



# St. Peter's Church

Bishop's Rise, Hatfield,  
Hertfordshire AL10 9HN  
Tel: 01707 262121  
[www.stpetershatfield.org](http://www.stpetershatfield.org)



25 April 2010

Volume 4, No. 22

## Mass Times:

### Sunday Masses

Sat. : 6.00 pm Vigil Mass  
Sun. : 9.15 & 11.00 am &  
6.00 pm : Student Mass  
(University term-time only)

### Weekday Masses

Mon-Wed, Fri: 9.30 am  
Thurs : 7.00 pm  
Sat : 10.30 am

### Holy Days of Obligation

Mass: 9.30 am & 7.00 pm

### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Sat 11.00 am – 12 noon

### Morning Prayer

Mon-Wed, Fri : 9.10 am

### Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour

After Mass on Tuesday

### Rosary

After Mass on Wednesday  
First Friday : 7.30 pm

### Confessions

Sat 11-12, 5.15-5.45 pm  
or by request

**Baptism** – See Fr. Mark  
Preparation obligatory

**Marriage** – 6 months notice  
Preparation obligatory

## Last week's collection

**£847.92**

**Thank-you**

Parish Priest: *Fr. Mark Vickers*

E-mail: [markvickers@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:markvickers@rcdow.org.uk)

## Fourth Sunday of Easter: Year C



**Fr. Mark writes:** These are enormously encouraging readings. St. John tells us there is a “huge number” in heaven, “impossible to count.” Jesus Himself tells us He gives His flock eternal life; “they will never be lost.” God wants everyone to be saved. The death and Resurrection of Jesus we celebrated so recently made this possible. What a cause for hope for all those we have loved who have gone before us. God will, of course, respect our freedom, so let us make certain that we do nothing to jeopardise the glorious future He has in mind for us. Heaven is promised to those who belong to Him and listen to His voice.

## Welcome

Congratulations to Zofia Lech and Jack Walsh who are baptised today.

## Priest Training Fund (formerly WEEF)

Pope Benedict has named this the Year for Priests. We can make a difference by supporting the Priest Training Fund today. This is vital as we now have over 40 young men training for the priesthood at our seminary – wonderful news but it costs £20,000 p.a. to train a priest and this work depends upon donations. These men have generously given their lives to God and the Church. They shouldn't have to worry about the money being there to train them. Please place the envelope attached to last week's news letter or any other donation in the retiring collection at the end of Mass. Thank-you for your generosity.

There are free copies of the seminary magazine, *The Mulberry*, at the back of church.

## General Election

The General Election is a week on Thursday. All Catholics should find out about the candidates' policies and plan to vote. I wrote to the candidates from the three main parties in Welwyn Hatfield. I attach a copy of their replies. Please take a moment to read what they have to say. These are not the only issues you will be interested in, but the questions of faith schools, family and Pro-Life matters and overseas aid are of particular concern to us as Catholics.

## Tea Party

We are blessed by having a vibrant student community here at St. Peter's. In turn they are very grateful to the parish for allowing them to have Mass and other events here. They would like to say thank-you by inviting you to a tea party in the Hall at **3.30-5 pm on Sunday, 9 May**. All are welcome. The students are providing refreshments, but I am sure they wouldn't say no if you were to bring a cake along on the day. Everyone is very welcome.

## Filipino Evening

The next Filipino evening is on **Saturday, 29 May**. There will be excellent food, a dancing display, raffle and lucky ticket prizes. Tickets are available after the 11 am Mass or from Tony Dodd on 646383 : £7 adults; £3.50 for 6-16 years; 5 and under free. Numbers are strictly limited so buy early to avoid disappointment

## Bethan Larking

From Ruth, Bethan's mum : “A huge thank-you to everyone who organised and supported the race night before Easter. I was amazed to see so many people there. But also for the love and thought shown to us. It has been a truly awful and difficult time but the love and support from friends, family and the wider community has been astonishing. I am overwhelmed by the response. Knowing we have so much support behind us really does help to ease the pain.”

**Parish Office**

Fridays : 9.00 am-1.00 pm

**St Philip Howard** Primary & Pre-School – 01707 263969**Nicholas Breakspear** Senior Mixed – 01727 860079**Loreto College** Senior Girls 01727 856206**John Henry Newman** Senior Mixed – 01438 314643**QEII Hospital Catholic Chaplaincy** Bernadette Cassidy 07884 187463**Youth Group**

Jemma Emmans 01707 880703

**Ignatian Prayer Group –**

alternate Tuesdays David Barham 01707 266551

**Planned giving envelopes**

Pat Malsher – 01707 265530

**APF Mission Boxes**

Heather Coakley 01707 269153

**Hall Bookings**

Heather Coakley 01707 269153

**St Peter's Power Running and Walking Group**

Mondays in term time Michael &amp; Linda Blissett 01707 885933

**Weekday Mass Times**

I have a School Governors course all day on

**Wednesday, 28 April.**Therefore, there will be no morning Mass at St. Peter's. Instead, Mass will be at **7.00 pm**.**Repository**

The Repository is the shop at the back of church open after Sunday Masses.

There is a wide selection of Catholic papers and books as well as Bibles, missals, cards, rosaries and other devotional items. Please take a moment to browse and buy.

**Readings at Sunday Mass**

Acts 13: 14. 43-52

Apocalypse 7:9. 14-17

John: 10: 27-30

Psalm 99 Response:

**We are His people, the sheep of His flock.**

Gospel Acclamation :

**I am the good shepherd, says the Lord, I know my own sheep and my own know me.****Prayer of the Church : Psalter Week 4****Weekly Rotas****Flowers:** Elsie, Terry & Netta**Church cleaning :**

Casey Crack &amp; Elsie Judge

**Shop:** 18.00 Bobby McGrath

9.15 Pauline Keohane

11.00 Audrey Palmer

**Mass Intentions for the Week 25 April – 2 May 2010**

Saturday, 24 April

18.00 Tony Sheridan, RIP

Sunday, 25 April

9.15 Holy Souls

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

11.00 Mary Butler, Anniv

18.00 Pro Populo

Monday, 26 April

9.30 Michael Docherty, Int

Tuesday, 27 April

9.30 Vocations to the Priesthood

Wednesday, 28 April

**19.00** Michael Gilligan, RIP

Thursday, 29 April

19.00 Holy Souls

**St Catherine of Siena**

Friday, 30 April

9.30 Holy Souls

Saturday, 1 May

10.30 Holy Souls

**St Joseph the Worker**

18.00 Pro Populo

Sunday, 2 May

9.15 Thanksgiving to parishioners (McKee family)

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

11.00 Rory Hallahan, Anniv

18.00 Holy Souls

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND:**

Theresa Edwards, Mike Faithfull, Pauline Keohane, Bethan Larking, Margaret Lovatt Dugan, Sheila McAleer, Hugh McGrath, Joe McKenna, Christina Newman, Peggy O'Connor, Christopher O'Toole, Anne Smith

**Pilgrimage : Rome & Assisi**A pilgrimage is a wonderful way to deepen our faith, make new friends and enjoy ourselves. There are just a handful of places remaining on our parish pilgrimage to Rome & Umbria which is **23-30 October**. The list will close at the end of June. Please pick up a brochure, and ask me for an application form.**“Come & See” Weekend : 7-9 May**

This weekend is for men aged 18+ who would like a “taster” of life at our diocesan seminary, Allen Hall in Chelsea, where over 40 men are training to be priests. There are talks from seminarians and priests, opportunities for personal and shared reflection, and the chance to meet other people in the same position. Places are limited. See me if you are interested.

**Ss. Alban & Stephen : Children & Youth Coordinator**The parish in St Albans is looking to employ an experienced, creative to coordinate youth ministry and support the sacramental preparation teams. They are offering a two year contract with a salary of £20-22K depending on experience. Closing date : 21 May. For information packs contact (01727) 853585 or [alban\\_stepehn@lineone.net](mailto:alban_stepehn@lineone.net)

## **2010 GENERAL ELECTION**

### **Replies from Welwyn Hatfield Candidates**

- 1. It is currently legal to abort certain handicapped babies up to birth and healthy babies up to 24 weeks of gestation. Would you vote for any restrictions upon this? If so, could you briefly suggest what type of restrictions.**

**Grant Shapps (Cons.) :** I have voted to reduce the allowable time in which an abortion can take place and will continue to do so. I strongly believe the current abortion rates are too high and that we must do more to reduce the number of abortions, particularly repeat abortions that take place in the UK.

**Mike Hobday (Lab.) :** I believe that abortion should be safe, legal and rare. Abortion is a signal of society's failure – to educate our young people or support them. History shows, however, that making abortion illegal does not stop it, it merely makes it more dangerous. I'd like to see fewer abortions, but I believe that the way to do so is through moral and sex education rather than through passing new laws.

**Paul Zukowskyj (Lib. Dem.) :** I may, depending on the legislation proposed, especially on the 24 week rule as I have concerns that medical advances mean premature babies are surviving at very close to this point. I would not support more significant changes.

- 2. Ed Balls intends that Catholic schools be required to inform their children “how to access abortion” by virtue of the Children, Families & Schools Bill, if enacted. Do you agree with him?**

**Grant Shapps (Cons.) :** I do not agree that Catholic schools should be required to inform their children how to access abortion. The content of sex and relationship education classes should derive from a dialogue between schools and parents. I believe that sex and relationship education is an important component of learning about learning responsibility, and it is precisely for this reason that schools should have the freedom to deliver it in a way most suited to the needs of their pupils and parents. I am a strong supporter of faith schools and their ability to teach sex and relationship education in accordance with their ethos.

**Mike Hobday (Lab.) :** I do not believe that schools should be required to teach classes how to access abortion. All schools will have to teach about relationships in an accurate and balanced way, and will have to do so in a way appropriate to the age, religious and cultural backgrounds of pupils. All schools will have to reflect a range of religious and other perspectives, emphasising both rights and responsibilities.

**Paul Zukowskyj (Lib. Dem.) :** Yes.

- 3. Would you vote *against* the legalization of euthanasia?**

**Grant Shapps (Cons.) :** I would vote against the legalisation of euthanasia. Whilst realising that this is, of course, an extremely difficult area, I believe that human life is intrinsically valuable and sacrosanct, and would be supportive of moves to clarify that assisting a person to die is illegal. The principle that some individuals' lives are worth less than others because they are sick, frail or needy is one that I believe should never be espoused.

**Mike Hobday (Lab.) :** I support the current law on euthanasia, and would vote against legalisation. In particular, I would be strongly opposed to any change that allowed the ending of vulnerable people's lives.

**Paul Zukowskyj (Lib. Dem.) :** This would depend on the safeguards in the legislation to ensure no pressurisation of people with terminal illness. I assume you mean people's right to die rather than the draconian and unacceptable phraseology you actually use in the question.

**4. Do you accept that faith schools have the right to teach as the truth matters of human sexuality and relationships according to the principles of their religion?**

**Grant Shapps (Cons.) :** This is a very complex area and I can't provide a simple yes or no answer. However, I am keen to respect the right of faith schools to be able to teach their beliefs.

**Mike Hobday (Lab.) :** I think it's very important that religious supported schools are able to fulfil parents' desire to teach according to their faith and beliefs. It's important, however, that children are able to make up their own minds, so all information should be presented in an accurate and balanced way. I am happy for any school to explain to its pupils what their faith says about sexuality or relationships, but it should not present these as the only views.

**Paul Zukowskyj (Lib. Dem.) :** NO. They should teach the facts, not opinions, religious or otherwise.

**5. There is a target to increase overseas aid to 0.7% of Gross Domestic Product by 2013. Do you think this is broadly correct, or should be more or less?**

**Grant Shapps (Cons.) :** I am very supportive of the target to increase overseas aid to 0.7% of GDP by 2013. The Conservative Party are committed to achieving this target and will stick to the strict rules laid down by the OECD about what can legitimately be counted as aid and what can't.

**Mike Hobday (Lab.) :** I support the Government's plans to increase overseas aid to 0.7% of GDP by 2013. With the whole world just starting to recover from a global recession, it's more important than ever not to allow the poorest people to suffer and die without aid and support from richer countries like the UK.

**Paul Zukowskyj (Lib. Dem.) :** We should certainly have 0.7% as a *minimum*. I would hope that we may be able to increase this.