at the Salvation Army Hall and at New Life Church, Stanmore. A short video about Renew's work is available - contact Alison at [chaplain@winccc.org.uk](mailto:chaplain@winccc.org.uk) for details.

## ★ CENTENARY BUILDING WORKS UPDATE ★

We're delighted to share a positive update on the Centenary Building Works at St Peter's. This project has been a real team effort, and we extend our sincere thanks to everyone involved, with special appreciation to Sean Reidy, our Facilities Manager, whose dedication and leadership have been exceptional throughout.

The lighting in the church has now been upgraded, with improved brightness levels that enhance both the beauty and atmosphere of the space. Working closely with lighting specialists, we have also created initial lighting scenes for the church. These can be adjusted over time as we continue to use the space and see what further refinements may be needed.

Our next stage will be the cleaning of the Reredos, scheduled to begin on 9 February and run through to the end of March 2026. During this period, significant scaffolding will be in place, and weekday services will be held in the Lady Chapel. Thank you for your continued patience and support. We hope you are as pleased with the improvements as we are. If you have any queries or suggestions, please contact Gerard in the office in the first instance.

## FUNERALS

Avril Williams RIP. Winifred Williamson RIP. Please pray for their family and friends at this difficult time. **May God grant them eternal rest.**

## PRAYER CORNER

Let us pray that God will inspire us to invite others to share in our Centenary celebrations, especially our Light of the World event, making our church A Place For All.



**Parish Priest:** Fr Mark Hogan

**Assistant Priest:** Fr Pedro José Hernández O'Hagan

**Deacons:** Tony Darlison & Martin McElroy

## 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

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

to be directed to the correct person. Parish Office Tel: 01962 852804

Deadline for items for newsletter requests submit by **Wednesday mid-day!**

## PARISH BANK DETAILS:

If you wish to make a payment or donation, please use the following details: **Parish Bank Account Name:** CDP St Peter & Winchester Martyrs, **Sort Code:** 30-93-04, **Account Number:** 00890996 & **Reference details** (e.g. offertory, SVP, etc). You can also use the Contactless machine at the back of St Peter's or visit our website.

Date	Times	Where	Intentions
<b>Sat 31 Jan</b> St John Bosco <b>Sunday VIGIL</b> Week 4 in Ordinary Time	9:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	Birthday of Lemuel
	9:30AM to 10:30AM	Confessions at St Peter's	
	4:30PM to 5:00PM	Confession at St Peter's	
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	People of the Parish
<b>Sun 1 Feb</b> Fourth Sunday in Ordinary	8:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	The Soul of Archbishop John Henry King
	9:00AM	Mass at St Thomas More's	People of the Parish
	9:15AM	Mass at St Stephen's	In Thanksgiving for the Life of Colette Battye RIP
	10:30AM	Mass at St Peter's	For The Intention of John Gobbi
	11:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	For the Soul of Lady Mary, Lady Mannock
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	Vocations for the Diaconate & Priesthood
<b>Mon 2 Feb</b> The Presentation of the Lord	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's	
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's	Holy Souls in Purgatory
<b>Tues 3 Feb</b> St Blaise & St Ansgar	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	Richard Spencer & Concelebrating Local Priests
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's	The Soul of Mrs Giles
<b>Wed 4 Feb</b> Week 4 in Ordinary Time	8:00 AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's	
	10:00 AM	Mass at St Peter's	The Soul of Canon Anthony Giles
<b>Thur 5 Feb</b> St Agatha	8:00 AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	For The Repose of the Soul of David Vinnell
<b>Fri 6 Feb</b> St Paul Miki & Companions	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's	
<b>Sat 7 Feb</b> Our Lady <b>Sunday VIGIL</b> Week 5 in Ordinary Time	9:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	
	9:30AM to 10:30AM	Confession at St Peter's	
	4:30PM to 5:00PM	Confession at St Peter's	
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	Souls in Purgatory

Watch live or catch up later on our [YouTube channel](#) — all services from St Peter's, including Morning Prayer and Adoration, are livestreamed. [St Peter's - Livestreaming Notice September 2025](#)