

## DIARY for WEEK BEGINNING 24th OCTOBER 2010

### ✠ THIRTIETH SUNDAY (C) ✠

<b>Sun 24</b>	Saturday	6.30pm	✠ Mass: Rita Keating RIP
	Sunday	9.30am	✠ Mass: Patrick Kiernan RIP
		11.00am	✠ Mass: Pro Populo
		12.30pm	<i>Baptism of Aaron McCabe</i>
		4.00pm	<i>October Devotions</i>
<b>Mon 25</b>	Feria	9.30am	<i>Holy Rosary (daily, 30 mins before Mass)</i>
		10.00am	✠ Mass: William Azavedo RIP
<b>Tue 26</b>	Feria	10.00am	✠ Mass: Eamonn Green RIP
<b>Wed 27</b>	Feria	10.00am	✠ Mass: Peter Gunthorpe RIP
<b>Thu 28</b>	SS. Simon & Jude	7.00am	✠ Mass: Thomas and Peggy Hands RIP
<b>Fri 29</b>	Feria	10.00am	✠ Mass: Winifred Brown RIP
<b>Sat 30</b>	Our Lady	10.00am	✠ Mass: Ben de Souza RIP
		10.30am	<i>Confessions</i>
<b>✠ ALL SAINTS ✠</b>			
<b>Sun 31</b>	Saturday	6.30pm	✠ Mass: Pro Populo
	Sunday	9.30am	✠ Mass: Nicola di Lisio RIP
		11.00am	✠ Mass: Mary Mahoney RIP
		12.15pm	<i>Baptism of Rhys and Jacob Dorrington</i>
		4.00pm	<i>October Devotions</i>

## 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]

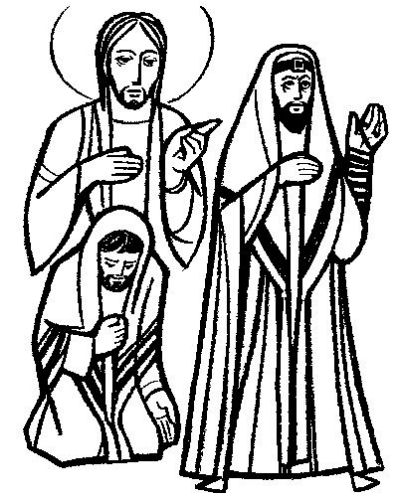
Registered Charity 235468

24th October 2010

### ✠ THIRTIETH SUNDAY (C) ✠

#### WORD OF GOD

"Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the man who humbles himself will be exalted." (Luke 18:14)

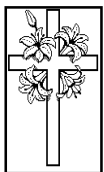


#### WORD FOR TODAY

Man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.

Please pray for the following whose anniversaries occur this week:

Regina Szczygielska, Christian Byrne, Margaret Blaire, William Azavedo,  
 Muriel Walsh, Katherine Prysiazniuk, Eileen Rodbard,  
 Paul Read, Marion Gittens, Agnes Haighton,  
 Carmela Sordillo, Kathleen Hemmings, Heather Stowell,  
 Pascal D'Armenia, Violet Lewis and Joyce Plummer.



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



#### TODAY is WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

our chance to be united with Catholics all over the world in prayer, friendship and support. We share in the work of missionaries and the young churches as they too share their faith and give life, often in difficult and dangerous circumstances. Today's collection is essential to the Church's life and outreach across the world, sharing God's love and changing lives. The work of the young Church depends on our spiritual and material support for its survival and growth. The money collected today will go in its entirety to support mission projects worldwide. Please give what you can, every gift makes a difference and if possible please use the Gift Aid envelopes provided.

## **AROUND the PARISH**

**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 during October, may gain a plenary indulgence daily.

**CEMETERY VISIT** We will be praying for our deceased loved ones at Woodlands Cemetery at 3pm on Sunday, 7th November. This will replace the usual monthly Benediction.

**CHRISTMAS IS COMING** Please support the church by purchasing your Christmas cards, Advent calendars, art calendars and Christmas candles from the wide range of Christmas items available from the repository.

**INTERESTED in PLAYING the ORGAN at MASS?** Currently Peggy Enver is our sole organist and would like to invite anyone interested in playing to come and speak with her after 11.00am Mass.

**THE LEGION of MARY** visits anyone in the parish who is sick, housebound or lonely. If you know of someone who would like a visit, please ring Mary Bishop on 234039. The Legion meets every Friday afternoon in the Parish Centre from 2 to 3pm for prayer and reflection, and welcomes anyone who would like to drop in.

**The CATHOLIC COMPANION** This is a very readable little magazine, which has items of interest for the whole family. The latest issue is on the table in the porch priced at only £1. There are also various publications commemorating the recent papal visit. A commemorative souvenir by the publishers of the Universe is especially commended and contains all the homilies and ad-

resses that the Holy Father delivered while here.

**ADVANCED NOTE** There is to be an indoor Boot Fair in the Hall on Saturday, 11th December starting at 10.30am. Tables can be booked prior to the event for £5 and on the day for £6. If you wish to book a table ring the church office on Monday, Thursday or Friday morning. However, if you do not wish to book a table but have good quality items for sale these can be donated to the church for the sale. Donations can be left at the church after any Mass. Money raised will go to the Building Fund.

## **AROUND the DIOCESE and BEYOND**

**TOWARDS ADVENT** The Towards Advent Festival takes place on Saturday November 6th at Westminster Cathedral Hall, with displays and presentations from Catholic groups and organisations from around Britain. Come and re-live the joy of the Pope's visit to Britain, with a special talk and overview by Mgr Vincent Brady and the Apostolic Nunciature. The Festival opens at 10am and continues all day. Mgr Brady's talk is at 3pm.

**St JOHN'S CATHOLIC COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL** Gravesend is celebrating 150 years of Catholic Education in Kent on Wednesday 24th November at 7pm in their new school. There will be a celebration Mass followed by refreshments. Everyone involved in Catholic education is invited to join them for this special event. See the notice in the porch.

**MARRIAGE and MARRIAGE ANNULMENT** Many people have experienced the pain of a marriage breakdown and divorce. For Catholics this can be particularly difficult, as the Church holds to

Jesus' teaching that marriage lasts 'til death do us part'. Therefore, Catholics who have divorced and remarried often think that the Church can do nothing for them. However, it has a process of marriage annulment, through which it may find that a marriage was not valid., as the Church understands it, from the beginning. The parties would then be free to marry. There are leaflets at the back of the church explaining more. If you are in this situation, or if you know someone who is, please take one. You are always welcome to speak to Fr Pointer about this, or to call one of the numbers on the leaflet for more advice and guidance.

**CATHOLIC NETWORK** is a newly established group in Kent for single people aged between 30-45 with the idea of making new friends, sharing the same faith. Please see the poster at the back of the church for further details.

**VACANCY** for Director of Education commencing 1st September 2011. The Archdiocese is seeking to appoint a practising Catholic with successful experience at a senior level in education to take up the post of Director of Education with effect from 1st September 2011. Further information and application packs are available from Donna Gray at the Commission on [donna.gray@rcsouthwark.org.uk](mailto:donna.gray@rcsouthwark.org.uk) or by telephoning 01689 829331.

**FAITH IN FOCUS** Jesus draws a blunt picture in today's Gospel. The Pharisee's prayer is almost a parody of the thanksgiving psalms. Instead of praising God for his mighty works, the Pharisee congratulates himself for his own deeds, which he presents to God in some detail. The tax collector stands at a distance, too ashamed even to raise his eyes to God. He prays with a hum-

ble and contrite heart. He knows that before God no one is righteous, no one has cause to boast. We see in the Liturgy today one of Scripture's abiding themes - that God "knows no favourites," as today's first reading tells us. God cannot be bribed. We cannot curry favour with him or impress him - even with our good deeds or our faithful observance of religious duties such as tithing and fasting. If we try to exalt ourselves before the Lord, as the Pharisee does, we will be brought low. This should be a warning to us - not to take pride in our piety, not to slip into the self-righteousness of thinking that we're better than others, that we're "not like the rest of sinful humanity." If we clothe ourselves with humility - recognize that all of us are sinners in need of the Lord's mercy - we will be exalted. The prayer of the lowly, the humble, pierces the clouds. Paul testifies to this in today's reading from his letter to Timothy, as he thanks the Lord for giving him strength during his imprisonment. Paul tells us what the psalmist sings today - that the Lord redeems the lives of his humble servants. We too must serve him willingly. And he will hear us in our distress, deliver us from evil, and bring us safely to his heavenly kingdom.

**ATTENDANCE** Mass attendance last week was **351**; we received **£527.66** in the collection. We gratefully acknowledge anonymous donations to the Building Fund amounting to **£130**. This week is World Mission Sunday and our retiring collection is for *Missio*, the Church's official organ for the support of the Foreign Missions.

**50/50 CLUB** will be collected this week. See John Formosa at the back of the church after Mass. This month Mr Kelly won £49.00 with ticket no.11.