



St Francis of Assisi Church

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Newsletter 30th June 2024

Fr Phillip writes...

Today we celebrate Saints Peter and Paul. Peter, a simple fisherman, made his profession of faith, recognising Jesus as "the Christ...the Son of the living God." For Peter, Our Lord's response to him at the time would surely have been almost overwhelming: the rock on which he would build his Church, talk of the gates of the underworld not holding out against it, the gift of the keys of the kingdom of heaven and the power of binding and unbinding. Faith he might have, but Peter would need to travel a long and difficult journey before he would begin to understand this: a journey that would take him through the darkness of our Lord's Passion, his own denial and then the joy of meeting the Risen Lord and receiving his forgiveness. With such faith, strengthened by the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, Peter would indeed become the rock - a rock that would be an unflinching witness to Christ, a witness who would be imprisoned, and a witness that in the end would go to the very heart of the civilised world of the time, to Rome itself where he would be martyred for his faith.

Paul, a tentmaker by profession, travelled a difficult path too, persecuting the new-born Church until he met Jesus in the blinding light on the road to Damascus. Then he would become the most zealous of Christians, fighting the "good fight", keeping the faith, witnessing alongside those he had previously persecuted. His journey too would lead him to Rome and to the ultimate witness of martyrdom for that faith.

At the centre of Peter and Paul's witness is their faith in Jesus Christ. It is the same faith that called every successor of Peter to his ministry and witness, and it is the same faith that calls each one of us to our particular ministry and witness. The faith and the lives of Peter and Paul show us that God takes our faith and our lives and moulds, strengthens and transforms us in his service. Whatever our calling, the fact that we have faith in Jesus, that he is "the Christ, the Son of the living God," means that we too, like little stones, can be built into his Church. All we have to do is, like Peter and like Paul, be prepared to live our faith and allow God to mould, strengthen and transform us into the witnesses and people he wants us to be.

Mass Times and Intentions this Week

- ✠ Saturday 29th June, 10 am: Our Lady on Saturday (Victor Irvine - welfare)
- ✠ Saturday 29th June, 5.30pm: SS PETER & PAUL (Private Intentions)
- ✠ Sunday 30th June: SS PETER & PAUL
8.30am: (Robert Downes R.I.P.)
10am: (People of the Parish)
- ✠ Monday 1st July: NO MASS AT ST FRANCIS
- ✠ Tuesday 2nd July, 6.30pm: Thirteenth Week in Ordinary Time (Marie Nee)
- ✠ Wednesday 3rd July, 10am: St Thomas, Apostle
- ✠ Thursday 4th July, 6.30pm: Thirteenth Week in Ordinary Time
- ✠ Friday 5th July, 10am: Thirteenth Week in Ordinary Time
- ✠ Saturday 6th July, 10am: Our Lady on Saturday
- ✠ Saturday 6th July, 5.30pm: FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (People of the Parish)
- ✠ Sunday 7th July: FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8.30am: (Charles Cunniffe Anniversary R.I.P.)
10am: (Eileen Berkeley R.I.P.)

*This Weekend of
29/30 June:
Collection for
"Peter's Pence"*

Weekly Events

- 📖 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction: Every Friday, after 10 am Mass.
- 📖 Confession: After 10 am Mass on Saturdays, or by appointment.
- 📖 Rosary: said every Saturday at 9.30 am, before Mass.
- 📖 Little Franciscan Toddler Group: Every Tuesday, term-time only, from 11 am to 12.45 pm. All welcome!
- 📖 SVP Table Sales: in the Narthex, from Wed to Sun. Thanks for your support. All donations gratefully received.

 **Children's Liturgy: KINDLY NOTE THERE IS NO CHILDREN'S LITURGY THIS SUNDAY, 30TH JUNE. APOLOGIES FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE CAUSED.**

We pray for the sick and housebound of our community: Maria Williams, Brian Lynch, Pat Sassi, Simon Saint, Ernesto and Napoleon Mannois, Jane Thomas, Daniel Offer, Marie Hall, Nina Mullins, Georgia MacKinley, Eileen Hoare, Sr Josephine Collier, Pauline Painter, Malgorzata Cordoba & Anne Weatherall.

News This Week

Readings at Mass

To see the Mass readings for Sundays and weekdays, go to www.universalis.com/mass

Wedding: Lara & Harry

Please keep Lara and Harry in your prayers, who are getting married this Saturday 6th July in St Francis.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of:

✠ Christopher Barry Sillett, who died recently.

Priest exchange 29/30 June

This week, in our preparations for the joining together of our two parishes of Windsor and Ascot, Fr. David will be at Ascot for the weekend Masses and Fr. Phillip will be in Windsor for the weekend. Please give them a warm welcome.

Ordination – Stephen Patterson

Stephen's Ordination to the Diaconate will take place in **Portsmouth Cathedral on 27 July at 11:00** - all are welcome. Update: the coach is now full; however, if you would like to go to the Mass and reception afterwards, we are hoping to put standby list together in case someone drops out - or try to link people up with others who may be driving themselves and have a spare seat. Please keep him in your prayers. Many parishioners have been asking how to contribute to Stephens's Ordination to the Diaconate – we have therefore set up a **'giveasyoulive' page** for those who wish to contribute in this way: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/collection-for-stephen-patterson>

Friends of the Holy Land

Friends of the Holy Land would like to thank all parishioners for the Crib offerings of **£654.35**, for Christians in the Holy Land. Your donations will help us to support the most vulnerable at this very challenging time. Please continue to pray for the Holy Land and a peaceful resolution.

General Election (from Bishops' Conference)

The Prime Minister has called a General Election for 4th July 2024. The Bishops' Conference have created a webpage about the issues important to Catholics. For more info, access link <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/election24/>

Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC)

There are leaflets available in the Church porch that you can use to check if your candidates' intentions are aligned to the Catholic Faith and also to contact SPUC directly.

Gardening & DIY Services

One of our Parishioners would like to offer his gardening and DIY services. Contact the Parish Office for further details.

The New Lectionary Books

Thanks to your donations, we already have raised £388! We appreciate your further donations so we can achieve the remaining amount of £582. From Advent 2024, the new Lectionary (the book we take the readings from at all Masses) is being introduced in every Catholic parish in England and Wales. We will need to purchase the new copies in time for this in St Francis. Please would you consider making a donation towards these? The cost of the Ambo edition (the books the readers read from at Masses) is £695 for all 4 volumes and the cost of the Book of the Gospels (which the priest proclaims the Gospel from at Sunday Masses) is £275.

There is a button named "Lectionary Books" at the **DONA Terminal** in the back of the church for those donating by card. You can also donate by cash using the designated envelopes available at the Church porch. There will also be People's editions coming out, so if you usually like to have your personal Daily or Sunday Missal, you can order the new version and, if you know someone who might appreciate one, buy one for them too as a gift. Details of these can be found at:

www.newlectionary.org/#peoplesmissals

Volunteers Needed

We are in need of more offertory counters. If you can help, kindly contact the Parish Office.

St Francis Summer Garden Party

We are looking for volunteers to help us with the organisation of a possible summer garden party in August. Please, contact Parish Office if you can help.

Ascot Music School Concert 13th July at 3.45 pm

End of term concert, in St Francis Church, all welcome. More details to follow.

ST FRANCIS ASCOT FATIMA DEVOTIONS

KSC HOME PRAYER GROUP

30 Minutes of praying the Rosary

As requested by Our Lady

ZOOM ID & PASSWORD BELOW

Monday - Friday at 1.30pm

MON 1st July - 5th July 2024

ZOOM ID : 846 3901 8580

PASSWORD : rosary



Sponsored by the KNIGHTS of ST COLUMBA - Province 41 WESTMINSTER

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