

CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY AND ST GEORGE

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Fr Maurice Gordon; Fr Patrick Daly
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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

26th April 2015

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (B) **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS**

One of the most attractive and appealing images of Jesus in the Gospel is the image of the Good Shepherd. That image has its roots in the Old Testament. Through the Prophet Ezekiel, God says that He will himself shepherd His people, because those he appointed as shepherds on earth were using the sheep for their own ends and leading them astray. Jesus, in time, comes as our Good Shepherd, saying 'I am the Good Shepherd, and I lay down my life for my sheep.' On the cross, He did lay down his life, in order to carry us back, like sheep on his shoulders, to the Father. We are drawn into that relationship, and if we stay close to Him, He will lead us to safety.

In turn we are called to serve as shepherds for others. We live in a world where people live as if God does not exist; there is no acknowledgement of Him. We Catholics belong to the sheepfold of Christ, but our Lords says that there are other sheep, which He also has to lead, who will also listen to His voice. How will they hear the voice of the Lord? It is through us, in our love, attitudes and deeds. Things will get harder for the Church and for all who follow Christ in the years ahead. As St John says in today's second reading, 'the world refuses to acknowledge God; therefore it does not acknowledge us.' So now is the time to pray for courage, that we may not be like the hired man in the Gospel who flees from the wolves. We know that there are many wolves seeking to devour and destroy civilisation. Let us have the courage to take a stand for what is right, and for the Lord.

We must also pray very much for our bishops. The bishops of the Catholic Church are the successors of the Apostles and have a tremendous responsibility to uphold and pass on the faith. We pray today for Pope Francis, the successor of Peter, that he may remain faithful to the Lord. Like Peter in the first reading, may he be filled with the Holy Spirit, to proclaim the truth, that there is 'no salvation through anyone else, but only through the Lord, the Good Shepherd who was crucified for us.

Today being Good Shepherd Sunday is also a day of prayer for vocations, especially to the priesthood and religious life. We pray that many will hear the voice of the Lord calling them to serve Him and be moved to respond with generosity.

Fr Maurice

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

MARRIAGES: By appointment. Six months notice is required.

VOCATIONS GROUP: We are forming a small group of young people to discuss and pray about vocations – to priesthood, religious / consecrated life and marriage. The group will be open to young men and women and will meet every 6-8 weeks. The first meeting will take place on Vocations Sunday, which is this Sunday 26th April at 5pm in the Church meeting room. The Sunday evening adoration group will support this initiative through prayer.

PROCESSION IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY: Our fifth Annual Procession in honour of Our Lady will take place on Sunday 17th May at 2pm, beginning at the Upper Site of OLSG School, followed by the walk along Shernhall Street to the Church, where the rosary will be prayed in a number of languages. Save the date and come along! More information next week.

CONFIRMATION: The next Confirmation session will take place next Sunday, 3rd May at 4pm in the Parish Hall.

FIRST COMMUNION: There will be First Holy Communions at all of the Masses next weekend. There will be 12 children receiving at the 6pm Mass, 5 at the 8.30am Mass, 15 at the 10am Mass and 12 at the 12 noon Mass. Please pray for all of these children and their families.

MASS BOOKINGS: Please note that all weekday Masses are booked until the end of May, and all weekend Masses are booked until mid-August 2015. When requesting weekend Masses, please book at least six months in advance to avoid disappointment. The 6pm Mass on Saturday evening is the most popular, so we recommend requesting intentions for this Mass a year in advance.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM: Fr Patrick will be leading a coach from the Parish on the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham (Norfolk) on Saturday 23rd May. The coach will depart at 7.45am. The coach seats 48; each seat is £15. Please bring a packed lunch. Please sign up on the pink sheet on the Church noticeboard.

ROTAS: The new rotas for Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are now available in the Church porch.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES: The new offertory envelopes are now available in the Church porch. Please take your box if you are enrolled in the Gift Aid scheme. If you are not enrolled Gift Aid, please see below:

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. Thank you to all those who completed the Gift Aid forms last week; they will be distributed again this week for those who did not have a chance to complete them. This will help us to update our database. The Gift Aid Scheme provides much-needed additional income for the upkeep of the Church and support of our schools. For more information please contact Hana on 07939 485957.

PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS: On Wednesday 16th April, BBC2 screened a documentary called 'Kill the Christians', about the brutal persecution of Christians by Islamists in the Middle East. The programme is available on the BBC iPlayer for the next few weeks at <http://bbc.in/1DKGQ67>.

If you wish to help our fellow Christians in the Middle East, a good Catholic charity working in this area is Aid to the Church in Need <http://acnuk.org.uk/>

POETRY & MUSIC EVENING: There will be an evening of poetry and music involving a number of parishioners, including Aisling Fahey, Young Poet Laureate for London which will take place on Saturday 16th May, 7.30pm – 8.30pm. The event is free to attend, but there will be a retiring collection for the HCPT.

PRIEST SECRETARY REQUIRED IN CANNING TOWN: 9am – 1.30pm, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, starting late May. Full details at www.stmargaretsct.com or email the parish office on stmargaretsct@gmail.com. Closing date: Monday 4th May.

BRENTWOOD YOUTH SERVICE EVENTS:

Spring Youth Gather - 9th May – a perfect introductory event for those in years 7-9 at Stubbers Outdoor Activity Centre, Upminster.

March for Life UK – 16th May – we are taking a minibus to Birmingham to join this pro-life rally. There will also be a preparation evening in Brentwood with input from our youth chaplain Fr James, and a chance to make a BCYS pro-life banner!

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham – 23rd May – join Bishop Alan, the BCYS and parishes from across the diocese on a pilgrimage to England's Nazareth, the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham – patroness of our youth retreat centre, Walsingham House.

More information about all events on Facebook, at www.bcys.net or by calling 01277 265 286.

PRAISE & WORSHIP EVENING at SION Community, Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood, will take place on Sunday 26th April, 7.30pm-9.00pm. All are welcome.

RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of:

Bernard Anthony Tucker, whose Requiem Mass will take place on Thursday 7th May at 10.00am.

May he rest in peace.

ROTAS – APRIL:

Hospital	5/4 A	12/4 B	19/4 D	26/4 A
Counting	5/4 B	12/4 F	19/4 D	26/4 C
Christian Kitchen	4/4 Nor1	11/4 G	18/4 Nor2	25/4 A

**The offertory collection for last week was £1275.28.
An additional £643.57 was raised for the Society of African Missions appeal.
Thank you very much for your generosity.**

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

6.00pm	Eleanor Fletcher (RIP)
Sun 26 th Apr	Fourth Sunday of Easter (World Day of Prayer for Vocations)
8.30am	John Joseph Cullen (RIP)
10.00am	Jan Salamonowicz (RIP)
12.00pm	Tobias Buelvo (RIP)
6:30pm	<i>[Ordinariate Mass]</i>
Mon 27 th Apr	Feria
7.00am	Malina Bridet (Ints)
9.15am	Edmine John Baptiste (RIP)
Tue 28 th Apr	Feria
7.00am	Fr Angelus Houle (Ints)
9.15am	Ron Davies (RIP)
Wed 29 th Apr	St Catherine of Siena, Virgin, Doctor
7.00am	Della Rodrigues (RIP)
9.15am	Christine Walton (RIP) & Elaine Francis (RIP)
Thu 30 th Apr	Feria
7.00am	Anne King (RIP)
9.15am	Maria Green & family (RIP)
Fri 1 st May	St Joseph the Worker
7.00am	Thanksgiving to St Joseph
9.15am	Holy Souls
Sat 2 nd May	St Athanasius, Bishop, Doctor
10.00am	Sr Maura Keane (Ints)
6.00pm	Thanksgiving, Zeppetelli family
Sun 3 rd May	Fifth Sunday of Easter (B)
8.30am	John & Alice D'arcy (RIP)
10.00am	Deceased family members of P McKenna
12.00pm	Emiljana / Ben (Ints)
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, 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, Ann Hutton, Comfort Kwawu.

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)