

OUR LADY OF GILLINGHAM



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Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark CIO, registered charity 1173050

11th August 2024

✧ NINETEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR B ✧

Reading 1	1 Kgs 19:4-8	<i>Strengthened by the food he walked until he reached the mountain of the Lord.</i>
Psalm	Ps 33: 2-9 r.9	<i>Taste and see that the Lord is good.</i>
Reading 2	Eph 4:30—5:2	<i>Follow Christ by loving as he loved you.</i>
Gospel Acclamation	John 14:23	<i>If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.</i>
Gospel	John 6:41- 51	<i>I am the living bread which has come down from heaven.</i>

Readers this week; 6.30pm Betty Sequiera/Yolanda Danday 9.30am Benedict Keneckukwu/Ann Williams 11.30am Chelsea Atoe/Shakira Kara 6.30pm Chidubem Uche/Bridget Iwu

Readers next week; 6:30pm Oliver Perez/Kieran Shannon 9.30am Tania Jackson/Chiamaka Eke 11.30am Ellie Tetteh/Joan Aruma 6.30pm Divine Uche/Ancy Kumar

- ✧ Please pray for Nino Fantetti†, Patrick Sullivan† and Francis Rodriguez† who have recently died and for all the following whose anniversaries occur about this time:
- ✧ Kath Murphy, Theresa Allen, Gladys Wood, Philip Malorie, Anne Kelly, Lillian D'Souza, Zacaria Musse, Gladys Long, Rose Pitt, Manuela Hernandez, Bridget Fletcher, Antonio Simone, Antonietta Fantetti, John Smith, Bridie Hockley, and Ian Bell.
- ✧ May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace. Amen

Weekly Offertory – the collection amounted to £812.68 of which £243.45 was Gift Aided and included Contactless payments.

Thank you.

SECOND COLLECTION TODAY FOR SPIRITAN WORKS.

PARISH NOTICES

SPIRITAN WORKS: The second collection today is for supporting the Spiritan works worldwide. The order of the Spiritan Fathers was founded in France in 1703 and is now serving in 60 countries worldwide, especially among communities who are marginalized, where the Church finds difficulties in getting priests. Please donate generously to support their missionary endeavours.

THURSDAY NEXT 15 AUGUST IS THE FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY AND IS A HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION
Masses are at 10.00am and 7.30pm.

PROCESSION OF OUR LADY & 'BRING AND SHARE' LUNCH – NEXT SUNDAY 18th AUGUST -Please note that there will be a procession after 11.30 Mass followed by a 'bring and share' lunch in the McMahan Hall to which all parishioners are invited. Please come in national dress and bring some food to share

THANKS to Fr. Damasus Okoro CSSp for looking after the parish while. Fr Dennis was away last week and welcome back to Fr Pascoal on return from his holiday.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR AUGUST –Catholics are asked to pray that political leaders "be at the service of their own people" and also that they work for the common good, integral human development, and take care of those who have lost their jobs and give priority to the poor.

THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE CARE OF CREATION is celebrated on the 1st September every year, and the *Season of Creation* itself extends from this date until 4th October, the Feast of St Francis of Assisi. On this occasion, the Holy Father writes a Message addressed to the Catholic Church and to all people of good will. The theme "Hope and Act with Creation" drew its inspiration from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans (Rom 8:19-25). In his message, Pope Francis encourages "to live an incarnational faith, one that can enter into the suffering and hope-filled "flesh" of others; to join forces to help to rethink, "among other things, the question of human power, its meaning, and its limits; to extend harmony among humanity and to creation in the sense of responsibility for a humane and integral ecology, the path of salvation of our common home". Please visit [message](#) to read the Pope's full message:

THE DIVINE MERCY APOSTOLATE, LONDON is holding a Celebration of St Faustina's Birthday at **Aylesford Priory, Aylesford, Kent** on Bank Holiday Monday 26 August 2024 from 10 am to 4:30 pm. The reflection day will include teachings on the Message of Divine Mercy, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Stations of the Cross, Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All are welcome. Call Millie on 07957594646 for more information.

MASS INTENTIONS ✕

Saturday, 10th August

Vigil Mass

6.30pm Pro Populo

Sunday 11th August

9.30am Thanksgiving for blessings received for
Jessica & Luke Avery

11.30am Repose of the soul of Fr Nelson

6.30pm Repose of the soul of Violet Smith

Monday 12th August

St Jane Frances de Chantal, Religious

10.00am Repose of the soul of Linda Hockley

Tuesday 13th August

SS Pontian, Pope & Hippolyta, priest, Martyrs

10.00am Repose of the souls of Mary & Aubrey
Jamieson & Harold Aruma

1pm Funeral of James Sullivan at Medway
Crematorium

Wednesday 14th August

Saint Maximilian Kolbe, priest & martyr

10.00am Repose of the soul of Harold Aruma &
For a successful operation for Amobi Okoh

Thursday 15th August

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

10.00am Repose of the souls of Mary Lane &
Harold Aruma

7.30pm Repose of the soul of Ingeborg Sancto

Friday 16th August

St Stephen of Hungary

10.00am Repose of the soul of Harold Aruma

7.30pm Holy Souls

Saturday 17th August

The Blessed Virgin Mary

10.00am Repose of the soul of Harold Aruma

Followed by Exposition and Confessions

Vigil Mass

6.30pm Lee Family Intentions

THOUGHT FOR THE SOUL

IF YOU FEEL CALLED TO SERVE AS A DEACON IN THE CHURCH PLEASE MEET THE PARISH PRIEST OR DEACON MICHAEL KNIGHT

Deacons' stories



Deacon Alfred Banyaruka

One morning I picked up a leaflet from the back of a church in south London. It was the first time I learnt about married and celibate deacons and opportunities for serving the Church through the Permanent Diaconate. Although something told me it was what I had been searching for in my faith journey, I dismissed it.

Over the following five years the feeling repeatedly came back to me, but I put it off. During Christmas of 2007 the feeling became so intense that I could no longer ignore it. I recall going to my then parish priest and telling him that I had decided to apply for the Permanent Diaconate. Nearly dropping to his knees, uttering "Mother of God" he made the sign of the cross. Beaming with a smile, he said, "It will open all sorts of avenues". I did not understand what he meant.

Looking back now, coming to 12 years since my ordination, indeed unexpected avenues have opened. I have found myself exercising my ministry of charity as a hospital chaplain leading a multi faith team. This has been alongside my ministry of the word and the altar in the parish, which surprisingly seems always 'new'. Most of all my family life has been enriched and I can confidently endorse the assertion that for married deacons, the sacrament of marriage and the sacrament of holy orders mutually enrich each other.