

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:

Return & Be Healed - "Go, Play Your Part!"

Mothering Sunday

Diocesan Clergy Assistant Fund



FATHER MARK WRITES: RETURN AND BE HEALED - "GO, PLAY YOUR PART!"

What if the healing you long for begins with one small step of obedience to Jesus?

Can you believe we are already deep into Lent and this season of healing? Over these past weeks, we've been uncovering the surprising truth that all of us, without exception, are wounded in some way. Some wounds are physical; some emotional or spiritual; some are self-inflicted; many are not. But whatever their origin, the question eventually comes: **what do we do with the wounds we most certainly have?** Rely on ourselves... or rely on the Lord?

As we turn to John chapter 9 this week, we meet a man blind from birth. The disciples immediately want an explanation: "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" (John 9:2). Underlying their question is a fear we often carry ourselves, that our pain must be our fault. That we somehow deserve it.

But Jesus cuts right through that:

"It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him." (John 9:3)

No blame. No shame. Only possibility. Jesus chooses this moment to reveal God's work, and significantly, he does so through a healing the prophets had long foretold. Isaiah had said of the Messiah: "Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened." (Isaiah 35:5). So, when Jesus gives sight to the blind, He is revealing who He is: the One who came to "make all things new." (Revelation 21:5)

What happens next is beautiful. Jesus spits on the ground, makes mud, and smears it onto the man's eyes. Strange? Perhaps. But profoundly symbolic. Just as God formed Adam from "the dust of the ground" (Genesis 2:7), so Jesus, through whom all things were made, touches this man with the stuff of creation. He re-creates him.

But notice this too: Jesus doesn't complete the healing alone. He says, "Go, wash in the Pool of Siloam." (John 9:6). The man must choose to participate. God never forces healing upon us. He desires our cooperation, not because He needs it, but because He wants us to walk with Him.

And the man does walk. He goes, washes, and returns able to see.

Later, after being questioned and rejected by the religious leaders, who are deeply blind in a different sense, blinded by their jealousy, the healed man meets Jesus again. For the first time he sees the face behind the voice. Jesus says to him, "You have seen him—it is he who is speaking to you." And the man replies: **"Lord, I believe."** (John 9:37-38)

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.

Sight leads to faith. Healing leads to relationship.

And so it is for us. Our healing, whatever form it takes, will always draw us deeper into the life of Christ. Often we only understand this in hindsight. Before the healing, all we can do is listen to His voice, trust His guidance, and take the next step He asks of us, however costly or impossible it may seem.

So perhaps the question for this week is: where in your life do you most need healing? What is limiting you, slowing you down, tripping you up? And what step might the Lord be inviting you to take? Jesus told the man, "Go..." What might He be telling you to go and do today?

Go and pray with the people in your small group?

Go and find a good counsellor who can help you save your marriage?

Go and forgive the person who hurt you?

Go and cancel the debt you're owed?

Go and move on beyond a past hurt?

Go and finally have an honest conversation about what's troubling you.

Go and see a doctor?

Go to Confession?

We celebrate the Sacrament of Confession (or Reconciliation) every Saturday in St. Peter's Church. Most weeks it's from 9:30-10:30am and 4:30-5pm. On **Monday 23rd March, at 7pm in St. Peter's**, we will be holding our **Lenten Reconciliation Service**, with several priests available. And if none of these work, feel free to make an individual appointment with a priest and we will do what we can to accommodate. Confession can be difficult and it can be tremendously healing.

If we want to be healed, we don't just sit around doing nothing, relying on good luck and wishful thinking. To pursue the healing God wants to give us we've got to discern and define our part in the healing. It will not happen apart from our participation and cooperation.

Go, and take the opportunity God is laying before you this Lent.



MOTHERING SUNDAY

This Sunday we celebrate Mothering Sunday, giving thanks for the love, care and faith of mothers and all who show a mother's tenderness in our lives. The Scriptures remind us that God's own love is like that of a mother who comforts and carries her children: "As one whom a mother comforts, so I will comfort you." (Isaiah 66:13). We give thanks for mothers everywhere and pray for God's blessing upon them.

A Blessing for Mothers on Mothering Sunday

Loving God, as a mother gives life and nourishment to her children, so you watch over your Church. Bless these women, that they may be strengthened as Christian mothers. Let the example of their faith and love shine forth. Grant that we, their sons and daughters, may honour them always with a spirit of profound respect. Grant this through Christ our Lord. R. Amen.



SECOND COLLECTION - DIOCESAN CLERGY ASSISTANT FUND

The second collection on Sunday 15th March will support the Diocesan Clergy Assistance Fund, which helps care for the welfare and ongoing formation of our priests and deacons. The fund supports initiatives such as spiritual direction, counselling, retreats, formation days, and practical support to sustain them in their ministry. Your generosity helps ensure our clergy receive the care and support they need as they faithfully serve our communities. [Click here](#) to find out more or to make a donation.



PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

Winchester Catholic History Society. At the next meeting Anna Withers will be speaking on Medieval Monastic Gardens. The story begins in Europe in 6th Century Italy with early Benedictine monks. These beautiful 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 most welcome, Visitors £7.00. All enquiries Email win.cath.history@gmail.com Website www.winchestercatholichistorysociety.com

Pies & Puds: It's time for our monthly lunch event, on **Wednesday 18th March at the Pastoral Centre, 1pm.** We'll have pies, all the vegetables you can eat, proper puddings with custard, and vegetarian and G/F options. Our talk this month is on 'The Real Story of the Sydney Opera House'. Intriguing! There is no booking or commitment necessary, but do contact moirar@msn.com with any questions or to be added to our mailing list.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in the mourning; exult and and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

FIRST READING

First reading: 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 23(22):1-3a. 3b-4. 5. 6. R. 1
The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 5:8-14
Gospel Acclamation: Jn 8:12
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.

GOSPEL

John 9: 1-41

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Cf. Jn 9:11, 38

The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed, I saw and I believed in God.



Solemnity of St Joseph – Parish Mass: As we rejoice in the hope of Laetare Sunday, all are warmly invited to celebrate the Solemnity of St Joseph with a special **Mass at St Peter's on Thursday 19th March at 7:00pm**. This Latin Mass offers a beautiful opportunity to honour St Joseph, faithful guardian of the Holy Family and patron of the universal Church. Do come and join us in prayer as we celebrate his quiet strength and trust in God.

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

🌹 **An evening with Our Lady of Guadalupe:** Discover the Miracles of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Join Fr Pedro Hernandez, a Mexican priest, as he shares the story of the miraculous apparitions of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Come to the Pastoral Centre on **Wednesday 25th March at 6:30 pm** for an evening of wonder, faith, and inspiration. Free entry. Please [click here](#) if you would like to attend.

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

Thankyou from the CWL (Catholic Womens League): Thankyou to all who supported March's Soup & Pud Lunch, which raised £250 for Winchester GoLD (Go Learning Disabilities), who enable adults with Learning Disabilities to live life to the full. The next Charity Lunch on **Friday 10th April**, will be for Naomi House & Jackspace, who offer care and support for seriously ill children, young adults and their families.

CENTENARY CONCERT 'THANK YOU' - A Wonderful Evening of Music and Community

As part of our Centenary Celebrations at St Peter's Church, we were privileged to host a truly memorable evening of classical music last Sunday, 8th March. **We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Fr. Andrew Moore for bringing the Winchester Camerata to St Peter's Church**, Winchester for this special occasion. The concert was a beautiful and inspiring experience. The music created a journey through many of the moments that shape life within the Church. Through their performance, the orchestra captured the changing seasons, important liturgical celebrations, and the many emotions we share in our faith – from joy and celebration to reflection and quiet sadness.

We would especially like to thank the wonderful musicians of Winchester Camerata, a talented string orchestra who treated us to a rich and varied repertoire. Their performance filled the church with warmth, beauty and a sense of togetherness that everyone present could feel.

A very special word of thanks must also go to Claudine Keigher. Once again, Claudine showed incredible dedication and leadership in organising the evening. She brought together an amazing team of volunteers and worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make sure everything ran smoothly. Claudine truly was a star, and her commitment played a huge part in making the event such a success.

Finally, we are delighted that **all funds raised from the concert will be donated to the Trinity Centre**, Winchester. It is wonderful that such a joyful evening of music will also help support the important work carried out by the Centre. Thank you to everyone who attended, performed, organised and supported the evening. Together, you helped create a special event that will be remembered as a highlight of our Centenary year.

If you would like to learn more or make a donation, please visit: <https://trinitywinchester.org.uk/donate-now/>



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 and Sundays 4.30pm at St Peter's**
- **Sundays at 5.30pm at St Gregory's.**

FUNERALS

Paul Gardner RIP. Valerie Sollohub RIP. Victoria Kilkenny RIP.
Please pray for their families and friends at this difficult time.

May God grant them eternal rest.

PRAYER CORNER

Let us pray for those on the Journey in Faith course preparing for Easter: that they may remain faithful to God and boldly proclaim the words of eternal life.



MUSIC

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, [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.



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



PILGRIMAGES

Centenary Pilgrimage to Walsingham – Update: There are still a few places available for our parish pilgrimage in August. [Click here](#) for the latest information and how to register your interest.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteers Needed – Brass Cleaning at St Peter's: Could you spare a little time to help keep the brass at St Peter's shining? Our candlesticks and other items used at Mass are cared for by a small team of volunteers, with a rota that comes around roughly every two months, at a time that suits you during the week.

We also gather for a "Big Brass Clean" before Christmas and Easter, and the next one will take place during Holy Week - a perfect opportunity to come along and give it a try. If you would like to help, please contact office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk

NEWS ACROSS THE DIOCESE

Theology on Tap – Friday 20th March: Fr Ryan Browne invites you to join the Cathedral parish for an evening with Bishop Philip on the question: "Can Catholic teaching change?" Come to **Cathedral Hall, Portsmouth at 6:30 pm**. All are welcome!

Lenten Day of Reflection – Saturday 21st March: Join Canon Christopher Heaps and the Carmelite Community at **St. James' Church, Reading, 10:30 am – 1:00 pm**, for a gentle space to reflect, pray, and prepare for Holy Week. All are welcome! [Click here](#) for more information.

Come and See: The Diaconate – Saturday 28th March: Curious about the Diaconate? Join us at English Martyrs Church, Didcot, 9am–3pm to hear firsthand experiences, ask questions, and explore without obligation. If you would like to attend email diaconate@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk to book.

Life in the Spirit Seminars – Starting Thursday 23rd April: A new series exploring God's love and the gifts of the Holy Spirit begins on **Thursday 23rd April at 7:15pm at St Bede's, Basingstoke**, and will continue most Thursdays until 18th June. More details on how to join will follow soon – keep an eye out!

Easter Triduum Retreat – Isle of Wight (2–5 April 2026): Spend the sacred days of the Easter Triduum in prayer and reflection at the Verbum Dei Retreat Centre on the Isle of Wight, exploring more deeply the mystery of Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection. For more information or to register interest, please email: verbumdei.iow@gmail.com.

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.



 **HOLY WEEK SERVICES & EASTER MASS TIMES**

Date	Times	Where	Service
23 rd March	7:00PM	St Peter's Church	Parish Lenten Reconciliation Service at St Peter's Church
28 th March (Palm Sunday)	5:30PM	St Peter's Church	Mass
29 th March (Palm Sunday)	08.00AM	St Peter's Church	Mass
	09.00AM	St Thomas More Church	Mass
	09:15AM	St Stephens Church	Mass
	10:30AM	St Peter's Church	Mass
	11:00AM	St Gregory's Church	Mass
	5:30PM	St Peter's Church	Mass
31 st March (Chrism Mass)	11:00AM	St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth	Chrism Mass
2 nd April (Maundy Thursday)	7:30PM	St Peter's Church	Mass of the Lord's Supper at St Peter's followed by Altar of Repose
	8:00PM	St Gregory's Church	Mass of the Lord's Supper at St Gregory's followed by Altar of Repose
3 rd April (Good Friday)	9:30AM	St Stephen's Church	Stations of the Cross
	9:45AM	St Peter's Church	Family Way of the Cross
	12:00PM	St Peter's Church	Stations of the Cross
	3:00PM	St Gregory's Church	Celebration of the Lord's Passion
	3:00PM	St Peter's Church	Celebration of the Lord's Passion
4 th April (Holy Saturday)	9:00AM	St Peter's Church	Office of Readings & Morning Prayer
	12:00PM	St Peter's Church	Easter Blessing of Food
	8:00PM	St Peter's Church	Easter Vigil
	8:00PM	St Gregory's Church	Easter Vigil
5 th April (Easter Sunday)	8:00AM	St Peter's Church	Easter Sunday
	9:00AM	St Thomas More Church	Easter Sunday
	9:15AM	St Stephen's Church	Easter Sunday
	10:30AM	St Peter's Church	Easter Sunday
	11:00AM	St Gregory's Church	Easter Sunday
	5:30PM	St Peter's Church	Easter Sunday
6 th April (Bank Holiday)	10:00AM	St Peter's Church	Mass - Bank Holiday

MASS TIME

TABLE:

LAETARE SUNDAY OF LENT - SUNDAY 15TH MARCH 2026 | YEAR A

Date	Times	Where	Intentions
Sat 14 Mar of the 3 rd Week of Lent Sunday VIGIL Laetare Sunday	09:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	Pam Quick
	9.30AM to 10.30PM	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
Sun 15 Mar Laetare Sunday	8:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	
	9:00AM	Mass at St Thomas More's	Frank Hinds Healing & Strength
	9:15AM	Mass at St Stephen's	In Memory of Liz Slinn RIP
	10:30AM	Family Mass at St Peter's	For the Soul of Margaret Stacey
	11:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	The Brenton Family
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	Rosa & Hans Weingart RIP
Mon 16 Mar of the 4th Week of Lent	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration Milner Hall	
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's, Milner Hall	Intentions of Mary Rafferty
Tues 17 Mar St Patrick	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's Milner Hall	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	The Soul of Mary Wheble
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's, Milner Hall	For the Soul of Dick Robson
Wed 18 Mar of the 4th Week of Lent	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's Cancelled	
	11:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	Barbara Craze RIP
Thur 19 Mar St Joseph	8:00 AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	Anne Marie Fletcher RIP
	7:00PM	Mass at St Peter's (Solemnity of St Joseph) Latin	Isaac RIP & His Family
Fri 20 Mar of the 4th Week of Lent	8:00AM	Morning Prayer & Adoration at St Peter's	
	10:00AM	Mass at St Gregory's	Neil Intentions
	12:15PM	Mass at St Peter's	Mary Grant RIP
Sat 21 Mar of the 4th Week of Lent Sunday VIGIL 5 th Sunday of Lent	9:00AM	Mass at St Peter's	
	9.30AM to 10.30PM	Confession at St Peter's	
	2:00PM	Mass for Healing	
	4:30PM to 5:00PM	Confession at St Peter's	
	5:30PM	Mass at St Peter's	Ron Footer RIP

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](#)