

PETERPOST

The Parish of St Peter and the Winchester Martyrs

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

 THE PARISH
OF ST PETER
& THE WINCHESTER MARTYRS

WHAT'S INSIDE THIS WEEK:

Living Water for Wounded Hearts

Covenant with the Poor - CWP

Centenary Concert



FATHER MARK WRITES: LIVING WATER FOR WOUNDED HEARTS

What if the path to freedom isn't avoiding pain but bringing it to Jesus at the well?

We've been looking at Jesus and His desire to heal our wounds, those inner hurts that shape our decisions, our patterns of behaviour, even the way we try to stay unseen. Today, John's Gospel brings us to a noonday encounter at a well.

"Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar... Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour." (John 4:5-6)

A Samaritan woman arrives when others won't. She is tired of the looks, the whispers, the old stories. Jesus breaks the silence and the social rules and says to her: "Give me a drink." (John 4:7) What follows is not small talk but salvation talk. He hints at a different kind of water, something that doesn't run out when the well is dry or the jar is empty:

"If you knew the gift of God... he would have given you living water." (John 4:10-11)

She's practical: "You don't even have a bucket." We know that voice, don't we? The voice that says, "Be realistic. Manage the pain. Don't expect too much." But Jesus doesn't argue; instead He promises:

"Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again." (John 4:13-14)

He is speaking of the Holy Spirit, the life of God placed within us, a spring that doesn't depend on weather, mood, or circumstances.

Then comes the tenderness that hurts before it heals as Jesus says to her,

"Go, call your husband." (John 4:16)

He isn't shaming her; He's seeking her. The wound rises to the surface: rejection, loneliness, survival. Jesus lovingly names the truth and holds her gaze:

"You are right... you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband." (John 4:17-18)

The point isn't to expose her; it's to free her. Denying pain traps us; bringing it into the light with Jesus opens the door to healing.

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.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT - SUNDAY 8TH MARCH 2026 | YEAR A

And then He reveals Himself:

"I who speak to you am he." (John 4:26)

The first public disclosure of the Messiah in John's Gospel is to a woman with a complicated past.

"So the woman left her water jar" (that heavy symbol of daily physical and emotional burden) *"and went into the town"* to tell others, the same people she'd spent her life avoiding. (John 4:28-29)

The one who once arranged her life to avoid people now becomes an evangelist. Healing does that. It releases courage; it restores dignity; it sends us back, not to hide but to bless. **There is a radical freedom in healing.**

How might we respond this week? Not by numbing ourselves with busyness, treats, or distractions, but by entering the wound with Jesus. Invite the Holy Spirit to search your heart: what lies about yourself have you begun to accept? Where have you settled for pain management instead of healing? Ask Him to show you where He was in those difficult memories. Replace the lie with truth, rooted in Scripture and the Cross, because the Father's love, revealed by Jesus, is the truest thing about you.

As St Thomas Aquinas puts it, *"the bucket with which the water of saving wisdom is drawn out is prayer."* (cf. Jas 1:5) So, let's come to the well this week, at noon if we must, and let Jesus meet us in the open. He knows us, loves us, and offers living water. Leave the heavy jar where it is.

Come and drink. Then go and tell.

"Jesus, I return to you. I give myself to you now to be my Saviour and my Healer. I give you my wounded heart. I invite you into the broken places in my heart. You know those places. You know my brokenness and you love and accept me anyway. Come and meet me here. Speak to me. Heal me. Empty me. Fill me. Use me."

SECOND COLLECTION - COVENANT WITH THE POOR (CWP)

Our CWP appeal this weekend is to support a Catholic community in South Africa. All Saints Church is part of the Parish of St Raphael in Khayelitsha near Cape Town - a particularly poor township. Our appeal is to raise funds both to build a classroom block for use as a creche, soup kitchen, and for catechism classes as well as other community activities, and also to repair the Church itself which is in a poor condition. Further details are available in the separate leaflet. You can also [click here](#) for further details. There will be a collection at masses - donations can also be made direct to the Parish bank account but please ensure you use "CWP" as a reference. Thank you.

CENTENARY EVENT - MARCH

FR ANDREW MOORE'S CENTENARY CONCERT - A NIGHT OF SACRED BEAUTY SUNDAY 8TH MARCH
AT 7.00PM - ST PETER'S CHURCH



The Winchester Camerata, conducted by Fr Andrew Moore, will be giving a concert in St Peter's as part of our centenary celebrations on **Sunday 8th March at 7.00 p.m.** The programme includes works by Bach, Mozart, Vivaldi, Britten and others, including Fr Andrew, and will reflect the liturgical and spiritual life of a church. Tickets are £20 (£5 for students) and are available by [clicking here](#), Scanning QR code or purchasing at the door.

Notice: Evening Mass will be celebrated earlier at **5:00pm**. All proceeds from the event will support Trinity Winchester a charity dedicated to helping people experiencing homelessness. Come and share in an evening of music that lifts the soul and shines light into our community.

LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES

Stations of the Cross – Walking with Jesus this Lent: You are warmly invited to participate in the Stations of the Cross, a beautiful and prayerful way to walk with Jesus on his journey to the Cross and to reflect more deeply on his love for us. Stations will take place across the parish as follows:

- **Mondays at 7.00pm at St Stephen's,**
- **Wednesdays at 11.00am at St Thomas More**
- **Fridays at 11.30am at St Peter's and Sundays 4.30pm.**
- **Sundays at 5.30pm at St Gregory's.**

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

Winchester Cathedral Mass - Saturday 7th March at 10.00am: A reminder that this Saturday we will celebrate our quarterly Mass in the beautiful, historical surroundings of Winchester Cathedral. We invite everyone to join us as we come together as a parish family and also for the all important social afterwards - coffee, cake and chat!

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

FIRST READING

First reading: Exodus 17: 3-7
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 95(94): 1-2, 6-7b, 7c-9. R. 7c, 8a
O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts.'

SECOND READING

Romans 5:1-2, 5-8
Gospel Acclamation:

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.
Lord, you are indeed the Saviour of the world; give me living water, so that I will not be thirsty.
Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.

GOSPEL

John 4:5-42

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Jn 4:13-14
For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord, the water I shall give will become in him a spring welling up to eternal life.



Winchester Catholic History Society: At the next meeting Anna Withers will be speaking on Medieval Monastic Gardens. The story begins in 6th Century Italy with early Benedictine monks. These gardens were both a practical necessity and a spiritual exercise. They represented an Earthly Paradise. **Wednesday 18 March, 6.30 pm in the Parish Centre.** New Members and Visitors most welcome. All enquiries win.cath.history@gmail.com.
Website: www.winchestercatholichistorysociety.com

SVP Healing Mass & Anointing of the Sick: All are warmly invited to a special SVP Mass with Prayers for Healing and the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick on **Saturday 21st March at 2.00pm at St Peter's Church.** A time of prayer, comfort and hope, followed by light refreshments in the Pastoral Centre. If you would like to attend and require transport - or if you are able to offer someone a lift - please email: SVP@stpeterswinchester.org.uk

Readers' Rota – March to June 2026: The new Readers' Rota (March–June 2026) is now available. We are very grateful to all who serve in this important ministry of proclaiming God's Word at Mass. If you would be interested in joining the Readers' Team and becoming more involved in parish life, please contact the parish office. [Click here](#) for more information.

Parish Families - exploring service and charity together in Lent: Join us with other families each Saturday in Lent from 3-4pm in St Stephen's Room, upstairs in the Pastoral Centre. We will explore acts of charity, serving the poor, solidarity and forgiveness in ways that our littlest family members can be part of. As we serve others, we are drawn closer to Jesus and live out our faith. **Whilst most suited to primary age, all are welcome as one parish family.** For more information, please contact: hpope@stpeterswinchester.org.uk



MUSIC

SPWM Youth Choir:  Reminder – SPWM Youth Choir: A reminder that our new parish-wide Youth Choir is being launched, and young people aged 8–16 are warmly invited to get involved. It's a wonderful opportunity to make new friends, grow in confidence, and use your voice in worship across the parish.

Join us for the launch and information event on **Saturday 7th March, 12.00 noon – 1.00 pm in Milner Hall.** Parents and families are very welcome to come along. For more information please [click here](#).

Hearts on Fire – An Evening of Prayer and Worship: Join us for Hearts on Fire on **Sunday 15th March at 7.00 pm in Milner Hall** — an evening of Eucharistic adoration, joyful praise and worship, and quiet time to encounter the Lord. Come and rest in God's presence, be renewed in faith, and allow your heart to be refreshed through prayer and song. All are warmly welcome.

Parish Organist Opportunity: We are delighted to invite applications for a Parish Organist to support the worshipping life of St Peter's and The Winchester Martyrs. This paid role (fixed term to August 2026) includes playing for the monthly 10:30am Choir Mass at St Peter's, Cathedral Masses, rehearsals and other parish liturgies as agreed. We are looking for a skilled organist and pianist who values the richness of Catholic liturgy and would love to help lead our community in prayer through music. For further information, please [click here](#).

SCHOOL - ST PETER'S PRIMARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Little Fishes Pre-School – Places Available from September: Little Fishes Pre-School offers a warm, secure and welcoming environment where young children can learn, play and explore. Based on the St Peter's Primary School site, children benefit from a bright purpose-built space, a wonderful outdoor area used every day, and close links with the school's Early Years team. To find out more, take a virtual tour and view session details, funding information and how to apply. [Click here](#) for more information.



For news and information about our wonderful Catholic Primary School, please [Click here](#) for the newsletter.

FUNERALS

Paul Gardner RIP. Valerie Sollohub RIP

Please pray for their families and friends at this difficult time.

May God grant them eternal rest.

PRAYER CORNER

Let us pray that our Centenary Concert, raising funds for Trinity Winchester's work with those experiencing homelessness, may bring hope, dignity, and compassion to all they serve."



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 or email

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.

TABLE:

Date	Times	Where	Intentions
Sat 7 Mar of the 2 nd Week of Lent	10:00AM	Cathedral Mass	Avril Vera Dury
	11:00AM to 12.00PM	Confessions at St Peter's	
	4:30PM to 5.00PM	Confession at St Peter's	
Sunday VIGIL Third Sunday of Lent	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	Souls in Purgatory
	8:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	For the Soul of Marisa Yu
Sun 8 Mar Third Sunday of Lent	9:00AM	Mass at St Thomas More's	Charles Thorn RIP
	9:15AM	Mass at St Stephen's (Family Mass)	In Memory of Jack Kilroy
	10:30AM	Family Mass at St Peter's	For the Eternal Repose of David Beaves
	11:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	For the Soul of Patrick G. McCall & Family
	5:00PM	Mass at St Peter's (with Grace Notes Choir)	People of the Parish
	Mon 9 Mar of the 3 rd Week of Lent	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's Lady Chapel
12:15PM		Mass at St Peter's, Lady Chapel	Sergio, Elena and All Deceased Family & Friends RIP
Tues 10 Mar of the 3 rd Week of Lent	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's Lady Chapel	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	For the Benefactors
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's, Lady Chapel	
Wed 11 Mar of the 3 rd Week of Lent	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's Lady Chapel	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Peter's Lady Chapel	For the Soul of William Meader
Thur 12 Mar of the 3 rd Week of Lent	8:00 AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's Lady Chapel	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Peter's, Lady Chapel	Chris Johnson RIP & Family
Fri 13 Mar of the 3 rd Week of Lent	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's Lady Chapel	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	For the Soul of William Tobias McCall & Family
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's, Lady Chapel	Sergio, Elena and All Deceased Family & Friends RIP
Sat 14 Mar of the 3 rd Week of Lent	9:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	Pam Quick RIP
	9.30AM to 10.30PM	Confession at St Peter's	
Sunday VIGIL Laetare Sunday	4:30PM to 5:00PM	Confession at St Peter's	
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	People of the Parish

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**](#)