

OUR LADY OF GILLINGHAM



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Live Stream <https://www.kentchurches.com/churches/our-lady-of-gillingham>

Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark CIO, registered charity 1173050

17th December 2023 ✕ THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT – GAUDETE SUNDAY B ✕

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| Readers this week :6.30pm | 9:30am | 11:30am |
| <u>Betty Sequiera/Princy Manuel</u> | <u>Edeji Family</u> | <u>Seraphin Borces/Maureen O-Krakue</u> |

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|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Reading 1 | Isa 61:1-2a, 10-11 | <i>I exult for joy in the Lord.</i> |
| Psalm | Luke 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 | <i>My soul glorifies the Lord.</i> |
| Reading 2 | 1 Thess 5:16-24 | <i>May you all be kept safe, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of the Lord.</i> |
| Gospel Acclamation | Is 61:1 (Lk 4: 18) | <i>The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor.</i> |
| Gospel | John 1:6-8, 19-28 | <i>There stands among you, unknown to you, the one who is coming after me.</i> |

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| Readers next week: 6.30pm | 9.30am | 11.30am |
| <u>Betty Sequiera/Yolanda Danday</u> | <u>Ileoma & Amarachi Uhegbu</u> | <u>Joseph Kuruvilla/Juliet Okakwe</u> |

- ✕ Please pray for Daniel Welke† who has recently died and for all the following whose anniversaries occur about this time:
- ✕ Jack McIntyre, Arthur Ryan, Karen Slater, Patricia Vidot, Rodney Kirwan, Elizabeth Kelly, James Fitzgerald, Bridget Roach, Barrie Gash & Kathleen Middleton.
- ✕ May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen

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|------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Saturday 16th December | Vigil Mass | ✕MASS INTENTIONS |
| Sunday 17th | | 6.30pm Lee Family Intentions |
| | | 9.30am Repose of the soul of Jack McIntyre & Dominique's intentions |
| | | 11.30am Pro Populo |
| Monday 18th Feria | | 10.00am Intentions of the Bishop Family & Cecilia Ezome's intentions |
| Tuesday 19th Feria | | 10.00am Repose of the soul of Winifred Brown |
| Wednesday 20th Feria | | 10.00am Mercy's family intentions of Fr Sean & Hanna |
| Thursday 21st Feria | | 10.00am Repose of the souls of Elizabeth Kelly & Jim Fitzgerald |
| Friday 22nd Feria | | 10.00am Intentions of Fr Sean and his mother Hannah |
| | | 7.30pm |
| Saturday 23rd Feria | | 10.00am Intentions of Peggy Bishop & Frances John |
| | Vigil Mass | 6.30pm Repose of the soul of Frances Tomkins |
| Sunday 24th | | 9.30am Birthday intentions of Naaza Zimba |
| | | 11.30am Pro Populo |
| | | 3pm Knanaya Mass |
| Christmas Eve | Vigil Mass | 6.30pm Intentions of the Cottam Family |

Collections The collection in church last week amounted to £646.48 of which £136.93 was Gift Aided
Thank you.
Christmas Day Collection is for the Priests

THE SEASON OF ADVENT - Advent has a twofold character, for it is a time of preparation for the Solemnities of Christmas, in which the First Coming of the Son of God to humanity is remembered, and likewise a time when, by remembrance of this, minds and hearts are led to look forward to Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. For these two reasons, Advent is a period of devout and expectant delight.

Intentions for Advent and Christmas Time: Migrants & Refugees and Expectant Mothers
(especially on Fourth Sunday of Advent)

CONFESSIONS - In preparation for Christmas, confessions will also be heard after the morning Masses this week

CHRISTMAS DAY COLLECTIONS - The Christmas Day collection is for the priests of the parish and there are envelopes attached to this newsletter for your donation. Donations at the crib will go to The Children's Society as usual.

ADDITIONAL SUNDAY MASS - we shall have an extra Sunday mass ad experimentum for 4 months starting on Sunday 24th December 2023 at 6.30 pm.

WAR IN THE MIDDLE EAST - As the conflict enters its ninth week in the Holy Land, CAFOD are asking parishes to do what they can to support their [Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal](#) they also invite you in [calling for a lasting peace](#) by writing to the Foreign Secretary. 'Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at cafod.org.uk/ipc or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers 'into providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers'

FREE MISSIO CALENDARS are available at the back of the church.

MISSIO RED boxes. As we approach end of 2023 could all MISSIO supporters please bring their RED BOXES to the sacristy to be emptied.

MASS AT THE HOSPITAL – There is mass every Sunday at Medway hospital chapel, at 2 pm especially for the staff, the patients, and the visitors.

FOOD BANK NEWS – A special "Thank You" to those parishioners who have been so generous by supporting the **SVP FOOD BANK collection**. There is still a desperate need for more donations to help those in our community. Not necessary tins or pasta but also biscuits/sweets/toiletries for both male and females/ soft drinks etc. there is an updated shopping list at the back of the church and **particular** items that the Food Bank need at this time are Instant mash, Tinned/packet custard and pasta sauces

BAPTISMS – Parents who wish to have their children baptised should see Deacon Michael after one of the Sunday Masses

FAMILY AND MARRIAGE LIFE – The year 2024 the focus of our pastoral plan is family and marriage life. Hence on Sunday 24th we shall start the Christmas Prayer for Families.

CONFESSION (Sacrament of Reconciliation)

| DATE | TIME | REMARKS |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Saturday 16 th December | 10.30 am – 12.30 pm | Reconciliation service |
| Monday 18 th December | 10.30 am – 11.00 am | Fr Dennis |
| Tuesday 19 th December | 10.30 am – 11.00 am | Fr Pascoal |
| Wednesday 20 th December | 10.30 am – 11.00 am | Fr Dennis |
| Thursday 21 st December | 10.30 am – 11.00 am | Fr Pascoal |
| Friday 22 nd December | 10.30 am – 11.00 am | Fr Dennis |
| Saturday 23 rd December | 10.30 am – 11.30 am | Fr Dennis & Fr Pascoal |

CHRISTMAS LITURGY

| DATE | TIME | REMARKS |
|----------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday 24 th December 2023 | 9.30 am mass | Blessing of the crib – Fr. Pascoal |
| Sunday 24 th December 2023 | 6.30 pm | Christmas Vigil Mass – Fr. Dennis |
| Sunday 24 th December 2023 | 11.00 pm | Christmas Carols (Frans) |
| Monday 25 th December 2023 | 12.00 midnight | Midnight Mass – Fr Pascoal |
| Monday 25 th December 2023 | 9.30 am | 1 st Christmas day Mass – Fr. Dennis |
| Monday 25 th December 2023 | 11.30 am | 2 nd Christmas day Mass – Fr Pascoal |
| Tuesday 26 th December 2023 | 10.00 am | Boxing day Mass – Fr. Dennis |

NB: Our Sunday masses remain as usual: Sat 6.30pm, Sun 9.30am and 11.30am