

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) (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

27th April 2014

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY)

In today's Gospel reading, the disciples are initially huddled in a locked room, fearing that what happened to Jesus would happen to them. They were confused by the recent events, gripped by fear and shut in on themselves. But despite the doors being locked, Jesus came in and stood among them, saying 'peace be with you.' He offers them the gift of peace.

What is peace? From a worldly perspective, 'peace' often just means the absence of conflict, the interval between one episode of unrest and another. Of course it is important to work for the resolution of conflict, but this is not all that peace entails.

The peace that Christ offers is rooted in forgiveness from sin. He gives His disciples the power to forgive sins – this power is still available through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. One of the great marks of Christian peace is to receive forgiveness and when we do receive this forgiveness, we experience a peace that no worldly thing can give us. We become instruments of peace to others when we forgive those who have hurt us.

Today's first reading shows the Church as a community of peace, meeting with each other for the Eucharist, sharing their possessions, and looking out for one another, impressing the unbelievers around them by the lives they led. This is the model for us – not just to be individuals who come to Mass on Sunday, but to be connected and help one other to grow. This seems a central theme of Pope Francis's writings; that the parish should be an environment for hearing God's word, growing in the Christian life, for dialogue and outreach, a place where every member is crucial and has a mission – not just a select few. Faith is what holds our community together.

Today is also Divine Mercy Sunday, when we think of Our Lord's great mercy, as He communicated it to St Faustina. Our sins are like a drop in the great ocean of His mercy. When we turn to Him and experience His mercy, we find deep peace.

This is also an important day because two former popes of the Church are being declared saints: John XXIII and John Paul II. Both of these men knew that true peace comes from knowing Christ, and they reflected this in their lives. Today we pray that they will intercede for us, that as the Catholic Parish of Our Lady & St George there may be peace among us, building a community that attracts others to Christ.

Fr Maurice

BAPTISMS: By appointment. Prior attendance to Baptism Course required. The next course will take place on Monday 28th April at 7.30pm in the Church.

MARRIAGES: By appointment. Six months notice is required.

EASTER: Many thanks to all those who helped with preparations for, and participated in the Holy Week and Easter celebrations, and those who prepared the refreshments following the Easter Vigil. Thanks also to all those who gave us greeting cards and gifts. Your generosity and support is what keeps the Parish going, and is deeply appreciated.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS: The next meeting for the Social Committee will be on Thursday 1st May at 7.30pm in the Church meeting room.

I also intend to set up a committee to advise on maintenance of the Church, the Presbytery and Parish Hall. If you have any ideas or expertise, please come along to a meeting on Thursday 8th May at 7.30pm in the Presbytery.

With the coming of a new Bishop, I have been reflecting on the Parish itself and recognize that it has changed considerably in the 15 years I have been here. To help us to move forward, I am looking to establish a new Parish Council. I would intend for the members to receive some good spiritual formation to help us identify areas for growth and strategies for reaching out to others. In the meantime, please keep this intention in your prayers.

FEAST OF THE DIVINE MERCY: This Sunday is Divine Mercy Sunday, a devotion in which the faithful gather to seek Our Lord's mercy, and in a spirit of repentance, seek mercy for others. The feast will be celebrated from 1.30pm, with the Blessed Sacrament exposed, the rosary and Divine Mercy chaplet prayed and confession available. Mass will be celebrated at 3pm, followed by refreshments. All are welcome.



PROCESSION IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY: On **Sunday 11th May** (two weeks today) we will be holding our third annual procession in Honour of Our Lady. As in previous years, the procession will begin at 2.00pm at the Upper Site of Our Lady & St George School (near Forest Road) and proceed along Shernhall Street to the Church, singing hymns along the way. This year, we will have some priests from various ethnic communities in attendance to lead decades of the rosary in different languages, along with families from the parish. You are encouraged to come along for this public display of our faith, and to bring flags or banners, or wear traditional dress from your home country. Don't forget your rosary! If you would like to assist with logistical preparations, can donate or arrange flowers or help with photography, please contact parishoffice@olsq.co.uk.



INTERVIEW WITH BRENTWOOD'S NEW BISHOP: Bishop-elect Alan Williams was interviewed for BBC Radio Essex – the audio is now available to listen to at: <http://goo.gl/qNTXw1>. His consecration as bishop will take place in Brentwood Cathedral on Tuesday 1st July.

NEW OFFERTORY ENVELOPES: The new offertory envelopes for the coming year are now available. **If you are enrolled in the gift aid scheme, please collect your envelopes from the back of the Church.** 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 or for further information, please contact Hana on 07939 485957.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will resume on Monday 28th April.

CATHOLICISM SERIES: Thanks to all who have so far attended the screenings of the Catholicism Series, a ten-part DVD presentation on the Catholic faith. **The screenings will resume this Wednesday 30th April at 7.30pm.** All are welcome. For more information about this highly acclaimed documentary, visit www.catholicismseries.com.

CATHOLICISM

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME: The next Confirmation session is this Sunday 27th April, 4-6pm in the Parish Hall.

MASS FOR MIGRANTS: The annual Mass for migrants, in honour of St Joseph the Worker will be held on Bank Holiday Monday, 5th May at Westminster Cathedral, London. Mass begins at 11am and will be preceded by a banner procession, beginning at 10.30am. For more information contact Davina Bolt (01277 265 234 or email davina@dioceseofbrentwood.org).

25th ANNIVERSARY PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES: The Diocesan Pilgrimage leaves on Saturday 26th July, returning Thursday 31st. The programme includes a wide range of spiritual and social opportunities, plus a trip out into the Pyrenees for the afternoon. The pilgrimage is well supported by an excellent medical team, and many young helpers who can assist those who are in wheelchairs. Our hotels are very central, and a high standard, and the price includes all meals. From £618 by air, and £418 by coach – full details at www.brentwoodlourdes.org or call Cathy O'Connor about booking, 01206 501146.

HEADTEACHER VACANCY: The Governing Body of St Pius X Primary School, Chelmsford is looking to appoint a Head teacher to start a.s.a.p. For further details and to arrange a school visit, please contact Vicky Thorpe at Eteach Appoint on 01276 674 149 or email vthorpe@eteach.com.

MARRIAGE CARE ILFORD CENTRE is looking for suitable volunteers (male or female) to be trained as Marriage Preparation providers / counselors / FOCCUS facilitators. For more information, contact Glenda Spencer on 0208 590 7775.

RIP

Your prayers are asked for the repose of the soul of Agnes Okotie, who died recently. Her funeral will take place in Nigeria in due course, but we hope to have a Memorial Mass offered for her in the parish in the future.

May she rest in peace.

ROTAS – APRIL

Counting:	6/4 B	13/4 C	20/4 A	27/4 E
Hospital:	6/4 D	13/4 A	20/4 B	27/4 D
Christian Kitchen	5/4 Nor	12/4 D	19/4 E	26/4 F

Mass times and intentions at Our Lady and St. George
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY)

6.00pm	Mary Drum (RIP) & Peggy McCarthy (RIP)
Sun 27 th April	Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)
8.30am	John Joseph Cullen (RIP)
10.00am	Holy Souls
12.00pm	Judith Hilton (Ints)
6.30pm	<i>[Ordinariate Mass]</i>
Mon 28 th April	Easter Weekday
7.00am	Sheila Crawley (RIP)
9.15am	Holy Souls
Tue 29 th April	St Catherine of Siena
7.00am	Christine Walton (RIP)
9.15am	Della Rodrigues (RIP)
Wed 30 th April	Easter Weekday
7.00am	Ambrose Dillsworth (RIP)
9.15am	Beth Rose Nee (Ints)
Thu 1 st May	Easter Weekday
7.00am	First Communion Children (Ints)
9.15am	Julian Rodrigues (Ints)
Fri 2 nd May	St Athanasius
7.00am	Thanksgiving
9.15am	Confirmation Candidates (Ints)
Sat 3 rd May	Ss Philip & James
10.00am	Thanksgiving
6.00pm	Alex Lasrado (RIP)
Sun 4 th May	Third Sunday of Easter
8.30am	Veronica John Baptiste (RIP)
10.00am	Parish
12.00pm	Patrick Nevin (Ints)
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, Boyce Chandasingh.

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)