

CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY AND ST GEORGE

132 Shernhall Street, Walthamstow E17 9HU

Tel: 020 8520 5877 Fax: 020 8520 4805

E-mail: parishoffice@olsg.co.uk

Website: www.olsg.co.uk

**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

2nd March 2014

EIGHTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (A)

The Gospel today speaks about putting God first. 'Seek ye first the Kingdom of God.' Jesus tells us that we cannot be the slaves both of God and of money. Eventually there will be a clash and we will have to decide which we will serve. Now, we are not all called to embrace poverty and enter monasteries or convents. Certainly, some people are and it is a wonderful vocation to serve God in this way.

But we who are in the world have to manage our affairs – you have bills to pay and children to raise, homes to tend and jobs to do. With all this on our plates, how do we 'seek first the Kingdom of God'? God calls all of us to be saints, and the way we become a saint is to live out our calling to the best of our ability, with the help of His grace. If we are married, we become saints through devotion to our spouse and children. If single, we may have more time for deeper prayer and service to our neighbour. As priests, we serve God by ministering to His people. All of us, in different ways are called to make God's Kingdom the priority – our centre of gravity – towards which our daily activities are ultimately directed. St Ignatius said that 'all our attentions, all our actions, all our endeavours must be directed towards the greater glory of God.'

Jesus warns us against becoming preoccupied and overanxious about the material things of life. Though we must be prudent and use money and material things wisely, they must not control us. The great danger is to clutter our lives with all kinds of things we don't really need – latest fashions, gadgets, more cars, etc. We need the basics, of course, but whether we are in a monastery or convent or in the world, the key is to be detached from the things that aren't essential. That gives us the freedom to serve God with an undivided heart. Our possessions must not possess us. Some lack even the basics, so it is our job to share what we can, when we can.

Five times in today's Gospel, Jesus mentions 'worry'. Many people carry worries from the past, and others have anxieties about the future. Although we all look for security in many ways, the call is for us to trust and let go to God, to recognise that He is in control and guides all things by His providence. Handing our worries over to Him is like a weight lifted from our shoulders. Jesus says that if we set our hearts on His Kingdom, if this is our centre of gravity, all other things will fall into place.

Lent starts this week. Lent is a time to shift the centre of gravity in our lives back to God, to get rid of anything that is cluttering us up and keeping us free to serve Him.

Fr Maurice

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

MARRIAGES: By appointment. Six months notice is required.

ASH WEDNESDAY: This coming Wednesday 5th is Ash Wednesday, a day of fasting and abstinence, and the beginning of Lent. Masses will be at 7.00am, 9.15am and 7.30pm.

EXTRA LENTEN MASS: Every Friday during Lent there will be an extra Mass at 8.00am, which will finish with enough time for young people to get to school afterwards. All parents, school children and young people are invited to come.

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

CATHOLICISM

documentary on the Catholic 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. 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.

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.

LENTEN TALKS: We will be having two talks towards the end of Lent. Fr Jim McManus CSsR will speak on Sunday 30th March at 6pm in the Parish Hall on 'Healing in the Family'. On Sunday 6th April, Fiona Mansford will speak on the Theology of the Body, the teaching of Pope John Paul II about the human person and human sexuality. All are invited to attend, and parents are especially encouraged to come along.

WALK WITH ME: The Lenten 'Walk With Me' booklets are now available in the Church porch or from the repository, priced at £1. They contain short daily reflections for each of the days of Lent, and are a helpful spiritual preparation for Easter.

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.

PARKING: Please note that the courtyard in front of the Church is for dropping off passengers only. Please do not park here at any time, because the Priests need clear access when answering emergency calls. Thank you for your cooperation.

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

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

CHRISTIAN KITCHEN: The Christian Kitchen needs your support to continue their work in helping the homeless and vulnerable in our community. This week there was a battle in the High Court against Waltham Forest Council to keep the service running, and a decision is expected

in two weeks. Find out more on their Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/ChristianKitchenWF>. You might also like to sign an online petition in support (<http://tinyurl.com/pndryns>). Follow latest developments on the Kitchen's twitter feed, [@ChristianKitchn](#).

CAFOD LENT FAST DAY – FRIDAY 14th MARCH: Tonight, one in eight of us around the world will go to bed hungry. For some, finding food is a daily struggle. CAFOD is working with poor communities around the world to help put food on the table. Fast Days are our opportunity to support that vital work. Fast Day envelopes will be available from the Church next weekend. Your support will be much appreciated.

HCPT GROUP 161 BINGO NIGHT: Saturday 29th March in the Parish Hall – more details to follow.

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.

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.

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

May he rest in peace

ROTAS – MARCH

Counting:	2/3 B	9/3 C	16/3 D	23/3 A	30/3 E
Hospital:	2/3 A	9/3 B	16/3 D	23/3 A	30/3 B
Christian Kitchen	1/3 Nor	8/3 G	15/3 A	22/3 B	29/3 C

Offertory collection for 23rd February was £1692.68
Thank you very much for your generosity.

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

6.00pm	John Joseph McGeary (RIP)
Sun 2 nd March	<i>Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
8.30am	Margaret O'Sullivan (RIP)
10.00am	Fr Jesuraja (Ints)
12.00pm	Parish
6.30pm	<i>[Ordinariate Mass]</i>
Mon 3 rd March	<i>Feria</i>
7.00am	Maria Branny (RIP)
9.15am	Colette Affi Essoh (Ints)
Tue 4 th March	<i>St Casimir</i>
7.00am	Michelle Boyle (Ints)
9.15am	Paddy MacNaboe (RIP)
Wed 5 th March	<i>Ash Wednesday</i>
7.00am	Monica MacNaboe (RIP)
9.15am	Mary Hogan (RIP)
7.30pm	The Police Service (Ints)
Thurs 6 th March	<i>Feria</i>
7.00am	Noel Rafetry (Ints)
9.15am	Tina Horn (RIP)
Fri 7 th March	<i>Feria</i>
7.00am	Thanksgiving
8.00am	Young people of the world (Ints)
9.15am	Eva Senn (RIP)
Sat 8 th March	<i>Feria</i>
10.00am	Thanksgiving
6.00pm	Peter & Drane Huba (RIP)
Sun 9 th March	<i>First Sunday of Lent</i>
8.30am	Adeline Rosario (RIP)
10.00am	Sr Felicity, Sr Margaret, Sr Mary Carmel (Ints)
12.00pm	Tomasa Diez (RIP)
6.30pm	<i>[Ordinariate Mass]</i>

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

Christopher 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, Boyce Chandasingh.

Morning Prayer:

Rosary:

Adoration & Exposition:

Mon-Fri: 9.00am. Sat. 9.45 am

Weekdays after morning Mass

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)