

MASSTIMES&INTENTIONSFORWEEKCOMMENCING3rdAUGUST

Sunday, 3 August – 18th Sunday of Ordinary Time – Green

5.30 pm (Saturday) ERIC LIND, R.I.P. Ray Lind
10 am GWYNNETH SAWKINS Maureen Sloly
Tessa Attwood's baby granddaughter

Monday, 4 August – St. John Vianney – White

St. John Vianney (1786 - 1859), a French parish priest who became the patron saint of parish priests. St. John became internationally famous for his pastoral work and the spiritual transformation of the parish community. This is attributed to his saintly life, mortification, and renowned ministry in the sacrament of confession.

8 am PAT STEPHENS – VERY SICK Sheila

Tuesday, 5 August – Dedication of Saint Mary Major – White

After the dogma that Mary is the Mother of God was defined by the Council of Ephesus in the year 431, Pope Sixtus III dedicated this basilica in Rome to the Mother of God. Later it became known as "Saint Mary Major". It is believed to be the oldest church in the West dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

9 am EXPOSITION

9.30 am IVAN HERD, R.I.P. Fr. John & Sheila

Wednesday, 6 August – Transfiguration of Our Lord – White

The Transfiguration of our Lord is an event in which Jesus was transfigured upon a mountain. Jesus becomes radiant, speaks with Moses and Elijah, and is called "Son" by God. The transfiguration places Jesus above the two senior figures of Judaism: Moses and Elijah. It confirms his identity as the Son of God. Jesus tells the witnesses, Peter, James and John, in keeping with the Messianic secret, not to tell others what they saw.

10 am EILEEN CZUCZMAN, R.I.P. Sister Helen

Thursday, 7 August – Saints Sixtus & his Companions – Red

St. Sixtus II, pope, was born in Greece. He was martyred in 256 during the Valerian persecutions along with six deacons and sub-deacons as he celebrated Mass at the tomb of St. Callistus.

9.30 am EXPOSITION

10 am CHRISTINE RUSSELL, R.I.P. Fr. John

Friday, 8 August – St. Dominic – White

St. Dominic (1170-1221). Born in Spain. Dominic preached against the Albigensians (heresy - belief in two gods, both equal and comparable in status.) and helped reform the Cistercians. Dominic with six followers founded an order devoted to the conversion of the Albigensians. In 1216 he received Pope Honorius III's approval, and the Order of Preachers (the Dominicans) was founded.

10 am THANKSGIVING FOR SUMMER FÊTE

Saturday, 9 August – St. Teresa Benedicta – Red

Edith Stein (1891-1942), was born of Orthodox Jewish parents. She was influenced before World War I by a Jewish couple who had converted to the Evangelical Church. Edith was baptised a Catholic in 1922. She became a Carmelite Nun in Holland. After the Bishops of Holland making an attack on the Nazis treatment of Dutch Jews she was arrested by the Gestapo, together with her sister Rose, also a convert. Edith and Rose Stein were deported to Auschwitz. On August 9th, 1942, St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, in a white house filled with Zyklon-B gas, went to heaven.

10 am WELFARE OF THOMAS FAMILY

10.45 am & 4.45 pm Confession

Sunday, 10 August – 19th Sunday of Ordinary Time – Green

5.30 pm (Saturday) ERNEST LATTER, R.I.P.

10 am HUNTEA MOTAHARI Eileen Motahari

NO CHILDREN'S LITURGY DURING AUGUST – IT WILL RESUME ON SUNDAY, 7 SEPTEMBER



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18th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) – 3 August, 2008

Do you ever have those days when you just want to be left alone? But if you're a mum and your child needs a cut knee kissed or husband whose wife really has to be taken to the supermarket now, a shopkeeper who has a business to get open or simply someone who is answering an urgent phone call to open a sympathetic ear to your 'best' friend. Surely we have all been there, all wanted the solitude of our own company yet we feel compelled, obligated to put our desire to one side and attend to the needs of others. Perhaps this was the scene which confronted Jesus on, having learnt of the death of His close cousin had to choose to put his feelings on the back-burner and speak to the vast crowd which had followed Him to what the Gospel calls 'a lonely place'. We're not talking about one person needing Him or even the small group of His intimate disciples; it's a village full! Just imagine the population of Monkton or Minster following you, wanting your attention, your words of wisdom, your message. And, like any cross section of the population, there would have been all sorts of reasons why the crowd had left their homes, left their town to seek-out the Lord: yes, there would have been a large group who had already become 'followers' of Christ, or disciples of John the Baptist who were looking for a new leader. But among the throng would have been the curious, the town gossips who need to satisfy their need for 'speculative' information, the enemies of Christ looking to find a chink in the holiness of Jesus – hoping that John's execution would cause Him to lose His temper; and there would have been the agents of King Herod or the Temple hierarchy ready to seize Jesus if He transgresses the Law. We're not told what the content of the Lord's day was, how He kept the crowd's attention to late into the day; so late that the disciples began fussing about the welfare of them, about how the meeting would have to close to enable everyone to get some food. We do know from the writing of Matthew that Jesus was confident that there was enough food among the disciples to feed the whole assembly: "give them something to eat yourselves." We all know the response about five loaves and two fishes. Equally we know that these seven items of food were enough to feed thousands of people, not just enough but more than enough, so much so that there were twelve baskets of scraps remaining! What is the message here – that the Christ can perform miracles? Perhaps, it can be seen that within this event in the life of Christ he points us towards the feeding of the world with the message of salvation. The symbol of the five loaves and two fishes given by His disciples an image of what we can do in giving the miracle of Christ's kingdom on earth to our fellow man and woman. As in the small amount



CONTINUED INSIDE

Fr. John Writes:-

Today we celebrate the great love of God that not only gives us life, but also sustains that life with the food of the Eucharist, the love of God made visible in Christ our Lord.

HOLIDAYS & HOLYDAYS

It is always good to welcome our visitors during the summer months, and I think this year, because of the economic climate, we have a few more holidaying here in the Westgate area, and for those visiting Thanet this week and during August another welcome – and I hope it is a warm one in every sense of the word.

As some of our children and of course their parents are away, we suspend our 'Children's Liturgy' until Sunday, 7 September. So let us wish them well at this time.

As you all know the word Holiday comes from HOLYDAY and this week there are quite a number. From humble Priests like the Cure of Ars (St. John Vianney), the great Friar like Saint Dominic, the martyred Pope Sixtus and his deacons, but mid-week there is the special feast of the TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD. That momentous event on Mount Tabor before he went to Jerusalem for his Passion and Crucifixion, points his close companions to the glory of his resurrection. Finally let me remind you that a week on Friday, 15 August, we have the ONLY Holy Day of Obligation occurring on a weekday this year: THE ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY.

EVACUATION TEST TODAY - SATURDAY EVENING

There will be an 'emergency evacuation' of the church at tonight's Mass (Saturday, 2 August). We do hope that you will take part in the exercise. This isn't a Fire Drill but an 'incident' exercise. There has been a scenario in Southwark Diocese where an attacker entered a church during the service, and only this Tuesday two women were stabbed at Lichfield Anglican Cathedral. With your cooperation the exercise should only last a few minutes – then Holy Mass will continue.

ALFRESCO TEA & COFFEE

TODAY - SUNDAY MORNING

Providing it is not raining you will have noticed one of the Fête Gazebos has been erected in the Car Park. This is in preparation for the 'Alfresco' **FREE tea, coffee and biscuits** being serving outside the church after the 10 am Mass.

There will be parking restrictions so please use the garden parking and leave the limited parking out front for the disabled drivers.

A DAY WITH MARY IN RAMSGATE

Saturday, 16 August

A day of instruction, devotion and intercession based on the message given at Fatima in 1917. This special day of devotion to Our Blessed Lady takes place at St. Augustine's Abbey Church starting at 10 am in the Parish Room for Tea or Coffee. The day is filled with various acts of worship and finishes with Vespers at 5.30pm together with the Monks of the Abbey.

SPONSORED BIKE RIDE

Saturday, 13 September

Friends of Kent Churches are holding their annual fund raising sponsored Bicycle Ride or Walk. The money raise is split 50-50 between the church of their choice and the Friends of Kent Churches charity. Sponsorship forms available here at St. Peter's or contact Lucy on 01843 843447.

☺ If you can't ride a bike or feel that walking is too strenuous you can still help out! We need some people to man the 'check-point' so that participants can have their forms signed and they can be given some water to keep them going. If you can help leave your name on the form at the back of the church please.

YEAR OF ST. PAUL 2008 - 2009

From the second letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians (Ch 9: v 5)

Make sure in advance that the gift you promised is ready, and that it comes as a gift out of your generosity and not by being extorted from you.

WIDOWED, SEPARATED OR DIVORCED?

Weekend, 19-21 September

Beginning Experience is a ministry to the widowed, separated and divorced led by a trained team of volunteers. Their work is carried out at special weekend gatherings which encourage participants to shared their need and deal with the natural process of grief and loneliness.

For more information contact: Ruth on 0208 8679 7157 or Sandra 01293 783965 or locally Susan 01227 264961.

SPECIAL THANKS

To Vicky, Janet, Jackie, Rebecca and all the mums and grandmums who help make our Children's Liturgy group so enjoyable and instructive to Westgate's little Catholics.

MASS ATTENDANCES

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday (26 July)	5.30 pm	59
Sunday (27 July)	10 am	89

IT'S THE WAY HE TELLS 'EM!

After the great flood Noah was seeing the animals off the Ark, and he said to each pair as they went: "go and multiply" to which they all answered "Yes, Noah", all except one pair who slithered up to him and replied:

"Sorry Noah we can't multiply . . . we're adders!"

FROM THE FRONT

of food given feeds the many; so too in the small amount of charity, of love we give to the world we too can feed the world with this God given gift, we too can make a difference on the same sort of scale – if only we have the confidence to do so. That unlike the disciples who saw a negative aspect to the management of the vast crowd we should take our Saviour's stance and believe that all those little bits of faith can be multiplied to where there is more than enough to feed the spiritual needs of our neighbours; whether they are literally next door or the other side of the world. So Christ our Saviour tells us that no matter how small and seemingly insignificant the gift we have to offer it is enough to make the difference, and that these gifts can be anything which reveals the love of Christ to the world. We know that Jesus makes the ultimate sacrifice, and, for most of us, we're not asked to make that commitment which has no parallel. Ours, like the simple food freely given which satisfies the crowd, is a gift we are able to make; a gift to mankind, a gift to God – and the food is just a simile – our gift can be as simple as our daily prayer, those few minutes Fr. John talked about last week in his homily; it can and nearly always is time . . . our time . . . the time we may have set aside for ourselves . . . the time we wanted to be alone . . . but even in prayer we're not alone; there is always an ear to hear and an eye to look into our hearts: they are from God our Father.

Anniversaries this week:

George Rivers (1997), Ethel Mackins (1997), Roma Bovingdon (1999), Arthur Wilkening (2002)

Your Prayers are asked for:

Eileen Czuczman, whose Requiem and funeral took place last week. May she rest in peace.

For those who are sick: Archbishop Kevin – who has had to undergo more surgery, Sister Anna, Gerry & Eva Brewer, Pat Whaley, Len Lane, Peg Bunnage and Alan & Myra Taylor.

Canon William Clements at hospital in Stanmore, Middlesex.

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.