

OUR LADY of GILLINGHAM



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Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark - Registered Charity 235468

28th June 2009

✠ SS PETER and PAUL ✠

WORD of GOD

You are Peter
 and on this rock I will build my Church.
 And the gates of the underworld
 can never hold out against it.

(Matthew 16:18)

WORD for TODAY

Peter and Paul are credited with being so fired up by their faith that they couldn't help passing it on. And so from generation to generation the teaching of Christ has come down to us. Who are we passing it on to? And how?

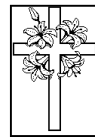
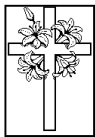


✠ SS PETER and PAUL ✠			
Sun 28	Saturday	6.30pm	✠ Vigil Mass: Morris Gaghan RIP
	Sunday	9.30am	✠ Mass: Denis Murphy RIP
		11.00am	✠ Mass: Pro Populo
Mon 29	Feria	9.45am	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
		10.00am	✠ Mass: Anne Saunders RIP
Tue 30	Feria	9.00am	✠ Mass: Mary Mahoney RIP
Wed 1st July	Feria	9.45am	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
		10.00am	✠ Mass: Jack Weller
Thu 2	Feria	7.00am	✠ Mass: Eileen and John Magee RIP
Fri 3	St Thomas	9.45am	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
		10.00am	✠ School at Mass: Mariea Lee RIP
Sat 4	Our Lady	10.00am	✠ Mass: Peter Nelson RIP
		10.30am	<i>Confessions</i>
✠ FOURTEENTH SUNDAY (B) ✠			
Sun 5	Saturday	6.30pm	✠ Vigil Mass: Pro Populo
	Sunday	9.30am	✠ Mass: Margaret Ling RIP
		11.00am	✠ Mass: Rosaria & Salvatori Formosa RIP
		4.00pm	<i>Rosary and Benediction</i>

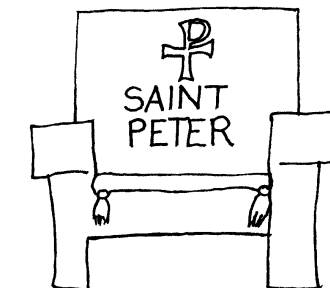
Please pray for the following, whose anniversaries occur this week:

Nellie Kitney, Kevin Keogh, Mavis Rogers, Margaret King,
 Timothy O'Driscoll, Percival Snowdon, Peggy French,
 Michael Kavanagh, Joyce Birkbeck, Frederick Rogers,
 Evelyn Ryan, John Herbert, Marie Lee and Kathleen Figg.

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



PETER'S PENCE



By reason of the bond of unity and charity, the bishops of the Church, with their people, join together to produce those means which the Apostolic See needs to exercise its service of the Universal Church. Originally a tax, paid in England to the Pope from the 8th century, then a levy, collected at midsummer, it was finally taken on by the bishops. Abolished by Henry VIII, its restoration after penal times is seen as a sign of the loyalty and affection in which the papacy has always been held by the English.

always been held by the English.

AROUND the PARISH

MASS INTENTIONS If you wish to have a Mass intention offered for your loved ones on a specific date please note that we are fully booked up until well into September. Note, however, that if a visiting priest concelebrates he can offer the Mass for a separate intention and we may therefore be able to add an intention at short notice.

TABLE SALE Don't forget to come into the hall after both Masses this Sunday for our table sale. A chance to pick up a bargain, and definitely to stock up on some holiday reading.

IRISH EVENING on Friday 10th July at 7.30. An evening of Irish music and dancing with a light supper. Entrance £5 - all proceeds to go to the building fund. The list for attendance is on the table at the back of the church - please do put your name down as it helps to know the numbers for catering.

CONFIRMATION Unfortunately, owing to low numbers, it looks as if there will be no Confirmations this year. Sorry for any inconvenience or disappointment this will inevitably cause.

LOOK AHEAD Please keep Sunday 29th November free in your diary: the Indian Indulgence Team is organizing one of its delicious lunches - proceeds to go to the Building Fund.

AROUND the DIOCESE and BEYOND

The YEAR of St PAUL There were good numbers at the Mass at Aylesford yesterday (Saturday) to mark the closing of the Year of St Paul. The

Archbishop concelebrated Mass with priests from many of the parishes in the diocese and led an afternoon liturgy of the word affirming all those who serve as ministers, catechists and carers. The service also referred to the Year of the Priesthood, just starting, and mention was made of the opportunity to venerate the relics of St Theresa, which will be coming to Aylesford Priory in October, with a diocesan Mass on 10th October.

CAFOD SOUTHWARK is looking for volunteers to speak in Primary and Secondary Schools of the Archdiocese about CAFOD's development and humanitarian work. A teaching background is not necessary, and full training will be provided by CAFOD for this work. If you are interested contact either Jim Simmons or Christine Bryant on 01322 294924 or southwark@cafod.org.uk.

St JOHN FISHER SCHOOL has a vacancy for a Part Time Classroom Cover Supervisor. See notice.

YOUTH FESTIVAL '09 At Aylesford Priory next Saturday, 4th July, from 10.30am to 8pm. A day of varied activities, music and celebration for secondary school years. See the poster or email info@scys.org.uk.

DAY of CELEBRATION at Aylesford for sharing in the gifts of people with disabilities. Sunday 12th July. Gathering Service at 12noon followed by various activities. Concluding with Mass at 4pm. See the poster in the porch.

BECOMING MORE LIKE CHRIST An excellent new publication of guidelines for the sacraments from our own Christian Education Centre. To order

a copy (£6 + postage) contact the centre: 020 8672 2422, or email: bookshop@cectootingbec.org.uk. (Fr Geoffrey has a copy.)

FAITH IN FOCUS: FAITH IN FOCUS: MARTYRS? She's a martyr to her corns, we say. Or perhaps we think that we shouldn't give publicity to terrorists because they'll become martyrs. We use the word martyr in a different way from the way it was thought of in gospel times. For us, martyrdom means suffering, like the woman with her corns. And when we hear of the death of various holy people we call it martyrdom. But in fact the word martyr doesn't necessarily involve suffering or dying. The word martyr means a witness. If you are a martyr to the cause, then you are a good advert for the cause, a good example or a witness to what the cause is all about. In fact, although Sts Peter and Paul were both killed for their faith, they are really martyrs because they both witnessed to it. In an obvious way we can say that dying in order to witness to your faith is the ultimate martyrdom. Yet what's important about Peter and Paul isn't that they died but that they spent their lives passing on the message of Jesus Christ. The ancient Preface prayer for today's feast speaks of "Peter, our leader in the faith, and Paul, its fearless preacher." If we want to emulate the two saints of today's feast then we don't have to seek out death before our time; we have to be martyrs by witnessing and passing on what we have been taught and believe. In fact that's how Christian faith survives. Faith, they say, is

not taught but caught. We catch it at our mother's knee, at the feet of good teachers, from the lips of holy people we come to meet in life. It's easy to bypass our job of transmitting the faith by saying that this is the task of others, of clergy and catechists, of teachers and preachers. But the truth is that the only reason why we can celebrate today's feast is because of generations of mothers, fathers, grandparents, uncles and aunts who accepted the responsibility of handing on their faith to their own families and friends. Peter and Paul would be happy to accept praise for their martyrdom, for the way they transmitted their faith, but they'd probably be even happier if they thought we were also joining the martyrs' queue ourselves.



PERIODICALS Please support the Catholic Press: we often have to return unsold newspapers, which seems a pity. *The Sacred Heart Messenger* and *My Day by Day* for July are now available.

ATTENDANCE Last week a congregation of 350 attended the three Sunday Masses and contributed **£589.15** in the collection. We gratefully acknowledge anonymous donations to the Building Fund amounting to **£110** and, thanks to your support, the repository organizers were able similarly to make a contribution of **£500** to the fund. This week there is both a retiring collection for Peter's Pence and Mr Leo Kelly is giving the annual Gift Aid Appeal. Thank you.