

OUR LADY OF GILLINGHAM



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Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark CIO, Registered Charity 1173050

Office Hours – Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday - 10.30am – 1.30pm

10th May 2026

SIXTH SUNDAY of EASTER – Year A

Reading 1	Acts 8:5-8, 14-17	<i>They laid hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.</i>
Psalm	Ps 65:1-7, 16. 20 r. 1	<i>Cry out with joy to God all the Earth or Alleluia!</i>
Reading 2	1 Pet 3:15-18	<i>In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.</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 14:15-21	<i>I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate.</i>

Please Pray for Mary Shirley†, Chris Milne†, Sarah Shannont† and Apolonia MacKenzie†, who have recently died;
 Also Pray for all those whose anniversaries occur about this time including: Francis Cowell, Hilda Staples, Ann Bevans, Christine Fountain, Henry Langfield, Margaret Fountain, Vera Poppy, Delcie Crack, Katherine Everitt, Philip Cleary, Eileen Slater, Thelma Murphy, Augusta Azavedo, Neil Grant, Juliet Easton, Gerard Barrow, Jack McGuire, Jessie Kavanagh & Barry Cox.
May their souls, and all the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace

FRIDAY

Eucharistic Adoration
6.15pm – 7.20pm
Followed by Holy Mass at 7.30pm



SATURDAY

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation
10.30am – 11.30am



Readers this week:

Sat 6.30pm	Gabriel Concepcion Benedict Okeke Janette Alfayad
Sun 9.30am	Tania Jackson Uhuegbu Sisters
Sun 11.30am	Ellie Tetteh Chelsea Atoe Kathleen Kara
Sun 6.30pm	Uche Family

Readers for the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord:

Thurs 10.00am	Mary Sandana Kathleen Kara James Spencer
Thurs 7.30pm	Akhebai Tegha Laarni Fajardo Kieran Shannon

Our Parish NOTICES

Collections this week:

CATEGORY	CASH (Loose)	GIFT AID	CONTACTLESS		TOTALS
			Amount	Gift Aid	
Offertory	£491.54	£136.60	£350.50	£40.88	£1019.52
Football Parking	£310.00				£310.00



Please use the QR code for your weekly offerings & second collections

This Week there will be a second collection for Word Communications Day, which supports the work of the Catholic Communications Network (CCN)

MAY MARIAN DEVOTION – Following the invitation of the Archbishop everybody please pray the holy rosary for life every day for the protection and promotion of life especially for the vulnerable ones. Here at the Church we pray the rosary every day at 9.30am before mass.

PENTECOST SUNDAY - Sunday 24th May. The Church was founded on Pentecost. To bring the universality of our Church, the bidding prayers shall be in different languages. Also, on Pentecost please put on national/traditional attires. After, 11.30am Mass, we shall celebrate together as a family of God with a parish meal. Hence, we appeal to parishioners to prepare, 'bring and share meals' and drinks of different types from the different nationalities. Those willing to donate, please write your names on the sheets at the back of the Church. We also need volunteers/helpers to help out on that day. Those donating drinks bring them to Fathers' house.

GIFT AID – Parishioners who have previously signed up to Gift Aid & pay their weekly offertory in cash using the gift aid envelopes, please collect your new box of envelopes from Dayle or the Office.

PRE-LOVED SALE – Saturday 23rd May, 1pm until 3pm. There will be a sale of second hand/pre-loved items in the McMahon Hall. Come & have a browse & help to raise funds for the Church

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

14 th May	The Ascension of the Lord (Holy Day of Obligation)
15 th May	Novena for the Gifts of the Holy Spirit begins
16 th May	FIRST HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE @ 12noon
23 rd May	Pre-loved Sale in the McMahon Hall from 1pm until 3pm
23 rd May	Filipino Mass in Church from 12noon, followed by a gathering in the McMahon Hall from 4pm

24 th May	Pentecost Sunday – Celebrations in the Church Garden
31 st May	Marian Possession for all parishioners after 11.30am Mass

AROUND THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

MISSIO AND THE MILL HILL MISSIONARIES invite all Red Box supporters and the wider Diocesan community to come together for two important events in 2026:

1. St Simon Stock Church, Bleakwood Rd, Walderslade, Kent ME5 0NF on Saturday 6 June at 11am. Join Fr Joseph Donkor (Missio Diocesan Director for Southwark) and the Mill Hill Missionaries for Mass, followed by lunch and sharing of mission work.
2. St Elizabeth of Portugal Roman Catholic Church, The Vineyard, Richmond TW10 6AQ on Saturday, 3rd October at 11am. Join us for this special World Mission month mass with Missio National Director, Fr Anthony Chantry MHM, and Fr Joseph Donkor.

Everyone is welcome to attend. Please email redbox@missio.org.uk or visit <https://missio.org.uk/mission-masses-and-events/> for further information.

ROSARY FOR LIFE - Archbishop John Wilson is calling on all of us to join him in praying the Rosary for Life this May (Month of Mary). Together, we will pray through the Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious and Luminous Mysteries, each one offered for the most vulnerable facing growing threats to life: unborn children at risk of abortion, victims of war and persecution, people with disabilities, and the elderly and vulnerable. For video, audio and written versions of the Rosary for Life, visit rcaos.org.uk/rosaryforlife. **Pray the Rosary. Encounter Christ. Defend life.**

WESTMINSTER ASSISTED SUICIDE BILL HAS FALLEN

The assisted suicide Bill has failed to pass all stages in the House of Lords. This means that Kim Leadbeater's assisted suicide Bill has fallen and will not become law! This is a major milestone, but the battle is not over. Assisted suicide campaigners have said they are going to try to bring the Bill back in the next parliamentary session and use the Parliament Acts to bypass the Lords.

To find out more about this significant milestone and what comes next, visit: <https://righttolife.org.uk/LeadbeaterBillFalls>

PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES - Bishop Paul Hendricks will be making a presentation regarding the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes in August. The presentation will be at 7pm on Saturday 16th May following the Vigil Mass at 6pm at English Martyrs RC Church in Strood. The venue is the Parish Hall. There is plenty of parking in the school playground adjacent to the church and Parish Hall. Tea and coffee will be available. If you are at all interested in this pilgrimage do not miss this opportunity to learn more.

THE DIVINE MERCY APOSTOLATE (London) is holding a First Saturday Divine Mercy Recollection Day at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, on Saturday 6th June 2026 from 10:30 am to 4:30 pm. The Recollection Day will include Holy Mass, Talk, Hour of Mercy with Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All welcome. Please call Millie on 07957594646 for more information. Coaches from Slough, Ealing Broadway, North London, Barking and Victoria.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday (9 th May) Vigil	10.00am	Repose of the soul of Mary Lane
	10.30am	EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT and RECONCILIATION
	6.30pm	Repose of the soul of Michael Patrick Keating
Sunday (10 th May)	9.30am	Intentions of the First Holy Communicants
	11.30am	Pro Populo & Repose of the soul of Helen Tajanlangit
	6.30pm	Repose of the soul of Apolonia MacKenzie
Monday (11 th May)	10.00am	Good Health & Wellbeing of Gillian Knight
Tuesday (12 th May)	10.00am	Repose of the souls of Martin & Rita Kamla
Wednesday (13 th May)	10.00am	Special Intention for Joe Cannavina
Thursday (14 th May) <i>The Ascension of the Lord</i>	10.00am	Birthday Thanksgiving for Matthew Cottam
	7.30pm	Pro Populo
Friday (15 th May)	10.00am	Repose of the soul of William Cronin
	6.15pm	EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
	7.30pm	Repose of the soul of Ebubechukwu and God's protection of the Uzoma Family
Saturday (16 th May) Vigil	10.00am	Intentions of the First Holy Communicants
	10.30am	EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT and RECONCILIATION
	12noon	First Holy Communion Service
	6.30pm	Deceased members of the Di Lisio & Cannavina families
Sunday (17 th May)	9.30am	In Thanksgiving
	11.30am	Wellbeing for Benedicta Onu
	6.30pm	Pro Populo

Please ensure that, if you book a Mass via the contactless machine, you have booked your Mass Intention in the diary **first**. Mass Intentions require a £10 donation.

MAY DEVOTION 2026

THE HOLY ROSARY FOR LIFE

Week II - 10th to 16th May: The Sorrowful Mysteries

AND

THE 9 DAYS NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

15th to 23rd May: Pray for the gifts of the Holy Spirit



The Church was founded on Pentecost. At Pentecost the Holy Spirit was manifested in a divine flame of fire. The Spirit's flame descended upon the assembled disciples together with the Blessed Virgin Mary. It was kindled in them and gave them the new ardour of God. Thus, what Jesus had previously said was fulfilled: I came to cast fire upon the earth; and would that it were already kindled (Lk 12:49).

Beseeching the same Holy Spirit through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we are praying the Holy rosary for Life. The Rosary for Life is prayed through the Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious and Luminous Mysteries, each one offered for the most vulnerable facing growing threats to life: unborn children at risk of abortion, victims of war and persecution, victims of abuse, people with disabilities, the orphans and the elderly.

THE HOLY ROSARY FOR LIFE – MAY 2026

Week II - 10th to 16th May: The Sorrowful Mysteries

We pray for Peace and Victims of war

The First Sorrowful Mystery - The Agony in the Garden

SCRIPTURE - Matthew 26:46

“Then Jesus came to the disciples and said to them, ‘Sleep and take your rest later on. See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.’”

PRAYER INTENTION

We offer this decade for all living in the fear and shadow of war: may they be comforted by the Lord Jesus who, in his own agony, placed all things trustingly in the Father’s hands.

The Second Sorrowful Mystery - The Scourging at the Pillar

SCRIPTURE - Mark 15:15

“Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.”

PRAYER INTENTION

We offer this decade for victims of war: may all innocent victims of war and violence, especially children, be held by Jesus — the innocent one who suffered for our sake — and may their suffering be brought to an end.

The Third Sorrowful Mystery - The Crowning with Thorns

SCRIPTURE - John 19:1–3

“The soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head and arrayed him in a purple robe. They came up to him, saying, ‘Hail, King of the Jews!’ and struck him with their hands.”

PRAYER INTENTION

We offer this decade for all persecuted Christians, who face ridicule, humiliation, violence and death: may the Lord Jesus strengthen them with the hope of sharing in his resurrection.

The Fourth Sorrowful Mystery - The Carrying of the Cross

SCRIPTURE - John 19:17

“Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha).”

PRAYER INTENTION

We offer this decade for all who are working for peace in the face of war: may they be sustained by Christ who carried his cross, knowing that God’s peace will be victorious.

The Fifth Sorrowful Mystery - The Crucifixion

SCRIPTURE - Luke 23:33–34

“When they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. And Jesus said, ‘Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.’”

PRAYER INTENTION

We offer this decade for all who have lost their lives to war and persecution: may they rest in the Risen Lord Jesus, and may those who grieve them be filled with the hope of the resurrection and the defeat of death.

Closing Prayers

HAIL HOLY QUEEN (SALVE REGINA)

Hail, holy Queen, mother of mercy, our life, our sweetness, and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve. To thee do we send up our sighs mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us, and after this our exile show us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Let us pray. O God, whose only begotten Son, by His life, death, and resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life. Grant, we beseech Thee, that while meditating on these mysteries of the most holy rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

MEMORARE

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy clemency hear and answer me. Amen.

CLOSING PRAYER

Mary, Queen of Peace, grant us peace in our hearts, harmony in our families and peace throughout the world. Watch over those in the fear and shadow of war, and protect them with your motherly love. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

LITANY

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us.

Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us.

Our Lady of Lourdes, pray for us.

Our Lady, Queen of Peace, pray for us.

St. Joseph, pray for us.

May all the Angels and Saints in heaven.

NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

15th to 23rd May

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 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...

In the name of the Father