

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING 14th SEPTEMBER

Sunday, 14 September – Feast of the Triumph of the Cross – Red

The feast commemorates the finding of the True Cross in 325 by Saint Helena, the mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine I during a pilgrimage she made to Jerusalem.

5.30 pm (Saturday) CAROLINE BAILY INTENTION

10 am inc. Children's Liturgy PAUL QUICKFALL, R.I.P. Mrs. Ellul

Monday, 15 September – Our Lady of Sorrows – White

Devotion to the Seven Sorrows of Our Lady has its roots in Sacred Scripture and in Christian piety, which always associates the Blessed Mother with her suffering Son. This feast dates back to the 12th century. In 1913, Pope Pius X fixed the date on September 15. The seven sorrows of Mary are: The prophecy of Simeon, The flight into Egypt, Loss of the Child Jesus for three days, Mary meets Jesus on his way to Calvary, Crucifixion and Death of Jesus, The body of Jesus being taken from the Cross, The burial of Jesus.

8 am JACK PARKER, R.I.P. Patricia Russell

Tuesday, 16 September – SS. Cornelius & Cyprian – Red

St. Cornelius, (d 253) was elected pope in 251 during the lull in the persecution of Decius. After two years he was exiled to Centuricellae (Civita Vecchia) where he died. St. Cyprian (d 258) Bishop of Carthage and an important early Christian writer. Eventually died a martyr at Carthage.

9 am EXPOSITION

9.30 am BRIDIE & MAUREEN McANDREWS, R.I.P. Patrick McAndrews

Wednesday, 17 September – Feria – Green

10 am JUSTIN BUTLER who is sick Iris Brennan

Thursday, 18 September – St. Edith of Kemsing – White

Edith (961-984) was born at Kemsing near Sevenoaks, illegitimate daughter of King Edgar the Peaceful. Her brother was King Edward the Martyr. She built a church at Wilton, Wiltshire, dedicated to St. Denis. During the dedication Mass St. Dunstan, who was there, had a premonition that Edith would die in three weeks, which she did.

9.30 am EXPOSITION

10 am RICHARD JONES, R.I.P. Teresa Jones

Friday, 19 September – St. Theodore of Canterbury – White

Theodore (602 - 690), Archbishop of Canterbury. A native of Tarsus (Turkey). Was appointed by Pope Vitalian to the vacant See of Canterbury. Theodore arrived in England in AD 669 and was well received everywhere. He was the first Archbishop whose authority the whole English Church was willing to acknowledge.

10 am THE FOSTER FAMILY Joan Conrath

Saturday, 20 Sept. – SS. Andrew Kim Taegon & Paul Chong Hasang – Red

Andrew Kim Taegon (1821-1846) was Korea's first Roman Catholic priest. Kim Taegon was one of several thousands of Christians executed during this time. Paul Chong Hasang (1795-1839) was another one of the 103 Korean Martyrs.

10 am SHEILA'S INTENTION Edith Collins

10.45 am & 4.45 pm Confession

Sunday, 21 September – 25th Sunday of Ordinary Time – Green

5.30 pm (Saturday) RICHARD JONES, R.I.P. Teresa Jones

10 am Children's Liturgy BUNNAGE FAMILY, Living & Dead Reg Bunnage

Remember November's the month of the Holy Souls ...have you got your Mass intentions?

PETRINEWS

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

Priest in Charge: **FATHER JOHN SLATER**

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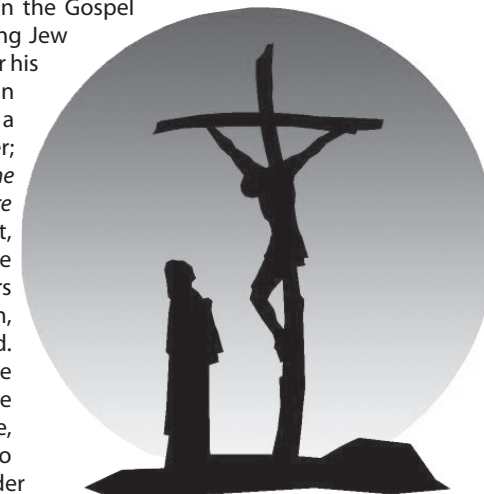
www.stpeterswestgate.co.uk

Triumph of the Cross – 14 September, 2008

Today we deviate from the course of the Sunday readings by Matthew to take in this special feast, "The Triumph of the Cross". It is a rare opportunity to dwell on the Cross with the feast falling as it does on a Sunday. But the dwelling should be equally on the 'triumph' as well as the 'cross', for it was no ordinary cross but the cross of salvation, the cross of resurrection, the cross of eternal life, the cross which eventually triumphs over death. We have the beautifully eloquent writings of John the Evangelist to ponder and consider. In the Gospel

Jesus is talking to Nicodemus, a Pharisee, a leading Jew who came to see Jesus at night, no doubt fearful for his reputation among fellow Pharisees at the Temple in Jerusalem. Nicodemus clearly recognises Jesus as a Rabbi, a teacher, but more than just another teacher; one who comes from God, and he says: "no one could perform the signs that you do unless God were with him". This conversation, in the still of the night, takes place shortly after Jesus' visit to the Temple – the time when he throws out the money lenders – when the Jewish Temple hierarchy confront Him, asking for signs of His relationship with their God. To this Jesus tells them that He will destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days. The Jews were staggered by this claim, for during their life-time, from nineteen years before the birth of Christ to the time of His ministry the Temple had been under reconstruction following its destruction; forty plus years,

so how could anyone do it in three days! But they were just looking at the stones and mortar, the worldly construction. What they didn't understand was Jesus foretelling of His death, the temple of God on earth being destroyed, and His resurrection three days later. But how could they know, their focus was on maintaining the old, of reconstruction not on newness, not rebirth; moving from promises of the past to the surety of the further, the new promises of the Messiah. Jesus begins to answer Nicodemus by saying: 'unless a man is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.' Yet this obviously learned man, perhaps to goad Jesus into a fuller explanation, asks how man can be born again, that we can't go back into the womb. Jesus says there is a difference between being born of the flesh and being born of the Spirit. Again, Nicodemus probes. Jesus admonishes him: "you, a teacher in Israel, and you don't know these things!" To continue his explanation Jesus lets the focus shine on signs: all the miracles and healing He has performed, 'yet you people reject our evidence', He says, continuing with saying that if He isn't believed when he speaks about the



CONTINUED INSIDE

Fr. John Writes:-

Today we take a break from the Green, as we celebrate THE TRIUMPH OF THE CROSS. The cross on which Jesus the Son of Man, was lifted up has become the symbol of his victory over the power of evil. He made the instrument of humiliation, torture and death the instrument of our redemption.

A very warm thanks to all those who helped to make last Monday's celebration of the Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary, such a happy and holy event, when we also said farewell to the Reverend John Richardson, before he moves to Saint Peter in Thanet, to take up his new appointment. I felt this celebration was a real landmark in the history of this parish, and especially with regards to ecumenism.

We look forward to further occasions in the parish, and one of the first is Harvest Festival on 4th/5th October.

Fr. Brian arrived in the parish during last week so do please give him a hearty welcome, he will be here next weekend but has to leave early in the week, so as to celebrate his Fortieth anniversary of his Priesthood with his family in Ireland.

NO MASSES ...
NEXT WEEK THERE WILL BE NO MASS AT ST. PETER'S ON:
Tuesday23rd
Wednesday 24th
Thursday 25th

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

From the letter of St. Paul to the Romans (Ch 8: v 37)

These are the trials through which we triumph, by the power of him who loved us.

■ **BRING IN YOUR RED BOXES**

It's Red Box time again. Please ensure you bring in your box for Eunice Whitaker to empty it.

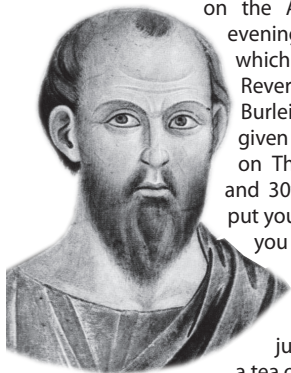
■ **KNOWING THE BIBLE**

There has been for the past two years a Correspondence Bible Course created by a housebound parishioner, and for some of you have found helpful. Minimus is keen to commence another course to commemorate the Year of Saint Paul. New participants are welcome – there is no charge – all you need to do is collect a form from the Church Porch.

■ **TALKING ABOUT ST. PAUL**

Thursdays in October

In light of the current year being one dedicated by the Pope as The Year of Saint Paul, Fr. John hopes to have a series of talks on the Apostle over three evenings during October which will be given by Reverend Deacon James Burleigh. They will be given in the Church Hall on Thursdays: 2nd, 16th and 30th October. Please put your name on the list if you plan to attend all or even some of these talks. They will start at 7.30pm and last just over an hour with a tea or coffee break.



■ **CHRISTMAS FAIR**

There has been a good response for people to man stalls at the Christmas Fair, but we still need a few more – see list at back of church and add your name. We especially want those people who have done so in the past to offer their help. Time to start bringing in goods for the Fair. Hopefully EVERY FAMILY has brought in two bottles for the 'Bottle Tombola'. Also please start looking for Christmas gift

items, particularly new items. As with the Summer Fete we beg you not to use the Fair as an opportunity to rid yourself of old, damaged, items. If you wouldn't buy it for your best friend then it will not be suitable for the fair. NO JUNK, NO CLOTHES PLEASE. There is a box in the porch for your gifts – bring one or two items every week for the next 9 weeks then we'll have a Fair to be proud of!

■ **2009 DIARIES & CALENDARS**

Santa's been early to the repository. The first batch of Diaries and Calendars are NOW ON SALE in the repository. There are limited numbers available, so get in there today. Other seasonal items on sale in the next few weeks.

■ **THE GRAND DRAW - £150**

Tickets for this year's Christmas Grand Draw are now on available. This is an important part of the parish revenue, so we all need to get 'selling' the Draw Tickets (£1 per book of 5 tickets). Take some more TODAY!

■ **MASS ATTENDANCES**

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday (6 September) 5.30 pm 56
Sunday (7 September) 10 am 133



FROM THE FRONT

things happening in the world around them how is He going to be believed about the things in heaven. It's now that the narrative of today's Gospel comes in. Words so eloquent they do not need comment. Just take one sentence from today, take it into your hearts, feel the words, let the depth of them wash around your body: 'Yes, God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not be lost but may have eternal life.' There, there is the Triumph of the Cross; in God our Father giving Jesus up to die, to die for me and for you; for we are the world which is saved by Christ on the wood of that Cross, by the blood which tricked down those timbers, seeped into and stained the ground. For in our birth by the Spirit we know that Resurrection will come; forecast by Jesus to the Jewish leaders in the Temple, enacted from the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea, and lived again in our Spiritual lives if only we accept the Word of the Lord, for the final sentence of Jesus' conversation with Nicodemus reads: 'but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light so that it may be plainly seen that he does what is in God.'

**DIARY DATES: Christmas Fair - Sunday, 23 November from 11.30 am
Christmas Carol Concert – Thursday, 18 December, 7.30 pm**

■ **WELL DONE LADIES**

A splendid and memorable evening at St. Peter's last Monday, when we celebrated the Feast of Our Lady's Birthday, was rounded off by an exceedingly well attended reception after Mass. Especial thanks have to be given to the ladies of our parish who managed the evening: Christine, Win, Ita, Eunice (O'Neil) and Rosemary .

Anniversaries this week:

Julia Donovan (1990), Kathleen Chetwynd (1992), Terrence McMahon (1998), Frederick Simpson (2004)

Your Prayers are asked for:

For those who are sick: Fr. Barry, Sister Anna, Eva Brewer, Pat Whaley, Len Lane, Peg Bunnage, Alan & Myra Taylor, Sister Stephen who remains gravely ill at Lourdes Convent and Canon William Clements.

For Peter O'Connor, brother of Isabel Plewis, who died last Wednesday. Also for Nicholas Crocker, son of Ramsgate's Deacon Shaun & Mrs. Judith Crocker. May they both rest in peace.

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.