

DIARY for WEEK BEGINNING 9th MAY 2010

✠ SIXTH SUNDAY of EASTER (C) ✠

Sun 9	Saturday	6.30pm	✠ Vigil Mass: Pro Populo
	Sunday	9.30am	✠ Mass: Mary Lane RIP
		11.00am	✠ Mass: Michael Patrick Keating RIP
		12.30pm	<i>Baptisms: Holly Marno and Keelie Thomas</i>
Mon 10	Feria	9.45am	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
		10.00am	✠ Mass: Intention of Weller Family
Tue 11	Feria	10.00am	<i>Service of the Word and Holy Communion</i>
Wed 12	Feria	8.00am	✠ Mass: Delcie Crack RIP
Thu 13	Feria	NO MASS	
Fri 14	St Matthias	9.45am	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
		10.00am	✠ Mass: Arthur Ryan RIP
		6.00-7.30pm	<i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i>
Sat 15	Feria	10.00am	✠ Mass: William Cronin RIP
		10.30am	<i>Exposition and Confessions</i>

✠ The ASCENSION of OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST (C) ✠

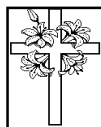
Sun 16	Saturday	6.30pm	✠ Vigil Mass: Anna Azavedo RIP
	Sunday	9.30am	✠ Mass: Pro Populo
		11.00am	✠ Mass: Joseph Mackenzie RIP
		12.30pm	<i>Baptism of Jane Khonie</i>
		4.00pm	✠ Mass for the Malayalam Community

Please pray for the following, whose anniversaries occur this week:

Maria Cassingena, Mary Lane, Michael Keating, Ann Bevans, Hilda Staples, Henry Langfield, Margaret Fountain, Vera Poppy, Delcie Crack, Katherine Everitt, Philip Cleary, Eileen Salter, Peter Flynn, Isabella Cooper, Thelma Murphy and Anna Azavedo.



May their souls and the souls of all the ✠ faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.



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9th May 2010

✠ SIXTH SUNDAY of EASTER (C) ✠

WORD OF GOD

Peace I bequeath to you, my own peace I give you, a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you.

(John 14:27)

WORD FOR TODAY

A life of faith is a life of challenge. But it also brings peace, not a peace that is simply being free from bother, but a peace that allows us to know deep down that we are known and loved by God and that ultimately we will see God face to face.



MARY'S MONTH of MAY

May is Mary's month, and I muse at that and wonder why; her feasts follow reason, dated due to season: Candlemas, Lady Day; but the Lady Month, May, why fasten that upon her, with a feasting in her honour? Ask of her, that mighty mother: her reply puts this other question: What is Spring?: growth in every thing, all things rising, all things sizing Mary sees, sympathizing with that world of good, nature's motherhood.



Their magnifying of each its kind with delight calls to mind how she did in her stored magnify the Lord. Well but there was more than this: Spring's universal bliss much, had much to say to offering Mary May. This ecstasy all through mothering earth tells Mary her mirth till Christ's birth to remember and exultation in God who was her salvation.

(Gerard Manley Hopkins)

AROUND the PARISH

ADORATION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT During the *Year of the Priest* we expose the Blessed Sacrament on Saturdays after the morning Mass for the duration of Confessions. ☩ Also, during the month of May, the Bishops of England and Wales have asked us to expose the Blessed Sacrament on the four Fridays ‘. . .to pray to God for healing, forgiveness and renewed dedication’ as a result of the child abuse scandal that has been such a focus of public attention recently. Please take a copy of the statement by the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales. There will therefore be Exposition throughout this month on Fridays beginning at 6pm and closing with Benediction at 7.30pm.

PARISH BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY TRAINING There will be a course on the weekend 4th to 6th June. If you are interested in this training we have an application form in the office.

EASTER DUTIES The last day for fulfilling the precept of Easter Communion is, the feast of the Most Holy Trinity, 30th May. Canon **2042** of *The Catechism* states: The third precept (‘You shall humbly receive your Creator in Holy Communion at least during the Easter season’) guarantees as a minimum the reception of the Lord’s Body and Blood in connection with the Paschal feasts, the origin and centre of the Christian liturgy.

CONFIRMATION Bishop John will be here for Confirmation on Friday 12th November at 7.30pm. Application forms are now available. Please see Deacon Michael.

AROUND the DIOCESE and BEYOND

MASS FOR NEW CATHOLICS There will be a special Mass of thanksgiving to welcome all new Catholics on Saturday 15th May at 11am in St George’s Cathed-

ral, Southwark. Bishop Paul Hendricks will preside at this Mass and he very much looks forward to meeting all new Catholics received in the Church this Easter, along with their godparents, sponsors, relatives, clergy, catechists and friends. All are welcome to come and take part in this thanksgiving Mass.

GLOBAL DAY of PRAYER See the poster giving details of this annual event in our area which begins on 13th May. If you are interested in helping out please call 07712 271598.

FAITH in FOCUS: PARTING GIFT When two Hebrew-speaking people greet each other, they say “Shalom aleichem” which means “Peace be with you.” When two Arabic-speakers give the same greeting, they say “Salaam aleichem.” Shalom/salaam refers to the state of integrity, harmony, serenity and completeness within a person’s life. Peace is not merely the absence of struggle but the abiding presence of calm. In today’s gospel Jesus gives his disciples a parting gift, a gift that he says the world cannot give: peace. To have faith in Jesus and be possessed by the Holy Spirit means that we enjoy the peace of Christ. Of course, in everyday talk, peace usually means the end of war (which often is not peace but simply truce) or the idea of peace and quiet, when we are not troubled and are allowed just to “chill out” or have a few moments to ourselves. But the peace that Jesus offers us is that deep-down sense of wellbeing that comes from knowing that we are loved by God, have been called to be God’s children in baptism and are permanently held in the hand of a God who will never let us be lost, unless we absolutely insist on it. Christian peace brings calmness. However, the peace we enjoy is not a static thing; it’s something active and dynamic. Consequently we have to work at keep-

ing this peace alive, which is what Jesus meant when he said “Blessed are the peacemakers”. We have to work with the Holy Spirit to keep our relationship with God alive and active and then we have to work for unity among ourselves so that the gift of peace may be a reality in our communities. Some people can have a false sense of security. Others can have a false sense of peace. If our peace is just built on not being troubled by others, not having worries about our job, our family or our finances, then we are simply enjoying freedom from anxiety. If, however, our peace is built on our relationship with God, on our trust in his promises to us and the confidence that his always keeps his word, then we enjoy that peace of Christ which the world cannot give. And this is what we wish each other at every Mass when we turn to each other and say, “Peace be with you”.

FROM BISHOP JOHN (From a recent letter to the clergy.) “Pope Benedict XVI is to visit England and Scotland on a four day Papal visit from 16 – 19 September 2010. Being a State Visit, and being much shorter than the pastoral visit here of Pope John Paul II, it will be a very different experience, but further information will reach you as soon as it is finalised by the organisers, particularly in relation to a London event. Some of the scheduled occasions will be distinctly religious events for our Church in England, Wales and Scotland (for example the Beatification of Cardinal John Henry Newman in Coventry, public Mass in Glasgow, prayer vigil in London, etc) and will inevitably involve major expense. Some effective fund raising initiated by the Bishops’ Conference has raised the major part of the funds, but also there will have to be a Sunday collection taken in all the churches of our three countries to meet the costs. Consequently, the

Bishops Conference has agreed that there will be a collection on **Pentecost Sunday 23rd May 2010** in all parishes in England, Wales and Scotland. Each diocese has a target figure in order to raise £1m from England and Wales, excluding gift aid. Our target is approximately **£87,000** and since this is considerably more than the average second collection, I hope you can encourage your people to be extra generous for this special occasion. You will be receiving in each parish a package including a letter from Archbishop Vincent Nicholls, instructions regarding the collection, gift aid envelopes, four posters and sufficient prayer cards for everyone attending Mass on Pentecost Sunday.”

ATTENDANCE Last week we welcomed 344 people to Mass, and we received **£437.25** in the offertory. We also gratefully acknowledge a donation of **£200** towards our Building Fund. ♦ Next weekend there is a Mission Appeal on behalf of the Holy Ghost Fathers and we will be welcoming Fr Terry Donnelly who has spent many years working in West Africa. In view of this and of the Bishops’ Conference collection the following week for the Holy Father’s visit (see above) our collection for World Communication Day will be taken up on Trinity Sunday, 29th/30th May. Thank you. ♦ The winner of the May 50 50 Club was H Franz, ticket 88, with £49.50. This month’s subs are being collected this weekend. Fr Geoffrey will be away from this Sunday till 22nd attending to urgent family matters. We thank Fr Kevin and Fr James for supplying where possible.

GIFT AID Thank you to those who use the envelopes each week helping to augment our parish income thanks to the income tax we are able to recover. The new envelope season will start in June and boxes of new envelopes will be distributed after each Mass this weekend.