

## MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING 25th MAY

**Sunday, 25 May – CORPUS CHRISTI – White**

**5.30 pm** (Saturday) CAROLINE BAILY'S INTENTION

**10 am** inc. Children's Liturgy PAUL QUICKFALL, R.I.P. S.V.P.

**Monday, 26 May – St. Philip Neri – White**

*St. Philip Romolo Neri (also known as Apostle of Rome; July 22, 1515 – May 27, 1595), noted for founding a society of secular priests called the "Congregation of the Oratory". He considered a cheerful temper to be more Christian than a melancholy one, and carried this spirit into his whole life: "A joyful heart is more easily made perfect than a downcast one."*

**8 am** DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE CONRATH, CARRICK AND BLOUT FAMILIES, R.I.P.

**Tuesday, 27 May – St. Augustine of Canterbury – White**

*Augustine of Canterbury (died May 26, 604) a Benedictine monk who became the first Archbishop of Canterbury in 598. He is considered the "Apostle to the English", and a patron of England. Pope Gregory the Great chose Augustine in 595 to lead a mission to Britain to convert the pagan King Æthelberht of Kent to Christianity. Kent was probably chosen because it was near the Christian kingdoms in Gaul, and because Æthelberht had married a Christian princess, Berthan. In 597 Augustine landed on the Isle of Thanet and proceeded to Canterbury, Æthelberht's main town, where he was given land to found a monastery.*

**9 am EXPOSITION**

**9.30 am** GEORGE MARTIN, R.I.P. Christine Bentley

**Wednesday, 28 May – Feria – Green**

**10 am** PAUL QUICKFALL, R.I.P. Daphne & John Harris

**Thursday, 29 May – Feria – Green**

**9.30 am EXPOSITION**

**10 am** ALBINO RIZZO, R.I.P.

**Friday, 30 May – Sacred Heart of Jesus – White**

**10 am** DAISY EMELINE JONES, R.I.P. Foundation Mass

**Saturday, 31 May – Visitation of Blessed Virgin Mary – White**

*Mary, with the Christ child in her womb, left Nazareth went over the mountains to Hebron, south of Jerusalem, to visit upon her cousin Elizabeth, who was nearing the end of her pregnancy with the child John (the Baptist). The event is recorded in Luke's Gospel and contains two great prayers: The Magnificat with which Mary replies to the prayer of Elizabeth: "Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb".*

**10 am** PAUL QUICKFALL, R.I.P. Teresa Jones

**10.30 am & 4.45 pm** Confession

**Sunday, 1 June – 9th Sunday of Ordinary Time – Green**

**5.30 pm** (Saturday) JULIE ANN PHILLIP, R.I.P.

**10 am** inc. Children's Liturgy PAUL QUICKFALL, R.I.P. Andy & Ita O'Donnell

# PETRINEWS

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

**Priest in Charge: FATHER JOHN SLATER**

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## CORPUS CHRISTI (A) – 25th May, 2008

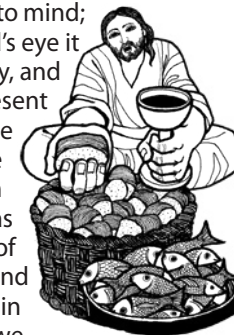
What does Corpus Christi mean to me? It does not only bring the liturgy to mind; for me, it is a day on which heaven and earth work together. In my mind's eye it is the time when spring is turning into summer; the sun is high in the sky, and crops are ripening in field and meadow. The Church's feasts make present the mystery of Christ, but Jesus Christ was immersed in the faith of the people of Israel and so, arising from this background in Israel's life, the Christian feasts are also involved with the rhythm of the year, the rhythm of seedtime and harvest. How could it be otherwise in a liturgy which has at its center the sign of bread, fruit of earth and heaven? Here this fruit of the earth, bread, is privileged to be the bearer of him in whom heaven and earth, God and man have become one. The way the Church's feasts fit in with the seasons of the year is therefore not an accident. Consequently we must go on to discover the inner rhythm of the Church's year and see the place Corpus Christi has within it.

First of all, clearly, it grows out of the mystery of Easter and Pentecost: it pre-supposes the Resurrection and the sending of the Spirit. But it is also in close proximity to the Feast of the Trinity, which reveals the inner logic in the connection between Easter and Pentecost. It is only because God himself is the eternal dialogue of love that he can speak and be spoken to. Only because he himself is relationship can we relate to him; only because he is love can he love and be loved in return. Only because he is threefold can he be the grain of wheat which dies and the bread of eternal life. Ultimately, then, Corpus Christi is an expression of faith in God, in love, in the fact that God is love. All that is said and done on Corpus Christi is in fact a single variation on the theme of love, what it is and what it does. In one of his Corpus Christi hymns Thomas Aquinas puts it beautifully: *nec sumptus consumitur* – love does not consume: it gives and, in giving, receives. And in giving it is not used up but renews itself. Since Corpus Christi is a confession of faith in love, it is totally appropriate that the day should focus on the mystery of transubstantiation. Love is transubstantiation, transformation. Corpus Christi tells us: Yes, there is such a thing as love, and therefore there is transformation, therefore there is hope. And hope gives us the strength to live and face the world. Perhaps it was good to have experienced doubts about the meaning of celebrating Corpus Christi, for it has led us to the rediscovery of a feast which, today, we need more than ever.

*A Reflection on Corpus Christi by Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger (now Pope Benedict XVI)*

## Anniversaries this week:

Mary Eileen Lockwood (1994), Charles Denton (1995), Patricia Murill (2001), Brendan Kealy (2003)



**Fr. John writes:**

**Today we celebrate CORPUS CHRISTI – The Food and Drink of Eternal Life. God kept his people alive in the desert by giving them food and drink from heaven. The food and drink he gives us in the Sacrament of the Eucharist is the Body and Blood of his Son, given for the life of the world.**

**On Friday we celebrate THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS, a feast so closely related to Corpus Christi. God who is love has set his heart on his people and given us his Son, the gentle and humble heart.**

**Next Sunday, 1 June, we will be back in Green Vestments when we come to the Ninth Sunday of the year, and put into practice all that we hope for through the lessons of Lent and Easter.**

## ■ TALKING OF LIFE NEXT WEEKEND'S MASSES

At the Vigil Mass on 31 May and on Sunday Mass on 1 June there will be a special speaker, Joanne Bogle who will make an appeal on behalf of SPUC (Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child) at the end of each of the Masses.

Also at St. Ethelbert's, Hereson Road, Ramsgate at 7.30 pm, Joanne and her husband, Jaimie, are giving a talk on the themes of: Feast of the Church, and on The Law, Parliament and their effects on Catholics in England.

## ■ A DAY WITH MARY Saturday, 31 May, Westminster Cathedral

In London a day of instruction, devotion and intercession to Our Lady, based on the message given at Fatima in 1917. The day starts at 9.45am with a procession followed by a sung Mass and goes on through to a 6 pm Vigil of Sunday Mass with an ordination. More details: 020 8641 6418.

## ■ 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.

## ■ SUMMER FÊTE SATURDAY, 12 JULY

Only six weeks to go. And we are getting to the point where your contributions and gifts in the way of prizes for the various side-shows/tombolas are essential, as well as the usual items for the stall. So far the committee have decided on the following stall: vegetables & fruit, groceries, bric-a-brac with china & glass, children's toys (pocket money sort), cakes, plants, cards & craft, gifts. There will be two tombolas: a general one and a bottle tombola. Plus we need small toy items for the children's sideshows. To help the committee are asking that the parish focus on particular items each week up to the fete. This week they are asking you to donate bottles for the tombola – so anything from a large bottle of vintage champagne, through smaller alcohol bottles such as wine or bottles of beer, down to bottles of pop or vinegar even Daddies Sauce. If every family donates two bottles next weekend then the bottle stall will be full. Also next weekend maybe you could supply a small toy for the children's sideshows. Each week there will be a plea for specific items! There is still a need for more stall minders. See the list at the back of the church to see what needs covering.

## ■ INTER-FAITH IN THANET THIS THURSDAY 29 May in Margate

The inaugural meeting of the Inter-Faith Council takes place this Thursday, 29 May, at Margate Media Centre, 11-13 King Street, Margate, starting at 7.30pm. For more information call 01843 581583.

The current MP for Thanet South, Steve Ladyman, and one of his planned opponents at the next election, Laura Sandys, have both said they hope to attend the inaugural meeting.

## ■ SVP IN WESTGATE

With the death of Paul Quickfall our parish's Society of St. Vincent de Paul Society has lost a key worker in this apostolate to the less fortunate in our local neighbourhood. Why not come along to one of our meetings and see how you can help them in their work. The SVP meet once a month at the Daughters of Jesus House in Sea Road, Westgate. To be part of the Society and its work in the community will necessitate a CRB check. Please contact Eunice O'Neill on 832774. More information on the UK organisations website: [www.svp.org.uk](http://www.svp.org.uk)

## ■ COFFEE MORNING

### 11 June in Minnis Bay

Women's World Day of Prayer, an ecumenical movement, are holding a Coffee Morning on Wednesday 11th June, from 10.30 am to midday. The event will be at St. Thomas Church, Minnis Bay. There will be a 'Bring & Buy' and a Cake Stall. They ask as many women as possible to come along and join them and help raise funds for the Women's World Day of Prayer Organisation – which does 'what it says on the tin' organises a day when women of all nations pray together in churches all across the globe.

## ■ BAR-B-CUE TOGETHER!

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.

## ■ EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

### 14th & 28th June at 10.30 am

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. Please see Fr. John for application forms.

## THIS WEEKEND IN AYLESFORD FOUR NEW EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

**Today, Saturday, 24 May, the Vigil of Corpus Christi, we have four new Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion being commissioned.**

**They are:**

**Virginia Clarke, Eleanor Lukehurst, Emma Whitaker and Eunice Whitaker**

## Your Prayers are asked for:

*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 sitting 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.*

*For our new Eucharist Ministers as they begin a new chapter in their service of Christ's Church.*

## 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**