

CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY AND ST GEORGE

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**Fr Maurice Gordon, Fr Mark Swires,
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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

15th June 2014

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY (A)

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity. This Sunday is sometimes called the preacher's nightmare, because it is not possible to exhaust the great depths of this reality – that the One God is Three Persons. Not three Gods, not three parts to God, but three distinct persons, all of the same essence, but one and the same God. If this sounds complicated, we should not be too surprised, because we are talking about the nature of God, and this is beyond our capacity to completely understand!

The reality of God's existence as Trinity is not something that the human mind can arrive at by its own efforts. We only know this because God has revealed it. God revealed Himself over time, beginning with the chosen people of Israel, to whom He spoke through the prophets, including Moses in today's First Reading. In time, God revealed Himself more fully through Jesus, who called God His Father and claimed to be one with and equal to the Father. And Jesus also promised to send the Holy Spirit, who will give life to the Church, the new Israel. So there is a progression during history. First God the Father is the transcendent creator, **outside** us; then God becomes man to be **beside** us, and finally the Spirit comes to dwell **inside** us. Over time God moves gradually towards greater intimacy with His people.

Indeed, intimacy is the nature of the Trinity. God Himself is an eternal exchange of love: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and He created us to share in that exchange. We know that we are made in the image of God. To be in the image of God means that we too are called to be in an exchange of love with others. This is most evidently seen in the family, where the love between husband and wife bears fruit in children. St John Paul II said that 'God in his deepest mystery is not a solitude but a family, since he has in Himself Fatherhood, Sonship and the essence of the family, which is love.'

The life of the Trinity is shared love. Having been made in the image of God, we must emulate that. We fall short of the image of God when we become individualistic, and trapped in our own ego. Love is the meaning of our lives, because God is love and we are created in His image. This is why nothing makes us as happy as love, because love is the supreme good. It is inscribed in our design – we were created to love and to receive love, and so we are happy only when we stop trying to be what we were not designed to be. Cats are not happy living like dogs, and saints are not happy living like sinners. To be cut off from the Trinitarian love of God is exactly what sin is.

The God who appears to Moses in the First Reading is the same God Jesus reveals in today's Gospel. He is a God of 'tenderness and compassion', who 'so loved the world that He sent His son to save it.' Knowing that we have this dignity, what other kind of life would we want to lead? And yet our world is so confused today – people literally have no idea why they are here, what life is about. Last week Pope Francis criticised our 'comfort culture', which seeks after world travel, summer homes and pets rather than the generosity of faithfulness in marriage and accepting children. But when we forget that we are made in the image of God, we forget our real identity.

On this Trinity Sunday, let us allow ourselves to be drawn into the life of the Trinity again. May we come to a deeper appreciation of who we really are, made in the image of God.

Fr Maurice

BAPTISMS: By appointment. Prior attendance to Baptism Course required. The next course will take place on Monday 30th June at 7.30pm in the Church.

MARRIAGES: By appointment. Six months notice is required.

CONFIRMATION: We congratulate the 32 young people who received the Sacrament of Confirmation last Sunday. Many thanks to their parents, catechists and to the whole parish community for their prayers and support.

CHARITY FUNDRAISER: On Friday 4th July from 8pm, we will be hosting a charity fundraising event in the Parish Hall, to raise money for the Naughton family, former parishioners here, who have three boys with Duchenne's muscular dystrophy. The event includes a live band, raffle, auction and licensed bar, and tickets are still available this weekend.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: The next meeting for the Finance Committee takes place this Monday 16th June at 8.00pm. All members are requested to attend.

JUSTICE & PEACE GROUP: The next meeting of the Justice & Peace Group will take place on Tuesday 17th June at 7.30pm in the meeting room.

FIRST COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2014-15: There will be a meeting for parents who would like their children to make their First Communion next summer (2015). This will take place in the Parish Hall at 7:30pm on Monday 23rd June. The First Communion programme is open to children who are in school year 4 or older and who live in Our Lady and St George parish or whose families regularly attend Mass here.

HOLY FAMILY SUMMER FAIR: *Saturday 28th June 2014, 12:00noon-4:00pm,*
1 Shernhall Street, Walthamstow, London E17 3EA. The Friends of Holy Family Catholic School and Sixth Form are holding an afternoon of family fun, with a driving school, stocks, coconut shy, foodie treats from Portugal and Africa along with what we think of as the best BBQ in the borough, afternoon tea and home made cakes will be for sale too, plus, we are showcasing our students many talents with a technology exhibition and the Holy Family Has Talent final! A limited amount of outdoor tables will be available at £ 15.00 (£10.00 if paid before the event); to book a table email t.friends@holyfamily.waltham.sch.uk for a booking form or phone the school on 0208 520 0482. Entrance fee: 50p Adults, 20p children/concessions.

GIFT AID: Gift Aid is a government scheme that allows the parish to reclaim tax on all donations made by UK taxpayers, at no cost to you. 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. This provides much-needed additional income for the upkeep of the Church and support of our schools.

PARISH CATECHISTS: On Monday 7th July, 7.30-9.30pm, Sr Nuala Gannon IBVM will be running a session for all parish catechists in the Church meeting room. This will be an opportunity to share good practice and to explore together questions related to our present approach to Sacramental preparation – for children, young people, adults and the parish community. All catechists are invited to attend.

UNUSED MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS? Do you have a musical instrument gathering dust in a drawer or cupboard, once used by you or your children, but no more? At St Teresa's, Basildon, children are working with classical musician James Rhodes to form a school orchestra. Could you donate your instrument? Please contact Fr Dominic Howarth, 01268 281732, or email frdominic@basildoncatholics.org. We will pay postage or arrange a pick

up, and your instrument will be put to very good use – it could truly transform the life of one of our children, as they discover new talents. Thank you.

DAY OF PRAYER AND FASTING: Monday 23rd June is a National Day of Prayer and Fasting for the end of Abortion and Euthanasia. Please remember to pray and to fast in any way possible. This could be fasting on bread and water or it could be fasting from a particular thing i.e. alcohol, cigarettes, TV. For details see; www.goodcounselnetwork.com

FREEDOM IN CHRIST CONFERENCE: 19th June 1pm at St Theresa Church, Newbury Park with Frs. Eamonn & Angelus. People can carry deep wounds and hurts from the past by what has happened to them, especially in childhood, or by certain activities contrary to the Word of God (e.g., fortune telling, tarot cards, New Age spiritualities). Christ came to set us free from all forms of spiritual bondage. This conference will address this topic and conclude with Mass at 3pm. Come and see how the Lord can help bring greater healing and liberation to you and your family.

HEALING MASS AT ABBOTSWICK celebrated by Fr Eamonn Power on Wednesday 18th June 2014 at 2.30pm. For further information please call 01277 373959 or visit www.abbotswick.org. Please join us, all are welcome!

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES by coach – great value, 6 days 5 nights in Lourdes, plus luxury coach travel and a central hotel, from just £418. Join 450 pilgrims of all ages on the 25th Diocesan Pilgrimage, led by Bishop Alan Williams. There are a few coach places left, departing Brentwood on Friday 25th July, returning on Friday 1st August. The price includes all meals in Lourdes as well as a full Diocesan programme of Masses, liturgies, processions and social events. There is still time to book – full details at www.brentwoodlourdes.org or call Cathy O'Connor about booking, 01206 501146.

ORGAN RECITAL at the Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church, Billericay **on Saturday 5th July at 7:45pm** - given by Emma Gibbins, a renowned organist who accompanied The Most Holy Redeemer Choir on its Tour to Rome. Emma has chosen a fascinating programme which will include Bach, Kuhnau, Walton's Henry V & Sibelius' Finlandia. Tickets, only £5 each, are now available via the Parish Office on 01277 624891.

RIP

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

Augustina Osei, whose body will be brought into the Church on Thursday 19th June at 7.00pm, and whose Requiem Mass will take place on Friday 20th at 12 noon.

May she rest in peace.

ROTAS – JUNE

Counting:	1/6 E	8/6 D	15/6 B	22/6 D	29/6 A
Hospital:	1/6 B	8/6 D	15/6 A	22/6 B	29/6 D
Christian Kitchen	31/5 C	7/6 Nor	14/6 D	21/6 E	28/6 F

The offertory collection for 8th June was £1295.86
Thank you very much for your generosity.

Mass times and intentions at Our Lady and St. George
THE MOST HOLY TRINITY (A)

6.00pm	William J Turvey (RIP)
Sun 15 th June	<i>The Most Holy Trinity (A)</i>
8.30am	Francis Palmer (RIP)
10.00am	David Flett (RIP)
12.00pm	Luiz Castellani (RIP)
6.30pm	<i>[Ordinariate Mass]</i>
Mon 16 th June	<i>Feria</i>
7.00am	Emer Kelly (Ints)
9.15am	Natalie Rosario (Ints)
Tue 17 th June	<i>Feria</i>
7.00am	Alice Breslin (Ints)
9.15am	Adeline Rosario (RIP)
Wed 18 th June	<i>Feria</i>
7.00am	Ivonne Brady (Ints)
9.15am	Richard Loughlin (RIP)
Thu 19 th June	<i>Feria</i>
7.00am	Eleanor Brady (Ints)
9.15am	Holy Souls
Fri 20 th June	<i>Weekday</i>
7.00am	Padraig and Paula Naughton (Ints)
9.15am	Fr Paul Dynan (Ints)
Sat 21 st June	<i>St Aloysius Gonzaga</i>
10.00am	Geraldine Unger (RIP)
6.00pm	Paciencia C Turvey (Ints)
Sun 22 nd June	<i>The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ</i>
8.30am	Members of St George's Blessed Sacrament Confraternity
10.00am	Jan Salamowicz (RIP)
12.00pm	Parish
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 Klimauskaite, Philomena Spranklen, Jeffrey Mitchell, Michelle Boyle, Carla Cornelius, Cecelia Gibbs, Arthur Gibbs, Ural Gibbs, Gilbert Gibbs, Archie, George & Issac, Boyce Chandasingh.

Morning Prayer:

Rosary:

Adoration & Exposition:

Reconciliation (Confessions):

Mon-Fri: 9.00am. Sat. 9.45am

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

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