

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) (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

8th June 2014

PENTECOST SUNDAY

The readings of today's Mass focus our attention on the Holy Spirit. In the Gospel, Jesus breathes on his disciples and says 'receive the Holy Spirit', giving them the power to forgive sins. The first reading describes the events of the first Pentecost, when there was a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles. They were filled with power, and were totally transformed from being fearful to becoming courageous. Pentecost is described as the birthday of the Church, because it was the day when the Church began its mission of preaching the Gospel to all nations. This is represented by the many nations and languages described in the first reading – a sign of the Church's universality. Over the centuries the Church has grown, and it is the power of the Holy Spirit which gives it life, which sustains it in persecution, works through its saints, and protects its teaching.

The Holy Spirit is powerful. Look at Peter, how confused and weak he was in the Gospels; yet in the Acts of the Apostles he is changed – he is a new man, a real rock for the first time. His first sermon after receiving the Holy Spirit on Pentecost converts 3000 people.

The same Spirit that came upon Peter and Apostles at Pentecost is given to each one of us in Baptism and Confirmation. The Holy Spirit gives each of us the strength and power to live, spread and defend the faith by word and deed. How active is the Holy Spirit in your life, and in mine?

If we have been baptised and confirmed, we should be living a life full of the Holy Spirit. But we have to be plugged in to this power and switched on. Just like a kettle will not boil or a mobile will not charge unless plugged in and switched on, we will not have the power of God running through us unless we are connected to it. We stay connected through prayer and through the Sacraments – especially the Mass. The Holy Spirit gives us great power, not the kind of power that dominates or controls other people, but the power to determine what is good and right – to make good choices, to think, 'what would Christ want me to do in this situation?' – and have the courage to do it.

We will know whether we are living in the power of the Holy Spirit by the fruits borne in our lives. If we exhibit love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, chastity and self-control, that is evidence that the Spirit is at work in us. However, if our words and actions are causing division because of a lack of charity and truth, the evil one is at work.

The Holy Spirit moves us out of ourselves, away from selfishness and our own ego. We should always seek to recognise the gifts of the Spirit in other people – as St Paul mentions to the Corinthians, 'there are a variety of gifts, but always the same Spirit working in all sorts of different ways in different people.' We must avoid spiritual jealousy and envy, or being sad at the gifts of other people. The same Holy Spirit working for good in us is also active in the neighbour. We should not lock the doors of our hearts, or be frozen in self-centeredness, but cooperate with the Spirit. The words of today's sequence are helpful, as we pray for a new outpouring of God's Spirit on us, 'heal our wounds, our strength renew. On our dryness, pour thy dew. Wash the stains of guilt away. Bend the stubborn heart and will, melt the frozen, warm the chill. Guide the steps that go astray.' On this Pentecost day, we pray 'Come, Holy Spirit, fall afresh on us.'

Fr Maurice

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

MARRIAGES: By appointment. Six months notice is required.

CONFIRMATION: This Pentecost Sunday at 3.00pm, 32 young people will be confirmed. We pray for them, and for their families as they receive the gift of the Holy Spirit: Cyprian Baffour-Awuah, Prince Bashkaran, Juriz Castillo, Ella Edmunds Cameron, Gary Gannon, Celine George, Klaudia Horoszko, Sujil James, Anissa Julien, Myles Kelly-Hyart, Louis Lewis, Elizabeth Lopez Ramires, Ricardo Lopez Ruiz, Owen Loughnane, Jean-Phillipe Marie, Martina McDonagh, Johan Ortiz-Morales, Jamal Salandy-Bailey, Ellienna Sakamoto, Jacob Savery, Jack Singarajah, Timothy Slack, Sharnae St Catherine-Jones, Lauren Stephen, John-Patrick Tolibas, Matus Tukot, Richard Tukot, Stephanie Uyanneh, Marcus Uzice, Victor Valdesco, Aaron Westerby, Niesha Williams.



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 will be available this weekend.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: The next meeting for the Finance Committee has been moved to Monday 16th June at 8.00pm.

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.

JAN MORTALI RETIREMENT: Jan Mortali, who has served our primary school as a welfare officer, secretary and financial manager for the past 35 years, is now retiring. We will celebrate a Mass of thanksgiving on Friday 12th June at 4pm in the Church. We wish Jan all of God's blessings for a happy retirement.

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.

SPIRIT IN THE CITY FESTIVAL: Spirit in the City is a celebration of Christian faith in the heart of London, hosted by the Catholic churches in the West End. The annual festival aims to share the Good news of Christianity, and welcomes people of all faiths, ages and walks of life in the middle of the entertainment district. It gives an opportunity to raise deeper questions about life. The events feature live music, workshops and talks, opportunities for prayer, reflection and reconciliation. There is a programme of events planned from Wednesday 11th – Saturday 14th June at Notre Dame de France Church, Leicester Place, Our Lady of the Assumption & St Gregory Warwick Street, St Patrick's Soho Square and the Leicester Square Gardens, which anyone who works in central London might like to attend. For more information take a leaflet in the Church porch or visit www.spiritinthecity.org.

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.

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!

SCHOOL CHAPLAIN VACANCY: All Saints Catholic School, Dagenham, seeks to appoint a School Chaplain. This is a new role – 3 days a week, with the possibility of 5 days per week starting September 2014. The ideal candidate will be a practicing and committed Catholic, with proven experience in this area of work. Full details of the job specification are available on request, Tel: 020 8270 4242. Closing date for applications (with a covering letter to Mrs Hartley): Friday, 14th June 2014.

VACANCY AT BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL: With the forthcoming retirement of the present Cathedral Personal Assistant, the Cathedral Dean, Fr Martin Boland, is looking for a PA to support him in running both a large, busy parish and the many diocesan events that take place at the Cathedral. Among other qualities, this position requires someone with:

- excellent secretarial and computing skills
- good social skills and an ability to deal in a pastoral manner with a wide range of people and situations
- an understanding and commitment to the life and work of the Catholic Church

The successful candidate will be trustworthy, discreet, reliable and hardworking. For more information including a detailed job description and salary details, please contact Fr Martin Boland by June 15th at cathedralbrentwood@gmail.com or telephone: 01277 265235

CONGRATULATIONS: We congratulate Quinton Burns and Renata Widomska who were married at our Church recently. We wish them all of God's blessings for their future happiness and wellbeing.

RIP

Your prayers are asked for the repose of the souls 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.

Mary Akinkuolie whose funeral will take place in Lagos, Nigeria. A memorial Mass will be held here on Friday June 13th at 9.15am.

May they rest in peace.

ROTAS – JUNE

Counting:	1/6 E	8/6 D	15/6 B		
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 1st June was £1856.09
Thank you very much for your generosity.

Mass times and intentions at Our Lady and St. George
PENTECOST SUNDAY

6.00pm	Muriel S Turvey (RIP)
Sun 8 th June	Pentecost Sunday
8.30am	Ray & Marcella Finney (Ints)
10.00am	Peggy Halpenny (RIP)
12.00pm	Berlynda Mopise (Thanksgiving)
3.00pm	Confirmation Mass: Confirmation Candidates (Ints)
6.30pm	[Ordinariate Mass]
Mon 9 th June	Feria
7.00am	Bishop-elect Alan (Ints)
9.15am	Maria Stanton (RIP)
Tue 10 th June	Feria
7.00am	Holy Souls
9.15am	Thanksgiving
Wed 11 th June	St Barnabas, Apostle
7.00am	Fr Paul Dynan (Ints)
9.15am	Deceased family members of Alma Willox (RIP)
Thu 12 th June	Feria
7.00am	Peace in Syria
9.15am	Fr John O'Rourke (RIP)
Fri 13 th June	St Anthony of Padua
7.00am	Augustina Osei (RIP)
9.15am	Mary Akinkuolie (RIP)
4.00pm	Jan Mortali (Thanksgiving)
Sat 14 th June	Feria
10.00am	Sr Jacinta D'Souza (RIP)
6.00pm	William J Turvey (RIP)
Sun 15 th June	The Most Holy Trinity (A)
8.30am	Francis Palmer (RIP)
10.00am	David Flett (RIP)
12.00pm	Parish
6.30pm	[Ordinariate Mass]

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, 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)