

## DIARY for WEEK BEGINNING 3rd OCTOBER 2010

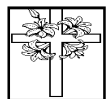
### ✠ TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY (C) ✠

<b>Sun 3</b>	Saturday	6.30pm	✠ Vigil Mass: Francesca Foulkes RIP
	Sunday	9.30am	✠ Mass: Pro Populo
		11.00am	✠ Mass: Fred Weller RIP
		4.00pm	<i>October Devotions</i>
<b>Mon 4</b>	St Francis of Assisi	9.45am	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
		10.00am	✠ Mass: Mary Hastie RIP
<b>Tue 5</b>	Feria	9.45am	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
		10.00am	✠ Mass: Elizabeth Buck RIP
<b>Wed 6</b>	St Bruno	9.45am	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
		10.00am	✠ School at Mass: Ken Hutchison RIP
<b>Thu 7</b>	Our Lady of the Rosary	7.00am	✠ Mass: Mr and Mrs Healey's Intention
<b>Fri 8</b>	Feria	9.45am	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
		10.00am	✠ Mass: Diana Temple RIP
<b>Sat 9</b>	Our Lady	10.00am	✠ Mass: Deceased of Bishop Family
		10.30am	<i>Confessions</i>

### ✠ TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY (C) ✠

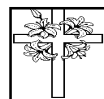
<b>Sun 10</b>	Saturday	6.30pm	✠ Vigil Mass: Pro Populo
	Sunday	9.30am	✠ Mass: Darrell Franz RIP
		11.00am	✠ Mass: Maurice and Mary O'Regan RIP <i>Also renewal of marriage vows (John and Ann Formosa) and baptism of Taylor Greig</i>
		4.00pm	<i>October Devotions</i>

Please pray for the following whose anniversaries occur this week:



Doris Whittell, Elizabeth Buck, Ann D'Mello,  
Peter Lewis, Susan Patterson and Jane Reid.

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



## OUR LADY of GILLINGHAM



2A Ingram Road, Gillingham, Kent, ME7 1YL  
Phone (01634) 852979  
Email: [office@ourladyofgillingham.org](mailto:office@ourladyofgillingham.org)  
Website: [www.ourladyofgillingham.org](http://www.ourladyofgillingham.org)  
Parish Priest Fr Geoffrey Pointer  
Parish Deacon Rev Michael Knight [574404]  
Hospital Chaplain Fr James Clark [830000]

Registered Charity 235468

3rd October 2010

### ✠ TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY (C) ✠

#### WORD OF GOD

"When you have done all you have been told to do, say, 'We are merely servants: we have done no more than our duty.'" *(Luke 17: 10)*

#### WORD FOR TODAY

"Increase our faith" is a reasonable request and in the asking the disciples are obviously hoping for an answer in the affirmative. Instead Jesus appears to rebuke them. If you would use the faith you have you wouldn't ask for more.



**OCTOBER DEVOTIONS** 'Those who recite five decades of the Rosary in church, or as a family, a religious community, or as a group of the faithful, may gain a plenary indulgence daily; in other circumstances a partial indulgence. A partial indulgence may be obtained daily by reciting the Litany of Loreto and the Prayer to St Joseph. The practice of reciting the Rosary should be explained and commended.' *(From the Diocesan Directory.)*  
✠ October Devotions and Benediction continue throughout the month on Sunday afternoons at 4 o'clock.



## AROUND the PARISH

**INDIAN INDULGENCE** Thank you to everyone who attended our Indian Indulgence meal last Sunday, and special thanks to those who worked so hard preparing the meal and cleaning away afterwards. A good time was had by all and we raised **£700** for the Building Fund.

**Fr PAUL** telephoned on Saturday afternoon; he arrived safely home and thanks us all for our welcome and support.

**HARVEST FAST DAY** Even if you forgot to fast last Friday, and put aside a few pounds for those less fortunate, please consider taking a Harvest Fast Day envelope from the windowsill in the porch and putting in a donation. The recent news of events in Pakistan, Niger, Gaza, Afghanistan, Haiti, East Africa, Zimbabwe and Darfur and Chad show us how urgently support is needed. As Catholics we can be very sure of one thing: CAFOD will be one of the first agencies right in the heart of the troubled areas, working with local people to give aid to those who have lost everything. ■ This week please hand in your CAFOD Harvest Fast Day donations as you leave Mass (envelopes on the windowsill in the porch).

**TABLE SALE** There will be a table sale after Sunday morning Masses this weekend in the McMahon Hall. Proceeds go to the Building Fund.

**THE CATENIANS** Have you ever thought about joining Association? The Catenian are an international brotherhood of Catholic laymen who meet socially at least once a month and which provides brothers and their families with opportunities for fun and friendship. The Medway Towns Circle is one

of the local branches in this area. The Circle meets on the third Thursday of each month at The Holiday Inn, Rochester Airport. Next week their will be Catenians present at every Mass who can talk about this to you.

**THE ROSARY** The Rosary is recited every weekday in the church, half an hour before the Mass time. We are reminded that those who recite five decades of the rosary in church, as a family, a religious community, or as a group of the faithful, may gain a plenary indulgence daily.

**ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC?** Or maybe you know somebody who is? The RCIA is a small, friendly and informal group that explores the Catholic faith together. By doing the course, you are not obliged to become a Catholic, it is entirely your choice - there is absolutely no pressure. We meet for one hour a week from now through to Easter 2011, during term time. If you wish to join, or would like to know more, please phone Gillian Knight on 574404. This week we meet in the church for a guided tour.

## AROUND the DIOCESE and BEYOND

**BLESSED JOHN HENRY NEWMAN** At the request of the Bishops the Holy See has granted *recognitio* to the inclusion of Blessed John Henry Newman in the National Calendar for England as an Optional Memorial on 9th October. Further details may be found at: <http://www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/Calendar/National/Newman.shtml>.

**VACANCY** at St John Fisher School for a part time midday meals supervisor. Please see the notice on the schools notice board.

**DIOCESAN DAY of PRAYER** Saturday 9th October, feast-day of Blessed John Henry Newman and anniversary of his reception into the Catholic Church by Blessed Dominic of the Mother of God. In St George's Cathedral, the church in which Cardinal Newman preached his first sermon on his return from Rome as a Catholic priest. A day of renewal starting at 9.30am and finishing at 4.45pm. See the notice on the board.

**A DAY WITH MARY** at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 9th October. Please see the notice in the porch. ✕ The 26th Annual National Rosary Crusade of Reparation will be held on Saturday 16th October at Westminster Cathedral. See the notice.

**EXPLORING SPIRITUALITY AND DEMENTIA** A half day event (either morning or afternoon) at Aylesford Priory on 23rd October. This event is for carers, pastoral worker and Eucharistic Ministers as well as clergy. Please see the notice in the porch.

**FAITH IN FOCUS** Because of his faith, the just man shall live. We hear in today's first reading the original prophetic line made so central by St. Paul. We are to live by faith in Christ who loved us and gave himself on the Cross for us. The world, though, can seem to us as seventh-century Judah seemed to Habakkuk - in the control of God's enemies. The strife and discord we face in our own lives can sometimes cause us to wonder, as the prophet does, why God doesn't seem to hear or intervene when we cry for help. We can't let our hearts be hardened by the trials we undergo. As today's psalm reminds us: Israel forgot his mighty works, lost faith in the sound words of his promise. They tested God

in the desert, demanding a sign, but God didn't redeem Israel from Egypt only to let them die in the desert. And he didn't ransom us from futility only to abandon us in our trials. He is our God and we are the people he shepherds always - though at times his mercy and justice seem long delayed. If we call on the Lord, as the Apostles do in today's gospel, he will increase our faith, will stir to a flame the Holy Spirit who has dwelt within us since baptism. As Paul tells us in today's second reading, the Lord will always give us the love and self-control we need to bear our share of hardship for the gospel - with a strength that can come from God alone. Our task is to continue doing what he has commanded - to love and to build up his kingdom - trusting that his vision still presses on to its fulfilment. For his vision still has its time. One day, though, we who are merely servants will be invited to eat and drink at our Master's table. It is that day we anticipate with each celebration of the eucharist.

**ATTENDANCE** Mass attendance last week was **332**; we received **£654.80** in the collection. Thank you. Receipts from recent Sunday coffees came to **£40**. This money goes towards the Building Fund. Thank you to our staff. **Next weekend** there will be a retiring collection for Needs of the Diocese, a collection that helps the Archbishop make grants to some of the smaller parishes of the diocese.

**THE LAST WORD** Accept surprises that upset your plans, shatter your dreams, give a completely different turn to your day and (who knows?) to your life. It is not chance. Leave the Father free to weave the pattern of your day. (*Dom Helder Camara*)