

DIARY for WEEK BEGINNING 13th JUNE 2010

✕ ELEVENTH SUNDAY (C) ✕

Sun 13	Saturday	6.30pm	✕ Vigil Mass: Intentions of the Lee family
	Sunday	9.30am	✕ Mass: Nicola di Lisio RIP
		11.00am	✕ Mass: Pro Populo
		12.30pm	<i>Baptism: Timothy Ubsdell</i>
Mon 14	Feria	9.45am	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
		10.00am	✕ Mass: William and Esther Deare RIP
Tue 15	Feria	9.45am	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
		10.00am	✕ Mass: Millicent Driscoll RIP
Wed 16	Feria	9.45am	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
		10.00am	✕ School at Mass: Albert Owen RIP
Thu 17	Feria	7.00am	✕ Mass: Mary Regan RIP
Fri 18	Feria	9.45am	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
		10.00am	✕ Mass: Franco Verdolini RIP
Sat 19	Our Lady	10.00am	✕ Mass: Eugenio Grosso RIP
		10.30am	<i>Exposition and Confessions</i>
✕ TWELFTH SUNDAY (C) ✕			
Sun 20	Saturday	6.30pm	✕ Vigil Mass: Robert Plummer
	Sunday	9.30am	✕ Mass: Weller family Intention
		11.00am	✕ Mass: Pro Populo
		4.00pm	<i>Mass for the Malayalam Community</i>

Please pray for the following whose anniversaries occur this week:



Phyllis Biram, Millicent Driscoll, William Wilson,
Rose Corr, John Jordan, Alma Cade, Dorothy Hilndle,
Seamus Timmons, Lilian Haeften, Karl Langan,
Edward Shevland, Carmela Klimek and Charles Corr.



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

OUR LADY of GILLINGHAM



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Registered Charity 235468

13th June 2010

✕ ELEVENTH SUNDAY (C) ✕

WORD OF GOD

Her sins, her many sins,
must have been forgiven her,
or she would not have shown
such great love.
(Luke 7:47)



WORD FOR TODAY

Forgiveness is not ours to give,
like a birthday present or
an unexpected gift from our largesse.
Only God can start forgiveness rolling
since it is against him that we have sinned.
So when we forgive others it is because
we have experienced the need
for forgiveness ourselves.
The more aware we are of our need,
the more ready we are to forgive.

AROUND the PARISH

HELPING THE NEEDY Deacon Michael will be running the second meeting for those wanting to help the needy in some way. It will take place **this Tuesday (15th June)** in the choir loft (or church if numbers are high). The aim is to develop a better system by which we know who needs help and that they get the help they need from the right people or groups in the parish. Notes from the first meeting are on the table in the porch as you leave.

ADORATION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT During the *Year of the Priest*, which ended on 11th June, we have been exposing the Blessed Sacrament on Saturdays after the morning Mass for the duration of Confessions. These periods of exposition will conclude next Saturday.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS Our children are making their First Holy Communions at the evening Mass next Saturday and at the 11am Mass on Sunday (19th and 20th June). Please pray for the children and their families on their special day. *Tip: come to the 9.30 Mass if you wish to avoid the crush.*

IRISH NIGHT Friday 25th June. Live music and dancing. £5 entrance fee. Supper of gammon, cabbage and jacket potato provided. Bring your own drink. 7.30-11pm.

CONFIRMATION Bishop John will be here for Confirmation on Friday 12th November at 7.30pm. The second meeting will be this Monday at 7pm.

AROUND the DIOCESE and BEYOND

ARCHBISHOP PETER SMITH Please keep in prayer Peter, our new Archbishop, who was installed on Thursday at St George's Cathedral in Southwark.

COMMISSION for SCHOOLS and COLLEGES The Diocese is looking for an Adviser for School and College Chaplaincy from September 2010 until August 2013. If you are interested please see the

notice on the board. s The commission also needs parishioners with a background in education, especially Religious Education, to offer to sit on a Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE). See Fr Geoffrey if you feel you could offer your services.

HOME and PARISH See information about a day in Maidstone on 26th June for parents and catechists celebrating the links within home and parish.

SOUTHWARK CATHOLIC YOUTH SERVICE will be holding a Youth Festival at Aylesford on 3rd July from 10.30am to 8pm. For further details please see the notice on the board. We have a booking form in the office so please see Fr Geoffrey or Deacon Michael. There will also be a World Youth Day in Madrid from 14th to 22nd August. For further information contact SCYS on 01227 272900.

INVOCATION 2010 Do you need space to consider what God wants you to do with your life? Are you intrigued by the possibility of priesthood or religious life? Would you like the chance to find out more? If the answer is yes to any of these questions, Invocation 2010 could be just the thing for you. It is our first ever National Vocations Discernment weekend and it will take place at St Mary's College, Oscott - where the Pope will stay when he comes to England. The weekend will begin on the evening of Friday 2nd July and end with a special Mass celebrated by Archbishop Vincent Nichols on Sunday 4th July. Guest speakers will include Abbot Christopher Jamison and Sr Gabriel Davison. Although it's not a recruitment weekend there will be lots of priests and religious present as well as inspiring talks and enlightening workshops. There will be Perpetual Adoration in the Seminary Chapel throughout the weekend. There will also be a giant-screen TV to make sure you don't have to miss the football! You can find out more, and book online, at the Invocation website: www.invocation.org.uk. There is a charge for the weekend - but

many parishes are subsidising young people who would like to attend. Just have a word with your parish priest or Vocations Director. It would be great to see you there! With many thanks. Stephen Langridge, Vocations Director.

DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE All are invited to join the Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes from 20th to 27th August. Travel by rail from £630, by air from £680 or by coach from £465. Young helpers' fare (by coach) £455. For further information and booking forms contact: Deacon Michael Kennedy (Pilgrimage Director) 4 Orbel Street, Battersea, London, SW11 3NZ, rcaspilgrim@btinternet.com, tel. 07521 519482.

HOPE FOR A NEW BEGINNING for the widowed, separated and divorced at Sisters of St Andrew, Edenbridge, 8 - 10 October. Beginning Experience is led by trained volunteers, encouraging participants to share their need and deal with the natural process of grief and loneliness. Contact Ruth (020 8679 7157), Sandra (01293 783965) or Susan (01227 264967). Closing date for applications is 30th June.

FAITH in FOCUS: FLAWS, FAULTS, FAILINGS AND FORGIVENESS Psychologists tell us that often when we get on our high horse about someone else's faults, it's because we recognise those same failings in ourselves and our ranting and raving at others is a way of exorcising them from our own psyche. As long as we have a target at which we can direct our anger we can push our own imperfections to the back of our mind. So we love to accuse other people of the very things that we know deep down are the same flaws that we have. As a nation we need to be satisfied by demonising certain types of criminals who become our national hate figures. It makes us feel righteous and clean. To refuse to forgive another person is an extraordinary thing yet one which we often hear from those who feel wronged.

It's tantamount to saying that they have harmed us and we are so perfect that we have never needed forgiveness from another person or from God. For that's where forgiveness comes from: God. Our sins deface the beauty of God's presence in our world and we need to ask forgiveness from God. And it usually happens that someone who is deeply aware of their own defects is also acutely aware of how much they are in need of God's love and presence, that presence which is stronger than all of our sin. The more we live lives that recognise our dependence on God's love and forgiveness, the easier we find it to pass on the forgiveness that has first been shown to us. We don't forgive out of our own store of forgiveness but out of God's. When Jesus went out to the Pharisee's home for a meal he had his feet anointed by a weeping woman who gate-crashed the dinner. She had a reputation in the town and it wasn't a good one. Jesus cleverly pointed out that the great love she showed him would be impossible if she had not experienced forgiveness in her life. Strangely it was the religious people who had difficulty forgiving her. Maybe they had kept the rules and felt better than her, and in no need of God's forgiveness? Our "trespasses" are only forgiven to the same degree that we forgive those of others. How forgiving are you? Your answer will tell you a lot about how much you have experienced God's love.

ATTENDANCE last week was **437** and we received **£636.63** in the offertory. ♦ This weekend there is a retiring collection for the Catholic Trust for England and Wales. This fund supplies the Bishops of England and Wales with the revenue necessary for the central administration of the Church in this country. We have received a letter from the Holy Ghost Fathers thanking us for our generous response to their Mission Appeal last month (see the notice). We have received a similar thank you from CAFOD for our recent cumulative donation of **£84.58**.