

# Hampshire Downs Catholic Parish

Alresford ♦ Stockbridge ♦ Winchester



## THIRTY SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (A) 6th November, 2011

How anxious are you? How much of what you do, do you feel is worthwhile? Are you satisfied with life? These questions have appeared in homes across the country as part of a new policy making experiment. I wish the policy makers success in finding a policy, political or otherwise, that will lead to peace, security and well being but I do not believe they will be successful.

Human beings who search for meaning and understanding soon realize the human wisdom cannot plumb the depths of reality. The deepest questions of life do not seem to be satisfied with answers derived from experience. Our Old Testament reading today tells us that the meaning and purpose behind everything, which is the source of all peace and wellbeing, is divine Wisdom.

In the psalm today we say "for you my soul is thirsting, O God, my God." Yes, planted within us by God himself is the deepest burning desire and thirst for his love and Wisdom which is the source of complete satisfaction. While that Wisdom always seems to be slightly out of our reach, sacred scripture assures us that Wisdom will come to those who love and search for her.

So keep completing the questionnaires but remember that divine Wisdom is always waiting for us to call her. Our relationship with Jesus is, of course, the way to meaning and truth.

Those who find Wisdom find peace, meaning, security and fulfilment. And once she is found, she will be seen everywhere.  
PJT

The New Altar Missals: I received this week the Altar Missals for use in our churches. They will be fully in use on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent and will be partly used before that. Some people have asked if they could buy an Altar Missal and have an inscription placed inside the front cover. I am very happy for this to happen and anyone who would like to purchase one should contact me via the Parish Office or send me an email at; [canonpaul@stpeterswinchester.org.uk](mailto:canonpaul@stpeterswinchester.org.uk). The Missals can be inspected in the sacristies of our churches. There are three left at £325 each and three at £230 each.  
PJT

Canon Gerard Hetherington KCHS – Canon Gerard, who has been resident in Winchester for just over a year, has moved to Guernsey for his retirement. I would like to express my gratitude to Canon Gerard for his generosity in helping out in the parish during his time here. Canon Gerard arrived just as Fr. Tom left so we have not actually missed having an extra priest around. Now, however, things could be quite different and I may need to cancel an occasional Mass from time to time, especially as I still have a full programme of diocesan work to do in addition to my parish responsibility. Please pray and work for vocations.  
PJT

### TODAY'S MASS - LITURGY OF THE WORD

**1st Reading:** Wisdom 6:12-16

**Psalm Response:** For you my soul is thirsting, O God, my God.

**2nd Reading:** 1st letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians 4:13-18

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Stay awake and stand ready, because you do not know the hour when the Son of Man is coming. Alleluia.

**Gospel:** Matthew 25:1-13

## TODAY

**Retiring Collection at all Masses today for Bamenda.**

**Family Mass** in St. Peter's today at 10.30am

**The St Gregory's November Cake Sale** is after Mass today in the Pastoral Centre.

**Churches Together in Alresford Annual Christmas Shoeboxes Packing Party** at St. Gregory's Pastoral Centre from 2.00pm to 4.00pm.

## THIS WEEK

**Monday 7th November - Winchester Catholic History Group** talk on 'The Emergence of Catholicism into Public Consciousness in the 1990s' by Ann Widdecome, in St. Peter's Church at 8.00pm. All visitors welcome - £3 on the door, students (with student ID) £1.50.

**Thursday 10th November - INSPIRE Youth Group** for Years 7-9 meet at 7.00pm at St. Stephen's

**Friday 11th November - Mass for the Dead** at 7.00pm in St. Peter's

## NEXT WEEKEND

**Sunday 13th November is Remembrance Sunday.**

**Sunday 13th November - Mass in the Extraordinary Form** at 12.15pm in St. Peter's.

**Sunday 13th November - Blessing of the graves** at St. James Cemetery is at 3.00pm.

## LOOKING AHEAD

**Monday 14th November - Ascent members** - Please note that the next meeting will take place at 2.15pm in the Convent. Sister Cecelia will lead the meeting. New members most welcome.

**Thursday 17th/Friday 18th and Saturday 19th November - St. Peter's Youth Theatre** presents 'Bugsy Malone' at the Tower Theatre, Kings School from 7.00pm. Please come and support our young people who have worked very hard to put on this musical. Any profits will be donated to the Covenant with the Poor. Tickets £5 (£3 under 18's, students and senior citizens) available soon from the school office and after St. Stephen's and St. Peter's Masses.

**19th and 20th November - Youth Sunday and the Feast of Christ the King.** Calling all young people at school, students and young workers. Join us at the 6.00pm Mass on Saturday 19th November at St Peter's to celebrate Youth Sunday. Art workshop at 5.00pm, Mass at 6.00pm including young musicians, readers and ministers of communion, and refreshments at 7.00pm. Everyone in the parish also very welcome. The Youth Band will be playing at this Mass and at 9.15am Sunday at St Stephen's.

**Wednesday 23rd November - Canon Paul** will be giving a talk on "My Experience of the Holy Land" based on living there for the month of June: Milner Hall at 7.30pm. Wine and nibbles from 7.00pm onwards. He will focus on the Holy Land as the 'fifth Gospel' and the importance of community scriptural reflection for Catholic Christians today.

**Sunday 27th November 2011 - Parish Advent Service** at St. Gregory's, Alresford at 4.00pm. Refreshments to follow.

**The SVP** would like to know of any family or individual in need who would benefit from receiving a Christmas food parcel. Please give names to Audrey Atter by 18th November. [audrey.atter@homecall.co.uk](mailto:audrey.atter@homecall.co.uk) or ring the Parish Office.

Steve Roach: I was delighted to see Steve this week. He is planning to join the Benedictine Community at Douai and I promised him my prayers and support. Please keep him in your prayers also. Steve was a church student here a while ago and I know he is fondly remembered by many.

## OUTREACH AND MISSION

**Ladies .....** A volunteer (or 2) is needed to represent the Catholic Church for the Women's World Day of Prayer in Winchester. There are 2-3 meetings a year, plus the annual service in March. If no-one responds, there will be no Catholic representation on this inter faith/Christian group. For more details and/or to offer your help, please contact Hilary Kemp on 07740049127

**Street Pastors** - The scheme is going well and already we are being asked to provide an even greater presence on the streets of Winchester. Are you interested in becoming a street pastor in 2012? We are now recruiting for a training programme starting in January. If interested apply to Mark Hibbert-Hingston, our administrator on 01962 854454 or e-mail [winchester@streetpastors.org.uk](mailto:winchester@streetpastors.org.uk). Alternatively call me on 01962 867117 to chat about it. *Steve Taylor*

**Catholic Disability Fellowship** - The AGM of the CDF will take place on Saturday 5th November at St. Edward's Church, Chandler's Ford from 2.30 to 4.30pm. There will be a presentation from Kathleen O'Gorman with the Hand in Hand Team. Kathleen has worked for many years with this group of people with learning difficulties preparing drama liturgies. All are welcome. For further details, contact Hilary Kemp on 07740049127.

## GENERAL

**First Communion 2012:** Please see the monthly diary for information and a tear off slip.

**Christingle Service:** There will be no 'Christingle' this year unless coordinators step forward to help organise the event. If you would like to coordinate a Christingle service this year, then Sanna Dean ([sannadean@lineone.net](mailto:sannadean@lineone.net)) and Louise Cutts have some useful notes.

**Musicians at St Stephen's:** After many years of service at St Stephen's, playing the organ and helping to organise the music, Kate Smith will be moving to Birmingham to be closer to her family. Her last Mass at St Stephen's will be Sunday 6th November. Of course, Kate will be missed by all. Our other regular organist, Sue Pell, is recovering from an operation and not likely to be able to play until the New Year. If you play an instrument and feel you could help out occasionally, please make yourself known at St Stephen's so that music at Mass can be supported.

**St. Peter's ladies who clean the Church Brass candlesticks** etc. would welcome more volunteers to join their rota. ***This work will only take an hour of your time once every eight to ten weeks.*** If interested please contact Margaret Guppy on 01962 841322 for more details.

## ADVENT GROUPS

Hampshire Downs parish is again offering all members of the community the opportunity to join 'house groups' this Advent. Watch this space for more information.

**Called to be a leader?** If you would like to lead or co-lead a group this year, there is the opportunity to learn some of the skills at a training evening on 8th November at 7.30pm in St Peter's School led by Monika Chmelova from the Diocesan Department for Pastoral Formation. Book via Augusta Wolff - [augustawolff@googlemail.com](mailto:augustawolff@googlemail.com), tel 07825757287.

Holy Land 2012: Following the success of recent pilgrimages I have been asked to run another one to the Holy Land next October. Before I begin detailed planning I need a rough idea of numbers. So please complete the tear-off slip which can be found on the monthly diary at the back of all churches and return it to the Parish Office. *PJT*

**The St. Gregory's 100 Club October Prize Draw** was won by Hermione O'Donovan

## MASSES AND LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

5th to 12th November 2011

### St. Peter's, Winchester

#### Masses:

Sat 5	6.00 pm	Mass - Michael Ede RIP
Sun 6	8.00 am	Mass - Philip Felton RIP
	10.30 am	Mass - Deceased members of Winchester Catenian Association
	<b>6.00 pm</b>	<b>Evening Prayer and Benediction</b>
	7.00 pm	Mass - Peter Whiteman RIP
Mon 7	12.15 pm	Mass - Deceased members of the Goulding family
Tue 8	8.00 am	Mass - Joan Howkins RIP
Wed 9	12.15 pm	Mass - Hans Weingart RIP
Thur 10	7.00 pm	Mass
Fri 11	12.15 pm	Mass - Albert Edward Nott RIP and Suzanne Marie Nott RIP
	7.00 pm	Mass of Remembrance
Sat 12	9.00 am	Mass - Esther Dwyer RIP

#### Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Sat 11.30 am - 12.30 pm and 4.30 pm - 5.00 pm

#### Eucharistic Adoration:

Tue	9.00 am - 8.00 pm
Wed	1.00 pm - 8.00 pm
Thur	9.00 am - 4.00 pm

### St. Gregory's, Alresford

Sun	11.00 am	Mass - People of the Parish
Mon	9.00 am	Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Tue	9.00 am	Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Wed	9.00 am	Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Thur	9.00 am	Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Fri	9.00 am	Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Sat	9.00 am	Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion

### St. Stephen's, Oliver's Battery

Sun 9.15 am Mass - Peter Manion RIP

### St. Thomas More's, Stockbridge

Sun 9.00 am Mass

## GENERAL NOTICES

Please send newsletter items to the Parish Office by 5.00 pm **Wednesday**. Please keep items as concise as possible and note that they may be edited.

**Communion for Sick and Housebound** - If you are housebound, even for a short time, and would like to receive Communion at home, please contact the Parish Office.

**A Minibus** service is available for people living in the Winchester area to bring you to 10.30am Sunday Mass at St. Peter's and take you home. Please contact the Parish Office.

### PARISH VOLUNTEERS: TRAINING

In accord with a Diocesan directive, all parishioners who volunteer with children or vulnerable adults (including taking communion to people outside of the Mass) must attend a Diocesan training session before the end of the year or they are no longer permitted to volunteer. To that end we have arranged two Diocesan training dates in November. Training for those people volunteering with children is at 7.30pm in St Peter's School on Monday the 7th of November. For those people volunteering with vulnerable adults the training session is at 7.30pm in St Peter's School, Oliver's Battery on Wednesday the 9th of November. To register for these training sessions, please either telephone Wini Meikle on 01962 714509, or e-mail Wini at [wameikle@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:wameikle@yahoo.co.uk). To determine if you have already taken the course, please check the parish website [www.hampshiredowns.org.uk](http://www.hampshiredowns.org.uk) under Safeguarding.

### We acknowledge with thanks:

#### Last week's collection:

(Alresford, Stockbridge and Winchester): £3,964.01

