

## MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING 8th JUNE

Sunday, 8 June – 10th Sunday of Ordinary Time – Green

**5.30 pm** (Saturday) KEN SUDDS, R.I.P. Carole French  
**10 am** inc. Children's Liturgy PAUL QUICKFALL, R.I.P. Union of Catholic Mothers

Monday, 9 June – St. Columba – White

*Saint Columba (521 – 9 June 597), sometimes referred to as Columba of Iona, was born in County Donegal. In 563 he travelled to Scotland with twelve companions. In 563 he was granted land on the island of Iona off the west coast of Scotland which became the centre of his evangelising mission to the Picts. Columba is credited as being a leading figure in the revitalization of monasticism, and his achievements illustrated the importance of the Celtic church in bringing a revival of Christianity to Western Europe after the fall of the Roman Empire.*

**8 am** REV. BERNARD SHARP 40th Anniversary

Tuesday, 10 June – Feria – Green

\* **9 am** GERRY ANDREWS, R.I.P. B. & J. Gray **NOTE CHANGE OF MASS TIME**  
**9.30 am** EXPOSITION

Wednesday, 11 June – St. Barnabas – Red

*Barnabas was born in Cyprus. The apostles gave him the Hebrew name Barnabas, which means "Son of Encouragement," in honour of his work in the Church. Barnabas was one of the first to understand that the mission of the church was universal. It was Barnabas along with Paul who decided to preach the gospel to Gentiles for the first time, rather than to Jews.*

**10 am** PAUL QUICKFALL, R.I.P. Pat & David Cocklin

Thursday, 12 June – Feria – Green

**9.30 am** EXPOSITION  
**10 am** GARY 80th BIRTHDAY

Friday, 13 June – St. Anthony of Padua – White

*Saint Anthony (1195 – June 13, 1231) was born in Lisbon, Portugal, as Fernando Martins de Bulhão. He originally became an Augustinian Canon, he encountered five Franciscan Friars who were later martyred in Morocco which prompted him to join the Franciscans, taking the name Anthony. He too went to Morocco as a missionary but illness forced him to return home to Europe. A storm forced him to land in Sicily so he made his way to Assisi. By default he became famous for his preaching, hailed as such while serving at the papal court of Gregory IX. St. Anthony died at the early age of 36 while on his way from Rome to Padua.*

**10 am** CANON THOMAS CHRISTIE – GOLDEN JUBILEE

Saturday, 14 June – Our Lady – White

\* **9.45 am** SISTER SCHOLASTICA, O.S.B., Final Profession  
**4.45 pm** Confession **NO MORNING CONFESSION & MASS TIME CHANGE**

Sunday, 15 June – 11th Sunday of Ordinary Time – Green

**5.30 pm** (Saturday) CAROLINE BAILY'S INTENTION  
**10 am** inc. Children's Liturgy MARGARET ROBERTS, R.I.P. Teresa Rowan

\* MASS TIME CHANGES

# PETRINEWS

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

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## 10th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) – 8 June, 2008

Last week in the Gospel we heard Jesus ask us for actions and not words. Today, in the first lesson and in the Gospel the words of the Lord are tempered; are qualified a bit. Instead of seeking the 'doer', the one who spends more than their entire energy in the pursuit of acts or actions which, in a perverse way, present the image of a 'saintly' person; an image of total dedication; an image of self-sacrifice, Jesus through the writing of Matthew says: "What I want is mercy, not sacrifice." Is he calling for those of us who seek His mercy, His forgiveness? It would seem that way; for in the final part of today's Gospel Our Lord says: "I did not come to call the virtuous, but the sinners." That's pretty clear. Clear and true. For who of us is without sin? Who of us can truly claim to wear the mantle of sanctity? We may think that in our Christian lives, as good Catholics, observing the Sacraments, attending Mass every week – every day even – we are blemish-free. That there is little else we can or need to do. But are we really blemish-free? Is it possible to be without



sin? We know the answer. Each and everyone of us deep inside ourselves know we fall-short of our Saviours shining example. He knows that too, as He said he came to all sinners, to us, the frail us. This He does every day, every time we feel that nagging sensation when we have fallen short of our best, every time we even think an unkind thought let alone utter an unkind word, every time we put off that charitable act or pass a prayer opportunity by, that is when Christ comes to us – to us not as a virtuous person, but as a sinner. It is the Lord knocking at the door to our soul. It's then that we have to respond, to open ourselves up to this merciful Lord, this God who gives Himself to us no matter what our station in life maybe, no matter where we rank in the people of Christ's Church here on earth. It boils down to love: God loves me because I am a sinner, not who I am or what I do. I love God because He loves me a sinner; despite His greatness He loves me. In the first reading God speaking through the prophet Hosea say: "what I want is love, not sacrifice; knowledge of God, not holocausts." That isn't to say we shouldn't make sacrifices only that if we do they are simply a by-product of our real love for the Lord Jesus Christ. Putting any act of sacrifice before an act of contrition, a plea for mercy and forgiveness taints, sullies, despoils the significance of the love we feel for our God. It's through loving our forgiving Father that the good works will come, and through loving God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, that our knowledge of Him will increase; our wonder and awe at his never-ending mercy, never-ending love for all of us: the good and the not-so-good alike.

**Father John writes:**

***Our love of God is like the morning dew, it evaporates so quickly, We tend to reduce religion to a mere formality. Today we renew our love and, approaching God with the sincerity and faith of Abraham, we offer the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving which gives glory to God.***

### **SISTER SCHOLASTICA, O.S.B.**

**Final Profession next Saturday, 14th June, in Minster Abbey.**

Next Saturday morning I will offer Mass for Sister Scholastica, who will be about to make her final profession.

Some parishioners will recall the lively and vivacious Katie, one of the Nottingham Pilgrims who, with her colleague Anna, came to assist with our young members, and help instruct the Confirmation Candidates some eight years ago.

Now we pray for her as she makes this life-long commitment to Our Lord Jesus Christ, for whom she wants to love and serve.

### ■ **RED BOXES**

It is again time to empty your Red Boxes. Please bring them into St. Peter's next weekend and leave them in the Sacristy or see our new Local APF Collection Secretary, Eunice Whitaker. Fr. John is grateful for Eunice in volunteering to take on this role, which she will have to undertake four times a year. To assist her kindly return your boxes promptly and check in Petrinews when to pick-up your box again. Eunice has taken over from John Spicer who felt that after so many years dealing with the boxes, together with the inevitable difficulties which age brings, he was unable to continue. Fr. John wish to express his sincere thanks to Mr. Spicer for the many decades of work he has given to this special mission.

### ■ **EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

**NEXT SATURDAY: 14th at 10.30 am  
Also on 28th June**

There will be two special days for Eucharistic Ministers at Stella Maris Convent, North Foreland, Broadstairs. Eucharistic Minister should attend on either of the dates. These days are set aside for rededicating yourself in this ministry. On the first date the day will be lead by our Fr. John, on the second date it will be Fr. Fisher from St. Ethelbert's, Ramsgate.

### ■ **FIRST COMMUNION CHILDREN GET TOGETHER**

**Sunday, 22 June, 3 pm**

Thanet Deanery are having a special celebration Mass for all the children who have received Holy Communion for the first time. The Mass will be in the Ursuline Chapel at 3 pm. The children are asked to wear their Holy Communion outfits. They will receive a 'picnic box' after Mass. Cream teas will be served for Family and Friends. Do come and support our children and others from our neighbouring parishes.

### ■ **CONFIRMATION FOLLOW-UP**

**Wednesday, 25 June, 6 pm**

Follow-up on our Confirmation Candidates, where is the Lord leading them? We are to have a Mass at 6 pm on 25 June, followed by a party, and then a look to the future.

### ■ **EVENING OF PRAYER**

**Sunday, 29 June, 4.30pm**

To mark the beginning of the '*Year of St. Paul*' there is a special evening at The Friars, Aylesford. Preacher: Fr. John O'Toole.

### ■ **SUMMER FÊTE**

**SATURDAY, 12 JULY**

It is getting closer and there is still a lot needed. Last week it was hoped for a bigger response to the plea for bottles and toys, unfortunately it was disappointing, Let us hope today is better. Continue to take some Grand Prize Draw tickets from the back of the Church with you and sell them to your friends, neighbours, work

colleagues. We have enclosed a little flyer with a list of the local businesses who have generously donated gifts, prizes and some money to the fête. When you are thinking of shopping in Westgate and Westwood remember to use and prefer these businesses who have supported *your* church.

### ■ **COFFEE MORNING**

**This Wednesday 11th June,**

Women's World Day of Prayer, an ecumenical movement, are holding a Coffee Morning from 10.30 am to midday, at St. Thomas Church, Minnis Bay.

### ■ **AYLESFORD YOUTH FESTIVAL**

**Saturday, 5 July**

Southwark Catholic Youth Service are having a Youth Festival at Aylesford Priory to witness the faith through various forms: Drama, Drumming, Social Justice, Sign Language, Street Dance, Arts and Craft. The event starts at 10am and goes on till 8pm. There are two age groupings: 13 - 15 years old and 16-18 years old. So to participate you have to be 13+ and if you're 19+ looks like your too old! If someone wants to organise a Parish Group from the age ranges see Fr. John for application form.

### ■ **SVP IN WESTGATE**

The SVP meet once a month at the Daughters of Jesus House in Sea Road, Westgate. Please contact Eunice O'Neill on 832774.

### ■ **ROSARY GROUP**

Under the patronage of The Immaculate Heart of Mary, they pray the Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet for priests before the Blessed Sacrament. This small friendly group meet every Tuesday at 4.15 pm in the car park of St. Peter's. Is Our Blessed Lady calling you to a deeper commitment to prayer? To know more call Eileen McNiff on 01843 299334.

**TEA & COFFEE** after the  
**10am Mass on Sunday in the Hall**

### ■ **BAR-B-CUE TOGETHER!**

**Monday 16 June in Westgate**

Churches Together Locally, the ecumenical grouping of the Christian Churches in Westgate, Westbrook and Garlinge are holding a Bar-B-Cue in the garden of St. Saviour's Vicarage, Thanet Road, Westgate, on Monday, 16 June at 12.30 pm. Bring along your own burgers, sausages or veggie items for barbecuing. Bread and buns plus refreshments will be provided. Telephone Fred or Marion on 832604 to let them know you are going.

### **Anniversaries this week:**

Bridget Healy (1992), Vida Chubb (1993), Maria Pownall (1998), Kathleen Blackburn (1999), Emily Turrell (2002)

### **Your Prayers are asked for:**

*Gerry Brewer who is in hospital and is very sick.*

*Fr. Sylvester in thanksgiving for his service to our Parish during the last two weeks of May. Pray that the goodness of Christ strengthens him in his sacramental duties as a pastor when he returns home to Nigeria.*

*For those who are sick: Pat Whaley, Canon William Clements, Len Lane, Peg Bunnage and Alan & Myra Taylor. Also Fr. Barry in Burgess Hill, West Sussex.*

*Students at our local schools and colleges as they continue to sit their A level and G.C.S.E. exams.*

*Remember the recently dead: George Martin, Mietek Kiersz, Paul Quickfall, Gianna Thirlwall, Sr. Bernadette and Sr. Dorothea. May they rest in peace.*

*The parishes of Hawick, Jedburgh and Kelso.*

### **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.**