T E N T E R D E N K E N T

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**Newsletter for the week commencing 23rd August 2020**

**Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary time (A)**

**Entrance antiphon: Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.**

**First Reading: Isaiah 22: 19-23**

**Psalm 137 Response: Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands**

**Second Reading: St Paul’s letter to the Romans 11: 33-36**

**Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. Alleluia!**

**Gospel: Matthew 16: 13-20**

**Communion antiphon: The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.**

**Father Behr writes:**

Dear Parishioners

Here is a 'portrait' of Saint Peter which may help us to draw closer to this wonderful saint who is one of Jesus' closest friends.

Portrait of Saint Peter

St Peter (Jewish name Simon) was an entrepreneur who, along with his brother Andrew, had a successful fishing business in first century Galilee.  Fish from the Sea of Galilee regularly found its way into the marketplaces of Rome! St Peter would not have had much in the way of a formal education.  He was physically strong and worked with his hands. St Peter was called by Jesus to become a ‘fisher of men’.  Peter left everything to follow Jesus.

Peter knew that Jesus was the only one to follow.  During the Bread of Life discourse, in John chapter six, many of Jesus’ disciples abandoned him because they found his teaching intolerable.

When Jesus asked ‘the Twelve’ if they too are going to leave him, it was Peter who spoke up. 'Lord to whom shall we go... you have the words of eternal life.'  Without understanding fully what Jesus was saying Peter was able to commit his life to the Lord.  After swearing his loyalty to Jesus, when Jesus was arrested, Peter denied his best friend publicly and showed himself a coward.  Jesus forgave him and after Pentecost Peter suffered imprisonment and endured a terrible death.

St Peter is a father figure.  According to ancient tradition he was the oldest of the Apostles.  He is like a rock: strong, dependable, loyal and full of a deep and simple faith which is the bedrock of Catholicism.  He is not one for complicated theories and esoteric philosophies.  St Peter was chosen by Jesus as ‘the Rock’ on which to found his church.

**Your Prayers are asked for:**

**Those recently deceased**: John Roylance RIP (husband of Rev. Margaret)

**Those ill or infirm:** Jennifer Jorden, Joe Adams, Ellie Lawrence, Anne Bryant, Eric Booth, Patricia Hook, Elena Peck (senior), Marjorie Dumbleton, Josie Payne, Joe Venables and all those self-isolating or suffering from COVID-19

**Those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time:** Edith Cooper, Vera Gibson, Martin Saunders, Mary Roche, Duncan Bryant, Anne Williams (nee Cregan), Rosalie Robertson, Donald Hayesmore, Audrey Clark, Hester Rossiter, Kevin Thornton and Dorothy Taylor.

**This week**

**This week’s services (23rd – 29th August) until social distancing is relaxed:**

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| **Mass will be held daily at 10am except on Wednesday when there will be** **a Service of the Word and Holy Communion at 10am** |
| **Feasts during the week** |
| Sunday 23rd August  | 21st Sunday | Thursday 27th August | St Monica |
| Monday 24thAugust | St Bartholomew, Apostle | Friday 28th August | St Augustine |
| Tuesday 25thAugust | St Louis | Saturday 29th August | The Passion of St John the Baptist |
| Wednesday 26th August | St Dominic |  |  |
| **In these strange times the only rota which is operational is the flower rota so …** |
| **29th August** | **Hilary Edwards** |

***Parish Finance Committee meeting, 10 August 2020.***

*Fr Behr held his first Parish Finance Committee meeting on 10 August. The minutes will now be posted on the parish notice board in the church lobby for all to read over the next 2 weeks. They have also have been put on the parish website*[*here*](https://www.standrewstenterden.org/parish-life/parish-council/parish-finance-committee-members/)*, for you to read at your leisure.*

*The main areas discussed by the Committee were the impact on Parish finances over the past few months of COVID-19 both on weekly collections and having no income from the parish centre. But to help in these unique times, we have just received two years’ worth of Gift Aid recoveries from HMRC. The receipt of some £10,000 highlighted the huge value to the Parish of as many parishioners as possible, who are UK taxpayers, taking part in this free scheme through their weekly collections and donations. The Committee also reviewed the imminent completion of the Church Refurbishment programme, which is likely to be finished by the end of the month.*

For all you walkers and cyclists **RIDE AND STRIDE** is back again this autumn – 12th September to be exact! For details of how to take part and raise a bit of money for good causes, see the **poster and leaflets in the church porch**!

**And finally**, a long but amusing tale… A young man named John received a parrot as a gift. The parrot had a bad attitude and an even worse vocabulary. Every word out of the bird's' mouth was rude, obnoxious, and laced with profanity. John tried and tried to change the bird's attitude by consistently saying only polite words, playing soft music and anything else he could think of to 'clean up' the bird's vocabulary. Finally, John was fed up and he yelled at the parrot. The parrot yelled back. John shook the parrot and the parrot got angrier and even more rude. John, in desperation, threw up his hand, grabbed the bird and put him in the freezer. For a few minutes the parrot squawked and kicked and screamed. Then suddenly there was total quiet. Not a peep was heard for over a minute. Fearing that he'd hurt the parrot, John quickly opened the door to the freezer. The parrot calmly stepped out onto John's outstretched arm and said "I believe I may have offended you with my rude language and actions. I'm sincerely remorseful for my inappropriate transgressions and I fully intend to do everything I can to correct my rude and unforgivable behaviour." John was stunned at the change in the bird's attitude. As he was about to ask the parrot what had made such a dramatic change in his behaviour, the bird spoke up, very softly, "May I ask what the turkey did?