

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING 20th APRIL

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

Monday, 21 April – St. Anselm – White

Saint Anselm of Canterbury (1033 - 1109). Born in Italy he became a monk in Normandy and eventually after the conquest came to England. He is most remembered for his scholastic writings on Absolute Faith in God and, later his writings on the Trinity, Creation, Free-will and Original Sin. He died in Canterbury on April 21.

8 am PRIVATE INTENTION

Tuesday, 22 April – Feria – White

9 am EXPOSITION

9.30 am Welfare of CANON CLEMENTS Tricia Donovan

Wednesday, 23 April – St. George (Patron of England) – Red



St. George was born in Anatolia, in modern-day Turkey, between 275-81, the exact date is not known. Son of a Roman soldier he too joined the army while he was living in Palestine and rose to high officer status in his late twenties. The Emperor Diocletian ordered a persecution of Christians, in which George was ordered to participate. He refused and confessed to being a Christian. After being tortured, including laceration on a wheel of swords, he was beheaded on 23 April, 303.

4.30 pm Reception of the body of Gianna Thirlwall at St. Peter's

7.30 pm GEORGE MARTIN, R.I.P. Frances Tunney

Thursday, 24 April – Feria – White

10.45 am Requiem Mass GIANNA THIRLWALL, R.I.P.

Friday, 25 April – St. Mark – Red

St. Mark was a younger contemporary of the Apostles. His mother was a prominent member of the early Church. It was to her house that the disciples went after the Resurrection and where Jesus came to see the disciples. The young Mark had first-hand experience of the words written in his Gospel. Later he travelled far and wide as a close companion of both St. Peter and St. Paul. He eventually ends up in North Africa where he meets his death as a martyr about the year 63 being dragged through the streets of Alexandria.

10 am Fr. PATRICK FOX, R.I.P. Margaret & Peter Carter

Saturday, 26 April – Feria – White

10 am GEORGE MARTIN, R.I.P. Tersea Jones

10.30 am & 4.45 pm Confession

Sunday, 27 April – 6th Sunday of Easter – White

5.30 pm (Saturday) LEO DUNNE, R.I.P. Kate Doohan

10 am inc. Children's Liturgy RICHARD JONES, R.I.P. Teresa Jones

PETRINEWS

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

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FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (A) – 20th April, 2008

"I am the Way, the Truth and the Life". Perhaps one of the first lines of scripture we hear and remember. Just think of the times we have seen one of those large posters outside a non-conformist church declaring this line of scripture. We hear the words, see the words but maybe do not go beyond the familiarity of the phrase. Today's Gospel does take us past the sentence, helps us in the same way Christ teaches his doubting disciples – not just Thomas this time, Philip as well. Firstly He asks for trust; trust in God, trust in Himself. That there is prepared a place for us all in our Father's heavenly kingdom, if we want it, if we really believe: "so that where I am you may be too." Scripture uses the word 'may' not will. Does this indicate a requirement on our part to not only accept the word of God but to live it too? Because Christ goes on to say: "you know the way to the place . . .". We know the way because it has been revealed to us in the word of God, the Truth. If we live the life – strive to live the life of good people, of good Christian people, of good Catholic people – then our reward lies with Christ in our Father's kingdom, the place is there, waiting for us; we just have to book the ticket and pay for it by our good works, those works which our Risen Christ preformed and which he said we will also perform: the works of love and charity – the acts of kindness and forgiving.



Your Prayers are asked for:

Paul Quickfall who died last Wednesday, 16 April, after a long illness. May he rest in peace. Pray also for his wife Sylvia.

Gianna Thirlwall whose funeral will take place this week, may she rest in peace.

Remember George Martin and Mietek Kiersz who both had their funerals last week. May they both rest in peace.

Canon William Clements, of Birchington, who is still seriously ill in hospital and in need of your special prayers.

Pat Whaley out of hospital, still needs your prayers.

Len Lane in hospital.

Peg Bunnage who is still ill.

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

Clare in Whitstable who is ill.

Anniversaries this week:

Charles Scrase (1999), William Ingram (1991), Bridget White (2003).

Fr. John writes:

We are assembled here today to exercise our royal priesthood and to offer the spiritual sacrifice which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God our Father.

■ REAL EASTERTIDE JOY

Next Saturday, 26 April, at the 5.30 pm Mass we have the joy of the BAPTISM AND RECEPTION of Eunice Whitaker into the Catholic Church. Eunice has waited very patiently for the necessary permission for this to take place and now, happily, this is happening during Eastertide.

Eunice's daughter Emma and son Steven were baptised on 27th December, 2005, the Feast of Saint John the Evangelist, and subsequently confirmed by Bishop John Hine on Sunday, 29th January, 2006. Father John invites as many of you as possible to come and support Eunice and her family on this wonderful and joyous occasion. After the Mass there will be a celebration in the Church Hall.

■ GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE

At the back of the Presbytery we have a very large expanse of grass, trees and flower beds; and for the past eleven years we have used this for the interment of Ashes. Only last Tuesday, 15 April, the Ashes of the late George Martin were interred. This facility has not been over used, but families who have find it a source of comfort. Father John commends this facility to other members of the congregation. He is pleased to report that he has recently secured the services of a good gardener who has made substantial improvements; including the laying of turfs to extend the grassy area. All this, of course, costs money, so Father John appeals to you to make a donation on a regular basis. He did receive £100 from a parishioner who wishes to remain anonymous for which he is very appreciative. He thanks you for your interest.

■ LOCAL 'LAD'S' ORDINATION

A former parishioner is to be ordained to the permanent Diaconate. Mr. Tim Murrill, son of Ken and the late Pat Murrill, has been appointed to be Deacon at St. Joseph's, Redhill Surrey, and will be ordained on SS. Peter and Paul, 29th June. Tim was brought up in this parish and lived in St. Luke's Close (just behind the church), where he met his wife Nikki. We send our good wishes and prayers to him and his family. (*More on St. Peter's Website*)

■ WHAT A BUSY MAY!

Looking at the calendar for May every Sunday has been allocated a feast: 1st Sunday is the Ascension of Our Lord, 2nd is Pentecost, 3rd is Trinity Sunday, 4th is Corpus Christi. ***So how do we crown Our Lady, Mary the Queen of the May?*** . . . well by sharing Ascension Sunday, 4th May, and making it our 'Coronation Day' for Mary. There will be a procession, weather permitting, from outside with the May Statue accompanied by our youngsters from the Children's Liturgy. One lucky young lady will do the crowning.

■ FUNERAL THIS WEEK

This week again we have a Requiem Mass. It is for Gianna Thirlwall, 70 years of age, who died on 7 April. The funeral will take place next Thursday, 24 April, at 10.45 am. As is customary for Catholics her body will be received at St. Peter's the previous afternoon, Wednesday, 23 April, at 4.30 pm. If you can, please do come to either the reception of the body or Requiem Mass as our sister in Christ starts her final earthly journey.

■ ST. GEORGE'S EVENING MASS

As Fr. John will be away during the day on Wednesday next, 23 April, feast of England's Patron Saint, George, there will be no morning Mass. Instead it will be celebrated at 7.30 pm. This gives people who are normally at work during the day the rare opportunity to attend a mid-week Mass as well as marking England's special day.

■ PAUL QUICKFALL DIES

You will know from previous newsletters that Paul has been very ill. On Wednesday, 16 April, his suffering came to an end as he was called to his Saviour Jesus. May he rest in peace. A dedicated member of our parish community he will be sadly missed. We thank him now for the times we failed to do so in the past, for the many dedicated contributions he and his wife Sylvia made to St. Peter's. We remember Sylvia in her loss and pray for her and the family.

■ CONFIRMATION 2008 PENTECOST, 11 MAY, 2008 at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Broadstairs at 3 pm.

Keep our young people in your thoughts and prayers as they draw even closer to their Sacramental experience in May. Especially pray this coming weekend as they deepen their understanding of the Sacrament through their sharing and contemplation at the Deanery Retreat for Confirmation Candidates on Saturday, 26th April at the Ursuline College.

■ CONFIRMATION PARENTS **Invitation to Parents**

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

■ GOING DOWN THE SWANIE!

This Monday, 21 April, 7.30pm. Churches Together Locally are holding an evening at The Swan Hotel, Sea Road, Westgate. This is an opportunity for Christians from all the churches in Westgate and Garlinge to enjoy each others company in the more relaxed atmosphere of a local hostelry and, at the same time, show a different form of witness to our common belief in the Risen Christ. Everyone is welcome.

■ NEW TO WESTGATE?

If you have just moved into our parish or you are a regular visitor, maybe with a holiday home, then please come and say hello to Fr. John. There are forms at the back of the church for you to leave your details: names, address, phone number, email address, etc. (you can go on our website and leave your details on the "Prayer Request" page, using the form on it. Don't just be a congregation number – we like names to put to faces.

■ SUMMER FÊTE

We are going to hold a St. Peter's Summer Fête in mid-July. We need volunteers to organise the event. So if you have any experience in organising an event please let Fr. John know or ring Phil on 835630. Next week we will publish the date of the Fête. We then can get going on the detail of the event. We will definitely need 'stall' holders on the day, so if you can help on the day please let us know.

■ IT'S NOT TOO LATE, YET!

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!

■ 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