

CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY AND ST GEORGE

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Fr Maurice Gordon; Fr Patrick Daly
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 March 2015

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (B)

Today's first reading details the Ten Commandments. The first three speak of God, and the remaining seven of our relationships with one another. To worship God means that other things, like celebrities, money, possessions, sex and flashy cars are not number one in our lives, but God comes first.

If God comes first, we want to please Him, which means we treat His name with respect. It also means that we keep holy the Sabbath, which we do by attending Mass every Sunday. We are body and soul; unlike the angels, who are pure spirit – we have bodies too, and have to bring our bodies to Church if we are actually to worship Him. Our worship of God is embodied in action. Keeping holy the Sabbath also means to rest from all unnecessary work; of course some work is essential for life, within our families and in key services to the community, but for other things that can wait, there are six other days in the week. The purpose of Sabbath rest is to recharge us physically, mentally and emotionally; to spend time and deepen bonds with family and friends, and to relax and reflect on the works of God.

The remaining seven commandments speak of our relationships with others. We are to honour our father and mother, not only when we are young, but also when they grow old. We are to respect all life from God and not cause unjust harm or commit murder. We are to respect the sacredness and permanence of marriage, and not to jeopardise the stability of families through infidelity. We know how much harm adultery does to children and to all involved. We are not to steal, cheat or defraud. By extension, gossiping can be a type of stealing, as it robs a person of their good name and character in the eyes of others. We are not to tell lies; as Jesus says, Satan is the father of lies. We are also not to be jealous or resent the success, or possessions of others – we are all blessed by God in different ways, and should count those blessings, even being able to rejoice in others' success.

These commandments provide a solid foundation for good living and healthy societies. If we wish to call ourselves sons and daughters of God, we must keep these commandments and form our consciences by them. Our consciences must be properly formed in order to be a reliable guide – it is possible for our conscience to be mistaken, especially under the influence of what we read and see on TV, which can pollute. With a mistaken conscience we might make up rules for living that are twisted, and thus end up justifying actions that are objectively speaking, contrary to God's will.

Reflecting on the commandments can disturb us, because this reminds us that God's call to live a fulfilled life is challenging, but ultimately brings peace and happiness. In the light of these commandments, we can examine our consciences, and have recourse to the Sacrament of Reconciliation which brings us a new beginning – a spring clean for the soul.

Fr Maurice

BAPTISMS: By appointment. Prior attendance to Baptism Course required. The next Course will take place on Monday 23rd March at 7.30pm in the Church.

MARRIAGES: By appointment. Six months notice is required. There will be talks on marriage during Lent; details below.

LENTEN TALKS AT OLSG: We are now between the two synods in Rome on the subject of marriage and family life. Given all that has been said in the media about this, our Lenten talks this year are around the theme of marriage. The talks take place on Thursday evenings in Lent in the Parish hall:

12 March 2015, 8pm: **Theology of Marriage** led by Father Patrick Daly

19 March 2015, 8pm: **Marriage and Family life** led by Father Graham Smith. Fr Graham is Co-ordinator for Marriage and Family life, Brentwood diocese

26 March 2015, 2015, 8pm: **Proclaiming the ideal of Christian Marriage** led by Father Patrick Daly.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: The Stations of the Cross take place every Friday during Lent at 7.15pm in the Church.

ST PATRICK'S DAY VARIETY SHOW: Don't forget: there will be a Variety Show in the parish hall on Saturday 14th March at 7.30pm (doors open at 7pm). Programme includes Irish and Indian dancing, Nigerian and Filipino singing and special guest Aisling Fahey – young poet laureate for London. Tickets are £5 (accompanying children under 15 free). **Seats are limited, and are selling out fast**, so speak to Fr Maurice to purchase tickets.

CONFIRMATION: This Sunday the Confirmation candidates are travelling to Brentwood to be presented to and meet Bishop Alan and see all the other young people who will be confirmed by their parish priest this year. Please keep our candidates and their families in your prayers. The next session will take place on Sunday 22nd March at 4pm in the Parish hall.

FIRST COMMUNION: The next session of the First Communion programme is Saturday 21st March at 10.00am. As usual, the parents will meet in the lower site of OLSG school, while the children will be in the parish hall.

RCIA meetings take place on Thursday evenings at 8.00pm. Anyone interested in becoming Catholic, being confirmed as an adult or wish to learn more about the faith is welcome to come along.

HALF-DAY RETREAT FOR EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS: There will be a half-day retreat for all the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion in the parish on Saturday 28th March from 9am – 12.30pm. Tea / coffee will be provided.

BETHEL PARISH PRAYER GROUP – a group of Malayalam-speaking families who gather once weekly under the guidance of Fr Maurice. As a new initiative they are offering prayer support to the parish. Please drop in your intentions in the box located in the lobby of the Church.

HCPT DINNER & DANCE takes place on Saturday 21st March, tickets costs £25pp. Book your table early and avoid missing out! Speak to Anita, Peter or Em on 07976419680.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION – thank you to all from our community who come to share in the Eucharistic Adoration. We need more people to commit to the following hours: Monday, 10 – 11am, 12 – 1pm, 1-2pm and 4-5pm. Wednesday: 11am – 12pm, 12-1pm and 1-2pm. Spend time with Jesus. Please provide your name on the sheet available in the porch.

HOLY FAMILY COLLEGE SPRING TABLE TOP SALE: Saturday 28th March 2015 - 10am-1pm. The Friends of Holy Family Catholic School & Sixth Form are holding their Spring Indoor Table Top Sale on their Walthamstow Site, 1 Shernhall Street, (Next to Thorpe Coombe Hospital), London E17 3EA on Saturday 28th March 2014, with doors open to the public from 10:00am - 13:00pm. A chance to get rid of that clutter, buy a treat or gift or enjoy our delicious refreshments and take a home-made cake for later! To book a table, email the Friends for a booking form at t.friends@holyfamily.waltham.sch.uk or phone the school office on 020 8520 0482. Tables £10.00 in advance, £15 on the day subject to availability. Admission 50p adults, children free. Book early to avoid disappointment.

HEALING MASS at Abbotswick House of Prayer, Brentwood, to be celebrated by Fr Eamonn Power at 2.30pm Wednesday 18th March 2015. Call 01277 373 959 for more info.

LENTEN DAY OF REFLECTION WITH BISHOP ALAN: “God loved the world so much...” Bishop Alan Williams, SM will lead the day, at the Brentwood Cathedral Centre (Ingrave Road, Brentwood CM15 8AT). Arrive 10am for a 10.30am start, finish at 3.45pm. £10 per person, please bring a packed lunch – tea and coffee provided. For booking and further information please contact the Adult RE office on 01277 265 255 or email are&fm@dioceseofbrentwood.org.

JOB VACANCY: St Angela’s Ursuline school requires a teacher of RE from September 2015. For further details contact Miss Caroline Brown, tel. 0208 472 6022; email vacancies@stangelas-ursuline.co.uk; website: www.stangelas-ursuline.co.uk.

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.

RIP
Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Dominique Muraa Ojoo whose Requiem Mass will take place on
 Thursday 12th March at 11am.

Guy Ng Yu Tin whose Requiem Mass will take place on
 Thursday 19th March at 12 noon.

May they rest in peace.

ROTAS – MARCH:

Hospital	1/3 B	8/3 D	15/3 A	22/3 B	29/3 D
Counting	1/3 F	8/3 B	15/3 E	22/3 D	29/3 C
Christian Kitchen	7/3 Nor1	14/3 E	21/3 Nor2	28/3 F	

Last week’s collection was £1541.18. Thank you very much for your generosity.

Mass times and intentions at Our Lady and St. George this week

6.00pm	Margaret O'Sullivan (RIP)
Sun 8 th Mar	THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (B)
8.30am	Hazel Belizaire (Ints)
10.00am	Fr Jesuraja (Ints)
12.00pm	Parish
6:30pm	<i>[Ordinariate Mass]</i>
Mon 9 th Mar	Feria
7.00am	Padraig Riordan (RIP)
9.15am	Padraig Riordan (RIP)
Tue 10 th Mar	Feria
7.00am	Ann Lloyd (RIP)
9.15am	Mr & Mrs Joseph Murtagh (RIP)
Wed 11 th Mar	Feria
7.00am	Michael Murtagh (RIP)
9.15am	Julie Warren (RIP)
Thu 12 th Mar	Feria
7.00am	Joseph McManus (RIP)
9.15am	Rita Stafford (Ints)
Fri 13 th Mar	Feria
7.00am	Evelyn (Ints)
9.15am	Gerald Brown (RIP)
Sat 14 th Mar	Feria
10.00am	Dorothy Preville (RIP)
6.00pm	Natalie Rosario (Ints)
Sun 15 th Mar	FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (B)
8.30am	Private Intention
10.00am	Jim Sullivan (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, Margaret Messenger, Martin Keane, 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, 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, Luis & Lukas.

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)