**Newsletter for the week commencing 18th August 2024**

**Twentieth Sunday (B)**

**Entrance antiphon: Turn your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.**

**First Reading: Proverbs 9: 1-6**

**Psalm 33 Response: Taste and see that the Lord is good.**

**Second Reading:  The letter of St Paul to the Ephesians 5: 15-20**

**Acclamation:  Alleluia, alleluia! The Word was made flesh and lived among us; to all who did accept him, he gave power to become children of God.  Alleluia!**

**Gospel: John 6: 51-58**

**Communion antiphon:  With the Lord there is mercy; in him is plentiful redemption**

**Father Behr writes:**

Dear Parishioners

During the next two Sundays we continue with the reading of selections from the sixth chapter of John’s Gospel.

Jesus continues his masterful teaching on the Eucharist in the ‘Bread of Life’ discourse.  “For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink.”  Our Lord teaches us that we really receive his risen body and blood in Holy Communion.  This language is shocking and if we take it seriously as we should it makes us realise the greatness of the gift we receive at Mass.  Jesus died on the cross for us precisely so that we could receive him in the Blessed Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  Jesus paid the ultimate price with his own blood so that after his Resurrection he could feed us and nourish us into eternal life.

We should never take our Lord for granted.  We should prepare well for Mass.  One of the simple and important rules is the need to fast before we receive Holy Communion.  The rules say that there should be at least one hour without food or drink, (water is fine), before we approach the altar.  These rules don’t apply to people who have to take medication or those who are managing diseases like diabetes.

The one hour fast before Holy Communion reminds us that the gift Jesus gives us, the gift of his own body and blood, is greater than our need for physical food.  We learn to place our spiritual needs above our bodily desires.

This is a great prayer to say after receiving Our Lord in Holy Communion.

 St Padre Pio Stay with Me (*Resta Con Me*)

‘Stay with me, Lord, for it is necessary to have You present so that I do not forget You. You know how easily I abandon You.

Stay with me, Lord, because I am weak and I need Your strength, that I may not fall so often.

Stay with me, Lord, for You are my life, and without You, I am without fervour.

Stay with me, Lord, for You are my light, and without You, I am in darkness.

Stay with me, Lord, to show me Your will.

Stay with me, Lord, so that I hear Your voice and follow You.

Stay with me, Lord, for I desire to love You very much, and always be in Your company.

Stay with me, Lord, if You wish me to be faithful to You.

Stay with me, Lord, for as poor as my soul is, I want it to be a place of consolation for You, a nest of love.

Stay with me, Jesus, for it is getting late and the day is coming to a close, and life passes; death, judgment, eternity approaches. It is necessary to renew my strength, so that I will not stop along the way and for that, I need You. It is getting late and death approaches, I fear the darkness, the temptations, the dryness, the cross, the sorrows. O how I need You, my Jesus, in this night of exile!

Stay with me tonight, Jesus, in life with all its dangers. I need You.

Let me recognise You as Your disciples did at the breaking of the bread, so that the Eucharistic Communion be the Light which disperses the darkness, the force which sustains me, the unique joy of my heart.

Stay with me, Lord, because at the hour of my death, I want to remain united to You, if not by communion, at least by grace and love.

Stay with me, Jesus, I do not ask for divine consolation, because I do not merit it, but the gift of Your Presence, oh yes, I ask this of You!

Stay with me, Lord, for it is You alone I look for, Your Love, Your Grace, Your Will, Your Heart, Your Spirit, because I love You and ask no other reward but to love You more and more.

With a firm love, I will love You with all my heart while on earth and continue to love You perfectly during all eternity. Amen.’

**Fr Behr.**

**Your Prayers are asked for:**

**Recently deceased:**

**Those ill or infirm:** Mary Basher, Paul Rumball,PaulLane, Mara McDermot, June Munton, Ailish Cantwell (Jones), Sylwia Dorosz, Joe Adams, Ellie Lawrence, Patricia Hook, Josie Payne, Pat Holland and all those who are unwell and in need of our prayers.

**Those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time**: Leonard Holley, George Foster, Mary Cherry, Ian Currie, Ernest Venables, Pat Wood, Teresa White, Edith Cooper, Vera Gibson and Martin Saunders.

|  |
| --- |
| **This week’s services (17th – 24th August), Feasts and Mass intentions during the week.** |
| **Saturday 17th August**The Blessed Virgin Mary | No public Mass am10.30 -11.00 am Confession6.00 pm Vigil Mass Private Intention (Margaret)  **Reader: Peter** |
| **Sunday 18th August****TWENTIETH SUNDAY (B)** | 10.00 am Mass *People of the Paris*   **Reader: Collette**12.00 Midday Traditional Latin Mass  |
| **Monday 19th August**St John Eudes, Priest | No Mass |
| **Tuesday 20th August**St Bernard, Abbot & Doctor of the Church | No Mass |
| **Wednesday 21st August**St Pius X, Pope | 10.00 am Service of Word and Communion |
| **Thursday 22nd August**The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary | No Mass |
| **Friday 23rd August**St Rose of Lima, Virgin | 10.00 am Mass *Maria Crishna Chaquiriand* 10.30 – 11.30 am Adoration |
| **Saturday 24th August**St Bartholomew, Apostle | No public Mass am10.30 -11.00 am Confession6.00 pm Vigil Mass *People of the Parish* **Reader: James** |
| **Sunday 25th August****TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY (B)** | 10.00 am Mass *Last Family and Paul Rumball* **Reader: Brian**12.00 Midday Traditional Latin Mass  |
| **Flowers: for Saturday 24th / 25th August - Pat** |

**Confession.**

Fr Behr is available for Confession every Saturday from 10.30am - 11am. He is also happy to visit those who are not able to come to church.

**Children’s Liturgy.**

Children’s Liturgy at the 10.00 am Mass is on the first Sunday of every month. All children who have not made their First Holy Communion are welcome to attend.  The next lesson with Lorraine is **Sunday, 1st September.**

**The Divine Mercy Apostolate.**

London is holding a Celebration of St Faustina Birthday at Aylesford Priory, Aylesford, Kent on Bank Holiday Monday 26 August 2024 from 10.00 am to 4:30 pm. The reflection day will include teachings on the Message of Divine Mercy, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Stations of the Cross, Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All welcome. Call Millie on 07957594646 for more information.

**August is devoted to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.**

**Adoremus Eucharistic Conference.**

Over the weekend of 14 and 15 September 2024, the Bishops of England & Wales are

inviting all parishes to have a period of Exposition to coincide with the Adoremus

Eucharistic Congress. The purpose is to unite all the faithful around the Eucharist with renewed and deepened devotion.  We prepare for the Jubilee Year 2025.

**World Day of Prayer for Migrants and Refugees Sunday 29 September 2024.**

The Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development has published a video presentation of this year’s World Day of Prayer for Migrants and Refugees.   <https://www.humandevelopment.va/en/news/2024/giornata-mondiale-migrante-e-rifugiato-2024-tema-messaggio-papa.html>

**Introduction to Christian Meditation.**

These sessions have been running for over a year now on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday evenings in Saint Mildred’s Church. During their enforced closure in 2025, these will transfer to the family room at Saint Andrew’s. However, during August this year, a series of introductory sessions is being run. These will be an opportunity for people interested in Christian Meditation to experience it within a small group, to learn about its origins and to discover its relevance as a form of contemplative prayer for the modern world.

21st August         Leaving self behind

28th August         The fruits of meditation

You do not need to come to all the sessions, as each one stands alone and will give you a flavour of what Christian Meditation is about. Please just turn up or get in touch to find out more.

Sharon Francis 07527 369403 revsharon.francis@outlook.com, or website [https://wccm.org](https://wccm.org/)

**Churches Together in Tenterden.**

The Epistle reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the people of Ephesus reads “you were all called into one and the same hope”. Cardinal Nicholls and Archbishop Welby, joint chairs of Churches Together in England constantly urge us Christians to rejoice in so much that we hope for in common. In Tenterden, amongst a number of initiatives, the churches hold two types of regular events, designed so we can meet together and get to know our fellow Christians:

* **Joint Sunday evening worship**, on the last Sunday of each month, 1 denomination offers to host an evening act of worship followed by refreshments. The Worship is in that denomination’s “house-style”, so we can learn and appreciate how our fellow Christians worship. The next 4 evenings are:
	+ Sunday 25th August at 6pm, hosted by the Church of England at Smallhythe Church during the flower festival
	+ Sunday 29th September at 6pm, hosted by the Catholic Church in Saint Andrew’s
	+ Sunday 27th October at 4pm, hosted by the Baptist Church in Zion Church
	+ Sunday 24th November at 4pm, hosted by the Church on the Weald in Tenterden Junior School
* **Christian Breakfasts,** these are held every other month at 08:30 am in 3 different venues, Zion Church, Saint Andrew’s Parish Centre and Saint Mildred’s Church Hall. You are assured of a full English Breakfast (gluten and vegetarian options available) and an inspiring talk for £10. The last two for this year are:
	+ September 14th Mike Rose (husband of Sue Rose, the rector of Woodchurch, High Halden and Bethersden). He is a clergy man, ex-Navy. His talk is entitled "The road from Amsterdam" and it will be in Zion church.
	+ November 23rd Claire Watson talking about the work of the Street Pastors in Ashford and that will be in Saint Mildred's Church Hall.

**Ride & Stride (Friends of Kent Churches): Saturday 14th September 2024, 10.00 am – 6.00 pm.**

It's that Ride & Stride time of year again! By taking part in the annual Ride & Stride you can:

* keep fit;
* visit some of Tenterden's and Kent's beautiful churches on foot or by bicycle;
* Support St. Andrew’s: the money you raise is divided equally between the church of your choice and the Friends of Kent Churches                                                                                                                                                                                                  You can ride and stride alone or plan a route with friends and family. You can cover the churches of a single town, like Tenterden, or go further afield. You can walk or ride for an hour or devote a day to it. Every little counts!

Sponsorship forms and list of participating churches are available for download at the Friends of Kent Churches website at<https://www.kentrideandstride.co.uk/>

We shall also need kind volunteers to greet riders and striders and sign their forms.

If you can spare just one an hour on Saturday 14th September, please sign the form at the back of the church (and include your contact number please).

**Jill de Villiers – may she rest in peace.**

Passed away peacefully on 5th July 2024, aged 79 years, surrounded by her husband and two children.

Jill was a tireless champion for Christian Unity and a leading light in the annual World Day of Prayer (formerly Women’s World Day of Prayer).

**A Service of Thanksgiving for Jill’s life is to be held at St. Mildred's Church, High Street, Tenterden, on Saturday 31st August 2024 at 2.00 pm, followed by a reception afterwards in the church hall opposite.** It was Jill’s wish that we wear cheerful rather than sombre clothes.

Please do not send flowers, but rather donations in memory of Jill, if wished, payable to one of her favourite charities, 'Oxfam' (for whom she worked tirelessly as a volunteer for many years) and 'Amnesty International UK’, may be sent c/o T.W. Fuggle & Son Funeral Directors, 20 Ashford Road, Tenterden, Kent TN30 6QU. Please mark cheques, “In memory of Jill”.