

OUR LADY OF GILLINGHAM



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Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark CIO, Registered Charity 1173050

25th May 2025 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - Year C

Reading 1	Acts 15:1-2, 22-29	<i>It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burden beyond these essentials.</i>
Psalm	Ps 66:2-3, 5-6. 8 r.4	<i>Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. or Alleluia!</i>
Reading 2	Apoc 21:10-14, 22-23	<i>He showed me the holy city coming down from heaven.</i>
Gospel Acclamation	John 14:23	<i>Jesus said: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.</i>
Gospel	John 14:23-29	<i>The Holy Spirit will remind you of all I have said to you.</i>

Readers this week

6.30pm Imelda Cervantes/ Yolanda Danday	9.30am Edeji Family	11.30am Dinah Kansiiime/ Shakira Kara	6.30pm Daniella Ibeh/ Nidhiya Cicily Joseph
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Readers next week:

6.30pm Oliver Perez/ Kieran Shannon	9.30am Ifeoma Ihuegbu Amarachi Ihuegbu	11.30am Samuel Robson/ Ugoche Uche	6.30pm Shakira Kara/ Francisca Okeke
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✠ Please pray for Lewis & Danny Lee†, Pope Francis†, Marie & Eric Jones†, Angela Singht†, and Clive and Beryl Brooker†, who have recently died and for those whose anniversaries occur about this time:

✠ Queenine Good, John Henry, Vera Galvin, Kevin Coburn, Henry Stear, Sean Rice, Royce Beale, Eileen Lisgarten, Laurence Rebello, Michael Iandolo, Lily Lewis & Bruno Bove.

✠ May their souls, and all the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace. Amen

Collections: Last week's collection in church amounted to £567.74 of which £47.50 was Gift Aided. Thank you.



Use the QR code for your weekly offerings and second collections.

Second collection next week for World Communications

Parish Notices

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT SUNDAY FOR WORLD COMMUNICATIONS – the money collected supports the work of the Catholic Communications Network, the media office of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales.

We thank all who participated yesterday in the May devotion of procession of the Blessed virgin Mary led by Filipino community in our parish.

THURSDAY IS THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION AND A HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION- Masses at 10.00am and 7.30pm

PENTECOST – The Novena of the Holy Spirit starts with adoration on Friday 30th May and ends on Saturday 7th June. The Novena prayers have been published in this newsletter.

HOPE IN ADORATION - As part of the Jubilee Year, Archbishop John Wilson is encouraging all people to turn to the Lord Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration and have their hopes "fulfilled by Christ". **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** (Holy Hour) is every **Friday at 6.15pm** here at the Church. Please attend and receive the blessings of the Lord.

LEGION OF MARY - You are invited to join the Legion of Mary in our Parish; the Catholic lay faithful serving the person of Jesus Christ under the leadership of Mary, Queen and Mother. See poster at the back of the church or speak to Deacon Mike

CONFIRMATION –Preparation classes have started in the Parish Hall on Mondays at 7pm in the Parish hall for those children who are in Year 9 and above.

JUBILEE CELEBRATION AT AYLESFORD PRIORY SATURDAY 7 JUNE – information about the day's events will be at the back of the church next week. The celebrations begin at 10.30am

DAY FOR LIFE 15 JUNE.- Details will be available shortly on the Bishops' Conference website and at: <https://prayforlife.ie/> The **Novena for Life** which began on 23rd May finishes next Saturday, the Feast of the Visitation.

IGBO CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Please join us for a vibrant cultural gathering of the Igbo Catholic community, under the Nigerian Catholic Chaplaincy of England and Wales, on Sunday, May 25, 2025. This special event will take place at St. Thomas of Canterbury Church in Rainham, Kent, ME8 7RH, starting with the Igbo Mass at 1 PM.

ALTAR SERVERS TRIP TO WESTMINSTER PASTORAL CENTRE,; 6th August – 9th August: £189. For those aged 11-16. We commend this excellent residential trip for altar servers and those who regularly attend mass on the weekend. In an event that has now gone on for more than 20 years, it is a few days for deepening one's Catholic faith, in a great social atmosphere, including football, sports and visit to Thorpe Park. For more details of how to get to the venue, with a coach laid on at St. Anselm's Dartford, see your parish priest for a form, or contact Fr. Stephen Boyle, chaplain to the Guild of St, Stephen, Dartford@rcaos.org.uk, [Tel:01322 22007](tel:0132222007)

PARISH DAY AND COMMISSIONING OF LAY READERS – will take place on Sunday 17th August at the 11.30am Mass. Also all our former lay readers shall be acknowledged

NOVENA PRAYERS FOR PENTECOST



OPENING PRAYER

V Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.

R And enkindle in them the fire of your love.

V Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.

R And you shall renew the face of the earth.

O God who taught the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit, grant that by the gift of the same Spirit we may be always truly wise and ever rejoice in His consolation. Through Christ our Lord Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE SEVEN GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Christ Jesus, before ascending into heaven, You promised to send the Holy Spirit to Your apostles and disciples. Grant that the same Spirit may perfect in our lives, cherish the work of Your grace and love. Grant us the Spirit of Fear of the Lord that we may be filled with a loving reverence toward You. The Spirit of Piety that we may find peace and fulfilment in the service of God while serving others. The Spirit of Fortitude that we may bear our cross with You and, with courage, overcome the obstacles that interfere with our salvation. The Spirit of Knowledge that we may know You and know ourselves and grow in holiness. The Spirit of Understanding to enlighten our minds with the light of Your truth. The Spirit of Counsel that we may choose the surest way of doing Your will, seeking first the Kingdom of God. Grant us the Spirit of Wisdom that we may aspire to the things that last forever. Teach us to be Your faithful disciples and animate us in every way with Your Spirit. Amen. Glory be to the Father...

Mass intentions for the week

Saturday 24 th May	10.00am	Repose of the soul of Santana Ahares
Vigil Mass	6.30pm	Repose of the souls of Danny & Lewis Lee
Sunday 25 th	9.30am	Repose of the soul of Eutuopia Galendez
	11.30am	Pro Populo
	6.30pm	Deceased members of the Driscoll Family
Monday 26 th	10.00am	Repose of the soul of Seamus McEvoy
Tuesday 27 th St Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop	10.00am	Repose of the souls of Greta & Bill Tuffin
Wednesday 28 th	10.00am	Repose of the souls of Clive & Beryl Brooker
	4pm	Reception of Danny Lee's body into church
Thursday 29 th	10.00am	Requiem Mass for Danny Lee followed by cremation at Medway Crematorium
The Ascension of the Lord	7.30pm	
Friday 30 th	10.00am	Repose of the soul of Danny Lee
	6.15pm	Adoration
	7.30pm	Repose of the souls of Thomas & Elizabeth Fox
Saturday 31 st The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	10.00am	Repose of the soul of Bruno Bove
	12.30	Filipino Mass
Vigil Mass	6.30pm	Irene Mergulhao's birthday

ASSISTED SUICIDE PETITION - If you have returned signed petition sheets to our London office, THANK YOU. If not, send them please to: **Care Not Killing Alliance, 8 Marshalsea Road, London, SE1 1HL** in order that arrangements can be made for the petitions to be presented to Parliament before the final vote on the Bill which is looking more likely to take place next month in the House of Commons following the recent debate. If you have not yet registered your concerns with your MP you can do



so as the **ONLINE** version of the Petition is being kept open for the time being. Please feel free to use this website link <https://carenokilling.org.uk/petition/> OR the **QR code** so that we can send messages to Parliament.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE PARISH YOUTH – the 6.30pm Mass next Sunday and Sunday 6th July are for the OLOG Seeds youth group.