

## Being Present



Some people say that they don't need to go to church to be a good Christian. Others say that they can pray at home - so why do they need to do it in a certain building? Still others say that having the Blessed Sacrament present does not really make much difference.

And yet, many people find something happens when they come into a church, and will say that there is something special about being in a Catholic church. They may not be able to name what the specialness is but it is likely to be the fact that Christ is present in the Blessed Sacrament. It may look like a piece of

bread - but it is the sacramental sign of something - someone - so much more powerful.

When we come into a Catholic church for a time with the Lord, we are acknowledging his Presence - the Eternal God present in our time and our space. We are also offering him our presence. There are many other things we could be doing - lots of places we could be and taking time out just to sit quietly in a church will look to many like a waste of time! But offering our presence before the Lord's presence is a very beautiful and mutual gift. To adapt the famous quote given by St John Vianney, 'God is here for me... and I am here for God.'

And one result of this time of mutual presence - offering is that we do not leave it behind in the church. We find that we take the Presence with us and bring it into the many places and situations in which we find ourselves, being present to God, ourselves and to others.

*Taken from Time before the Blessed Sacrament is a series of leaflets produced by the Spirituality Committee in preparation for Adoremus Congress.*

### MASS TIMES

#### Sunday Masses

Sat 5.30 pm, Sun 8.00 am, 9.30 am,  
11.15 am, 5.45 pm

#### Weekday Masses

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri: 7.30 & 10.00 am

Wed: 7.30 am, 12.30 pm,

Sat: 8.00 and 10.00 am

#### Reconciliation

Sat 10.30-11.30 am. 4.30 - 5.15 pm.

Also by appointment.

### ROSARY INTENTION

That the Lord will refresh and renew those families unable to enjoy a holiday this summer.

5th August 2018

18th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Year B Psalter Week 2

PARISH MASS BOOK

Readings: from page 114

Preface: from page 68

## THIS WEEK

**SATURDAY 4<sup>th</sup> St John Vianney**

**SUNDAY 5<sup>th</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday, Yr B Ps Wk 2**

**There is no Evening Prayer at 4.00pm  
on Sundays in August**

**OUTREACH Aid to the Church in Need** is a charity supporting the Catholic faithful and other Christians where they are persecuted, oppressed or in pastoral need. Present in over 140 countries, it brings hope and solidarity to Christians living out their faith in areas where hostility and intolerance are present. For more information, please see [www.acnuk.org](http://www.acnuk.org)

**MONDAY 6<sup>th</sup> The Transfiguration  
of the Lord**

**WEDNESDAY 7<sup>th</sup> St Dominic**

**THURSDAY 9<sup>th</sup> St Teresa Benedicta  
(Edith Stein)**

**FRIDAY 10<sup>th</sup> St Lawrence  
No 7:30pm Mass**

**SATURDAY 11<sup>th</sup> St Clare  
1.00 pm Wedding**

**SUNDAY 12<sup>th</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday Yr B Ps Wk 3**

**OUTREACH Manna Centre** - The Manna Day Centre near London Bridge cares for about 120 to 150 homeless and disadvantaged people a day. About half of these are homeless, sleeping rough or in hostels. The other half live in Council or Housing Association flats. The Centre's task is to respond to the most immediate needs of those seeking help. Please see [www.mannasociety.org.uk](http://www.mannasociety.org.uk)

## CONTACTS

**Parish** Canon Peter Stodart  
**Priest** [frpeter@st-augustine.co.uk](mailto:frpeter@st-augustine.co.uk)  
**Asst** Fr. Josaphat Ezenwa  
**Priests** [jcezenwa2@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jcezenwa2@yahoo.co.uk)  
Fr Lixon Cyriac  
[lixoncyriac@gmail.com](mailto:lixoncyriac@gmail.com)  
**Deacon** Dcn. Kevin Dunne  
[kdunne246@gmail.com](mailto:kdunne246@gmail.com)  
**Office** [office@st-augustine.co.uk](mailto:office@st-augustine.co.uk)  
**Parish** Mark Dennison  
**Council** [chair-parishcouncil@st-augustine.co.uk](mailto:chair-parishcouncil@st-augustine.co.uk)  
**Youth** [youthleader@st-augustine.co.uk](mailto:youthleader@st-augustine.co.uk)  
**Leader** Sorcha 07948 970995

## CLEANERS REQUIRED

Two cleaners are required to clean the narthex, church toilets, office, sacristy, meeting rooms and hall. Ideally each cleaner will work six hours a week, two hours on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. Please contact Fr. Peter if you are interested.



## CLARE PRIORY

A group of 14 parishioners have just spent a week at Douai Abbey on retreat. Our next retreat is from 2nd to 5th October at Clare Priory in Suffolk. Fr Don Coleman, who was a parishioner and later a Deacon at this parish, has kindly offered to lead it on the Beatitudes. Bookings will be taken from September.

## Aylesford Priory Sat 11th August

**RETREAT: Prayer and Poetry** - Elizabeth Jennings, an English 20th century Catholic poet, drew from the Scriptures in her religious poetry. During this quiet day we shall read and reflect on her poetry as a stimulus for our own prayer. Led by Sr. Felicity Young ,OSU.

## OFFERTORY

Offertory £1421.37  
Outreach Mary's Meals £1032.06  
Cafod £45  
Mitapeeap £22.50  
Mitapeeap (Mother & Toddler's  
Group donation) £39.58

**Thank you for your generosity.**