

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE EASTER OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE YOUR PERSONAL GIFT TO FR. JOHN

## MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING 12th APRIL 2009

THE EASTER VIGIL – White

### 8.30 pm VIGIL SERVICE & THE FIRST MASS OF EASTER



Welfare of BROTHER of John  
& Jeanne Opie      Jeanne Opie

Sunday, 12 April, 2009 – EASTER SUNDAY – White

10 am

FOR ALL THE NEWLY BAPTISED

*During the Mass Baptism of*

*Alice Elizabeth O'Halloran*

*(There will not be a Children's Liturgy today)*



### 3 pm SOLEMN VESPERS WITH BENEDICTION

Monday, 13 April, 2009 – Easter Monday – White



10 am

JAMES DANIEL, R.I.P.

Teresa & Family

Tuesday, 14 April, 2009 – Easter Tuesday – White



9 am EXPOSITION

9.30 am

FR. JOHN'S PRIVATE INTENTION

Wednesday, 15 April, 2009 – Easter Wednesday – White



**NO MASS TODAY**

Thursday, 16 April, 2009 – Easter Thursday – White



**NO MASS TODAY**

Friday, 17 April, 2009 – Easter Friday – White



**NO MASS TODAY**

Saturday, 18 April, 2009 – Easter Saturday – White

10 am

JILMA BATISTA, R.I.P.

Jilma Jennings

10.45 am & 4.45 pm Confession

Sunday, 19 April, 2009 – Second Sunday of Easter – White

(known as *LOW SUNDAY*)

5.30 pm

(Saturday) RICHARD JONES, R.I.P.

Teresa Jones

*With Baptism of Finlay Milham*

10 am

JOHN FLITCH, R.I.P.

Christine Bentley

*With Baptism of Dylan, Louis and Lily*

*(There will not be a Children's Liturgy today)*

# PETRINEWS

St. Peter's Church, Westgate-on-Sea

Priest in Charge: **FATHER JOHN SLATER**

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## EASTER SUNDAY – 12th April, 2009

*Resurrexi, et adhuc tecum sum.* Alleluia! - I have risen, I am still with you. Alleluia! Dear brothers and sisters, Jesus, crucified and risen, repeats this joyful proclamation to us today: the Easter proclamation. Let us welcome it with deep wonder and gratitude!

*Resurrexi et adhuc tecum sum* – I have risen, I am still with you, for ever. These words, taken from an ancient version of Psalm 138 (v. 18b), the Entrance Antiphon of the daytime Mass. In them, at the rising of the Easter sun, the Church recognizes the voice of Jesus himself who, on rising from death, turns to the Father filled with gladness and love, and exclaims: My Father, here I am! I have risen, I am still with you, and so I shall be for ever; your Spirit never abandoned me. In this way we can also come to a new understanding of other passages from the psalm: "If I climb the heavens, you are there; if I descend into the underworld, you are there ... Even darkness is not dark for you, and the night is as clear as day; for you, darkness is like light" (Ps 138:8,12). It is true: in the solemn Easter vigil, darkness becomes light, night gives way to the day that knows no sunset. The death and resurrection of the Word of God incarnate is an event of invincible love, it is the victory of that Love which has delivered us from the slavery of sin and death. It has changed the course of history, giving to human life an indestructible and renewed meaning and value.

— URBI ET ORBI —  
MESSAGE

OF HIS HOLINESS  
POPE BENEDICT XVI

— EASTER 2008 —



"I have risen and I am still with you, for ever." These words invite us to contemplate the risen Christ, letting his voice resound in our heart. With his redeeming sacrifice, Jesus of Nazareth has made us adopted children of God, so that we too can now take our place in the mysterious dialogue between him and the Father. We are reminded of what he once said to those who were listening: "All things have been delivered to me by my Father; and no one knows the Father except the Son and any one to whom the Son chooses to reveal him" (Mt 11:27). In this perspective, we note that the words addressed by the risen Jesus to the Father on this day – "I am still with you, for ever"

– apply indirectly to us as well, "children of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him" (cf. Rom 8:17). Through the death and resurrection of Christ, we too rise to new life today, and uniting our voice with his, we proclaim that we wish to remain for ever with God, our infinitely good and merciful Father.

In this way we enter the depths of the Paschal mystery. The astonishing event of the resurrection of Jesus is essentially an event of love: the Father's love in handing over his Son for the salvation of the world; the Son's love in abandoning himself to the Father's will for us all; the Spirit's love in raising Jesus from the dead in his transfigured body. And there is more: the Father's love which "newly embraces" the Son, enfolding him in glory; the Son's love returning to the Father in the power of the Spirit, robed in our transfigured humanity. From today's solemnity, in which we relive the absolute, once-and-for-all experience of Jesus's resurrection, we receive an appeal to be converted to Love; we receive an invitation to live by rejecting hatred and selfishness,

**CONTINUED INSIDE**

Fr. John Writes:-

**ALLELUIA! The Mass is our ALLELUIA: our song of praise to the Risen Christ who is our life and whose triumph over death we proclaim to all the world.**

**Easter is the time of Baptism and today (Sunday) we bring into the life of the Church, little ALICE ELIZABETH O'HALLORAN, the third child of Vicki and Steven. Next week we Baptise at the 5.30 pm Mass, FINLAY MILHAM and on Sunday at 10 am Mass we Baptise DYLAN, LOUIS and LILY, and there are more to come later in this EASTERTIDE, this is another reason for all the Alleluias.**

## ■ DIVINE MERCY IN WHITSTABLE

Next Sunday is the OCTAVE of EASTER SUNDAY, and Pope John Paul designated this day for the DIVINE MERCY. At 2.30 pm at Our Lady Immaculate in Whitstable there is the Celebration, which included Confessions and concludes with BENEDICTION.

## ■ CONFIRMATION

**SUNDAY, 10 MAY at 3 pm**

Please remember to pray for our three Confirmandi from this parish: Naimh Hanrahan, Millie Monaghan and Asia Teagle. This year's Deanery celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation takes place here at St. Peter's on Sunday, 10 May (5th Sunday of Easter) at 3 pm.

◆ **Altar Servers** please note that there will be a rehearsal for this service on Wednesday, 6 May, at 7 pm.

## ■ BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW!

**Saturday, 27 June, Aylesford**

St. Paul's Year End at Aylesford in June. There are limited places as this will be a Deanery-wide day pilgrimage. Please book your place as soon as possible. The cost will be £10 per person.

**YEAR OF ST. PAUL  
2008 - 2009**

From the letter of St. Paul to the Romans (ch 10: v9)

***If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved.***

## ■ OPEN MEETING!

**NEXT Sunday, 19 April after Mass**

There will be an open meeting, in the Hall, of the Fete Committee at which ALL parishioners are invited to join in the planning of this year's event.

## ■ 100 CLUB WINNERS

The April draw winners are: £50 (43) A. Arnold; £5 (73) T. Brice; £5 (36) C. Wiltshire.

## ■ MASS ATTENDANCES

**Palm Sunday**

Saturday (4 April)	5.30 pm	64
Sunday (5 April)	10 am	127

## ■ PARISH INCOME

Weekend of 4 & 5 April

Offertory	Saturday	£154.46
	Sunday	£160.45

## ■ DIARY DATES

● Thursday, 23 April at 7.30 am. InterFaith Talk: "Islam – a global religion" at Hartsdown College.

● Saturday, 16 May at 11 am. UCM Bring & Buy CAKE SALE in aid of the Apostleship of the Sea.

● Saturday, 30 May at 7.30 am. Thanet Male Voice Choir Concert. Tickets available NOW at £5.

● Visit of the Relics of St. Thérèse to Aylesford. Deanery Day Pilgrimage planned. Please think about this unique opportunity and, when more details are known, get your place booked.

## ■ A FEW DAYS OFF!

Fr. John will be taking a well earned break next week with a VERY short visit to Nottinghamshire.

***Tea & Coffee after Sunday 10 am Mass  
– Come along it's ONLY 20p a drink!***

## ■ THANK YOU

Fr. John thanks all the parishioners for their patience whilst we sort out the "Tar Problem"

## ***Your Prayers are asked for:***

*For the souls of the recently dead: including Barbara Morris, mother of Linda Scully, who died on the 25 March in Glasgow. May she rest in peace.*

*The sick: Geoff Shawcase, Alison Moores, Carole French and Archbishop Kevin, Teresa Rowan, Sister Anna, Eva Brewer, Pat Whaley, Len Lane, Peg Bunnage, Myra Taylor, Joyce Doyle, Canon Clements, Teresa & John McCarthy and Teresa Daniel.*

*Remember Hope Sloly in Ethiopia and Sean McNiff in Afghanistan.*

## **FROM THE FRONT**

and to follow with docility in the footsteps of the Lamb that was slain for our salvation, to imitate the Redeemer who is "gentle and lowly in heart", who is "rest for our souls" (cf. Mt 11:29). Dear Christian brothers and sisters in every part of the world, dear men and women whose spirit is sincerely open to the truth, let no heart be closed to the omnipotence of this redeeming love! Jesus Christ died and rose for all; he is our hope – true hope for every human being. Today, just as he did with his disciples in Galilee before returning to the Father, the risen Jesus now sends us everywhere as witnesses of his hope, and he reassures us: I am with you always, all days, until the end of the world (cf. Mt 28:20). Fixing the gaze of our spirit on the glorious wounds of his transfigured body, we can understand the meaning and value of suffering, we can tend the many wounds that continue to disfigure humanity in our own day. In his glorious wounds we recognize the indestructible signs of the infinite mercy of the God of whom the prophet says: it is he who heals the wounds of broken hearts, who defends the weak and proclaims the freedom of slaves, who consoles all the afflicted and bestows upon them the oil of gladness instead of a mourning robe, a song of praise instead of a sorrowful heart (cf. Is 61:1,2,3). If with humble trust we draw near to him, we encounter in his gaze the response to the deepest longings of our heart: to know God and to establish with him a living relationship in an authentic communion of love, which can fill our lives, our interpersonal and social relations with that same love. For this reason, humanity needs Christ: in him, our hope, "we have been saved" (cf. Rom 8:24).

How often relations between individuals, between groups and between peoples are marked not by love but by selfishness, injustice, hatred and violence! These are the scourges of humanity, open and festering in every corner of the planet, although they are often ignored and sometimes deliberately concealed; wounds that torture the souls and bodies of countless of our brothers and sisters. They are waiting to be tended and healed by the glorious wounds of our Risen Lord (cf. 1 Pet 2:24-25) and by the solidarity of people who, following in his footsteps, perform deeds of charity in his name, make an active commitment to justice, and spread luminous signs of hope in areas bloodied by conflict and wherever the dignity of the human person continues to be scorned and trampled. It is hoped that these are precisely the places where gestures of moderation and forgiveness will increase!

Dear brothers and sisters! Let us allow the light that streams forth from this solemn day to enlighten us; let us open ourselves in sincere trust to the risen Christ, so that his victory over evil and death may also triumph in each one of us, in our families, in our cities and in our nations. Let it shine forth in every part of the world. Let us invoke the fullness of his Paschal gifts, through the intercession of Mary who, after sharing the sufferings of the passion and crucifixion of her innocent Son, also experienced the inexpressible joy of his resurrection. Sharing in the glory of Christ, may she be the one to protect us and guide us along the path of fraternal solidarity and peace.

## **Anniversaries this week:**

Derek Oldham (1993), Edith St. Cyr (1994), Andrew McNabb (1999), Frank Woodway (2000).

## **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Confessions on Saturdays from approx. 10.30am until 11am and 4.45pm until 5.15pm. Other times by appointment.

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

We warmly welcome all non-Catholic to our services. It is not permitted, however, to receive Holy Communion until a person is received into full membership of the Catholic Church. If you would like to know more about this, please contact Fr. John.

FRED KEALY AND HIS WIFE MARION WISH TO THANK EVERYONE WHO SENT HIM CARDS AND GREETINGS ON HIS RECENT LANDMARK BIRTHDAY (80th)