

✕ **FIFTEENTH SUNDAY (B)** ✕

Sun 12	Saturday	6.30pm	✕ Vigil Mass: Emmanuel Muscat RIP
	Sunday	9.30am	✕ Mass: Pro Populo
		11.00am	✕ Mass: Eugenio Grosso RIP
Mon 13	Feria	9.45am	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
		10.00am	✕ Mass: Peter & Mary Buck RIP
Tue 14	Feria	9.45am	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
		10.00am	✕ Mass: Angeline Taylor RIP
Wed 15	St Bonaventure	9.45am	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
		10.00am	✕ School at Mass: Mary Jeans RIP
Thu 16	Our Lady of Mount Carmel	7.00am	✕ Mass: Carmen Da Silva RIP
Fri 17	Feria	9.45am	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
		10.00am	✕ Mass: Cosimo Larini RIP
Sat 18	Our Lady	10.00am	✕ Mass: George and Agnes O'Sullivan RIP
		10.30am	<i>Confessions</i>

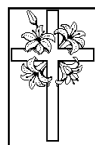
✕ **SIXTEENTH SUNDAY (B)** ✕

Sun 19	Saturday	6.30pm	✕ Vigil Mass: Dec'd Members of Bishop family
	Sunday	9.30am	✕ Mass: Thomas Kiernan RIP
		11.00am	✕ Mass: Pro Populo
		1.00pm	<i>Baptism of Shannon Walling-Town</i>
		4.00pm	✕ Mass for the Malayalam community:

Please pray 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, Alfred Young, Lorenza Rutland, Joan Wright and Catherine Jordan.



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 Deacon Rev Michael Knight [574404]
 Hospital Chaplain Fr James Clark [830000]

Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark - Registered Charity 235468

12th July 2009

✕ **FIFTEENTH SUNDAY** ✕

WORD of GOD

So they set off to preach repentance; and they cast out many devils, and anointed many sick people with oil and cured them.

(Mark 6:12-13)

WORD for TODAY

The call to be disciples is one that never ends. Just as Jesus sent people out to be witnesses to his teaching in his own day, so today he asks Christians to be witnesses to God's promises in the complex world of the twenty-first century. And that call is addressed to us.



'The Seminarians' ...John Watts and Daniel Weatherley (Daniel was here on pastoral experience last month), both students training for the Priesthood, present an evening of music for violin and guitar. **Saturday 18th July at 7.45pm** at Our Lady of Gillingham Church. The concert will include music for all the family to enjoy, from beautiful sacred melodies to traditional Irish Folk tunes. No tickets required, but suggested donation at the door £5 (to include refreshments).



AROUND the PARISH

FUNDRAISING Sincere thanks to our organizers for the successful table sale that was held over the last couple of weeks. Somehow or other they managed to raise just under **£400** for the building fund. Well done! And our Irish Evening on Friday was equally successful, with a packed house, a splendid supper and great entertainment, the organizers netted **£600** profit for the fund. Many thanks to those who worked so hard and to those who supported us.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY Next Sunday will be the last of the special children's services at the 9.30 Mass until Sunday 6th September. Our grateful thanks to all of those who willingly give up their time in Mass to teach and encourage the children.

NEWSLETTERS If you have been away, there are usually some back issues of our parish newsletter in a box just inside the sacristy door. Please help yourself.

MASS INTENTIONS If you wish to have a Mass intention offered for your loved ones on a specific date please note that we are fully booked up until well into September. Note, however, that if a visiting priest concelebrates he can offer the Mass for a separate intention and we may therefore be able to add an intention at short notice. You can also book Masses for next year in the forward planner.

CHILDREN'S MISSALS We are temporarily out of stock of these beautiful illustrated CTS books. Some more are on order and should be available in a couple of weeks.

LEGION OF MARY The Legion carries out much of the 'behind the

scenes' pastoral work of the Church, and is always ready to welcome new members. Meetings are in the presbytery (2A Ingram Road) so if you are interested please feel free to come along at 10.30 on any Thursday. Meetings generally last about an hour.

JOSS BAY Our annual parish outing to Joss Bay will be on Sunday 2nd August. The coach leaves from the church after the 9.30am Mass. This is great fun for all, from toddlers to grandparents, and everyone in between! The cost this year will be £12 for adults and £6 for children under 10 years. To book a place (early booking is recommended) please ring John Formosa on 573378.

LOOK AHEAD Please keep Sunday 29th November free in your diary: the Indian Indulgence Team is organizing one of its delicious lunches - proceeds to go to the Building Fund.

AROUND the DIOCESE and BEYOND

GRANDPARENTS' PILGRIMAGE to the Shrine of Our Lady in Willingham on 25th July. For details contact Catherine Wiley, the Grandparents' Pilgrimage Organiser on telephone 01328 820217 or email catherine.wiley1@aol.com.

BECOMING MORE LIKE CHRIST An excellent new publication of guidelines for the sacraments from our own Christian Education Centre. To order a copy (£6 + postage) contact the centre: 020 8672 2422, or email: bookshop@cectootingbec.org.uk. (Fr Geoffrey has a copy.)

FAITH IN FOCUS: DIAL-A-DISCIPLE Have you noticed how as a society we are becoming less "hands-on"? We seem to do things at a distance or get

others to do things for us that previously we would have sorted out ourselves. There are those, for example, who never do their own cleaning, washing and ironing because they have a woman who comes in and "does" for them. Recently it has become popular to go on the internet and get the supermarket to deliver the groceries to your front door. You never have to leave home or enter a shop again! On a more serious level we have for years handed over the care of our loved ones to "professionals" claiming that we cannot cope with them at home. And at the drop of a hat we invite people into our homes, from decorators to funeral directors, on the grounds that if we pay them they will do the job for us. In today's gospel Jesus summons the twelve apostles together and sends them out in pairs to teach people all that he himself has been teaching them since they met him. They are to be disciples, people who learn at the feet of their master and then in turn become devotees of his teaching and witnesses to its power in their own lives. The call to be a disciple is one that Jesus continues to make in our day. If we agree to be Christians then we are signing on the dotted line to being disciples who pass on the message of eternal life. But how exactly are we doing this? Do we make a conscious effort to be mouthpieces of the gospel in our neighbourhood, on the streets where we live and in the places where we work? Are we active apostles, bold believers or just closet Christians? If people wanted to have some idea of what it meant to follow Christ would they pick up any clues from the way we live and behave? It would be understandable, but

sad, if we fell into the trap of "distance discipleship" and "hands-off" Christianity given the way that today we put a premium on convenience rather than involvement. Yet no one else can do what Jesus asks of us. There is no person who can come in and "do" for us, no website that can absolve us from preaching Christ on the front line, no professional clergy or teachers who can make life easier for us. There's no such thing as an armchair Christian; being a disciple is a "hands-on" job.

ATTENDANCE 368 people attended Mass last weekend and gave **£594.32** in the collection. Thank you. The missions received £24.90 from the red boxes. If you have recently handed in a red mission box, please be kind enough to collect it again from the windowsill right at the very back of the porch. We also received £43.20 from the last time the paper skip was emptied. We do appreciate the newspapers, cardboard etc. which gets put into the skip for recycling. ♦ This Week is **Sea Sunday** and there is a retiring collection for the Apostleship of the Sea. Please be generous in your support for the chaplains who minister to the many Catholic seafarers, some of whom are away from homes and families for months at a time. Seafarers are commonly recruited from poorer countries where wages are lower, and they work in difficult and often dangerous conditions. They suffer from loneliness, spiritual deprivation and even exploitation as they transport the goods we use and consume every day.

PAVING SLABS Fr James has some patio paving slabs which anyone can have: just call and collect (phone 854844).