

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING 19th APRIL 2009

Sunday, 19 April, 2009 – Second Sunday of Easter – White
(known as *LOW SUNDAY & DAY OF DIVINE MERCY*)

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 Baptisms of Dylan, Lewie and Lily Chiaramello
(There will not be a Children's Liturgy today)

Monday, 20 April, 2009 – Feria – White

NO MASS TODAY

Tuesday, 21 April, 2009 – St. Anselm of Canterbury – White

Anselm (1033 - 1109), Archbishop of Canterbury 1093-1109, was born near the border between what are now Italy and France, he entered the monastic school of Bec in Normandy in 1060. Eventually becoming the Archbishop of Canterbury. Anselm is considered one of the most influential thinkers of medieval Europe and Christianity. His motto credo ut intelligam ("I believe so that I may understand") reflected his intention to explain faith in God through reason.

4.30 pm EXPOSITION

5 pm EMMA & HENRY WILLIAMS, R.I.P. Iris Brennan

Wednesday, 22 April, 2009 – Feria – White

10 am Welfare of LUCIANA MARTINELLI

Thursday, 23 April, 2009 – St. George, Patron of England – Red

Saint George, patron of England. It is thought that George was born of a noble family in Lydda, Palestine. He became a Roman soldier, rising to the rank of tribune in the Roman army and was beheaded in Nicomedia (present day Turkey) by Emperor Diocletian for protesting against the Emperor's persecution of Christians in the year 303.

9.30 am EXPOSITION

10 am Welfare of BELA BODA-NOVY Marion Boda-Novy

Friday, 24 April, 2009 – Feria – White

10 am Rev. MICHAEL DAVENPORT, R.I.P.

Saturday, 25 April, 2009 – St. Mark the Evangelist – Red

Mark, apostle, traditional author of the 2nd Gospel. His full name was John Mark. His mother, named Mary, had a house in Jerusalem, which the Christians used as a meeting place. Mark accompanied St. Paul and St. Barnabas, who was his cousin or uncle, on their mission to Cyprus. Tradition identifies Mark with the young man who "fled from them naked" at Gethsemane. It also makes him an associate of St. Peter, who is thought to have furnished many of the evangelist's facts. He is believed to have been martyred during the reign of Nero around the year 74.

10 am VERONICA HATCH, R.I.P. V. & R. Bone-Knell

10.45 am & 4.45 pm Confession

Sunday, 26 April, 2009 – Third Sunday of Easter – White

5.30 pm (Saturday) CAROLINE BAILY'S INTENTION

10 am Children's Liturgy PAUL QUICKFALL, R.I.P. S.V.P.



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SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER – 19th April, 2009

After the great and dramatic events of last week, which we both commemorated as historical events and, more relevantly, live out in our faith feelings – this weekend perhaps does seem a little flatter, certainly less traumatic. Last week we experienced the tinges of pain and sadness – the inner grief which knowledge of the events gives us – as we recount the suffering Jesus went through, the moments of loneliness and the bleak prospects he faced in the all but empty Garden of Gethsemane, the resignation he must have felt as he stood before the 'courts' of his fellow Jews and that of the governing forces, knowing rightly or, as in his case, wrongly the inevitable would occur. Imagine being the once most feted person of your time in your local community, then to have all that respect snatched away by envious eyes, by the powerful dignitaries who by your simple message of love and understanding believed their status, their position was being undermined by your popularity! Then, in less than twenty four hours, it all being reversed. Suddenly bedraggled, wearing mere shreds of clothing, covered in bumps, bruises and blood from the physical assaults, let alone the mental misery... the sheer embarrassment which being paraded through the streets of the city would cause; carrying your means of death, struggling with it, being driven on by both the rough treatment of the guards and the jeering mob – some no doubt would have been in the crowds which had cheered you on your triumphant entrance into Jerusalem. But they, those elements of the mob, the fickle and the feckless, have attached themselves to the latest wave of opinion: last week it was you, this week it is the power-crazed religious leaders. And death! As this naked man is hung out for all the world's sins... where were we? Where are we? Would we have stood among the oh so few at the foot of that cross? Or, like even the closest of Jesus' disciples would we have retreated to a safe place, locked ourselves away for fear of receiving the same treatment as meted out to our Lord? *In the evening of that same day*, John the evangelist says in today's Gospel reading. What day? The day of Resurrection, the day of revelation, the day which proved that this Christ was God made man, the God who was, and continues to be the light of the world, the guide to salvation to those who choose to believe in him. Initially those who chose were themselves the chosen ones, chosen by Christ himself. Initially those chosen ones were scared, fearful of the fate which their association with Jesus would entail. They locked themselves away so great was their anxiety. Like them we too, at times, many times maybe, spiritually 'lock ourselves away', away from the destiny which faith has mapped out for us, hide from the possibility that our views and opinions don't correspond with the current worldly trends or attitudes. Like the disciples of Jesus fear is an essential part of our humanness – we experience that feeling countless times when a stressful or uncertain event happens to us. We should, as disciples of Christ be open to the ever occurring reality that our Saviour does come and stand with us at those fearful moments, does reveal himself to us, does say to us – in our hearts – "Peace be with you". Clearly we have to believe that the Lord Jesus is with us individually and in community: here now at St. Peter's, in our daily lives with our friends and families, and in the whole communion of Christ's church here on earth. We don't have to be

CONTINUED INSIDE

Fr. John Writes:-

We come together today like that first group of believers, united heart and soul, and celebrating our victory over the world through faith in Christ, the Son of God.

Tuesday's feast of St. Anselm marks the 900th anniversary of the death of one of the greatest Church Fathers

May is fast approaching when we give honour to Our Lady, the May procession will take place at the end of the 10 am Mass on Sunday, 3 May.

■ DIVINE MERCY DAY

TODAY, 19 APRIL, IN WHITSTABLE

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

■ LOOK BACK AT LENT

Tuesday morning, 21 April, Churches Together in Westgate, Westbrook and Garlinge have a celebration for the completion of this year's Lent Study Course at 10.30 am at St. Saviour's, Westgate to be led by Fr. John.

■ 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.

RETREAT DAY FOR CONFIRANDI NEXT SATURDAY (25 April) AT THE URSULINE COLLEGE - 10.30 am to 4.30 pm

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

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

From the letter of St. Paul to the Colossians (ch 3: v4)

When Christ is revealed - and he is in your life - you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

■ EXPERIENCE THE DIOCESE AT PRAYER TOGETHER!

Saturday, 27 June, Aylesford

A special occasion where we can, together with Catholics from all over south-east England, experience the truly enriching unity of our faith family by being at the celebrations to mark the end of the Year of St. Paul 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. Don't be the person to say: "I wish I had booked". There is a closing date for booking.

■ OPEN MEETING!

TODAY Sunday, 19 April after Mass

There is 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.

■ MASS ATTENDANCES

Holy Thursday	72
Good Friday	96
Easter Sunday	
Saturday (11 April)	8.30 pm 92
Sunday (12 April)	10 am 184

■ PARISH INCOME

Weekend of 11 & 12 April
There is no published figures this week as the offertory collections of Easter are your private gifts to Fr. John.

■ DIARY DATES

- Thursday, 23 April at 7.30 pm. InterFaith Talk: "Islam - a global religion" at Hartsdown College.
- Bank Holiday Monday 4 May. SERVERS' RALLY at Aylesford Priory.
- Saturday, 16 May at 11 am. UCM Bring & Buy CAKE SALE in aid of the Apostleship of the Sea.
- Saturday, 16 May at St. Ethelbert's Hall, Ramsgate. LAST CHOIR STANDING!

A day for singers and musicians of any level or age range. See poster in Porch or visit our website www.stpeterswestgate.co.uk.

● 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.

■ LATEST NEWS ON THE TAR

Following the front page news story in a local free newspaper: 'yourthanet', a local councillor felt so indignant by the incident that he has arranged for a local building company, D. J. Ellis, to undertake the work without any cost to the parish!

■ ZIMMER MAN

Good to see Geoff Showcase back at Mass on Easter Sunday. He courageously 'walked' up to church with the aid of a zimmer frame!

■ EGG HUNTING

The young children who attended Easter Sunday Mass at 10 am were treated to an Easter Egg Hunt in the Garden. 31 eggs were placed around the flower beds and by tress, all but one was found. The final one was 'discovered' in the afternoon by an adult parishioner who goes under the name Edward!

☺ Special thanks to John Teagle of the Walmer Castle Pub, and the owner and staff of Ted's Supermarket, Station Road, Westgate for donating the eggs.

FROM THE FRONT

like Thomas, we shouldn't have to say: *Unless I can see the holes the nails made... unless I can put my fingers into the holes.* After all we have the evidence, we have it in our hands today. From those first disciples, the evangelists, those courageous first men and women who, having received the Spirit of Christ, unlocked the doors and took up his missionary work here on earth. The Gospel writings and the letters to the early church form the evidence on which our faith is founded. We take from these scriptures the precepts which ought to govern our lives, a plan by which we can grow in the love of Christ, a blueprint for mankind to replicate this love the Lord shows us when dealing with our fellow men and women. From our reading and understanding of the narratives and lessons handed down to us we should without fear, and certainly without any doubt, be able to exclaim: *My lord and my God*, then maybe we might be worthy of the phrase Jesus utters to the doubting Thomas after he had seen the Risen Lord: *Happy are those who have not seen yet believe.*

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



Anniversaries this week:

William Ingram (1991), Frances Turner (1992), Charles Scrase (1999).

Your Prayers are asked for:

For the souls of the recently dead: including Barbara Morris, mother of Linda Scully. Also 9 year old Brendan Wells, of Our Lady Star of the Sea, Broadstairs, killed in a traffic accident on Holy Saturday. His great-grandmother lives in Westgate. May they rest in peace.

The sick: Geoff Showcase, 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 Sloy who will be back in the Congo next week and Sean McNiff who returns to Afghanistan also next week.

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.

Fr. John wishes to thank all those people who worked so hard leading up to and during the Easter period: the cleaners; sacristan; servers; organists; flower arrangers; welcomers; readers; Eucharistic ministers; collectors.