

CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY AND ST GEORGE

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**Fr Maurice Gordon, Fr Mark Swires,
Fr Joseph Anthiamkulam (Syro-Malabar Chaplain)
Fr David Waller, Ordinariate Priest in Charge (020 8554 3763)
Rev. Joseph Baffour-Awuah (Permanent Deacon)
Sr. Anne Marie (Pastoral Care)**

Our Lady & St George's Primary School:
Lower Site 8520 8500. Upper Site: 8520 3552
Holy Family Catholic College: 8520 0482/8520 3587

23rd February 2014

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (A)

How do you respond to somebody who hurts you? Very often, when we are hurt we respond with anger or bitterness. We might want to get our own back and make them feel as lousy as we do. Instead of 'an eye for an eye', Jesus shows us something much better. Forgiving others makes sense, because if someone plucks out an eye in revenge, the problem is not solved and now two people are without eyes.

What does He tell us to do instead? He tells us to do something extremely difficult: to love everyone. Not only those who love us, but also our enemies – to love those who have wronged us.

Love is not about sentimental feelings. To love really means to want the good of the other person without seeking to control them. If someone has hurt us, it is very difficult to want that person's good. But this is what the Lord tells us we need to do. Forgiveness is a decision, not an emotion. Forgiveness does not mean blotting out painful memories, but it does mean not acting out of them. When the hurt is very deep, counselling, spiritually or with a therapist or even talking to a good friend can help us. But forgiveness is still difficult, no doubt about it.

The call is to love like God, 'You must be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect.' None of us is God, so we might wonder what Jesus means – how can we be perfect? Our challenge is to love as God our Father loves. God doesn't limit His love only to those who love Him, for 'the sun shines and rains fall on good and bad alike'. If God loves in this way, it is not up to us to determine who is worthy of love and who is not. We know He is forgiving and merciful to us when we are repentant, as today's Psalm says, 'He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults.' Thus He forgives our trespasses, and we are called to forgive those who trespass against us.

Another thought that can help us to forgive others is to remember that Jesus died to save our enemies as much as He died for us. If we find it hard to forgive someone, let us visualise Jesus on the cross, dying for that person.

To forgive those who hurt us is not the spirit of the world, as St Paul tells us. Yet this is what today's Gospel challenges us to do, if we are truly to be children of our loving Father.

Fr Maurice

BAPTISMS: By appointment. Prior attendance to Baptism Course required.

MARRIAGES: By appointment. Six months notice is required.

MASS INTENTION OFFERINGS: Please note that weekday Masses are mostly booked up until the end of March, all Sunday Masses are booked up until the end of April and Saturday 6pm Masses until August 2014. If you have a specific date in mind, please submit requests **at least six months in advance** to avoid disappointment. Where requests are received for a Mass on a specific day/time that is already booked, the next available Mass on the same weekday/time will be allocated. Thank you for your understanding.

FILIPINO SOCIAL EVENT: A huge thanks to the Filipino community for arranging last Saturday's social event with tabletop sale, bingo and disco. £1049.70 was raised, which will go towards the heating fund. Many thanks to all those who came along!

CONFIRMATION 2014: The next session for the Confirmation programme is next Sunday, 2nd March, 4-6pm in the Parish Hall.

FIRST COMMUNION 2014: The next session for the First Communion programme is on Saturday 8th March at 10am.

CATHOLICISM SERIES: During Lent we will be screening the Catholicism Series, a ten-part documentary on the Catholic

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faith. For the first time, in breathtaking and high-definition cinematography, the truth, goodness and beauty of Catholicism are illustrated in a multimedia experience. Journey with the host, Fr Robert Barron, to more than 50 locations throughout 16 countries. Be illuminated by the spiritual and artistic treasures of this global culture that claims more than one billion of the earth's people. From the sacred lands of Israel to the beating heart of Uganda, from the glorious shrines of Europe to the streets of Mexico, Kolkata and New York City, the mysteries of Catholicism are revealed. Learn what Catholics believe and why. Discover the full meaning of the faith.

The screenings will be in the Church meeting room on **ten consecutive Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm, beginning 12th March**. Each episode is about 50 minutes in length, with some time for discussion afterwards. The RCIA group (those currently preparing to enter the Catholic Church) will be attending, and we encourage parishioners to come too. It will be good spiritual preparation during Lent, and you are encouraged to invite anyone who may be curious about the faith. For more information about this highly acclaimed documentary, visit www.catholicismseries.com.

CATHOLICISM: 10 STEPS: Dr Charlie O'Donnell, Intensive Care Consultant at Whipps Cross has written a short booklet on the Catholic faith, and how it can be understood through reason in ten steps. It will be on sale for £1.99 after Masses next weekend.

GIFT AID: Gift Aid is a government scheme that allows the parish to reclaim tax on all donations made. If you are not currently enrolled in the Gift Aid scheme, please pick up a Gift Aid form from the back of the Church. For further information, please contact Hana on 07939 485957. Many thanks.

PILGRIMAGE TO PADUA, ITALY in honour of St Anthony – 17-23rd September 2014. 6 nights half board £749 – visiting Venice & Verona. We are now taking the last bookings for this pilgrimage, so if you are interested contact Stella on 0208 527 3879.

OUR LADY & ST GEORGE NURSERY: Children born between 1/9/10 and 31/8/11 will be due to start nursery in September 2014. If you are thinking of choosing Our Lady & St George's Catholic nursery for your child you are invited to come along to the Lower Site for an application pack. There will be a choice of full-time and part-time places, term-time only. Part time hours: Mornings 8.45-11.45am; Afternoons 12.15pm-3.15pm. Full time (8.00am-3.15pm) part funded. Packs are available from the Lower Site school office from Monday 10th February 2014. The closing date for return of the completed form is Wednesday 26th March 2014. Please phone the school office on 0208 520 8500 if you have any queries.

SINGERS REQUIRED: Singers are urgently required to join the parish choir, which performs and leads the music for the 8.30am and 12 noon Sunday Masses. You do not have to be able to read music, just have a desire to sing, be able to attend rehearsals on Fridays at 7.30pm and commit to either the 8.30am or 12 noon Mass. If interested, contact Ladislav Ondercin 07472 861 186 or Timothy Campbell on 07981 657 729.

STRESS IN YOUR MARRIAGE?: Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi) is a program for married couples that feel disillusioned, frustrated or angry in their marriage. Some experience coldness. Others experience conflict in their relationship. Thousands headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. Retrouvaille is not a spiritual retreat, a sensitivity group, a seminar or a social gathering. For confidential information about, or to register for the programme beginning with a weekend on 28th-30th March, email info@retrovaille.org.uk; call or text 07973 380 443 or visit www.retrovaille.org.uk.

RIP

Your prayers are asked for the repose of the souls of:

Peadar Deasy, whose remains will be brought into the Church on Thursday 27th February at 6pm, and whose funeral will take place on Friday 28th at 10.00am.

Kevin Duffy, whose funeral will take place at the City of London Crematorium on Tuesday 4th March at 12 noon.

May they rest in peace

ROTAS – FEBRUARY

Counting:	2/2 E	9/2 D	16/2 A	23/2 C
Hospital:	2/2 D	9/2 A	16/2 B	23/2 D
Christian Kitchen	1/2 Nor	8/2 D	15/2 E	22/2 F

Offertory collection for 16th February was £1447.01
Thank you very much for your generosity.

Mass times and intentions at Our Lady and St. George
SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

6.00pm	Hilda Ogilwy (RIP)
Sun 23 rd Feb	Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
8.30am	Natalie Rosario (Ints)
10.00am	Philomena Girling (Ints)
12.00pm	Kwami Nantwi
6.30pm	<i>[Ordinariate Mass]</i>
Mon 24 th Feb	Feria
7.00am	Leonora & Adeline (RIP)
9.15am	Lionel Peterson (Ints)
Tue 25 th Feb	Feria
7.00am	Lionel Peterson (Ints)
9.15am	Thanksgiving
Wed 26 th Feb	Feria
7.00am	Jerry Guye (RIP)
9.15am	Protection of Unborn Children
Thurs 27 th Feb	Feria
7.00am	Private Intention
9.15am	Ruby Almeida (RIP)
Fri 28 th Feb	Feria
7.00am	Ramadan Ramsey (Ints)
9.15am	Gertrude Charles (Ints)
Sat 1 st March	St David (Patron of Wales) – First Saturday
10.00am	Thanksgiving
6.00pm	John Joseph McGeary (RIP)
Sun 2 nd March	Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8.30am	Margaret O’Sullivan (RIP)
10.00am	Fr Jesuraja (Ints)
12.00pm	Parish
6.30pm	<i>[Ordinariate Mass]</i>

We pray for those in our parish community who are ill:

Christoper Browne, Rose Dennehy, Carol Hogermeer, Brian Keane, Ignatius Keane, Tony McCarthy, Rose O’Neill, Andrea Roberts, Promise Shinondo, Victoria Wyndham, Christine Conway, Nora Meades, Veronica Nolan, Mr & Mrs Charles, Maureen Bee, Denis Collins, Esperanza Buenaventura, Joyce Ross, Christine Raymond, Jacky Boyrow, Thelma Lewis, Tasmin Sparks, Eileen Karim, Sandra Gibson, Angelina Hoareau, Archie Garrod, Gilda Baptiste, Margaret Messenger, Martin Keane, Muriel Chetty, Masangela Tardioli, Alix Charlery, Natalie Rosario, Ronald Rolle. Bridie Lacon, Peter Ikuptati. Mercy Fernando, Veronica Godsave, Mary and Anthony O’Boyle, Oliver Gaynor, Marjorie Singh, Gunanesan Singarajah, Joan Beirne, Bill Walsh, Margaret Perry, Bridget Lyons, Kristina Klimasauskaite, Philomena Spranklen, Jeffrey Mitchell, Mary Akinkuolie, Michelle Boyle, Carla Cornelius, Cecelia Gibbs, Arthur Gibbs, Ural Gibbs, Gilbert Gibbs, Augustina Osei, Archie, George & Issac.

Morning Prayer:

Mon-Fri: 9.00am. Sat. 9.45 am

Rosary:

Weekdays after morning Mass

Adoration & Exposition:

Mon – Fri: 7.30am-8.30am and at the following times:

Mon: 10.00am – 7.00pm Weds: 10.00am – 4.00pm

Fri: 9.45am – 10.45am, Sat: 10.30am-11.30am

Reconciliation (Confessions):

Sat. 10.30am – 11.00am. 5.00pm – 5.30pm (Or on request)