

Hampshire Downs Catholic Parish

Alresford ♦ Stockbridge ♦ Winchester



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (A) 3rd April, 2011

I would like to thank Julia Bray and Deborah Falconer and the St. Peter's Youth Theatre for the powerful and moving Stations of the Cross at St. Stephen's. Thanks as well to all the members of the Parish who participated and supported this young people's event. It was a truly liturgical event including movement, music, word, drama and silence. It proclaimed the Word of Christ's suffering and death in a way that drew us into it more deeply.

Today's Gospel of the 'Man born blind' does the same as it invites us to experience with the blind man a new recognition that Jesus is the 'Light of the World'. As the blind man regains his physical sight he also comes to a new spiritual sight and is able to profess his faith in Jesus and worship him. His healing experience is a pattern of how we can be changed if we grow in our relationship with Jesus.

Something that inhibits our ability to grow and to grasp the spiritual sight that is God's gift to us all is sin. That is why Lent always brings a message of repentance and an opportunity to receive forgiveness and healing in the Sacrament of Penance, Confession or Reconciliation. Many people ask how often we should celebrate this sacrament. It was a weekly experience when I was a child in the 1950s and now it seems to be less frequent. **Each of us must take responsibility for celebrating this sacrament regularly and always during the Penitential Seasons of Lent and Advent. I would say that all of us must confess our sins during Lent and there are plenty of opportunities.** The Family Penitential liturgy will be celebrated on Saturday 16th April at 10.30am and the Parish Penitential Liturgy will be celebrated on Monday 18th April at 7.30pm. Both liturgies will offer opportunities for individual confession and absolution. PJT

The Parish Pastoral Council is planning a revision of its way of working. Recently there has been a display of the ministries and activities in all the churches. The display was first seen at the Parish Open Meeting. The Parish Pastoral Council has grouped all the different ministries into 'clusters' or 'groupings'. Each 'cluster' will have a coordinator who will be a member of the Pastoral Council and who will provide the connection with that group. So far the following co-ordinators are in place: for catechesis - Sue Trowbrige; for liturgy - Liz Slinn; for enabling - Brian Roberts and for Outreach and Mission - Steve Taylor. The other clusters, which are young people, communications and welcome and hospitality, are all waiting for co-ordinators, so if anyone is interested please contact Canon Paul.

Please note that on the 10th April there will be no Stations of the Cross and Benediction because of Fr. Paul's installation at 3.30pm in Winchester Cathedral.

TODAY'S MASS - LITURGY OF THE WORD

1st Reading: First Book of Samuel 16:1.6-7.10-13

Psalm Response: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

2nd Reading: St. Paul to the Ephesians 5:8-14

Gospel Acclamation: Glory to you, o Christ, you are the Word of God! I am the light of the world, says the Lord; anyone who follows me will have the light of life. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the word of God!

Gospel: John 9:1-41



TODAY

Retiring Collection at all Masses today for the Clergy Assistance Fund.

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

The St. Gregory's Cake Sale is after Mass today. *There will be no May Cake Sale.*

There will be Stations of the Cross at St. Gregory's at 5.00pm today and every Sunday in Lent.

Please take a copy of the new City Centre Chaplaincy Prayer Sheet which is available in all churches, and use it to pray for the chaplains and their work.

Please also take a copy of the Portsmouth People which can be found at the back of all churches.

Gift Aid Envelopes 2011/12 - Please remember to pick up your envelopes at the back of St. Peter's today.

St. Peter's Readers - Rotas for readers for April to July are ready for collection in the sacristy.

St. Gregory's subscribers to 'Living Faith' - your booklets for the Spring quarter are on the porch trolley.

THIS WEEK

Monday 4th April - Winchester Catholic History Group meets at 7.45 for 8.00pm in the Milner Hall. 'Religious Life in Medieval Normandy' by Dr. Leonie Hicks from the University of Southampton Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Culture.

Tuesday 5th April - Parish Pastoral Council meets at 7.00pm in St. Gregory's.

Wednesday 6th April - Justice and Peace Group meets in St. Stephen's Community Room at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

NEXT WEEKEND

Sunday 10th April - Retiring Collection at all Masses next weekend for the SVP.

Please remember in your prayers Angharad Foster and Michael Shields who are preparing for Baptism at the Easter Vigil and Bunty Attwood, Francis Chamberlain, Roy Cochran, Claire Croft, Ben Huntley and Stuart Matthews who are to be received into the full communion of the Catholic Church.

Sacramental Preparation

First Holy Communion 2011: For children in the parish who are eight or older between 1st September 2010 and 31st August 2011 (Year 3 in school).



The next children's session will be on the **7th May from 10.30am - 12.00noon in St. Peter's School.** No sessions on the 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th April

Confirmation 2011 - See the Young People section for details.

Please pray for all those preparing to receive the sacraments of initiation during the coming year, and for their families.

CANON PAUL'S INSTALLATION AS AN ECUMENICAL CANON AT WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL ON 10TH APRIL AT 3.30PM

I would like to invite everyone to my installation as an Ecumenical Canon of Winchester Cathedral. There will be refreshments afterwards.

The Cathedral are asking for a rough idea of numbers, so please could you let us know you are coming, and how many will be in your group. Either e-mail or telephone the parish office, or complete the box below and return to the parish office.

Number of people coming to Canon Paul's installation

LOOKING AHEAD

Monday 11th April - The Alresford Giles Group for the disabled and their carers meet in the Community Centre, West Street, Alresford at 2.00pm when there will be a talk on Naomi House. Everyone welcome. Enquiries to Nan McNamara on 01962 734425.

Saturday 16th April - St. Thomas More Prayer Group meet from 3.00 to 5.00pm at St. Barnabas, Weeke. All are welcome.

Tuesday 19th April - Chrism Mass (Mass of the Oils) at 11.00am at St. John's Cathedral, Portsmouth.

Sunday 24th April is Easter Sunday.

Saturday 30th April - Eve of the Feast of Divine Mercy. There will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after 6.00pm Mass until midnight. We hope for a great turn-out of people but at least 2 names are needed on the list committing to a definite hour. A list will be at the back of St. Peter's.

Sunday 1st May - Divine Mercy Sunday - Beatification of John Paul II. Mass at 3.00pm in St. Peter's.

Wednesday 18th May - St. Stephen's Pastoral Group meet at 7.30pm in St. Stephen's Community Room.

Monday 5th - Friday 9th September - Winchester Catholic History Group, Visit to Cambridge staying at St. Edmund's College, ensuite rooms, B/B/3 course evening dinner. Daytime visits to major key sites to be supplemented by evening lectures from leading academics. Cost £326 inclusive of travel, accommodation, meals, entrance to major colleges and Galleries Etcetera. If you would like to go there are still a few places available. Please contact Helena O'leary, 12 St. Michael's Gardens or telephone 01962 862796 or e-mail Helena@olry12.plus.com

Saturday 17th September (Please note change of date) - Churches Together in Alresford Harvest Barn Dance with the Burlesdon Village Band and a light supper, raffle & auction. Pinglestone Farm, Old Alresford, 7.30 - 11.00pm. In aid of Christian Aid Zimbabwe Church Partnership project. Tickets on sale in July - £10 adults, Children (9 - 14 years) £5.

Baptisms, Weddings and Deaths

Welcome to Benjamin Westbury, Felix Grose-Hodge, Claris Ceser Peter Felix and to Lucas and Alexander Weston who were baptised in St. Peter's last weekend.

Please pray for Simon Gaffney and Francesca Barnard who were married in St. Peter's last weekend.



SAFEGUARDING FOR CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS

AT HAMPSHIRE DOWNS PARISH - In order to protect our children and vulnerable adults our Diocese requires that all people who work or volunteer in this capacity must attend a training session. This must take place before the end of the year if you are to continue in your valuable role. To that end we have arranged for two training sessions to take place within our parish.

SAFEGUARDING FOR CHILDREN: THIS MONDAY, 4TH APRIL AT ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH, OLIVER'S BATTERY FROM 7:00 - 9:00 P.M.

SAFEGUARDING FOR VULNERABLE ADULTS: THIS FRIDAY, 8TH APRIL AT ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH FROM 7:00 - 9:00 P.M.

If you have attended a session within the last three years you have fulfilled your obligation and do not need to attend a further session. Eucharistic Ministers who take Communion outside the church must attend a session. Other Eucharistic Ministers are encouraged to attend.

To book a place (limited to 30 per session), please contact Wini Meikle on 01962 714509 or e-mail wameikle@yahoo.co.uk

DON'T KNOW IF YOU HAVE HAD SAFEGUARD TRAINING?????

There is a list on the bulletin board at the back of each church of all the people that the Diocese has recorded as having attended a training session. The names are also listed on the Parish Website.



LENT IN THE PARISH

No time to be in a group this Lent? Reflect with those who are... This Sunday we heard the gospel of Jesus healing the man born blind. The man born blind is transformed through an unexpected encounter with Jesus. The blind man received the gift of physical sight - and, perhaps more importantly, the gift of insight. His understanding of who Jesus is grew as he was questioned by his neighbours, by the Pharisees, by the Jews, and, finally, by Jesus. Reflect upon your own blind spots: your own unwillingness to see and respond in a generous way to the good deeds or achievements of others. Spend a few moments praying for those who may be unable to see the splendour of God's creation, or who are in need of God's healing grace.

FAMILY PENITENTIAL LITURGY: 10.30am Saturday 16th April
LENTEN PENITENTIAL LITURGY: 7.30pm Monday 18th April

Please remember to collect your 5p's for Lent

DIOCESAN

Celebrating Marriage 2011 - On Saturday, 18th June 2011 there will be a special Mass at St Bede's, Basingstoke for couples in our diocese celebrating significant wedding anniversaries during 2011. If you are celebrating your 25th, 40th, 50th anniversary during 2011, or any anniversary over 60 years, please let your parish priest know asap so that Bishop Crispian can send you an invitation. Attendance by invitation only and numbers are limited.

School Admission Appeals Panels: Volunteers are required to become panel members for schools in the Diocese of Portsmouth. These panels enable parents to exercise their right to appeal when their application for a school place for their child has been turned down. Panels must contain a mixture of people involved in education and lay people. Panel members must have no connection with the school for which appeals are being heard. A training course for those interested will take place at St. Bede's Church, Basingstoke on 11th and 12th May 2011. Please see poster on the noticeboard or contact Maureen Simmons, Tel: 01329 835363, Email: schools@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

OUTREACH AND MISSION

Winchester Basics Bank urgently need long-life milk, tinned spaghetti and tinned custard. Collection boxes are at the back of St. Peter's, St. Stephen's and St. Gregory's (box in St. Peter's is emptied each day).

South East England Forum would like to invite you to an inter-faith event on the 11th April from 10.30am to 3.30pm in the University of Surrey, Guildford GU2 7XH. To register, please contact Ushna Mughal on 07854373965.

Churches Together in Winchester will be organising an open air service and walk of witness again this year on the 22nd April. Meet at St. Peter's for a short liturgy at 10.45am and then walk to the Butter Cross where we will join with the Salvation Army band.

Tom Wright 'Lent for Everyone: Matthew' - Copies of the book are available from the bookshop and are suitable for individual or group study. Weekly Lent courses be held at Winchester Cathedral on Monday evenings 4th and 11th April at 7.00pm at the Cathedral Education Centre, led by Canon Roly Riem and at East Winchester on Tuesday evenings 5th and 12th April at 7.30pm in All Saints Hall, led by Revd Paul Kennedy. All welcome to attend any of these sessions.

Meditation Seminar on Mental Health - May 4th and 5th - Regents College, Regents Park, London NW1 4NS. Poster and Registration Form at the back of all churches.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS: The Diocese has just informed us that Eucharistic Ministers no longer have to have a CRB check UNLESS they are taking Communion to someone outside of Mass. If any Eucharistic Ministers are taking Communion outside of the Church, they must have a CRB check and they must attend the Diocesan training.



YOUNG PEOPLE



Receive the Gift - Confirmation 2011.

The next meeting for the Confirmation Candidates is Thursday, 12th April at 7.00pm in St. Peter's School. Contact: Don West - 01962 865153 or don.west@ntlworld.com. Also, see the parish website. Please pray for our Confirmation candidates and their families.

Year 7-8 Youth Group. The next session will be this Wednesday, 6th April, 7.00 - 8.30pm at St. Edward's, Chandler's Ford. Minibus leaves from St. Stephen's at 6.45pm. and returns at 9.00pm.

SPOG (Older Youth Group) has relaunched as a film night group. Watch out for dates and details.

Youth Band meets Friday, 29th April from 6.00 - 7.30pm at St. Stephen's. Age 7-17, any skill level, bring your instrument, doughnuts available.

Youth Group is back for all at secondary school. Reserve your Thursdays in May. Theme is 'The Great Escape'. Lots of activities and pizza.

Hampshire Downs Youth - Facebook Page for young Catholics in Alresford, Stockbridge and Winchester. Follow the link from the home page of our parish website and join up for more information on events and news.

Weekend trip for those aged 14-18yrs at St Cassian's Kintbury. This will be an amazing event, not to be missed. **Friday 6th - Sunday 8th May 2011.** Please find a grey postcard, at the back of all churches, for more information. Contact Peter McGeady.

Peter McGeady (Youth Leader) - Contact details: Follow the link from the home page of our parish website to the **Young Catholics South** group page. YC South contact detail cards are in all our churches.

Milner Hall bookings have now been taken over by Claire Cafrine. Please contact her on 01962 884610, 07505965059 or clairecafrine@f2s.com

St. Gregory's Hall bookings have now been taken over by St. Peter's Parish Office.

THANK YOU

- A big thank you to both the Design House, Winchester for the material Gervades (dry cleaners) for the making up of the 'busy bags' that they have provided for the children at 10.30am Mass.
- On behalf of the Cabrini Children's Society for the monies recently sent to them. They have been in touch to ask us to pass on their appreciation for your continued support of their work providing services to vulnerable children, young people, families and to adults with learning disabilities. If you would like to be on the Cabrini mailing list and receive their Child newsletter and other communications, please contact Ann Hoggan on 020 8668 2181 or email ann.hoggan@cabrini.org.uk Alternatively to find out more about their work or get involved visit them online at www.cabrini.org.uk.

Adult Formation

Canon Paul has asked the Adult Formation team to ensure that there are plenty of opportunities in the parish for people to explore the new translation of the Mass, which will be used from the first weekend in September. Would you be willing to lead sessions for a small group in September and October?

Training will be provided in June/July. More details soon.

GENERAL

The Catholic Women's League 2011 Appeal is for the Winchester Domestic Abuse Service. Throughout the year we aim to collect much needed necessities for those living temporarily at the Centre. In April and May we are focussing on towels and bedding but only need towels, duvets and pillows (no duvet covers or pillow cases please). Toiletries are still acceptable. Please place gifts, preferably in original packaging, in the boxes which can be found at the back of all churches.

The Bookshop now has copies of 'Lent for Everyone' by Tom Wright in stock. This has been recommended to us by Fr. Paul.

St Gregory's APF red boxes are due to be emptied. Box holders - please leave your boxes in the church porch or hand to Nan McNamara 01962 734425.

Big Fishes Football: Fancy a little outdoor exercise at River Park Leisure Centre, Winchester, on Sunday nights (8.30pm kick off)? Join a group of parish soccer enthusiasts aged from 14 to 58. Just turn up on the night with £3 match fee, £2 students (any excess is donated to charity) or speak to one of the regulars who include Brian Mustoe (01962 854241), Mark Pellegrini, Pascal Baker, John Tutton, Eugene Wills and Rudi Krook.

Cycle of Prayer:

This week we pray for: All Pastoral Area Pastoral Councils. Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child. Sisters of St. Lucy (Filippini) in the Diocese. Association for Latin in the Liturgy.

PARISH CENTRE DEVELOPMENT

The main contractors have been appointed following a competitive tender process. Feltham Construction, who were also the main contractors for the Douai Abbey Library and Refectory, will start on site on the 4th April and will be using the St Peter Street entrance for all their work throughout the project. We will publish the start of the different phases of the build just before they happen. The initial work will involve preparing the site including levelling, putting the office and portacabins on site and completing the archaeology supervision condition during the drilling of the foundation piles and ground source heat pump bore holes. The build cost remains within the original estimates of £1.3m made at the beginning of the project. The programme for the build should mean that the building will be weathertight by October and handed over to the parish by Easter 2012. The parish's pastoral centre project committee and the Finance and Property Committee will continue to supervise the project in terms of cost, quality and programme time and further details will be on the parish website.

Car Parking

Car Parking on the St Peter's site is restricted to parishioners and visitors to the church. Please also give priority to people who are not able to walk from the nearby car parks to Mass.

Public toilets are available outside the Discovery Centre (on the side facing the Theatre Royal). A portaloo is available for the 10.30am Mass and the Milner Hall is also open after the 10.30am Mass and can be accessed at other times on request.

ST. PETER'S BOOKSHOP

Now open in The Old Georgian (entrance on Jewry Street).



Books, cards and religious items. New lines are now in stock, including First Communion and Easter.

Opening time: During office hours and as per usual at weekends.

Look out for the bookshop when it travels to St. Gregory's, St. Thomas More's and St. Stephen's.

MASSES AND LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

2nd to 9th April, 2011

St. Peter's, Winchester

Masses:

Sat 2	6.00 pm	Mass - In Thanksgiving
Sun 3	8.00 am	Mass - People of the Parish
	10.30 am	Mass - Deceased members of the Kilroy family
	5.30 pm	Holy Hour (Stations, Adoration and Benediction)
	7.00 pm	Mass - William Docherty RIP
Mon 4	12.15 pm	Mass - Fr. Francis McAlinden RIP
Tue 5	8.00 am	Mass - Rev. J. Martin RIP
Wed 6	6.30 am	Mass - Una Finnerty RIP
	12.15 pm	Mass - Michael and Bridie Rooney RIP
Thur 7	7.00 pm	Mass - Anne Wheble RIP
Fri 8	11.45 am	Stations of the Cross
	12.15 pm	Mass - Intentions of Carol and Rob Turner Wedding Anniversary
Sat 9	9.00 am	Mass - Fikile Mlotshwa - Job related intention and in thanksgiving for childrens gifts.

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 - 5.00 pm



St. Gregory's, Alresford

Sun	11.00 am	Mass
	5.00 pm	Stations of the Cross
Mon	9.00 am	Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Tue	10.30 am	Mass - Elizabeth Smith RIP
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

Eucharistic Adoration:

2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month: 9.45 - 10.45am



St. Stephen's, Oliver's Battery

Sun	9.15 am	Mass - Intentions of the Deacon family
Mon	7.00 pm	Stations of the Cross



St. Thomas More's, Stockbridge

Sun	9.00 am	Mass
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LITURGICAL CALENDAR

3rd to 10th April, 2011

(Sunday Missal pp 186 & Weekday Missal pp 199
Psalter Week 4)

Sunday 3	Fourth Sunday of Lent (A)
Monday 4	Monday of the 4th week of Lent
Tuesday 5	Tuesday of the 4th week of Lent
Wednesday 6	Wednesday of the 4th week of Lent
Thursday 7	Thursday of the 4th week of Lent
Friday 8	Friday of the 4th week of Lent
Saturday 9	Saturday of the 4th week of Lent
Sunday 10	Fifth Sunday of Lent (A)



Next Sunday's Readings: Ezekiel 37:12-14. St. Paul to the Romans 8:8-11. John 11:1-45

Psalm Response: With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

PARISH OFFICE

The Old Georgian, 29 Jewry Street, Winchester, SO23 8RY

☎ 01962 852804

E-mail: office@stpeterswinchester.org.uk

Website: www.hampshiredowns.org.uk

Parish Administrator: Brian Roberts ♦ Secretary: Eileen Good

CLERGY & PARISH TEAM

Canon Paul Townsend (Parish Priest)
Fr. John Catlin (Associate Pastor)
Canon Alan Griffiths
Fr. Vincent Convery (Prison & Hospital Chaplain)
Fr. Brian Croughan (Retired Priest)
Deacon Gerard Dailly ☎ 01962 736389
Deacon Nick Reynolds ☎ 07854 709301
Catherine Christmas (Music, Liturgy & Communications)
Sisters of St Lucy, St. Peter's Convent ☎ 01962 854040

St. Peter's Catholic Primary School:

Oliver's Battery Road North, Winchester, SO22 4JB

Headteacher: Mrs. Cath Howells ☎ 01962 852820

Portsmouth Diocesan Trust - Registered Charity 246871

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Pastoral Council - Angela Muxworthy (Chair)
(07876444124)

Finance & Property Committee - Marcus Whitfield (Chair)
(01962 882057) mw@tucasi.com

Planned Giving/Gift Aid Enquiries - Trish Mitchell
(01962 849425) austinnippy@aol.com

Safeguarding - Wini Meikle (01962 714509)

Baptisms - Jon & Dawn Egerton-Kemp c/o (01962 852804)
dawnek@btconnect.com

Confirmation - Don West (01962 865153)
don.west@ntlworld.com

Weddings - Parish Office (01962 852804)

Communion to Sick & Housebound - Imelda Weingart-West
(01962 865153 or Imelda.weingart@ntlworld.com)

Eucharistic Adoration - Irena (01962 880678)

Milner Hall Bookings - Claire Cadrine
(01962 884610, Mob 07505965059 or clairecafrine@f2s.com)
St. Gregory's Hall Bookings - Parish Office (01962 852804)

We acknowledge with thanks:

Last week's collection

(Alresford, Stockbridge and Winchester): £3,565.75
Retiring collection for Family Fast: £1,817.98



Living Our Faith: Total raised so far: £1,379,132. We are working on the final £21,000 to reach our target. If you have not yet supported the campaign, please consider helping us to reach the final amount so that we can proceed with the building of the new parish pastoral centre.

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 our parish co-ordinator, **Imelda Weingart-West** (01962 865153, or Imelda.weingart@ntlworld.com)

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.