

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING 13th APRIL

Sunday, 13 April – 4th Sunday of Easter – White

5.30 pm (Saturday) CYRIL DEGENHARD, R.I.P. Sue Maharry

10 am inc. Children's Liturgy VOCATIONS

4.30 pm Reception of the body of George Martin at St. Peter's

Monday, 14 April – Feria – White

11.30 am Requiem Mass GEORGE MARTIN, R.I.P.

Tuesday, 15 April – Feria – White

9 am EXPOSITION

9.30 am BERNADETTE GAHIDE, R.I.P. Tricia Donovan

4.30 pm Reception of the body of Mietek Kiersz at St. Peter's

Wednesday, 16 April – Feria – White

10 am Requiem Mass MIETEK KIERSZ, R.I.P.

Thursday, 17 April – Feria – White

9.30 am EXPOSITION

10 am THE FAITHFUL COMPANIONS OF JESUS CONGREGATION

Friday, 18 April – St. Lasarian – White

St. Lasarian was born 566 AD in Ireland. He is chiefly remembered for his role in settling the 'Easter Controversy', which involved the Churches in England, Scotland and Ireland still celebrated Easter at a date set in the period when the Romans were occupying the British Isles. Lasarian persuaded the Celtic churches to adopt the Roman dates for Easter. He died on 18 April, 639.

10 am MOLLIE ROSIE, R.I.P. Sister Mary Ita

Saturday, 19 April – St. Alphege – Red

St. Alphege (954 - 1012); or Elphege. A martyr and Archbishop of Canterbury his early life was spent in the West Country, at sometime as a hermit. When he was 30 years old Alphege became Bishop of Winchester. He was elevated to the See of Canterbury in 1006, it was during a period, when the Danes were attacking Kent which culminated in September, 1011, with Canterbury being sacked and burned. Alphege was captured by the Danes, along with the Bishop of Rochester and Leofrun who was abbess of St. Mildred's in Minster. On the 19 April, 1012, his captors drunk and enraged at the ransom being refused killed him with an axe.

10 am VIVIENNE DORMAN, R.I.P. Teresa Jones

10.30 am & 4.45 pm Confession

Sunday, 20 April – 5th Sunday of Easter – White

5.30 pm (Saturday) CAROLINE BAILY'S INTENTION

10 am inc. Children's Liturgy TONY TUNNEY, R.I.P. Len & Mary Lane

PETRINEWS

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

Priest in Charge: **FATHER JOHN SLATER**

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (A) – 13th April, 2008

In the Gospel we are taught by Jesus that it is to His message, His voice, His commands that we should respond. He can be seen in this Gospel as fulfilling a dual role in which he is both the shepherd of the flock – which is us, the Church – and at the same time he is also the 'gatekeeper' of the sheepfold; the place where more than one flock may be kept safe whilst awaiting a shepherd. So He not only cares and tends for us, His Church, watching over and guiding us, He also protects and monitors access to all the sheep within the sheepfold, the world. In this parable He sounds-out a warning that there are others who would wish us to follow them, that they are after stealing us away from the truth, away from the voice of our Lord and His teachings; killing and destroying our faith in the Risen Christ. Who are these others attempting to pass through the 'gate', who clamber over the fence of the sheepfold? Look around us, they are there in the world, the modern world tempting us with the promises of greater joy, greater satisfaction, greater wealth if only we turn our ears away from the word of God; they may even be within us now in the form of apathy or inertia or selfishness. But as the parable says: "the sheep took no notice of them." If we really believe, then, like those sheep, the only voice we will follow is Christ's.



Your Prayers are asked for:

George Martin who died on 3 April, and Mietek Kiersz who died the same day.

May the Risen Christ welcome them both into his kingdom, R.I.P.

Canon William Clements, of Birchington, who is still seriously ill in hospital. As his condition doesn't seem to be improving he is in need of your special prayers.

Pat Whaley out of hospital, still needs your prayers.

Len Lane in hospital.

Peg Bunnage back home but still ill.

Jean Anderton and Maria Noble, both in Care Homes. Also pray for all housebound and those in homes.

Paul Quickfall who is still ill but has made some improvement.

Giamme Thirlwall who died last week, may she rest in peace.

Clare in Whitstable who is ill.

Anniversaries this week:

Frances Turner (1992), Derek Oldham (1993), Andrew McNabb (1999), Frank Woodward (2000).

Fr. John writes:

As we come to the halfway point of Eastertide, we think of Jesus as the Shepherd and Guardian of our souls. Today we rejoice in the Lord, our Shepherd, who calls us to Himself.

■ FUNERALS THIS WEEK

As announced at Mass last week there were two deaths of parishioners in the previous week. Therefore, there will be two Requiem Masses during this week. The first is on Monday, 14 April, at 11.30 am for George Martin who was 83 years old. He had been organist at Saints Austin & Gregory, Margate, for 40 years. The second funeral for Polish born Mietek Kiersz is on Wednesday, 16 April, at the normal Mass time of 10 am. Mietek was a regular at St. Peter's Sunday morning Mass until illness caused him to live in a care home. If you have any Polish friends do tell them about this funeral service and invite them to attend.

■ CONFIRMATION 2008

PENTECOST, 11 MAY, 2008 at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Broadstairs at 3 pm. Our Confirmandee are: **Lucy Elinor Mary Curry, Oliver Neil Fitch, Benjamin Colin & Joseph William Greenstreet, Phillip Patrick & Nicholas Peter Kearney, Mary Magdalena Korzeniowska, Alice Elizabeth Lukehurst and Charlotte-Elizabeth-Jane Murray.**

Keep our young people in your thoughts and prayers as they draw even closer to their Sacramental experience in May.

■ CONFIRMATION PARENTS

Confirmation Retreat:

Invitation to Parents, Ursuline College, 2.15 pm, Saturday, 26th April

A reminder to parents of young people making their Confirmation this year that you are also invited to join in the afternoon session with a group specifically

for parents. This will begin at 2pm with refreshments – tea, coffee, and biscuits – leading into a group discussion exploring understanding of the commitment being made by your son or daughter and how as parents we can continue to support them. The group will last until 3.30pm and then lead into Mass celebrating the day at 4pm. Unfortunately there is no provision for any younger children to attend the afternoon this year.

It would be helpful if you could let Fr. John know that you are attending.

■ MONEY, MONEY, MONEY!

Money 1. – £180 was raised by our Confirmation Candidates who took part in a sponsored walk a week last Sunday, 30 March, from Broadstairs to Pegwell. The money goes to 'Thanet Homeless'. Thank you for all who sponsored them, but especially the young people themselves – they did the hard work.

Money 2. – UCM Coffee Morning. A splendid sum of £176 was raised by members of the UCM last Saturday morning. Well done ladies. The money goes to the St. John's Seminary Fund for our trainee priests. *Money 3 follows...*

■ 2nd COLLECTION TODAY

Today, Sunday, 13 April, there is a second collection for the Ecclesiastical Education Fund. This goes towards the training of future priests and religious. It also ties in with today's World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

■ SUMMER FÊTE

We are now officially in British Summer! So, it's time to plan ahead, and we are hoping to hold a St. Peter's Summer Fête in mid-July. Countess Mountbatten Court, next door, have offered to host the fête in their 'manicured' grounds. We need volunteers to organise the event. So if you have any experience

– no matter how little – in organising an event please let Fr. John know or ring Phil on 835630. **It will only happen if we have some volunteers.** So far no one has stepped forward to help organise this event. As Delia Smith, the TV chef once famously said at her beloved Norwich City Football Club during a half-time announcement: *"Come on, let's be 'aving you"*, in a plea to get her team's supporters involved.

■ GIFT AID – NEW YEAR

If you already make your weekly/monthly "collection" contributions using the Gift Aid donation envelopes or via your bank account then it is time to either get a new set of special Gift Aid envelopes, confirm and/or adjust your Bankers' Order, or continue to make your contribution to the parish with cheques. We can only reclaim the tax element on your money gifts to the church if you make the payments by an auditable means. Therefore, loose cash contributions in the collection bag are not acceptable as far as the Inland Revenue is concerned. **If you don't use this facility please consider it.** All taxpayers, wage-earners, pensioners who pay tax, any one who has to pay any form of income tax can allow us to claim back their tax on their Offertory collection.

■ CAFOD – THE MESSAGE

CAFOD
just one world

CAFOD Southwark are looking for suitable volunteers to take the CAFOD message into Catholic Schools and Parishes across the Diocese. If you are interested, please call Christine Bryant or Paul Whittle on 01322 294 924 or email: southwark@cafod.org.uk to discuss how you can help.

■ HOW LOVELY

Several people have remarked to Fr. John how lovely Saint Peter's looks with the new Altar and the carpet, especially during this Eastertide with the Gold Frontal covering the Altar. The Frontal itself is comparatively new and was made by Mrs. Mary Davies, so Fr. John did not wish to discard it, and with some expert advice from Colleen and the handiwork of Mary Askham the Frontal was modified and fitted to the Altar for the Great Fifty Days up to Pentecost. The re-ordered Sanctuary really helped in celebrating the Solemn Holy Week and Easter Ceremonies.

■ LETTER WRITERS WANTED

Do you care about the protection of the unborn child . . . care about the dangers of experimental use of embryos? Can you spare twenty minutes at home to write a letter to our local MP? Please take a sheet with all the key points and write to our MP. We need to do it NOW – once it's on the statute books it's too late!

■ email ADDRESSES?

If you have an email address please let us know it as this would facilitate letting you know changes to the weekly schedule. Mail it to: office@stpeterswestgate.co.uk

■ 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.

TEA & COFFEE after the 10am Mass on Sunday in the Hall