

OUR LADY OF GILLINGHAM



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Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark CIO, registered charity 1173050

24th December 2023

✠ FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT B ✠

Readers this week :6.30pm	9:30am	11:30am
Betty Sequiera/Yolanda Danday	Ileoma & Amarachi Uhegbu	Joseph Kuruvilla/Juliet

Reading 1	2 Sam 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16	<i>The kingdom of David will always stand secure before the Lord.</i>
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Psalm	Ps 88:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29	<i>I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.</i>
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Reading 2	Rom 16:25-27	<i>The mystery, which was kept secret for endless ages, is now made clear.</i>
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Gospel Acclamation	Luke 1: 38	<i>I am the handmaid of the Lord: let what you have said be done to me.</i>
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Gospel	Luke 1:26-38	<i>Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son.</i>
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Readers next week 6.30pm	9.30am	11.30am
Princy Manuel/Ugochi Ihuoma	Lennette Opeodu/Samuel Rebson	Maureen O-Krakue/Paul Nwachukwu

- ✠ Please pray for Daniel Welke† who has recently died and for all the following whose anniversaries occur about this time:
- ✠ Ellen Wood, Anna McCarthy, Stephen Kearney, George Kavanagh, John Gay, Lidia Watts,
- ✠ May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen

Saturday 23rd December	Vigil Mass	✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠
Sunday 24th		6.30pm Repose of the soul of Frances Tomkins
		9.30am Naaza'a birthday intentions
		11.30am Pro Populo
	Vigil Mass of the Nativity	6.30pm Intentions of the Cottam Family
	Carols & Midnight Mass	11.00pm
Monday 25th	Christmas Day	9.30am Repose of the souls of Mr & Mrs Di Lisio & Fred's intentions
		11.30am Repose of the souls of Kevin & Mary Bishop
Tuesday 26th	St Stephen	10.00am Repose of the soul of Bernadette Beare & John Brakash
Wednesday 27th	St John, Apostle	10.00am Intentions of Peggy Bishop & the Bishop Family
Thursday 28th	The Holy Innocents	10.00am Intentions of Bernard Gallagher & the Bishop Family
Friday 29th	St Thomas	10.00am Intentions of Tony Luckhurst
of Canterbury		7.30pm In thanksgiving for everything
Saturday 30th		10.00am Intentions of Maureen Gallagher
	Vigil Mass	6.30pm
Sunday 31st		9.30am In thanksgiving
		11.30am Pro Populo
		6.30pm

Collections The collection in church last week amounted to £588.90 of which £90.50 was Gift Aided and Football parking amounted to £280.00.

Thank you.

Christmas DAY Collection is for the Priests

PARISH NOTICES.

TODAY IS A DAY OF PRAYER FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS AND MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES.

CHRISTMAS DAY COLLECTION – is for Frs. Dennis and Pascoal, the Christmas donation envelopes are still available at the back of the Church, and the Crib donations are for the Catholic Children's Society.

POPE'S DECEMBER PRAYER INTENTION: For persons with disabilities. We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

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)

FAMILY AND MARRIAGE LIFE – The year 2024 the focus of our pastoral plan is to promote marriage and family life. Hence this Sunday we are starting the Christmas Prayer for all the Families asking the Lord Jesus to bless all our families with abundant love, unity and prosperity. Copies of the prayers are available let each family take and pray every day during this Christmas season.

DEVOTIONS to the Blessed Virgin Mary continue by praying the Rosary every day. The time for reciting the rosary here at the Church is 9.30 am

READERS NEEDED – With the introduction of an extra Mass at 6.30pm on Sundays we need extra volunteers to read regularly on a rota basis. Please let Maureen O-Krakue or the office know if you can help.

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. Also, Christmas mass shall be there at 2pm.

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

CHRISTMAS LITURGICAL PROGRAM

<i>Sunday 24th December 2023</i>	<i>6.30 pm</i>	<i>Christmas Vigil Mass – Fr. Dennis</i>
<i>Sunday 24th December 2023</i>	<i>11.00 pm</i>	<i>Christmas Carols (Frans)</i>
<i>Monday 25th December 2023</i>	<i>12.00 midnight</i>	<i>Midnight Mass – Fr Pascoal</i>
<i>Monday 25th December 2023</i>	<i>9.30 am</i>	<i>1st Christmas day Mass – Fr. Dennis</i>
<i>Monday 25th December 2023</i>	<i>11.30 am</i>	<i>2nd Christmas day Mass – Fr Pascoal</i>
<i>Tuesday 26th December 2023</i>	<i>10.00 am</i>	<i>Boxing day Mass – Fr. Dennis</i>