

## MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING 31st AUGUST

Sunday, 31 August – 22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time – Green

5.30 pm (Saturday) BERYL LIND, R.I.P. Ray Lind  
 10 am inc. Children's Liturgy THE PARISHIONERS Sylvia Quickfall

Monday, 1 September – St. Edmund Arrowsmith – Red (Transferred)

Edmund Arrowsmith (1585 – 1628) is one of the Forty Martyrs. A farmer's son he was born at Haydock, Merseyside. Baptised Brian, but used his Confirmation name Edmund. Ordained in Arras, 1612, returned to Lancashire a year later. Ministered for nine years until 1622, when he was arrested by the Protestant bishop of Chester. Released after King James I ordered all arrested priests be freed. Joined the Jesuits in 1624 and in 1628 was arrested again. Convicted of being a Catholic priest, was sentenced to death, and hanged, drawn and quartered at Lancaster.

8 am KAREN TUDOR'S INTENTION Sheila

Tuesday, 2 September – Feria – Green

9 am EXPOSITION  
 9.30 am

There is no Mass intention for this day. If there is someone you wish to have this Mass said for see Fr. John

Wednesday, 3 September – St. Gregory the Great – White

Saint Gregory the Great (c.540–604). He was the first of the Popes from a monastic background. Gregory is a Doctor of the Church and one of the four great Latin Fathers of the Church (the others being Ambrose, Augustine, and Jerome). Gregory was chosen Pope by the unanimous consent of priests and people. Of all popes, Gregory had the most influence on the early medieval church and was renowned for his contributions to the liturgy, the firm and fair way he conducted his papacy and championing the Church's giving alms to the poor. Gregory is credited with re-energizing the Church's missionary work among the barbarian peoples of northern Europe. He is most famous for sending a mission under Augustine of Canterbury to evangelize the pagan Anglo-Saxons of England, particularly the Kingdom of Kent. The mission was successful, and it was from England that missionaries later set out for the Netherlands and Germany. Immediately after his death, Gregory was canonized by popular acclaim. He is seen as a patron of England.

10 am OUR LADY IMMACULATE, WHITSTABLE - Centenary

Thursday, 4 September – St. Cuthbert – White

St Cuthbert of Lindisfarne (c.634–687) was an Anglo-Saxon monk and bishop in the Kingdom of Northumbria which at that time included, in modern terms, north east England and south east Scotland as far as the Firth of Forth. Afterwards he became one of the most important medieval saints of England.

9.30 am EXPOSITION

10 am EILEEN SOUTHGATE, R.I.P. Pauline Southgate

Friday, 5 September – Feria – Green

**NO MASS TODAY**

Saturday, 6 September – Our Lady – White

10 am KACPER MICHAL HERTEL Fr. John & Sheila

10.45 am & 4.45 pm Confession

Sunday, 7 September – 23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time – Green

5.30 pm (Saturday) WINIFRED & THOMAS CARNEY, R.I.P. Teresa Jones

10 am Children's Liturgy UNION OF CATHOLIC MOTHERS

# PETRINEWS

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

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## 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) – 31 August, 2008

Sacrifice is the common theme of today's readings. In the first reading from Jeremiah it is the sacrifice of self-esteem – of opening ourselves up to derision from our friends and colleagues, maybe even family members who can not understand our commitment to the faith. Within us all there either rages or simply smoulders this fire of faith; the need to worship the Lord our God, the need to be part of the community of Christ, to celebrate His Passion and Resurrection, to communicate with our Father in heaven, to get recharged with the strength of the Holy Spirit. That's the reason we are here at Mass today: celebrating, worshipping, being in communion, praying, asking, listening, receiving, and giving – albeit just an hour or so – of our time, focusing on this faith; a faith the world seems less and less to comprehend. And so we expose ourselves to the critical analysis of the unbelievers. Worldly views which can not see beyond self and selfishness, beyond financial gain, beyond indulgent pleasures: a 'me' generation which judges everyone by its materialistic standards, ignoring the treasures promised us by Christ in His pleasure palace, the kingdom of heaven. In the second reading Saint Paul says in his letter to the Romans: "Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you." He talks about offering "your living bodies", not offering your bodies as sacrifice, in other words being martyrs, but living ones – sacrifice while we live and breathe.



Again this sacrifice is change or separation, either changing away from our selfish worldly ways, worldly thoughts and dreams and, if we think we are achieving that, to keep ourselves apart from the 'vices' which seem so attractive to our non-believing brothers and sisters, and, in a very superficial way, appear attractive to us too. Paul makes it abundantly clear what the Lord wants of us: "what is the perfect thing to do." In the Gospel Jesus is also very sure what he wants and expects of His followers, those who wish to make their journey along the Way of Faith. Even in the first part of today's Gospel Christ makes a statement which emphasises this choice, this sacrifice between thinking in the world's terms or in God's terms. That's why He admonishes Saint Peter who, having been told of the scenario which his master, Jesus, would have to follow, naturally springs to verbal action saying that the events of the capture, Passion and Death mustn't be allowed to happen. We'd do that, we would say the very same thing, wouldn't we? If our best friend was in danger we would reassure them with such words – even if we couldn't really influence the situation – we'd say the 'right' thing, the comforting thing. But Christ knew His destiny, knew that the shadow of

**CONTINUED INSIDE**

### Fr. John Writes:-

**It comes to us as no surprise that the Prophet Jeremiah should have felt reluctant to offer himself as a living sacrifice to God's will, because we all experience the same reluctance to accept the cross. But what consolation it is to know that Christ experienced the same reluctance of the flesh and had to struggle to overcome it.**

### ■ TARRY AWHILE . . .

#### WHY DON'T YOU? TODAY, SUNDAY, 31 AUGUST

Provided the August weather becomes summer-like – and the BBC forecast given on Thursday morning was for REAL summer weather, (we'll see!) – there will be another Alfresco Coffee and Tea serving in the front car park after the 10 am Mass.

The last one was so successful, despite the grey clouds, that Fr. John wanted to have the parish repeat the experience ... but it's only worthwhile if everyone bothers to 'tarry awhile' after Mass. The meaning of Tarry (v. i.) To stay or remain behind; to wait; to leave

slowly. (Old English: *targen* to delay). That's all you need to do, just stay a few minutes and get to know at least one other of your fellow parishioners. Remember unless you have a mobility problem to park in the Garden of Remembrance at the rear of the Presbytery.



### ■ THANKS FATHER JOSEPH

Last weekend and during the week we have been blessed with Fr. Joseph Garbo being here at St. Peter's celebrating Mass while Fr. John was on Pilgrimage at Lourdes. His gentle yet perceptive views of the daily Mass readings were gifts we were lucky to have received. Fr. Joseph left us to go firstly to Minster Abbey for a week, then he is off north to Manchester where he will meet up with some fellow Gambians who live in that city. While here in Thanet he had been the guest of Eileen, Doreen and Ron, who run the charity Ed-Aid, which has projects in the Gambia. They kindly chauffeured Fr. Jo to and from Cliftonville every day. Perhaps you can thank them in a tangible way by subscribing to their charity as members, just £6 a year. Forms are available at the back of the Church today.

### ■ CHRISTMAS FAIR MEETING

**Monday, 1 September, 7.30 pm**

The Christmas Fair is holding its first committee meeting in the lounge of Countess Mountbatten Court, do please come along if you wish to help at this event.

### ■ FRIDAY, 5 SEPTEMBER

**NO MASS** next Friday morning here at St. Peter's as Fr. John is due to celebrate Mass at Q.E.Q.M. Hospital at 11.30 am.

### ■ SATURDAY, 6 SEPTEMBER

There will a Polish Baptism during Saturday's 5.30 pm Mass as we welcome Kacper Michal, son of Michal and Magdalena Hertel, into the family of the Church.

## Back to School

**We wish our youngster every blessing as they return to school to begin another academic year, some of them in new schools.**

### ■ MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8th

A week on Monday the daily Mass, on the Feast of Our Lady's Birthday, will be at 7.30 pm, and is for the Anglican Vicar of Westgate who is leaving St. Saviours. After Mass refreshments will be served in the Hall and **EVERYONE** is invited. Please let Phil (835630) if you are going to the reception.

### ■ SISTER MAGGIE

Next weekend we shall welcome Sister Maggie Kennedy, a Missionary Sister of Our Lady of Africa, who will be giving an appeal with the emphasis on "Mission for us all today, here and overseas." MISSION is the GOOD NEWS of JESUS.

### ■ SPONSORED BIKE RIDE

**Saturday, 13 September**

Friends of Kent Churches annual fund raising sponsored Bicycle Ride or Walk. If you want someone to sponsor see Emma or Eunice Whitaker (Saturday 5.30pm Mass).

### ■ MEN'S BREAKFAST

Churches Together in Westgate, Westbrook and Garlinge are holding a Breakfast at Christ Church URC, Church Hall in Westgate Bay Avenue, Saturday, 6 September at 8.30am. The guest speaker is Stephen Skinner "Christianity and Art". Tickets, from the Sacristy, are £4.

### FROM THE FRONT

the Cross was looming large ahead of Him, that nothing could be done to prevent this the world's ultimate sacrifice, or rather heaven's ultimate sacrifice – for the Father sent His Son to fulfil this destiny, this sacrifice, a sacrifice for each and everyone of us; those of us who believe now and those who will believe at the very last moment. Did Jesus really think Saint Peter was Satan? Or was it Peter's worldly-like thinking which prompted Christ to rebuke Peter so? After-all He'd just given Peter the blessing which, when He went to His Kingdom, would result in Peter being the first of Jesus' followers to lead His Church on earth. But He says: "*you are an obstacle in my path,*" Peter's reaction – narrowly thinking in terms of the here and now, not the here after, is the stumbling block to comprehension of the greater picture, the picture which encompasses eternity. Like Peter we too have to see beyond the present – not ignore it – but be capable of listening to the words of Jesus our Saviour through the Gospels, hearing Him when he speaks to us privately, tuning into the feelings of our heart when we think beyond this earthly life; and if we do this then picking up that cross will be easier, as will making the changes, small though they may be, to look to the Way of Christ, to follow His Truths and Live by His example. As Christ says Himself: "*He will reward each one according to his behaviour.*"

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

### ■ MASS ATTENDANCES

#### **21st Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Saturday (23 August) 5.30 pm 66  
Sunday (24 August) 10 am 119

### Anniversaries this week:

Patricia Brenchley (1992), Beatrice Murtagh (1997), Lilian Sturton (2000), Eileen Southgate (2005)

### Your Prayers are asked for:

For those who are sick: Sister Anna, Eva Brewer, Pat Whaley, Len Lane, Peg Bunnage, Alan & Myra Taylor and Sister Stephen who is very gravely ill at Lourdes Convent. 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.

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

From the letter of St. Paul to the Hebrews (Ch 11: v 1)

**Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen.**