

# OUR LADY of GILLINGHAM



2A Ingram Road, Gillingham, Kent, ME7 1YL  
 Phone (01634) 852979  
 Email: 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

4th April 2010

## ✕ SECOND SUNDAY of EASTER (C) ✕

### WORD OF GOD

The sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past.

(Acts 5:15)

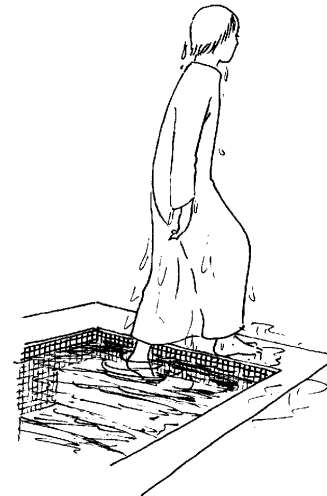


### WORD FOR TODAY

A week on from the Easter events and there is still a buzz in the air. Every Sunday is a mini-Easter and every celebration of eucharist is an opportunity to rediscover the saving power of God in our lives, forgiving us, strengthening us and setting us free.

### HIGH OR LOW? (11th April)

If the Sunday after Easter Sunday is Low Sunday then when is High Sunday? The answer is that it doesn't exist. It's actually called "Low" because of the new Christians who were received into the Church at Easter. After baptism they were given some white garments to put on and they wore them for a week. The second Sunday was the day they took them off (lowered them) and it was officially called "Dominica in albis depositis" (the Sunday when the white garments were taken off). Of course there's another name for this Sunday, "Quasimodo Sunday". But that's a different story that stems from the fact that the first two Latin words that were sung on this day are "quasi" and "modo". In his famous account of the hunchback of



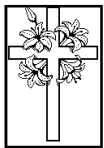
Notre Dame, Victor Hugo calls him Quasimodo because he was reportedly found as a baby on Low Sunday, or Quasimodo Sunday.

## DIARY for WEEK BEGINNING 11th APRIL 2010

### ✕ SECOND SUNDAY of EASTER (C) ✕ Divine Mercy Sunday

Sun 11	Saturday	6.30pm	✕ Mass: Intention of Lee Family
	Sunday	9.30am	✕ Mass: Nicola di Lisio RIP
		11.00am	✕ Mass: Pro Populo
Mon 12	Feria	10.00am	✕ Mass: Simon Weller
Tue 13	Feria	10.00am	✕ Mass: Michael O'Brien
Wed 14	Feria	10.00am	✕ Requiem Mass: Colin Shepherd ✕ Concelebrated Mass: Judy Luckhurst RIP
Thu 15	Feria	7.00am	✕ Mass: Tommie Whiston RIP
Fri 16	Feria	10.00am	✕ Mass: Eugenio Grosso RIP
Sat 17	Feria	10.00am	✕ Mass: Deceased of Larkin and Costello family
		10.30am	<i>Exposition and Confessions</i>
<b>✕ THIRD SUNDAY of EASTER (C) ✕</b>			
Sun 18	Saturday	6.30pm	✕ Vigil Mass: Emanuel Muscat RIP
	Sunday	9.30am	✕ Mass: Pro Populo
		11.00am	✕ Mass: Jean Babbington RIP
		12.30pm	<i>Baptism: Regan Wilson</i>
	4.00pm	<i>Malayalam Community Mass</i>	

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Mary Mitchell, William (Bill) Murphy, Colin Shepherd and Queenie Howard, recently dead, and for the following, whose anniversaries occur this week:



Alfonzo Gizzi, Daniel Scullion, Jane Liston, Carlton Aubert, Carmen Buttigies, Joan Staples, Antonio Cilloni, Agatha Wines, Vera Lechie, Martina Thomas, Ruth Caulfield, Baby Lloyd Albert, Maria Finlay and Elizabeth Clark.



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

## AROUND the PARISH

**YOUR PRAYERS** are asked for the following who died recently and whose funerals take place over the coming week: Mary Mitchell (funeral and burial at Woodlands Cemetery, Monday 12th April, 11am), Colin Shepherd (Requiem Mass Wednesday 14th April, 10am, cremation at Medway), Queenie Howard (Cremation Service at Medway, Wednesday 14th April, 3.20pm) and William Murphy (Requiem Mass, Monday 19th April, 1.30pm, cremation at Bobbing).

**EXPOSITION** During the *Year of the Priest* we expose the Blessed Sacrament on Saturdays after the morning Mass for the duration of Confessions.

**FIRST COMMUNIONS** The next session for the children will be on Saturday evening, 24th April, at 5.30 in the McMahan Hall.

**INDIAN INDULGENCE LUNCH** Sunday 25th April 1.00 pm. £6 for adults and £1 for children under 10. Please put your name on the list in the porch. Please bring your own wine / beer.

**FIRST FRIDAY MASS** In response to a suggestion from the Vision group, Mass on the First Friday of each month will in future be celebrated *ad orientem* in the evening at 7.30. This will begin in May.

**MISSION APPEAL** on behalf of the Holy Ghost Fathers will take place at Masses on the weekend of 16th May. Please support this appeal.

**VOUCHERS FOR SCHOOLS** Some supermarkets are again giving vouchers for school equipment. Please collect them and put them in

the marked box on the windowsill in the porch. These are a great help to our parish school in providing extra items for the children.

## AROUND the DIOCESE and BEYOND

**EASTERTIDE** (*From the Directory*) In the Easter season each ferial day has its own Mass, without Gloria. There are four seasonal prefaces (the first Easter preface being proper to the Octave). On a memorial the preface may be of the saint or of the season. *Alleluia* is added to the Entrance and Communion antiphons and to the antiphons in the Divine Office unless the sense precludes it. The Sundays of Easter are of first class rank and have precedence over all other celebrations.

**EASTER DUTIES** The last day for fulfilling the precept of Easter Communion is, the feast of the Most Holy Trinity, 30th May. Canon 2042 of *The Catechism* states: The third precept ('You shall humbly receive your Creator in Holy Communion at least during the Easter season') guarantees as a minimum the reception of the Lord's Body and Blood in connection with the Paschal feasts, the origin and centre of the Christian liturgy. **MY DAY by DAY** for Easter is available on the table in the porch.

**ANNUAL ALTAR SERVERS' RALLY** See the poster for this event on Monday 3rd May at Aylesford.

**MASS in CELEBRATION of MARRIAGE** This annual Mass is for couples celebrating their 10th, 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th and beyond wedding anniversaries. At St George's Cathedral on Saturday 12th June at 3pm.

Couples are invited to apply, thus securing a personal invitation and special arrangements on the day. Please ask Fr Geoffrey or Deacon Michael; there is a list in the sacristy.

**FAITH in FOCUS: CASTING A SHADOW** When we talk about casting a shadow over something we usually mean it in a negative way. We mean that something is ruined or spoilt. But today, in the Acts of the Apostles, everyone wants to get close to Peter, just on the off-chance that his shadow will fall over them and they will be healed. The Acts of the Apostles is really the account of how the Church grew and spread in the days and years that followed the resurrection of Jesus. It's wonderful to see how the apostles became transformed from frightened men, huddling together in a locked room, into forthright preachers of the word of God, empowered by the Holy Spirit. There's a vibrant sense of excitement in the early chapters as we see that God has not stopped working wonders and marvels and that the number of new Christians starts to grow and the Good News begins to be broadcast over new territories. Of course, because of our baptism, each of us is called to keep this message alive in our world today. We are the new Easter messengers who are fired with enthusiasm by the events of Good Friday and Easter Sunday. God in Christ has tackled head-on all that corrodes our humanity, all that eats away at our dignity, and has emerged triumphant, even over the ultimate threshold of death. Now we can really live and breathe. Some

time ago the Church in Britain used a slogan which said, "We are the Easter people and Alleluia is our song." Being part of an Easter people summons us to be joyful, for we sing of a great victory that God has achieved in Christ. And our Easter song is echoed on every one of the other fifty-one Sundays of the year because each Sunday is a mini-Easter, a making present of the saving acts of Jesus. Every Sunday, even in Lent, is a day not for fasting but for feasting. To "celebrate" liturgy is to broadcast what our "celebrity" God has done and is still doing for us here and now. In worship celebrity and celebration are intimately linked. So let's be the Easter people. Let's be proud of our God. Let's celebrate the wonders God is performing for us. And, yes, let's cast a wide shadow.

**EASTER EGG RAFFLE** : The winning tickets are 287, 291, 311, 322, 407, 435, 822. These prizes are available in the sacristy, but please claim them before their "best before" date, which is in July of this year.

**ATTENDANCE** Over the Easter Triduum, **1,117** people (just 8 fewer than last year) attended services (**183** on Maundy Thursday, **234** on Good Friday, **139** at the Easter Vigil, **306** at the 9.30 and **255** at the 11). It is truly wonderful to see such numbers. Fr Geoffrey is very grateful to parishioners in contributing so generously to the collection (one of only two occasions in the year when the entire collection is personal to him). The Good Friday collection for the Holy Places amounted to **£280.15**.