

**DIARY for WEEK BEGINNING 11th JULY 2010**

**✕ FIFTEENTH SUNDAY (C) ✕**

<b>Sun 11</b>	Saturday	6.30pm	✕ Vigil Mass: Verdolini Family
	Sunday	9.30am	✕ Mass: Pro Populo
		11.00am	✕ Mass: Winifred Brown RIP
		12.30pm	<i>Baptism of Emily Dowling</i>
<b>Mon 12</b>	Feria	9.45am	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
		10.00am	✕ Mass: Bartholomew De Souza
<b>Tue 13</b>	Feria	9.45am	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
		10.00am	✕ Mass: Phil Power RIP
<b>Wed 14</b>	Feria	10.00am	✕ Requiem Mass: Anthony Cullen
<b>Thur 15</b>	St Bonaventure	7.00am	✕ Mass: Mary Jeans RIP
<b>Fri 16</b>	Our Lady of Mount Carmel	9.45am	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
		10.00am	✕ Mass: Arthur Ryan RIP
<b>Sat 17</b>	Our Lady	10.00am	✕ Mass: Cosimo Larini RIP
		10.30am	<i>Confessions</i>

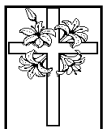
**✕ SIXTEENTH SUNDAY (C) ✕**

<b>Sun 18</b>	Saturday	6.30pm	✕ Vigil Mass: Pro Populo
	Sunday	9.30am	✕ Mass: Eugenio Grosso RIP
		11.00am	✕ Mass: Dec'd of Bishop Family <i>Baptism of Jamie Daniel Bland</i>
		12 noon	<i>Baptism of Luke Norris</i>
		4pm	✕ Mass: for the Malayalam Community

Please pray for Anthony Cullen, recently dead; and for the following whose anniversaries occur this week:

Ian Boorman, Wilfred O'Neill, Jack McCarthy, Peter Lyons, Catherine Pullen, Walter Mason, Nellie Stafford, Mary Jeans, Stephen Hoadley, Eileen Smye, Alice Redgrave and Alfred Young.

*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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 Parish Priest Fr Geoffrey Pointer  
 Parish Deacon Rev Michael Knight [574404]  
 Hospital Chaplain Fr James Clark [830000]

11th July 2010

Registered Charity 235468

**✕ FIFTEENTH SUNDAY (C) ✕**

**WORD OF GOD**

Which of these three, do you think, proved himself a neighbour to the man who fell into the brigands' hands? (Luke 10:36)

**WORD FOR TODAY**

Do you see people in need as a chance to get something for yourself, as a nuisance or as an opportunity to give of your time, talents and possibly money? These are the three attitudes in the parable of the Good Samaritan and they are as true today as they ever were.



**SEA SUNDAY (11th July)**

Loneliness, danger and separation from loved ones are just some of the problems seafarers face. Around the world, night and day, missions to seafarers provide help and support to those in need. Christian agencies operate in hundreds of ports caring for the practical and spiritual welfare of seafarers of all nationalities and faiths. Sea Sunday is a day set aside in the Church's calendar to remember seafarers and to pray for them, their families and those that serve them. It began in 1975 when the three Christian maritime missionary societies – The Mission to Seafarers (Anglican), the Apostleship of the Sea (Roman Catholic) and the Sailors' Society (Free Church) decided there should be a day in which the contributions of seafarers to the country were recognised. Sea Sunday has gone on to become an international day with services, parades and ship blessings.

*Heavenly Father, we pray to you for those on the perilous ocean, that you will embrace them with your mighty protection and grant them success in all their rightful undertakings. Grant them in all hours of need to see that they have a God who remembers them, and grant them grace in the hour of danger to commit their souls into your hands. O Lord Jesus Christ, who can rebuke the storm and bring it to silence, and lay the roaring waves to rest, show them who call to you out of the deep that you hear their prayer and will save them. And finally bring us all to the only safe port. Amen.*

## **AROUND the PARISH**

**FRIDAY MASS** Since moving the First Friday Mass to the evening the numbers attending have dropped by over a half. It was hoped that making this move once a month would give more people a chance to come to Mass; this seems not to have been the case. In view of this, Mass on the first Friday of the month will revert to its morning schedule from August. Sorry it didn't work out.

**QUIZ NIGHT** Next Saturday, 17th July at 7.30: £5 per person. A supper of sausages, mash and beans will be provided. Please bring your own drinks. There is a list on the table in the porch - please let us know if you will be coming and how many people will be in your party as this does help with catering.

**PARISH FINANCE MEETING** Monday 19th July, 7.30pm in the presbytery.

**PARISH BARBECUE** Sunday 25th July at 1.00pm in the presbytery garden. £5 a head and bring your own drinks. A relaxing get-together and a chance to enjoy the 'barbecue summer' delayed from last year.

**GOING on HOLIDAY?** No need to worry about where to find the nearest church to your holiday destination. We have a directory in the office of all the Catholic Churches in England and Wales. If you are able to access the internet then you can also follow this link: <http://www.catholicchurch.org.uk/Catholic-Church/The-Church-in-England-and-Wales/Dioceses>. We also have out-of-date copies of the Scottish and Irish directories.

**BEEN AWAY?** You can keep in touch with events in our parish with back issues of the newsletter. These are in a box just inside the sacristy door and they are kept for several weeks. If you wish for any particular issue for any reason (a special Mass which has been said for instance) please leave a note marked

'Secretary' and we will print one off for you.

**READERS** New lists are in the pigeon holes in the sacristy.

**DIARY DATE** The next Indian Indulgence meal will be on 26th September at 1.00pm.

## **AROUND the DIOCESE and BEYOND**

**DO YOU HAVE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION EXPERIENCE?** If so the Diocese would like you to make contact with Maureen Todd on 01689 829331. Maureen is recruiting people to serve as Catholic Representatives in the area of education.

**The PASSAGE** Please support the excellent work which The Passage does for homeless people in central London, by attending The Passage annual Garden Party in Westminster Abbey College Gardens on Wednesday 21st July from 5.30 to 8.30pm. Tickets £25 each including wine, buffet supper and live music. Tickets from The Passage, St Vincent's Centre, Carlisle Place, London, SW1P 1NL, 020 7592 1856. See the poster.

**A DAY WITH MARY** At the Church of Our Lady and St Peter, Victoria Drive, SW19 on Saturday 31st July. Details on the noticeboard.

**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](mailto:rcaspilgrim@btinternet.com), tel. 07521 519482.

**THE VISIT of POPE BENEDICT** Take with you a copy of the leaflet produced in conjunction with the Bishops' Conferences of England and Wales, and that of Scotland. It is intended to give as much

background information as possible about the visit of the Holy Father to this country in September. For more information have a look at the Papal Website ([www.thepapalvisit.org.uk](http://www.thepapalvisit.org.uk)) which has been especially created to promote, support and provide information about the Holy Father's visit. ♦ Our Diocese, along with all the others, has been invited to travel to the main events: the Hyde Park Prayer Vigil on Saturday 18th September in the afternoon and the Be- atification Mass in Birmingham on Sunday 19th September. We need someone to organize the parish bookings and travel. If anyone is interested please see Fr Geoffrey who has just received all the details.

**FAITH in FOCUS:: A TALE OF THREE PITIES** It was late on Sunday evening when Paddy Walsh was knocked into the gutter by a hit and run driver. It happened on Baker Row and there weren't many people about. But perhaps help was at hand when Wayne Thompson came down the road and saw Paddy lying in a pool of blood. Wayne had recently been made redundant and was off to his weekly drinking session with his mates in the Rose and Crown. As he approached Paddy, he noticed his wallet in the inside pocket of his jacket. It contained more than enough for a good night's drinking and a few extras during the week. Wayne took it and left Paddy lying there, unconscious. On the opposite side of the road was St Luke's Church and Canon Smith had just put on his slippers after the last service of the day and was looking forward to a relaxing evening by the fire with a good book. As he glanced out of the window he noticed Paddy on the other side of the street. He did nothing because he knew someone else would be along soon and, after all, Sunday was his most tiring day and he was entitled to a

bit of rest after looking after people for the other six days of the week. Yes, someone would be along soon. Baker Row Shelter for the Homeless would shortly be opening its doors for the night, and John Grime was hoping to be first in the queue and get one of the beds closest to the radiators and a bowl of soup while it was still hot. He saw Paddy, by now groaning in the gutter, and was moved to pity. Opposite was a public phone box and John went and called 999. Within a short time the ambulance arrived and took Paddy off to hospital. He wanted to go with the ambulance but the police needed to interview him and take a statement from him down at the Police Station. It meant that he ended up last in the queue for the shelter. For Wayne Thompson, Paddy was prey, fair game. For Canon Smith he was a nuisance and an inconvenience. For John Grime he was not only someone in need but someone who offered him a chance to serve and minister to his needs. When you are faced with vulnerable people, which of the three attitudes do you take? But, more importantly, why?

**ATTENDANCE** Last week we welcomed a total of **407** people to Mass. The offertory collection came to **£1,053.10**, augmented by an annual cheque; thank you all for your generosity. We are also grateful to those in the hospital who have added over **£900** to the Papal Visit collection. We also received **£59** from Smurfit Kappa from for the waste paper in our skip. The skip will take cartons, old directories etc. and we are grateful to all of those who regularly bring their scrap papers etc to help fill it. ♦ Today is Sea Sunday, our chance to help the Apostleship of the Sea make a real difference to the lives of seafarers (see front page). Please give generously in the **retiring collection** today.