

DIARY for WEEK BEGINNING 22nd MAY 2011

✠ FIFTH SUNDAY of EASTER (A) ✠

Sun 22	Saturday	6.30pm	✠ Vigil Mass: Bob Jenkin & 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>
Mon 23	Feria	9.30am	<i>Holy Rosary</i> (daily, 30mins before Mass)
		10.00am	✠ Mass: Theresa Cottam
Tues 24	Feria	10.00am	✠ Mass: Angelina Fantetti RIP
Wed 25	St Bede the Venerable	10.00am	✠ School at Mass: Millicent Good RIP
Thu 26	St Philip Neri	7.00am	✠ Mass: Seamus McEvoy RIP
Fri 27	St Augustine of Canterbury	10.00am	✠ Mass: Catherine Long RIP
Sat 28	Feria	10.00am	✠ Mass: Deceased members of Mabon family
		10.30am	<i>Confessions</i>

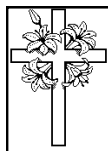
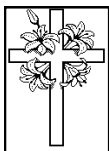
✠ SIXTH SUNDAY of EASTER (A) ✠

Sun 29	Saturday	6.30pm	✠ Vigil Mass: Patrick Lee RIP
	Sunday	9.30am	✠ Mass: Sean Duffy RIP
		11.00am	✠ Mass: Pro Populo
		12.15pm	<i>Baptism: Christian Quaradeghini</i>

Please pray for Philomena Rebello, recently dead; and for the following whose anniversaries occur this week:

Patrick Kilmurray, Terence Richards, Tracey Weeks, Robert Morgan, Brendan Kelly, Millicent (Queenie) Good, Alfred Miles, Vera Galvin, Catherine Long, Edmond Laffan and Kevin Coburn.

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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Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark - Registered Charity 235468

22nd May 2011

✠ FIFTH SUNDAY of EASTER (A) ✠

WORD of GOD

I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.
 No one can come to the Father except through me.

(John 14:6)



WORD for TODAY

The time will come, says Jesus, when we will no longer see him. Yet he promises that he will prepare a place for us in the kingdom if we follow his way and live out his truth. This is the only life worth having.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me." Alleluia!

Psalm 32

THE NEW ROMAN MISSAL

Some examples of the changes in the people's responses that will come into effect in September this year.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

The people reply:

And with your spirit.

Penitential Act

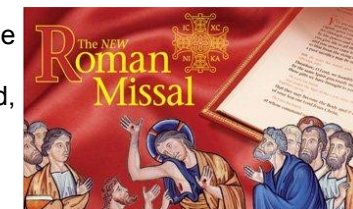
I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,

And, striking their breast, they say:

through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault;

Then they continue:

therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God. [To be continued.]



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 this 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**.

WEBSITE The parish website has been updated recently with photos of recent and not so recent events [<http://www.ourladyofgillingham.org/index.php/phoca>].

CONFIRMATION this year will be on Friday 11th November at 7.30pm. Registration forms are now available Sessions begin on Monday 6th June at 7pm.

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

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. We look forward to welcoming you on the day.

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.

St JOSEPH'S COLLEGE Beulah Hill, invites all former students and their families to the Celebration of 125 years of The 49 Club (Old Josephians) at the College on Saturday 25th June from 11.30. More details available from Stephen Horsman at the College, tel. 020 8761 1426, email: shorsman@sjc.ac, or from Gerry Murphy, tel. 020 8651 2510, email: gsm.sjc@gmail.com.

CHILDREN'S SUMMER HOLIDAY CAMP Aldham, Essex. A camping holiday with an enormous range of activities. Bookings are now being taken for the St John Bosco boys' and girls' camps run by The St Vincent De Paul Society. Boys' camp runs for 3 weeks from 23rd July to 13th August (children will only attend one

week) and the girls' camp runs from 13th to 20th August. The age range for boys is 8 to 13 years and girls is 9 to 12 years. Application forms and parental notes are available from the office or contact the boys' booking secretary email: bookings@svpboscocamp.org.uk, or 01708 509790 (6pm-9pm), the girls' booking secretary on 01634 311350.

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.

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 or Tel: 020 8767 4445.

ALTAR SERVERS' ROME TRIP 2011 led by Fr Stephen Boyle, Tuesday 25th - Thursday 27th October. Places are limited and closing date for booking is 30th July. For more information contact Fr Stephen Boyle, email: sboyle@clara.net, 01689 842644.

MISSIO Summer editions of *Mission Today*, celebrating 75 years of the Red Box are now available, along with information of a thanksgiving Mass to be celebrated at the cathedral on 25th September.

FAITH IN FOCUS: ALL RELIGIONS EQUAL? A public figure, interviewed recently, said that if he carried rune stones around people would be interested to talk about them. If he meditated under a pyramidal dome in his dining

room, practised an obscure form of Himalayan exercises, took regular colonic irrigation or sang American Indian chants under a dream-catcher whilst bathing himself in aroma-therapy oils, people would be equally tolerant. But if he were to tell them that he believed Jesus Christ was the Son of God and the saviour of the world, then they would run a mile and refuse to interview him about it. Christianity has become the new taboo. Pop singers who make no secret of their Christian faith are rubbished as "squeaky-clean" and public figures whose faith motivates them are dismissed as "do-gooders". It's almost as if there is something dangerous about being a follower of Jesus. At the other end of the scale it's become politically correct to be tolerant of all beliefs, no matter how implausible they may appear. Of course, there's a good side to this. No one should be mocked for what they believe or persecuted for their faith. But acceptance of every set of teachings that claims to be a religion simply means that you don't have to deal with any of them. So it's not uncommon to hear people say that since there's only one God all religions must be equal because all people are trying to approach the same God. Or alternatively, all religions are to be shunned because there has been an element of religion in many of the major wars throughout history. The problem is that once you stop believing in God, you don't start believing in nothing. You start believing in anything. Today Jesus claims that there is only one way of attaining union with God and that is through him. I am the Way, the Truth and the Life: no one can come to the Father except through me. He's either telling the truth or he's a liar. The choice is yours.

ATTENDANCE There were 367 people at Mass last week and the collection amounted to **£596.69**. The collection for Ecclesiastical Education came to **£143.42**. Thank you.