

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING 28th SEPTEMBER

Sunday, 28 September – 26th Sunday of Ordinary Time – Green

5.30 pm (Saturday) HARRY & EVA COOK, R.I.P. Paul Murray

10 am inc. Children's Liturgy TONY TUNNEY, R.I.P. The Family

Monday, 29 September – SS Michael, Gabriel & Raphael – White

These three angels are the only ones mentioned by name in the Bible. The word 'angel' comes from the Greek for messenger. Michael, the leading archangel, is recorded in the Book of Daniel and in Revelations; Raphael is in the Old Testament Book of Tobit and again in Daniel. Gabriel is also in Daniel but more famously he is the proclaimer of the good news of Mary's pregnancy with the child Jesus and that of Mary's cousin Elizabeth in the New Testament.

8 am PETER BRAND – 90th Birthday

Tuesday, 30 September – St. Jerome – White

Jerome (ca. 347–420), real name Eusebius Sophronius Hieronymus. The most learned of the Fathers of the Western Church best known for translating the Vulgate, a widely popular Latin edition of the Bible. Born in Dalmatia (Croatia) he travelled to Rome and began his studies there. Jerome then journeyed throughout the eastern Mediterranean: Tier, Aquileia, Antioch, Constantinople, Rome again, Alexandria and finally Bethlehem where he died.

9 am EXPOSITION

9.30 am Welfare of JOAN CONRATH & her BROTHER

Wednesday, 1 October – St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus (Lisieux) – White

Thérèse of Lisieux (1873 – 1897), or more properly Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus and of the Holy Face. Born Marie-Françoise-Thérèse Martin, a Carmelite nun who is recognized as a Doctor of the Church, one of only three women to receive that honour. Thérèse only writing "Story of a Soul", points to what is called "The Little Way"; in it she realized that it was not necessary to accomplish heroic acts, or "great deeds", in order to attain holiness and to express her love of God. She died at the young age of twenty-four years. Thérèse is also the first saint of which there is a photographic record – see her photograph at the back of the Church.

10 am PENDRILL WOOD, R.I.P. Catherine Howard

Thursday, 2 October – The Holy Guardian Angels – White

A guardian angel is an angel who protects and guides a particular person. The contemporary orthodox belief in both the eastern and western churches is that guardian angels protect the body and present prayers to God, protecting whichever person God assigns them to.

9.30 am EXPOSITION

10 am LIZZY – Thanks Dad

Friday, 3 October – Feria – Green – CAFOD HARVEST FAST DAY

10 am FR. TIM NOLAN, R.I.P.

Saturday, 4 October – St. Francis of Assisi – White

Francis of Assisi (1181-1226). Founder of the Franciscan Order. Born at Assisi in Umbria, baptized Giovanni his father changed it to Francesco. After a hedonistic life as a rich young man, a spell as a prisoner of war, he joined a Crusade as a knight. But a dream on the first day changed his life and he gave everything up to seek God. A journey through poverty, begging and preaching led to his founding the order of friars.

9.30 am Welfare of Canon WILLIAM CLEMENTS Iris Brennan

10.45 am & 4.45 pm Confession

Sunday, 5 October – 27th Sunday of Ordinary Time – Green

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

10 am Children's Liturgy PAUL QUICKFALL, R.I.P. The Family

PETRINEWS

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

Priest in Charge: FATHER JOHN SLATER

Registered Charity No.:235468

117 CANTERBURY ROAD, WESTGATE-ON-SEA, KENT CT8 8NW

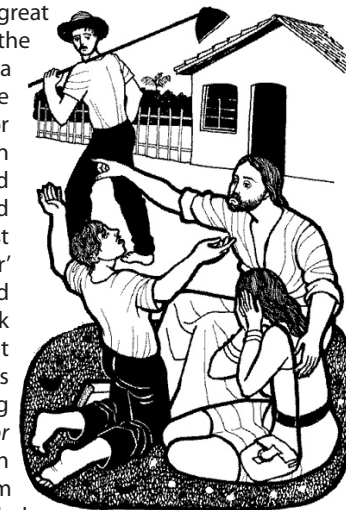
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26th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A) – 28 September, 2008

In today's Gospel we are at the beginning of a series of parables Jesus addresses to the leaders of the Temple in Jerusalem. He had returned once again to teach in the Temple, back to the very centre of Jewish religious beliefs; the place on the day before he had ejected all the traders, the money lenders – and, to add insult to the injury of those members of the Temple hierarchy, the children within the Temple grounds shouted: "Hosanna to the Son of David". So in this His second entry into Jerusalem, having spent the night presumably at the house of Mary and Martha in Bethany, just over a mile outside the city, his ears would have still echoed from the triumphant arrival of the day before when he was greeted by great crowds and public acclaim – the streets still littered with the palms leaves which were laid in His path of honour – what a different path He was to tread shortly when He then exited the city! For now Christ is the teacher. No doubt to those senior members of the synagogue he would have been seen as an interloper, someone unworthy of the status of Rabbi, untrained in rabbinical law, whose claims were absurd to the learned men of Jerusalem, a country boy. How preposterous this must have seemed to them; and dangerous too. For if this 'teacher' was right, if He was the Son of Man, the Messiah, the Promised One, then maybe their privileged positions would be at risk – their comfortable and powerful livelihoods possibly about to end – after all the 'man in the street' had recognised Jesus as the one foretold in the 'Books'. So these wise and leading men questioned Jesus, asking: "what authority have you for acting like this?" Jesus replies by asking them a question which they were unable answer. He then moves on to ask them the question which is at the core of today's Gospel. It's called

a parable by the biblical scholars; if it is it is a very brief one, though it is more like a rhetorical question which Jesus poses the chief priests and elders: "Which of the two did the father's will?" Now this question may be rhetorical to those who were the first recipients, but when posed to us, to me and you, it takes off the cloak of rhetoric and becomes a pointed barb which says: which of these brothers are you? In reality for some of us we are both, or at least we have been both at some time or other in our lives. For what Christ is talking about is paying 'lip-service'. Saying the right things at the right time to the right people, but not actually doing what we say we are going to do – not living out the promises, the words we give, the commitments we have agreed to. But 'lip service' is more than not doing something we said we would, it's giving the false impression by word and sometimes by deed that we are keen, eager, willing to undertake some action – generally for the



CONTINUED INSIDE

Fr. John Writes:-

Today we celebrate Christ who obeyed his Father's will not only in word but also in deed. And Christ assures us that it is not too late to turn to God and to do his will.

■ **HARVEST FAST DAY**

THIS FRIDAY, 3 OCTOBER

CAFOD envelopes are available in church this week / and next. Please share what you can and stand in solidarity with poor communities in the developing world.

**CAFOD BRING & BUY
NEXT SATURDAY & SUNDAY**

To link in with the CAFOD envelope appeal there will be, as usual, a 'Bring & Buy Sale' of food goods in the church and its hall after the Masses next weekend. Please donate some tinned or other non-perishable food items BEFORE MASS; which can then be sold or auctioned after Mass on Sunday in the Hall. Saturday Mass goers can leave a reserve on any items – there will be some fresh vegetables kindly supplied by a local farmer. All proceeds will go to the CAFOD charity. Tins can be left during the week.

■ **CHILD PROTECTION**

NEXT SATURDAY, 4 OCTOBER

There is a course fixed by the Diocese to be held here at St. Peter's Church Hall next Saturday, 4 October, to be run by Mrs. Helen Sheppard, the Diocesan Director. It will begin at 10 am, ending about 4 pm. Mass on that Saturday morning will be at 9.30 am. While this is primarily aimed at those involved with Children and Young People, so they should all really try to attend. It

will also be useful for Eucharist Ministers to come along as certain areas relating to visiting the elderly are also encompassed in protecting the vulnerable.

■ **HEARING ABOUT ST. PAUL STARTS THIS THURSDAY**

In light of the current year being one dedicated by the Pope as The Year of Saint Paul, Fr. John has planned a series of talks on the Apostle over three evenings during October – the first one is this week on the 2nd – which will be given by Reverend Deacon James Burleigh. They will be given in the Church Hall. The other two dates are: 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 is a box in the Church Porch for you to leave gifts for the Christmas Fair, which is only 7 weeks away. Last week we asked for good quality toys.

**THIS WEEK CAN YOU PLEASE
FIND NICE GIFT ITEMS
— TOILETRIES, GLASSWARE,
STOCKING FILLER ITEMS.**

Fr. Brian suggested we ask for a carrier bag full from everyone so maybe we'll just leave you with that thought ... oh and a few more bottles are always welcome.

■ **OCTOBER ROSARY MONTH**

Twice a year the Church dedicates a Month of special prayers to Our Lady, One of these months is October. Every weekday after the morning Mass we will say a decade of the Rosary.

REMEMBER there are Rosaries in the

Repository from as little as 50p. Even if you can't make daily Mass buy a new Rosary and say your decade at home with your family.

■ **KNOWING THE BIBLE**

All in your own time, in the comfort of your own home discover more about the bible and St. Paul's contribution. Fill in a form this week and return it to Fr. John.

■ **WORLD FOOD DAY**

Thursday, 16 October

Isle of Thanet celebrates World Food day at the Winter Gardens, Margate, from 10 am to 3.30 pm. Admission is FREE.

■ **FAIR EXCHANGE ...**

No doubt you have all sold the St. Peter's GRAND PRIZE DRAW tickets you took two weeks ago. So please bring in the counterfoils, and the money (of course), and we'll exchange them for more tickets – see Colleen.

■ **MASS ATTENDANCES**

25th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Saturday (20 September) 5.30 pm 73
Sunday (21 September) 10 am 83



FROM THE FRONT

benefit of someone else or some other cause – and quite deliberately not doing it – having created the 'good impression' we then conveniently ignore our responsibility. Only we, each and every one of us, knows deep in our hearts whether we are just paying 'lip service' to our Creator, to Jesus who died for us and to the Spirit of God who lives within us. Only we know what our promises to the Lord our Father are; only we know whether, in our day-to-day lives, we enact the message of Christ to both honour God and to love one another. Only we know whether we are just paying these commandments curt respect – lazing in the pleasures of modern living while shirking the responsibilities which the call to Christ makes of us, not just on a Sunday but everyday. As Albert Einstein said: 'The road to perdition (Hell) has ever been accompanied by lip service to an ideal.'

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

■ **SVP PRIZE TICKETS**

Last week we increased the prize inadvertently! It's only a top prize of £3,000. See Terry Connor (10 am Mass Sundays) at 50p per ticket.

■ **... AND FINALLY**

A big thank you to Fr. Brian for his ministry to us here in Westgate, during the past two weeks. His after-Mass asides were much appreciated ... and may his beloved Blackpool triumph over Preston. (*It's a Lancashire football thing!*)

Anniversaries this week:

Robert Grieves (1992), Brian Jenkins (1993), Freda Dickson (1997), Kathleen McKeown (1999), Donal Ding (2003), Ronald Hatfield (2005).

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 and Canon William Clements.

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.

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

From the letter of St. Paul to the Romans (Ch 9: v 28)

**God cooperates with all those who love him,
with all those that he has called according to his
purpose.**