

## DIARY for WEEK BEGINNING 15th AUGUST 2010

### ✠ The ASSUMPTION of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY ✠

<b>Sun 15</b>	Saturday	6.30pm	✠ Vigil Mass: Emmanuel Muscat RIP
	Sunday	9.30am	✠ Mass: Pro Populo
		11.00am	✠ Mass: Salvatore and Rosaria Formosa RIP
		12.30pm	<i>Baptism of Matt Dzikowski</i>
		4.00pm	✠ Mass: for the Malayalam Community
<b>Mon 16</b>	Feria	9.45am	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
		10.00am	✠ Mass: Arthur Ryan RIP
<b>Tue 17</b>	Feria	9.45am	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
		10.00am	✠ Mass: In Thanksgiving for Divine Mercy
<b>Wed 18</b>	Feria	9.45am	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
		10.00am	✠ Mass: Tom Mahoney RIP
<b>Thu 19</b>	Feria	7.00am	✠ Mass: William Azavedo RIP
<b>Fri 20</b>	St Bernard	9.45am	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
		10.00am	✠ Mass: Paul De Souza RIP
<b>Sat 21</b>	St Pius X	10.00am	✠ Mass: Alan Read RIP
		10.30am	<i>Confessions</i>

### ✠ TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY (C) ✠

<b>Sun 22</b>	Saturday	6.30pm	✠ Vigil Mass: In Thanksgiving
	Sunday	9.30am	✠ Mass: Dec'd Members of Buck Family RIP
		11.00am	✠ Mass: Pro Populo <i>Baptism of Nzubechukwu Osunwa</i>
		12noon	<i>Baptism of Chinaza Ofoma</i>
		12.30pm	<i>Baptism of Natalia Przybyla</i>

Please pray for the following whose anniversaries occur this week:

Rose Fisher, John O'Neil, Joseph Ryan, Phyllis Gabriel, Peter Jordan, Edward Kirwan, Blanche French, Ethel Wimsey, Anne Lodge, Winifred Hogg, Jo Fewkes, Edith Gully, John Smith, Edwin Proctor, Keegan Garlinge, Alan Culverhouse and Ernest Savage.

*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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Registered Charity 235468

15th August 2010

### ✠ The ASSUMPTION of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY ✠

#### WORD OF GOD

From this day forward all generations will call me blessed, for the Almighty has done great things for me.

(Luke 1:48)



#### WORD FOR TODAY

Mary already shares in her Son's victory over sin and death. As we rejoice at her glory in heaven we pray that one day we may be found worthy to join her there in praising God with all his saints and angels.

#### CALL MY BLUFF

For the holiday month of August here are some bits of trivia for you to take a look at. All you have to do is decide whether they are true or false:

\*Lots of people died in the Bible but no one ever committed suicide.

\*Some biblical scholars believe that Aramaic (the language of the ancient Bible) did not contain an easy way to say "many things" and used a term which has come down to us as 40. This means that when the bible -- in many places -- refers to "40 days", they meant many days.



\*Strict Puritan laws had their origins from practical reasons. Smoking was banned - farmers would raise badly needed food crops instead of tobacco. Cooking was banned on Sundays - to prevent house fires during the long hours the family was at church. Young men were banned from hunting - to prevent weapons from falling into Indian hands.

\*The Church of Scientology was founded in 1953, at Washington DC, by Zachary H. Cruise, the father of the Hollywood actor.

\*The first translation of the English Bible was initiated by John Wycliffe and completed by John Purvey in 1388.

\*The Hindu holy day begins at sunrise, the Jewish holy day begins at sunset, and the Christian holy day begins at midnight.  
(To be continued.)

## **AROUND the PARISH**

**The VISIT of POPE BENEDICT** Take with you a copy of the leaflet produced in conjunction with the Bishops' Conferences of England and Wales, and that of Scotland. It is intended to give as much background information as possible about the visit of the Holy Father to this country next month. For more information have a look at the Papal Website ([www.thepapalvisit.org.uk](http://www.thepapalvisit.org.uk)) which has been especially created to promote, support and provide information about the Holy Father's visit. ♦ Thank you to those who have booked places at the Hyde Park event. If you have any enquiries about the arrangements and about possible vacancies please ring Ann Fillery on 577625.

**NEW to the PARISH?** A very warm welcome to you, and do please make yourself known to one of the welcomers in the porch. After both Sunday Masses we have tea and coffee in our Parish Centre (entrance in the car park) and we would be very happy for you to join us for a while. On the windowsill in the porch there is a yellow plastic folder which contains forms for new parishioners, and we would be grateful if you would fill one in and hand to anyone who is helping out around the church.

**CATHOLIC TRUTH SOCIETY** We have a variety of pamphlets (including a prayer book in Polish and English, which includes translations of the Mass), available on the windowsill in the porch. There you will find traditional aids to our faith such as prayer books and devotions, but in addition you will find challenging and topical subjects. All are reasonably priced so please have a look, and if you wish to

purchase any the money can be put in the red box on the back wall marked "Newspapers". There are also booklets especially supplied for the visit of Pope Benedict, and a special hardback book about the Pope for children.

**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.

**GOING AWAY?** Remember that we have a directory in the office of all the Catholic Churches in England and Wales, or you can visit <http://www.catholicchurch.org.uk/Catholic-Church/The-Church-in-England-and-Wales/Dioceses>. When you get back you can catch up with all the parish news by taking a back issue of the newsletter from the box just inside the sacristy door.

## **AROUND the DIOCESE and BEYOND**

**PAKISTAN:** *Aid to the Church in Need* invites us to send a message of support and prayer for the faithful Pakistan which will be forwarded to Church leaders there. For more information visit [www.acnuk.org/pakistanblasphemylaws](http://www.acnuk.org/pakistanblasphemylaws) or contact ACN on 020 8642 8668.

**DAY with MARY PILGRIMAGE to ITALY** 8th-15th September. For details please see the notice in the porch.

**CAFOD SUPPORTERS' DAY** 11th September from 10am to 2.30pm in the Amigo Hall (on the right hand side of the main door of St George's Cathedral). A day when CAFOD supporters can hear first-hand accounts of the work which is being done in Rwanda. Coffee, tea and soft drinks will be provided but bring your own packed

lunch. See the notice in the porch or email [Southwark@cafod.org.uk](mailto:Southwark@cafod.org.uk).

**MALTA DAY-UK** Saturday 11th September. An annual celebration organised every September by the Malta High Commission and the Maltese people in Great Britain. Please see the notice in the porch.

**WALSINGHAM** Dowry of Mary pilgrimage on Sunday 12th September. Please see the notice in the porch.

**DIOCESAN DAY of PRAYER** Saturday 9th October in St George's Cathedral. A day of renewal starting at 9.30am and finishing at 4.45pm. For details see the notice on the board.

**FAITH IN FOCUS:** MAGNIFICAT Mary's song for today's feast of the Assumption is called the Magnificat and is based on an Old Testament song by Hannah. But the song is not actually about Hannah or Mary. It's about God and it's about you and me. The word "Magnificat" means that I am praising God for his greatness. Mary was blessed because the Lord was with her. Everyone with whom God dwells is blessed, and you are one of those people. Christ dwells with you. He has given you faith to believe in him. He has done everything necessary for your salvation. He talks to you, through his word. He feeds you, with his body and blood. God watches over you and protects you until the day he calls you to be with him. All generations can most certainly call you blessed. You are blessed because Jesus is with you, and he always will be. So with Mary as our example we too can sing the Magnificat. What are the great things that the Lord has done for me that I want to burst into song about and sing Magnificat? What have I

done that needs God's mercy and how do I feel the forgiveness of God? What are the ways that God shows he is working in my life, with the power of his arm, and which make me want to sing Magnificat? Time and time again God stops me from getting proud-hearted, Magnificat! The God who thwarts the high and mighty and raises the common and garden folk, this same God never ignores me when I stand before him with honesty of heart, Magnificat! He fills me when I am hungry and he laughs at my false claims to be needy, Magnificat! Through my baptism God has promised that I will be his child and he will be my Father, until that day when I shall see him face to face, Magnificat! Today's feast represents the crowning glory of Mary's life of faith lived in the hope and trust that the promises made to her would be fulfilled. By singing the Magnificat Mary shows that she had a deep understanding of God's continual presence at her side in good times and in bad, and that her gratitude was such that her heart overflowed with praise just at the thought of what God was doing in her life. By making the Magnificat our own, we too can recognise a God who has favoured his lowly servant; we can show our gratitude to God for the many ways in which his love surrounds us daily; and we can hope and trust in his promise that, like Mary, we will one day see him face to face and praise him for eternity with the saints in heaven. Magnificat!

**ATTENDANCE** 332 people attended Mass in our church last weekend. We received **£529.78** in the offertory collection, and the sum of **£175** from the football parking. Our grateful thanks to the stewards.