

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING 27th APRIL

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

Monday, 28 April – Feria – White

8 am GEORGE MARTIN, R.I.P. Colleen

Tuesday, 29 April – St. Catherine of Siena (Patron of Europe) – White
Saint Catherine of Siena, O.P. (1347 - 1380). Virgin and Doctor of Church. A scholastic philosopher and theologian. Catherine had visions and practised extreme austerities. She experienced what she described in her letters as a 'Mystical Marriage' with Jesus. The written works of St. Catherine rank among the classics of the Italian language.

9 am EXPOSITION

9.30 am ERNEST & DOROTHEA SCHLOTT'S GOLDEN WEDDING

Wednesday, 30 April – Feria – White

10 am GEORGE MARTIN, R.I.P. Margaret & Peter Carter

3.30 pm Reception of the body of Paul Quickfall at St. Peter's

Thursday, 1 May – St. Joseph the Worker – White

In addition to his primary feast day St. Joseph is honoured by the Feast of St. Joseph the Workman, introduced by Pope Pius XII in 1955 to counteract socialist's May Day. The feast reflects St. Joseph's status as "patron of workers".

12.45 pm Requiem Mass PAUL QUICKFALL, R.I.P.

Friday, 2 May – St. Athanasius – White

St. Athanasius (293-373). Bishop of Alexandria; Confessor and Doctor of the Church. Athanasius was the greatest champion of Catholic belief on the Incarnation. His chief distinction as a theologian was his zealous advocacy of the essential divinity of Christ as co-equal in substance with the Father.

10 am Fr. PATRICK FOX, R.I.P.

Saturday, 3 May – SS Philip & James – Red

Philip was one of the twelve Apostles. He is describe as the apostle who proselytized in Greece, Syria, and Phrygia. Martyred by crucifixion in Hierapolis. Not to be confused with Philip the Evangelist who was one of the Seven Deacons. James, son of Alphaeus was also one of the Twelve Apostles, known as James the Less. Rarely mentioned in the New Testament, he is clearly distinguished from James, son of Zebedee, brother of John the Evangelist, all were members of the twelve Apostles. The James of today's feast was martyred in Egypt, where he was preaching the Gospel.

10 am KEVIN LOVE, R.I.P. Des Gorrell

10.30 am & 4.45 pm Confession

Sunday, 4 May – The Ascension of Our Lord – White

5.30 pm (Saturday) DEREK & JEANNINE OPIE'S FAMILIES

10 am inc. Children's Liturgy GEORGE MARTIN, R.I.P. Ita & Andy O'Donnell

Crowning of Our Lady will form the entrance rites to Mass.

(Please leave some room in the car park for the procession into the Remembrance Garden)

PETRINEWS

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

Priest in Charge: FATHER JOHN SLATER

Registered Charity No.:235468

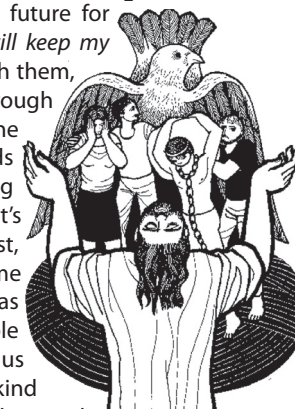
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SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (A) –27th April, 2008

In today's Gospel Jesus continues to sign-post the immediate future for His Apostles. He firstly challenges them: "If you love me you will keep my commandments." Then he indicates that He will no longer be with them, at least as the person they had grown to know. That he will, through God our Father arrange a "helper", but more than that – he calls the helper an advocate, some one who pleads for a cause or propounds an idea. This helper, this advocate is the Holy Spirit who is coming when the disciples can no longer see the newly risen Christ. It's comforting to realise that we too in our lives as followers of Christ, the Way, will have an 'advocate', one who is always with us – the same Spirit we received when we were confirmed, the Spirit which was given to Eunice this weekend and will be gifted to our young people in two weeks time. It is this gift of the Holy Spirit that makes us different, "a nation set apart", it separates us from the rest of mankind because we are never alone, we always have the Spirit of God with us and within us. In the Gospel Jesus talks about love in the opening line and throughout the closing sentence – so while we may at times feel lonely, however we are not alone, we always have the love of our Saviour. It's this love, this gift, given through the Holy Spirit, that we must share, firstly with one another as brothers and sisters in Christ's family, but also with those who keep themselves outside the love of God; through our actions they may experience a real and tangible witness of the Spirit, recognise The Word by our deeds and see The Way by our humility and charity.



Your Prayers are asked for:

Paul Quickfall whose funeral takes place this week. May he rest in peace. Pray also for his wife Sylvia and the family.

Remember George Martin, Mietek Kiersz and Gianna Thirlwall whose funerals all took place recently. May they rest in peace.

Eunice Whitaker who received the grace of the Holy Spirit this weekend. Pray especially to St. Teresa of Ávila, Eunice's confirmation name.

Pat Whaley out of hospital, still needs your prayers.

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

Fr. Barry also needs our prayers.

Len Lane in the Westbook Centre.

Peg Bunnage who is still ill.

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

Anniversaries this week:

Frances Colton (1997), Margaret Stevens (1997), Gabriel Hodges (2007).

Fr. John writes:

We celebrate the coming of Christ's Spirit of truth on the Church, the source of the Church's proclamation of the Christian message to the world.

■ PATIENCE REWARD FOR EUNICE

Today we welcome EUNICE WHITAKER as a newborn member of Christ's Church, with the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation. May her extreme patience be rewarded with the abundance of the Risen Christ's Blessing and His Commission of Service in His Church and the world in the years ahead. St. Teresa pray for her.

■ GOOD NEWS ON VOCATIONS

The Vocation Retreat held at Wonersh during the weekend 29th February to 2nd March, 2008, was attended by eighteen men – the largest number of participants since it started four years ago.

But still we need to pray that more young men will take a serious look into their hearts, consider the possibility of serving Christ and His people in this special way. If you are a parent of young people, talk to them about vocations – sow the seed and see if it blossoms. The first step isn't commitment it's discovery.

■ CORONATION SUNDAY!

Next Sunday, 4 May, we shall celebrate The Ascension of Our Lord Jesus Christ into His heavenly kingdom. It is also our 'Coronation Day' for His mother, Mary, both in the church and in the Garden of Remembrance. There will be a procession, weather permitting, with the May Statue accompanied by our youngsters from the Children's Liturgy. One lucky young lady will do the crowning.

Please leave some room for the procession through the car park at the front of the church – there is plenty of room at the rear of the church, passed the Presbytery, to park cars on the grass.

■ ROSARY BEADS

Yes, they are still available, and we have them! As we start the month of May – Our Lady's month – we will be reciting the rosary after Mass on mid-week days. So why not pop in to our splendid Repository and buy a new rosary then come along to a mid-week mass and 'christen' it through this special devotional series of prayers to the Blessed Virgin.

■ PAUL QUICKFALL'S FUNERAL

The Requiem Mass and Funeral for Paul will take place at lunch-time on the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker, next Thursday, 1 May at 12.45 pm. His body will be received into St. Peter's Church the previous afternoon, Wednesday 30 April, at 3.30 pm. Again we invite everyone to attend either on Wednesday afternoon and to the Requiem Mass on the Thursday.

■ COMMUNICATIONS DAY

Next Sunday, 4 May, Ascension Sunday, will mark the 42nd World Communication Day and is a day dedicated to supporting the Catholic Communications Network. This organisation helps the Bishops of England and Wales in promoting the gospel in the media. There will be a retiring collection next week, please take an envelope from the porch this week for your offerings.

■ 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.

■ MASS FOR NEW CATHOLICS

There will be a special Mass of Thanksgiving to welcome all New Catholics on Saturday, 17 May, 2008, at 11 am in St. George's Cathedral, Southwark. Bishop John Hine will preside at this Mass and he looks

forward to meeting all new Catholics received into the Church this Easter season – along with their godparents, sponsors, relatives, clergy, catechists and friends. All are welcome to come and take part in this Thanksgiving Mass. Please see the poster in the porch for details. If you would like to come then please let Fr. John know.

■ 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. Yesterday, Saturday, 26 April, they had their Deanery Retreat. There they will have shared their commitment to the journey they are taking to receiving the Holy Spirit in their young lives; a gift which we know will strengthen them in their faith.

■ TAKE A LOOK & COMMENT

Archbishop Kevin has established a **Pastoral Development Group** to advise him and his Council on the planning necessary for the future developments in the diocese in the light of the responses to the "**Towards a Vision**" process so far. The Archbishop has published his first reflections on what he has heard in a document called "**Living in Communion**", (copies of this are free in pamphlet form at the back of the church). He encourages everyone to consider the implications of these reflections for the pastoral developments emerging in parishes, deaneries and for the diocese as a whole. This group will be established initially for 12 months.

■ SUMMER FÊTE

Get it in your diaries now . . .

SATURDAY, 12 JULY

That is the date on which we are holding St. Peter's Summer Fête in the grounds of Countess Mountbatten Court. The work to make it happen is just beginning, we have a very small committee who are starting to plan the event, but more help on the planning front would be of assistance. More news next week after the first planning meeting, meanwhile think how you are going to contribute to this parish event.

■ EURO WEDDING

A week on Saturday, 10 May, a young couple, who have become new members of our parish and its life, Michaela Busiva and Lubis Matoucik are getting married in their home country of Slovakia. The wedding takes place at 4 pm (local time) in the 14th century church of S. Catherin Alexandrijska in Dolný Kubín, a small town located in the mountainous northern part of Slovakia, about 14km from the Polish border. We will remember them on their special day, wishing them every happiness as they begin their married life and look forward to their return to Westgate. Lubis you will have seen having his foot washed during the Maundy Thursday Mass. We thank the couple for their most generous gift to the UCM for the recent Coffee Morning.

■ WHY NOT VISIT LEN

Len Lane has been in the Westbrook House for some time now. His wife Mary has asked that anyone who knows Len to call in and see him at Westbrook House.

■ FIRST COMMUNION

Four children will make their First Holy Communion at the 10 am Mass on Sunday, 11 May.

■ LONDON MIGRANTS' MASS

There is a special Mass for migrant workers on Bank Holiday Monday, 5 May, in Westminster Cathedral at 11 am. (See *St. Peter's website for details*).

■ 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