

## DIARY for WEEK BEGINNING 15th MAY 2011

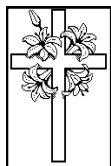
### ✠ FOURTH SUNDAY of EASTER (A) ✠

<b>Sun 15</b>	Saturday	6.30pm	✠ Vigil Mass: Pro Populo
	Sunday	9.30am	✠ Mass: Anna Azavedo RIP
		11.00am	✠ Mass: William Cronin RIP
		12.15pm	<i>Baptism: Oliver Shiloh Ofori</i>
		4.00pm	<i>Syro Malabar Mass</i>
<b>Mon 16</b>	St Simon Stock	9.30am	<i>Holy Rosary</i> (daily, 30mins before Mass)
		10.00am	✠ Mass: Catherine Long RIP
<b>Tues 17</b>	Feria	10.00am	✠ Mass: Anne Tunney RIP
<b>Wed 18</b>	Feria	10.00am	✠ School at Mass: James and Mary Woodford RIP
<b>Thu 19</b>	Feria	7.00am	✠ Mass: John Richard Nash RIP
<b>Fri 20</b>	Feria	10.00am	✠ Mass: Julia, James Pat and Terry Knell
<b>Sat 21</b>	Feria	10.00am	✠ Mass: In thanksgiving
		10.30am	<i>Confessions</i>

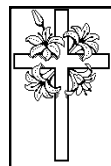
### ✠ FIFTH SUNDAY of EASTER (A) ✠

<b>Sun 22</b>	Saturday	6.30pm	✠ Vigil Mass: Bob Jenkin and Ted Standley RIP
	Sunday	9.30am	✠ Mass: Lillian Huckins RIP
		11.00am	✠ Mass: Pro Populo <i>Baptism of Obiomachukwu Success Okoro</i>
		12.15pm	<i>Baptism of Annie Clark-Blaber</i>

Please pray for the following whose anniversaries occur this week:



Thelma Murphy, Anna Azavedo, Mary Lane, Gary Barrow, Jack McGuire, James Murphy, Jessie Kavanagh, Rose Croucher, William Cade, James Oakley, David Turpin, Theresa Sullivan, Sylvia Cragan, Vivien Pear, Esther Race, Peter Whyte, Margaret Ling, Alice O'Flaherty, Patrick Keegan and Oswald Evans.



*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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 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]

Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark - Registered Charity 235468

15th May 2011

### ✠ FOURTH SUNDAY of EASTER (A) ✠

#### WORD of GOD

The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.

(Acts 2:14)



#### WORD for TODAY

God has made Jesus both Lord and Christ. Jesus is confirmed as the long-awaited Messiah, the one who was to set his people free. As Lord he holds sway over all things. Still basking in the joy of the resurrection, the Church today commends us to the attentive care of the Good Shepherd. By following him we will come to no harm.

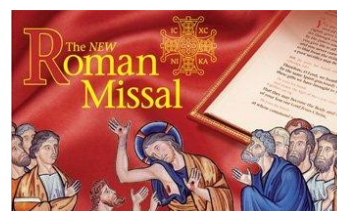
#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Psalm 22**

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my own sheep and my own know me. Alleluia!



**THE NEW ROMAN MISSAL** This year, throughout the English-speaking world, a new translation of the Mass is being introduced which is more accurate and faithful to the original Latin text. The new translation increases the dignity of the language used in the Mass and brings out more of the scriptural resonances of the text. In England and Wales the main parts of the Mass will be said in all parishes using the new translation from September this year. From Advent

2011 all of the Mass will be said using the new translation. The Catholic Truth Society (CTS) has been chosen by the Bishops' Conference to publish the Roman Missal. The society will also be publishing Order of Mass booklets and cards to assist us at Mass, along with booklets and leaflets to explain the reason for and nature of the changes. Parishioners will be able to purchase these as soon as they become available. We will also ensure that the basic responses will be widely available as soon as they are published so that we can all familiarize ourselves with the new responses that we will have to make from September.

## AROUND the PARISH

**GIFT AID** Thank you to those who use the envelopes each week enabling us to recover the income tax paid. The new envelope season will start in June and boxes of new envelopes will be distributed at all Masses next weekend. ■ We are in the process of submitting our annual financial returns to the diocese. The good news is that, as at 31st March 2011, our Building Fund stands at **£35,097**. We are to be congratulated that, in the course of 5 years we have moved from being **£10,000** in debt to having a surplus in our Building Fund of nearly **£40,000**.

**CONFIRMATION** this year will be on Friday 11th November at 7.30pm. Registration forms are now available and there will be a meeting this Monday (16th May) at 7.30pm in the McMahan Hall.

**QUIZ NIGHT** run by the Knights of St Columba next Saturday, 21st May at 7.30pm (7.45pm start) in the McMahan Hall. Admission £5.00 including a sausage and mash supper. Bring your own drink. Please leave your name and numbers on the sheet at the back of the church. All proceeds to go to the Building Fund.

**FURNITURE** We have a parishioner in urgent need of furniture and white goods. The Legion of Mary are trying to help, so if you have anything that could be useful, please contact Mary Bishop on 234039.

**CHURCH OFFICE MANAGER/ ADMINISTRATOR** is required by St Mark's (C of E) Church, Gillingham. Job Description and Person Specification is posted on the notice board at the back of the church and application forms can be obtained from the office.

## AROUND the DIOCESE and BEYOND

**MASS FOR NEW CATHOLICS** Archbishop Peter will be celebrating the Mass of Thanksgiving for New Catholics

in St George's Cathedral at 11am next Saturday, 21st May. All are invited to celebrate and welcome those baptised and received into the Church at Easter.

**GOOD SHEPHERD CELEBRATION** The Cabrini Children's Society Southwark Good Shepherd Liturgy will be taking place on Thursday 26th May starting at 11.30am at Aylesford Priory. This event invites schools from across the diocese to join together to celebrate their fundraising for Cabrini Children's Society. Archbishop Peter Smith will be celebrant for the occasion and there will be short presentations from 8 primary schools. For more information please contact Ann Hoggan on 020 8668 2181 or email [ann.hoggan@cabrini.org.uk](mailto:ann.hoggan@cabrini.org.uk). We look forward to welcoming you on the day.

**RETREAT WEEKEND** for young women (20s and 30s), 27-29 May in Broadstairs. "Wondering about God? Think God may be wondering about you?" The weekend is organised by the sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ) and will provide opportunity for prayer, reflection and discussion with other young catholic women who are also considering a vocation to religious life. For more information contact Sr Lynne at [lynnefcj@hotmail.com](mailto:lynnefcj@hotmail.com) or visit their website, [www.fcjsisters.org](http://www.fcjsisters.org).

**INVOCATION 2011** is a forthcoming national festival for young adults, to be held in the grounds of St Mary's College, Oscott in the Archdiocese of Birmingham from 17th - 19th June. This national festival is aimed at young men and women aged 16-35, who are looking to deepen their relationship with Christ and who are searching for the knowledge and tools to develop their own personal formation, discernment and understanding of God's will for their lives: for some this may mean being open to the possibility of a vocation to the priesthood or religious life. For more information, and to book: <http://invocation.org.uk>.

**MILES JESU TRUST** On Sunday 19th

June the Martyrs' Walk will be held in London, honouring our English martyrs. It begins at 1.30pm for 2pm start at St Sepulchre's churchyard (opposite the Old Bailey) and will continue with a walk through London, with stops for talks and the Rosary, finishing at Tyburn Convent at 5pm with Benediction, confessions, and tea. Everyone is welcome; come and join in this witness to our faith.

**FOUNDATION DEGREE in PASTORAL MINISTRY** Applications are invited for a Foundation Degree in Pastoral Ministry taught on Thursdays during the day, at Education for Parish Service (EPS), housed at the Christian Education Centre, 21 Tooting Bec Road, London, SW17 8BS and beginning in late September. The focus is on theology and its practical application in the parish/pastoral setting and in the individual's own spiritual journey. EPS offers a highly supportive environment for those returning to study after many years. All enquiries welcome. Email: [rebekah@eps-uk.org.uk](mailto:rebekah@eps-uk.org.uk) or Tel: 020 8767 4445.

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE to LOURDES** See the poster giving details of this year's pilgrimage from 19th-26th August. For details: [http://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/lourdes\\_2011.html](http://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/lourdes_2011.html).

**FAITH IN FOCUS: KEEP ON THE GRASS** Peter was not known for being a shrinking violet. Time and time again we see him jumping in with both feet, saying the wrong thing or reacting without thinking things through. He doesn't seem to have changed much after Christ's death, for today we catch a glimpse of him in action preaching to the crowd. And he comes out with all guns firing. You backed a loser, he says, by killing Jesus of Nazareth. You killed him but God raised him up and made him Lord of all things. So now you're at odds with God. Naturally, the crowd were cut to the quick and wanted to know how to make amends. Peter tells them to repent and

turn their lives over to Jesus. In many parishes throughout the world there are people who have only been Christians for the last three weeks. They were baptised or received into the Church at Easter. During this fifty-day period until Pentecost we look each Sunday at some of the consequences of being a Christian. We tease out just some of implications of turning our lives over to Jesus and we try to enter the mystery of our faith more deeply. And so we reflect that Jesus is the gate of the sheepfold and the shepherd of the flock. Those who are new Christians can be very good teachers of those who have been around for a while. This is because they teach us about enthusiasm for faith. They can rekindle in us the old fire that we once had but which may have dimmed a little over the years. New Christians are in no doubt that if you want to find your way into the sheepfold (if you want to be in place where life makes sense), then Jesus is the way in. To seek God with all our hearts, to live according to his teaching, to follow the shepherd to springs of water and fresh pasture...this is why people become Christians. Easter is a time for remembering old truths, and we're left in no doubt why people take the plunge of baptism for Christ's sake. It's because the grass is always greener on God's side.

**ATTENDANCE** There were 402 people at Mass last week and the collection amounted to **£570.63**. Thank you. **This week** there is a retiring collection for Ecclesiastical Education. This collection helps to meet the costs involved in training students for both the priesthood and the permanent diaconate. It also supports certain forms of ongoing formation of the clergy. ♦ The **50/50 Club** winner was G. Norman (no. 4). John Formosa will be collecting this month's subscriptions after Mass this weekend.